

*Town of Bridgewater  
~ Vermont ~*



1920

*2015 Annual Report  
Town & School District*

*(For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015)*

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# *Dedication*



1914

## **Bridgewater Village School (BVS)**

Although the halls no longer ring with children's laughter we want to celebrate this building and its history to the town. The original building was built in 1912/13 after much discussion and many town meetings to determine the material to be used, should it be a wooden or brick structure, one story or two and whose material should we use etc. . The school opened its doors to the first classes consisting of first – twelfth grades in September 1914 through June 2015. In 1948 the school house was renovated with the addition of two new classrooms and enlarged basement. The first town meeting was held in the school basement that year and has been held there every year since. A second addition was put on in 1991 which included a new classroom, office space for the principal and nurse as well upgrades to the elevator lift.

Student enrollment during this 100 year period has been as high as 94 and as low as 35 and declining in the past few years, prompting the closure and consolidation with the Pomfret Elementary School.

The school building has also served as a meeting room for various local organizations, gathering place for holiday parties, dances, and dinners as well as town and school meetings. At least four generations of families have entered these doors, making their first friendships, learning to play their first musical instrument, first trips away from home without parents, putting on their first theatrical performances. Too many more firsts to mention, but certainly good times!

The buildings future is yet to be determined and may not always be physically present, but it will always be in our heart and memories.



## **Town Reminders:**

Fast Trash at the Town Garage – Saturday mornings - 8:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Direct questions to: ABLE Waste Management 672-3569

- ❖ **January 01, 2016 - April 1, 2016** - Remember to License your Dog/Wolf Hybrid  
Call the Town Clerk if you have questions.
  
- ❖ **March 1, 2016** Town Meeting Day 9:00 a.m. BVS Multi-purpose room  
**Town Office:**  
WUHS Budget Vote- Australian Ballot 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Presidential Primary Vote – Australian Ballot 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
  
- ❖ **April 1, 2016** Property Assessment Date – Property is assessed each year as  
of this date.
- ❖ **April 15, 2016** File State Form - HS 122 for residency declaration.
  
- ❖ **May 1, 2016** Liquor License Renewal Date.
- ❖ **June 2016** Lister Grievances
  
- ❖ **August 4, 2016** Tax Bills mailed.
  
- ❖ **November 2, 2016** Property Taxes Due – Please remember that taxes paid after  
this date are considered late, and subject to interest & penalty charges.

**Town Permits required:****PERMIT FEES:**

Permit and application fees shall be established by the Selectboard of the Town of Bridgewater, and shall be assessed by the Selectboard or their representative.

**ACCESS / CURB CUT AND RIGHT OF WAY EXCAVATION**

(Creating a driveway or road or altering existing driveway or road which accesses on to a town road)

A. Permit Application and Inspection Fee	\$105.00
B. Modification of existing driveway	20.00
C. Culvert replacement/addition	20.00
D. Installation of water/power lines	20.00

**\* SEPTIC**

As of July 1, 2007 – State Permits required- Call 802-885-8855 with any questions.

**GUVSWD LANDFILL STICKER / COUPON**

A. Windshield Sticker	20.00
B. Coupon	42.00

**PERMIT TO BURN BRUSH**

Ken Tarleton, Warden 672-3061

**\* FLOOD ZONE** - You must apply to build or alter an existing structure in a flood plain area.  
NO building in Flood Way Area.  
Contact Town Office for Application & Permit Fee information.

**\* Reminder**-Please keep your E-911 signs clean and visible. If your sign is missing, contact Steve Hill, our 911 Coordinator.

**Bridgewater Annual Town & School Meeting**  
March 5, 2015

The 2015 Annual School Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Greg Jenne, Chairman, who asked for nominations for a school and town moderator. Steve Tarleton nominated Bill Berry. Seth Shaw seconded this motion. No other nominations. Bill Berry was elected moderator for the ensuing year.

Bill made the following announcements:

- \* Location of exits and bathroom facilities. Historical Society Members are selling refreshments.
- \* Town Meeting procedure and reminded the audience that in order to vote, they must be checked off the checklist and stamped at the entrance.
- \* Australian Ballot vote at the Town Office for the Woodstock Union High School Budget polls open 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 pm.

The pledge of allegiance was said and a moment of silence was held.

Bill asked the body if the rules could be suspended to allow non-registered parents and taxpayers to speak to the upcoming articles with the understanding that they could not vote. Approved.

Bill also asked the body to allow the School Superintendent, Alice Worth and Financial Director, Richard Seaman to speak to the school articles as needed. Approved

Article 2: To accept the reports of the Bridgewater Village School Directors for the school accounts. Motion was made and seconded to approve the reports and carried by voice vote.

Article 3: Motion made by Greg Jenne and seconded by Hank Smith to see if the voters would authorize the BVS Directors to contract with the Pomfret School Directors to create and operate a Joint School District subject to terms and conditions as proposed in a Joint Board Agreement between Bridgewater School District and Pomfret School District dated January 14, 2015. Sheryl Phelps asked for a Division of the House to allow for vote by paper ballot. Bill Berry asked if the body supported this request. More than 7 people supported this request. Vote will be taken by paper ballot. The school board members then presented a power point slide show explaining the need for the consolidation, increased budgets, decreasing enrollment, tuition vs. consolidation, working with bus company to make travel time more efficient, consolidation will lower the estimated per pupil cost from \$15,309.00 to \$10,744.00 creating an estimated tax rate savings of approx. 20 cents.

Board fielded questions as to bus monitoring and tax savings. Vote was taken by paper ballot with 111 yes and 11 no votes. Motion to consolidate with Pomfret School District was approved.

Article 4: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Coleman Hoyt to appropriate the sum of \$1,516,348.00 as the amount necessary for the support of the Joint School District beginning July 1, 2015 with Bridgewater's estimated portion being \$653,701.00. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 5: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Owen Astbury to appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 as the amount necessary for the operation of the Bridgewater School District, as a legal entity with continuing responsibilities for the year beginning July 1, 2015. Greg Jenne explained that these were funds to stay within the Bridgewater School District to cover any unexpected costs i.e. legal or otherwise not already in the budget. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 6: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Coleman Hoyt to appropriate the sum of \$877,581.00 as the amount necessary for the support of the Bridgewater Village School for the year beginning July 1, 2015. Greg Jenne explained that this is a fall back in case the Pomfret voters do not pass the consolidation article. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 7: Bridgewater Village School Director 3 year term: Greg Jenne was nominated and declined. Justin Shipman was then nominated. No other nominations, clerk was asked to cast one ballot for Justin Shipman.

Article 8: Bridgewater Village School Director 2 year term to fill the unexpired term of Chantal Deojay who moved from the area last fall. Nominated were Jennifer Gieseke, Nancy Robinson and Julia Geno. All three were asked to stand and identify themselves. Paper ballot vote was taken with Jennifer Gieseke declared the winner with 63 votes, Nancy Robinson with 24 and Julia Geno with 6.

Article 9: Woodstock Union High School Director 3 year term: Sheryl Phelps was nominated by John Hiers and seconded by Brian Bontrager. Greg Jenne was also nominated and declined. No other nomination, clerk was asked to cast one ballot for Sheryl Phelps.

Article 10: Motion was made by Hank Smith and seconded by Owen Astbury to authorize the school directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes. Question raised as to limit of how much could be borrowed. Richard Seaman, Financial Director explained that up to 90% of the current budget could be borrowed and would have to be paid back within the same year. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 11: Other business: Seth Shaw and Justin Shipman thanked Greg Jenne for his 9 years of service as a school board member and presented him with a framed photo of the school. Greg was thanked by the community and given a standing ovation.

Being no further business, the motion was made and seconded to adjourn the school meeting at 10:35 am. Motion carried.

The Town portion of the meeting convened at 10:45 am.

Article 2: Hank Smith moved and Greg Jenne seconded to accept all reports as submitted. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 3: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Coleman Hoyt to appropriate the sum of **\$4,900**. to support the home health maternal and child health and hospice care provided to patients in homes and community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of VT/NH. Motion carried by voice vote.

At this time the meeting was suspended and Representative Job Tate addressed the body. Briefly reviewed items that are being discussed this session: jobs, taxes, need to streamline ACT 250 process, need to bring in businesses, higher paying wages, broadband access, crime rate to which he has sponsored a bill for harsher penalties. Discussion of water quality issues especially around the Lake Champlain area. Job can be contacted/followed on Facebook and also puts out newsletters that he would be happy to email to constituents.

Article 4: Motion made Cecelia Hoyt and seconded by Ellen Quinn to appropriate the sum of **\$300**. to the Woodstock Area Job Bank. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 5: Motion made by Joan Tarleton and seconded by Hank Smith to appropriate the sum of **\$5,408**. to run the Thompson Senior Center. Motion carried by voice vote. Motion was made to suspend reading each article 3 times before the actual vote. Motion was seconded and carried.

Article 6: Motion made by John Hiers and seconded by Joan Tarleton to appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.** to Woodstock Recreation Center. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 7: Motion was made by John Hiers and seconded by Brian Bontrager to appropriate the sum of **\$750.** to support the programming of the Spectrum Teen Center. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 8: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Joan Tarleton to appropriate the sum of **\$1,000.** to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA). Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 9: Motion made by Greg Jenne and seconded by Owen Astbury to appropriate the sum of **\$1,500** to support the programming of the Ottauquechee Community Partnership (OCP) and OCP's Mentor and Buddy Program. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 10: Motion was made by Hank Smith and seconded by Owen Astbury to increase the property tax exemption available to veterans of any wars, his or her spouse, widow, widower or child if one or more of them are receiving disability compensation of at least 50% disability, death compensation, dependence and indemnity compensation or pension for disability paid through any military department or the veterans administration from the current \$10,000 to \$20,000 of appraised value in accordance with 32 V.S.A 3801 (11). Discussion of what impact this will have on taxes, what other towns in VT have done regarding this issue and how many qualify in Bridgewater. Bridgewater currently has 3 veterans that qualify for this exemption; most all other towns in VT have increased the exemption to the highest level of \$40,000. The overall impact to our taxes would be very minimal. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 11: Motion made by Greg Jenne and seconded by Coleman Hoyt to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$802,589.00** pay its current expenses and pay any part of its debt. This amount includes funds for upkeep and maintenance of the school. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 12: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Sheryl Phelps to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow money to pay current expenses. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 13: Motion made by Hank Smith and seconded by Greg Jenne to see if the Town will vote to place its taxes or any part thereof in the hands of the Current Tax Collector for collection on August 5, 2015 and to be paid on or before Wednesday, November 4, 2015. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 14: The following Town Officers were elected as required by law.

- a. Selectboard (3 yrs.) Norman (Nope) Martin was nominated. Being no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Nope Martin. Motion carried
- b. Lister (3 yrs.) William Young Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried.
- c. Collector of Current Taxes (1 yr.) Victoria Young. Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried
- d. Cemetery Commissioner (3 yrs.) James Bulmer. Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried
- e. Delinquent Tax Collector (3 yrs.) Joni Kennedy. Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried
- f. Town Constable (1 yr.) Mike Sawyer. Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried
- g. Town Agent (1 yr.) Coleman Hoyt Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried
- h. Grand Juror (1 yr.) Coleman Hoyt Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried
- i. Trustee of Public Funds (1 yr.) Henry (Hank) Smith Clerk instructed to cast one ballot. Motion carried

Article 15: Other business – Discussion of what happens to school building when it closes as a school in July. Building is currently the only approved Red Cross Shelter and has to remain accessible. Also is town's only large meeting room. Suggestion made to create a building committee to investigate the best use of the building. American Legion Post Commander Richard Bracket reported that money has been raised to place American flags on the electrical poles along RT 4 in Bridgewater. Will take place this spring before Memorial Day. Jodi Pindt reported that the Bridgewater Celebration B-B-Q will take place on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Donations would be greatly appreciated to cover the fireworks and other expenses.

Being no further discussion, the motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Town portion of this meeting at 11:50 am. Motion carried.

Nancy Robinson  
Town Clerk

William Berry  
Moderator

Norman E. Martin II  
Selectboard Chair

Note: 127 legal voters attended meeting(s)

Woodstock Union High School Budget Vote #4 on Warning by Australian Ballot 33 yes 30 no.

**WARNING FOR  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The legal voters of the Bridgewater Village School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Bridgewater Village School on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. to transact the following business:

Shall the voters of the Bridgewater School District, authorize the Bridgewater Board of School Directors to quitclaim ownership of the Bridgewater Village School building located at 7313 US Route 4 in Bridgewater, Vermont to the Town of Bridgewater for a price of one dollar.

Dated this 12th day of November, 2015

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Seth Shaw, Chair  
Jennifer Gieseke  
Justin Shipman

**Minutes of Special School District Meeting  
December 16, 2015**

The legal voters of the Bridgewater Village School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Bridgewater Village School on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm to transact the following business:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by William Berry, Moderator

Bill read the warned article: Shall the voters of the Bridgewater School District, authorize the Bridgewater Board of School Directors to quitclaim ownership of the Bridgewater Village School building located at 7313 US RT 4 in Bridgewater, Vermont to the Town of Bridgewater for the price of one dollar?

Motion was moved by Mary Oldenburg and seconded by Jerry Oppenheimer to authorize the School Board to quitclaim ownership of the school building to the town for one dollar.

No discussion. Bill called for vote. Article passed by voice vote.

Being no further business, Bill asked for a motion to adjourn at 6:04 pm, so moved.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson  
Clerk

William Berry  
Moderator

Seth Shaw  
School Board Chair

17 Voters in Attendance

## ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

<b>Moderator:</b> William Berry	2015-2016
<b>Town Clerk:</b> Nancy Robinson	2013-2016
<b>Town-School Treasurer:</b> Victoria Young	2013-2016
<b>Selectboard:</b> Mary Oldenburg John Timken Norman Martin II	2013-2016 2014-2017 2015-2018
<b>Bridgewater School Director:</b> Seth Shaw Jennifer Gieseke Justin Shipman	2013-2016 2015-2017 2015-2018
<b>WUHS Director:</b> Brian Bontrager Sheryl Phelps	2014-2017 2015-2016
<b>Listers:</b> Victoria Young Tom Standish William Young	2013-2016 2014-2017 2015-2018
<b>Cemetery Commissions:</b> Coleman Hoyt Paul Hutt Jim Bulmer	2013-2016 2014-2017 2015-2018
<b>Current Tax Collector:</b> Victoria Young	2015-2016
<b>Delinquent Tax Collector:</b> Joni Kennedy	2015-2018
<b>Town Constable:</b> Mike Sawyer	2015-2016
<b>Grand Juror:</b> Coleman Hoyt	2015-2016
<b>Town Agent:</b> Coleman Hoyt	2015-2016
<b>Trustee of Public Funds:</b> Henry Smith	2015-2016

## APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

**Health Officer:**

Kathleen Paglia 2018

**Deputy Health Officer:**

Edwin Earle 2017

**Town Service Officer:**

Victoria Young 2016

**Road Commissioner:**

Norman Martin II 2016

**Fence Viewers:**

Clifford Geno 2016

Andy Bird 2016

Owen Astbury 2016

**Tree Warden:**

Gerry Hawkes 2016

**Poundkeeper:**

Woodstock Animal Care 2016

**Forest Fire Warden:**

Kenneth Tarleton 2016

**Weigher of Coal:**

John Timken, Jr. 2016

**Inspector of Lumber:**

Norman (Nope) Martin 2016

**Planning Commission:** (4 year terms)

Owen Astbury 2019

Lynne Bertram 2018

Brian Bontrager 2019

Bruce Maxham 2016

Roy Wardwell 2018

**E 9-1-1 Coordinator:**

Steve Hill 2016

**Emergency Management Coordinator:** 2016

Josh Maxham

**Board of Civil Authority/Justice of the Peace: (Terms Expire 2/01/17)**

Jim Bulmer

Gloria Martin

Jerry Oppenheimer

Nancy Robinson

Donna Williamson

## TOWN WARNING 2016

The legal voters of the Town of Bridgewater, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet in the basement of the Village School in said town on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at nine o'clock in the forenoon to transact the following business, viz:

1. To elect a Moderator for the term of one year.
2. To accept all reports as submitted in the 2015 Annual Report
3. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$4,900.** to help support the home health, maternal and child health and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH. (see report page 41)
4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$300.** to the Woodstock Area Job Bank. The Woodstock Area Job Bank is a free, not for profit, job referral service that serves the greater Woodstock area and beyond. It is our mission to connect individuals who are seeking work with area employers seeking workers. (see report page 49)
5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$5,570.** as the Town's share of service for the Woodstock Area Council on Aging to run the Thompson Senior Center. (see report page 48)
6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$3,000** to the Woodstock Recreation Center for waiver of non-resident charges for the Woodstock Recreation Activities for all residents of Bridgewater. (see report page 44)
7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$750.** to support programming of the Spectrum Teen Center. Our objective is to engage teens in healthy activities and provide them with a safe and drug free environment. The Spectrum Teen Center strives to make youth feel supported, welcomed and included along with giving them a sense of belonging. There is no charge to attend our regularly scheduled program. (see report page 46)
8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$1,000.** to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Bridgewater in responding to the emergency needs of the community, and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need. (see report page 50)
9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$1,500.** to support the programming of the Ottauquechee Community Partnership (OCP) and OCP's Mentor and Buddy Program These programs help keep youth in the WCSU area drug free, engaged in healthy activities, and provided with opportunities for leadership and personal growth. (see report page 45)
10. Shall the Treasurer assume the duties of the Collector of Current Taxes pursuant to 17 V.S.A. 2646? The legislature has eliminated the position of elected Collector of Current Taxes, a town may now vote to have either the treasurer or town manager (if there is one) assume the duties of collector of Current Taxes. If a town fails to vote either the treasurer or town manager as the collector of current taxes, the town constable automatically becomes the collector pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 1529.

11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow up to \$180,000.00 to purchase a new truck for the Highway Dept., (to replace the 2008 Western Star) to be paid from the Equipment sinking Fund.
12. To see if the Town will vote to raise **\$778,367.98** to pay its current expenses and any part of its debt.
13. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money to pay current expenses.
14. To see if the Town will vote to place its taxes or any part thereof in the hands of the Collector of Current Taxes for collection on or before August 3, 2016 and to be paid on or before November 2, 2016<sup>st</sup>. Wednesday)
15. To elect all Town Officers as required by law:
  - a. Selectperson – three years
  - b. Town Clerk – three years
  - c. Town Treasurer – three years
  - d. Lister – three years
  - e. Cemetery Commissioner - three years
  - f. Town Constable – one year
  - g. Town Agent – one year
  - h. Grand Juror – one year
  - i. Trustee of Public Funds – one year
16. To do any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Dated at Bridgewater, VT this 26th. day of January, 2016

Bridgewater Selectboard:

Norman Martin II, Chairman  
Mary Oldenburg  
John Timken, Jr.

**WARNING FOR  
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The legal voters of the Bridgewater Village School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Bridgewater Village School on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. to transact the following business:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: To accept the reports of the Bridgewater Village School Directors for the school accounts and take action thereon.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Bridgewater Village School District approve the Prosper Valley Joint Board budget to expend one million, five hundred forty thousand, nine hundred seven dollars (\$1,540,907) as the amount necessary for the support of the Prosper Valley Joint District School for the year beginning July 1, 2016? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$12,214 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 13.7% higher than spending for the current year. (It is estimated on the basis of current information that the Bridgewater Village School District assessment will be six hundred ninety two thousand, five hundred sixty five dollars (\$692,565) and that the Pomfret School District assessment will be eight hundred forty eight thousand, three hundred forty two dollars (\$848,342) of the total Joint School budget.

*(NOTE: This Article must be voted from the floor without amendment, by paper ballot, pursuant to the Prosper Valley Joint School Board Agreement)*

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters of Bridgewater Village School District appropriate Three Thousand Dollars (\$3000) as the amount necessary for operation of the Bridgewater School District, as a legal entity with continuing responsibilities, for the year beginning July 1, 2016.

ARTICLE 5: To elect one School Director to the Bridgewater Village School Board for a term of three years.

ARTICLE 6: To elect one School Director to the Woodstock Union High School District #4 for a three year term.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters of the Bridgewater School District authorize the Bridgewater Village School Directors to transfer previously established Building Maintenance reserve funds in the amount of two thousand five hundred eighty eight dollars and 35 cents (\$2,588.35) to the Town of Bridgewater for the purpose of maintaining the Bridgewater Village School building.

ARTICLE 8: To authorize the School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

ARTICLE 9: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Seth Shaw, Chair

Jennifer Gieseke

Justin Shipman

## Selectboard's Report

2015 continued to be a positive and quiet year for the Town of Bridgewater. There were no untoward events to interfere with the lifestyle we have come to embrace and enjoy. There were a number of ongoing initiatives that continued to be successfully addressed.

Included among them was the hazard mitigation federal buyout program. Using federal funds the town has purchased all four of the eligible homes. All of the purchased sites have been cleaned up. The town has been reimbursed for all mitigation expenses and the FEMA accounts have been closed.

The future of the now closed Village School is a primary focus of the board. In order to unify the land and the building under one title a Special School District Meeting was held in December and a vote was taken to authorize the School Directors to quit claim the building to the town. Now that the Town owns both the land and building we plan to move forward and consider the various options available.

The Bridgewater Highway Department under the direction of Randy Kennedy, Road Foreman continues to keep our roads well maintained. The Selectboard and Road Foreman are developing and initiating a long range plan to replace/upgrade culverts, grade and cut ditches as well as do some tree cutting where necessary on roads that have required repeated maintenance over the years.

The town municipal website ( [www.bridgewater.vt.gov](http://www.bridgewater.vt.gov) ) remains an important resource for all residents. All meeting agenda's and minutes are posted to the site on a regular and timely basis.

The Wastewater Treatment Facility continues to operate under the competent management of Simon Operating Services. The board has strived to maintain the annual user fee while keeping the treatment plant functioning properly and state compliant.

The Recreation Field is once again used by the Men's Softball League during July and August. The tennis court is in need of repair which should be completed this summer using generous donations from our community supporters. We also expect to complete some drainage work around the tennis court as well as purchase more benches and tables to be used near the playground.

The Historical Society continues to make improvements to The Brick Schoolhouse as well as hosting informative and enjoyable lectures. The website, which can be found at [www.bridgewaterhistory.org](http://www.bridgewaterhistory.org) , provides interesting insights into Bridgewater's heritage.

The Fire Department and Neighbors Helping Neighbors banded together to plan and execute a very successful annual Bridgewater celebration. They have been able to bring the community this event by getting donations from local businesses and generous supporters. We thank everyone for their support of this wonderful day!

Once again, the Selectboard owes a huge debt of gratitude to all of the employees, elected and appointed officials, volunteers, and you, the townspeople that make Bridgewater such a great town to live in.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman (Nope) Martin, Chairman  
Mary Oldenburg  
John Timken Jr.

## **ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT 2015**

Last winter was a really long slushy/icy winter followed by a very wet spring. When we finally finished the spring grading, we rented an excavator for 1 month to do some major road projects. We got a lot done with the machine in a short time. Fifteen hundred feet of under drain piping got buried deep under Bridgewater Hill Road to control underground water that generally wrecks the road every year. We also replaced two culverts in that work zone and rip rapped the box culvert at the bottom of the road on our way off the hill. Next project was to replace the big culvert on the Barnard Chateaugay Road. Fixing the ditches on Sawyer Hill came next and then we moved the excavator to North Bridgewater. We installed three hundred feet of under drain on McGlinchy Hill to help with more underground water problems we have there. After the excavator went back, there was a bank slide on Little Sherburne Road. The Selectboard hired Martin Excavating to repair and rip rap.

It seemed like we had several mud seasons this fall with more very wet weather. We did a lot of gravelling and surface work on North Bridgewater, Grandma Am's, Dailey Hollow, Stevens and Phelps Roads and tried our best to keep up with changing conditions. We also replaced culverts on Grandma Am's, Perkins, Blanchard and Dailey Hollow Roads. This fall, the Selectboard hired Martin Excavating to do some heavy brush cutting with their tractor on Chateaugay Road, Stevens Road and the backside of Bridgewater Hill Road.

Early winter, our crew also did some roadside brush & dead tree work. We did a lot of cleanup work and carpentry work around the shop since we didn't have much plowing to do. We moved the town sand pile out away from in front of the shop doors for safer truck traffic and better dooryard plowing. Then we insulated the south and west walls in the old shop. We put plywood on over the insulation and also painted.

The 1992 grader was overheating a lot this summer because there's been a lot of blow by in the motor. We've sent it in to Nortrax to get a new motor, clutch work and brakes fixed. It's been a good machine for us so far. Hopefully, this will keep it running well for many more years. The cost of a new grader is about \$300,000.00.

All in all, I think things are in good shape on our roads and at the Highway Garage. I'd like to thank David Jenne, Peter Oldenburg, the Selectboard and town office for their work this year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Randy Kennedy  
Bridgewater Road Foreman

**REPORT OF THE LISTERS TO THE TOWN 2015**

The Board of Listers report to the Town that:

- The Municipal Grand List increased from \$1,777,734.51 to \$1,789,209.17. This increase is attributable principally to new construction and renovation of existing properties.
- The Education Grand List (Non-Resident) decreased from \$1,094,088.80 to \$1,755,067.85. This decrease is principally due to the reduction of the assessed values of Commercial properties.
- The net result of assessed values in both Grand List was an overall decrease of \$133,859.00

Four property owners lodged Grievances with the Listers, resulting in adjustments by the Listers to reflect reasonable changes to property values. There were no Appeals to the Board of Civil Authority from the values established by the Grievance procedure.

We are pleased to report to the Town that our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was 92.13 -- indicating that our listed values of property in Bridgewater are within 92% accurate as measured by actual property sales when compared with the assessed values of properties sold in the past three years. The Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) –determined by the State to be 17.02% for 2015.

As always, the objective of your Board of Listers is to maintain a fair and equitable system of property valuation and we encourage everyone to come in and review your assessment at any time.

Lister Board:

Thomas K. Standish

Victoria L. Young

William G. Young

## DOG LICENSES

### DOG LICENSES 07/01/2014-06/30/2015

160 @ \$ 8.00 (Neutered)		\$1,280.00
45 @ 10.00 (Late Neutered)		450.00
23 @ 12.00 (Un-Neutered)		276.00
11 @ 16.00 (Late Un-Neutered)		176.00
Totals:		
239		\$2,182.00
	Sent to State:	956.00
	Town Share	\$1,226.00

All dog and wolf-hybrids, six months of age or older, Must be licensed each year on or before April 1<sup>st</sup>. Proof of rabies vaccination, (a current rabies certificate), is required for licensing.

Cats and Ferrets are also required to have a rabies vaccination. Even though we do not license them, we do request a copy of the rabies certificate to be filed in the office of the Town Clerk.

## LIQUOR LICENSES

3 @ \$ 70.00		\$210.00
4 @ 115.00		460.00
Totals:		
7		\$670.00

## Vital Statistics

### DEATHS

NAME	AGE	DATE	BURIED/CREMATION
David A. Gates	77 yrs.	09/02/2014	Cremation
Beverly F. Severance	81 yrs.	09/20/2014	Cremation
Agnes L. Hickox	57 yrs.	10/20/2014	Cremation
William F. Woodward	65 yrs.	10/21/2014	Cremation/Baker Hill
John E. Lynds	72 yrs.	11/08/2014	Cremation/MT. Pleasant
Adelene B. Jarvis	100 yrs.	12/30/2014	Cremation
Paul E. Rogers	77 yrs.	01/02/2015	Cremation
Louise P. Seagle	92 yrs.	01/30/2015	Cremation
Robert C. Teeter, Sr.	74 yrs.	04/13/2015	Cremation
Donna S. Sanderson	58 yrs.	05/18/2015	Cremation
Sheila J. Rockwell	69 yrs.	06/10/2015	Cremation

### BIRTHS

(Names not listed due to confidentiality)

### CIVIL MARRIAGES

Applicant I	Applicant II	DATE	PLACE
Shawn Belville	Stacey Alexander	07/12/2014	Randolph
Kirk Johnson	Irene Leino	08/02/2014	Bridgewater
Law Zabriski	Charles Alsdorf	08/04/2014	Bridgewater
Thomas O'Brien	Stacey Gerrish	08/08/2014	Woodstock
Sean Fleming	Erin Forde	08/23/2014	Rupert
Stefen Cyr	Heather Livingston	08/23/2014	Bridgewater
Timothy Hennekey	Katherine Wheeler	08/23/2014	Bridgewater
Russel Ford	Emily Notch	09/27/2014	Shrewsbury
Owen Astbury	Brenda Metzler	04/24/2015	Bridgewater
Eric Eckler	Sarah Lamb	06/06/2015	Woodstock

BUDGET SUMMARY	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	% Change
	2014/2015	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	
<b>General Fund Expenses:</b>	558,341.00	547,746.36	622,531.00	602,886.00	-3.16%
Warned Articles:	<u>19,600.00</u>	<u>19,600.00</u>	<u>18,858.00</u>	<u>17,020.00</u>	-9.75%
Total Expenses:	577,941.00	567,346.36	641,389.00	619,906.00	-3.35%
Non-Tax Revenue:	303,230.00	299,510.93	310,830.00	309,880.00	-.31%
Sub-Total:	274,711.00	267,835.43	330,559.00	310,026.00	-6.21%
Surplus/Deficit	<u>(3,731.02)</u>	<u>1,136.94</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(1,136.94)</u>	
<b>Amount to be raised in Taxes:</b>	<b>270,979.98</b>	<b>268,972.37</b>	<b>330,559.00</b>	<b>308,889.06</b>	<b>-6.56%</b>
<b>Highway Expenses:</b>	551,750.00	531,201.33	563,030.00	581,510.00	+3.28%
Surplus/Deficit	-191.52	20,031.08	0.00	(20,031.08)	
Non-Tax Revenue:	<u>(92,000.00)</u>	<u>(91,673.93)</u>	<u>(91,000.00)</u>	(92,000.00)	+1.1%
<b>Amount to be raised in Taxes</b>	<b>459,558.48</b>	<b>459,558.48</b>	<b>472,030.00</b>	<b>469,478.92</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>
<b>Total General &amp; Highway Expenses:</b>	1,129,691.00	1,098,547.69	1,204,419.00	1,201,416.00	-.25%
Non-Tax Revenue:	(395,230.00)	(391,184.86)	(401,830.00)	(401,880.00)	
Surplus / Deficit	<u>(3,922.54)</u>	<u>21,168.02</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(21,168.02)</u>	
<b>Town Taxes to be Raised</b>	<b>730,538.46</b>	<b>728,530.85</b>	<b>802,589.00</b>	<b>778,367.98</b>	<b>-3.11%</b>
<b>Schools:</b>					
Payments to Schools	1,898,497.00	1,898,497.00	1,656,929.00		
Net to State	768,652.29	768,652.29	846,296.37		
Town Retains	<u>6,315.28</u>	<u>6,315.28</u>	<u>5,644.67</u>		
<b>Total Schools:</b>	<b>2,673,464.57</b>	<b>2,673,464.57</b>	<b>2,508,870.04</b>		-

	FY- 2015	FY-2016	% Change
School Tax Rate is: (Actual) Resident -	\$1.5610	*Estimated - Resident - \$1.65	<b>+5.77%</b>
Town Municipal Tax Rate to be: (Actual) -	.4550	*Estimated - .44	<b>-3.30%</b>
*Combined estimated Tax Rate to be:(Actual)	\$2.0160	*Estimated - \$2.09	<b>+3.67%</b>
*(using current GL)			

(Please note-these are estimates only – These numbers could change based on the State set Education rates – Residential / Non-Residential- and property valuation changes to the Grand List for April 2016)

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2015</b>	<b>Actual FY-2015</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Current Taxes(Gen. Fund)	270,979.98	268,972.37	330,559.00	308,889.06	-6.56
Current Use Reimb.	63,000.00	67,245.00	65,500.00	65,500.00	
Interest on Taxes	13,000.00	11,604.82	11,000.00	10,000.00	
Federal & State PILOT Payment	8,000.00	8,744.98	8,500.00	8,500.00	
Clerk Fees	13,000.00	12,149.61	12,500.00	12,500.00	
Traffic Fines	198,500.00	184,859.75	205,000.00	205,000.00	
Dog Licenses	1,200.00	1,226.00	1,300.00	1,200.00	
Liquor Licenses	750.00	670.00	700.00	700.00	
Interest on Investments	200.00	424.94	250.00	400.00	
Box Rent	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	
Flood Ordinance Permits	-	100.00	-	-	
Act 68 -Town Retains	5,500.00	6,315.28	6,000.00	6,000.00	
Previous Year Deficit/Surplus	3,731.02	3,731.02	-	1,136.94	
Tax Collection costs	-	1,068.92	-	-	
Insurance Refund	-	1,240.00	-	-	
Misc./Donation/Reimb.	-	50.61	-	-	
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<b>Total Revenue:</b>	577,941.00	568,483.30	641,389.00	619,906.00	-3.35%
<b>General Account Expenses</b>					
<b>WAGES</b>					
Clerk Wages	34,670.00	34,669.96	35,308.00	35,854.00	
Treasurer Wages	34,670.00	34,669.96	35,308.00	35,854.00	
Selectmen	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Listers	4,000.00	2,000.62	4,000.00	4,000.00	
Constable	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	
Treasurer School Stipend	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	
Health Officer Stipend	375.00	375.00	375.00	375.00	
Fire Warden Stipend	375.00	375.00	375.00	375.00	
Misc. Wages	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	
Travel Reimbursement	500.00	551.45	425.00	500.00	
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Total Wages:	78,840.00	76,891.99	80,041.00	81,208.00	1.46%
<b>BENEFITS</b>					
FICA-Medi Taxes	7,000.00	6,790.28	7,000.00	7,000.00	
Insurance	29,500.00	30,079.20	31,500.00	33,500.00	
VMERS	1,950.00	1,917.44	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Training/Seminars	500.00	485.00	500.00	500.00	
Work. Comp. Ins.	300.00	313.00	315.00	325.00	
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Total Benefits:	39,250.00	39,584.92	41,315.00	43,325.00	4.87%
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Total Payroll & Benefits:	118,090.00	116,476.91	121,356.00	124,533.00	2.62%
<b>OFFICE EXPENSE</b>					
Gen. Office Supplies	3,200.00	1,851.58	3,200.00	3,000.00	
Clerk Supplies	3,500.00	3,075.75	3,300.00	3,000.00	
Treasurer Supplies	1,400.00	902.49	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Lister Supplies	300.00	273.65	250.00	300.00	
Election Exp.	300.00	242.06	200.00	500.00	
Computer/Copier Contracts	4,400.00	5,295.98	4,500.00	6,500.00	

	Budget FY - 2015	Actual FY-2015	Budget FY - 2016	Budget FY - 2017	
Telephone	1,500.00	1,934.17	1,600.00	2,000.00	
Electricity	7,500.00	8,839.90	8,000.00	9,000.00	
Heat	4,500.00	3,356.46	4,500.00	4,000.00	
Sewer Fee	1,485.00	1,485.00	1,485.00	1,500.00	
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Total Office Expense	28,085.00	27,257.04	28,535.00	31,300.00	9.69%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSE</b>					
Advertising	200.00	148.00	150.00	150.00	
Printing & Mailing Town Report	2,200.00	2,994.00	2,400.00	3,000.00	
VLCT Dues & Fees	2,000.00	1,983.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Legal Services	5,000.00	1,037.45	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Legal Fees-Tax Collection	-	6,261.64	-	-	
Flood Admin. Expense	-	74.00	-	-	
Audit Services	12,800.00	9,500.00	10,000.00	9,000.00	
Dog Pound	300.00	200.00	300.00	300.00	
BVS Water Testing	1,000.00	500.00	-	-	
So. House. Prop. & Liab. Insurance	9,400.00	9,191.00	9,400.00	9,000.00	
Southgate House Maintenance	6,200.00	5,430.73	6,000.00	6,000.00	
Southgate House Repairs	5,000.00	1,008.75	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Sewer Upgrade Bond Payment	8,750.00	8,750.00	8,750.00	8,750.00	
County Taxes	17,020.00	17,019.59	14,570.00	15,100.00	
GUVSWD Assessment	11,840.00	11,840.40	11,840.00	11,240.00	
Recycling Program	5,500.00	5,406.00	5,500.00	5,625.00	
Southgate House Reserved Fund	13,000.00	13,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Memorial Day Flags	225.00	237.50	225.00	250.00	
Two-Rivers Regional Plan.	1,207.00	1,207.00	1,245.00	1,282.00	
Cemetery	11,800.00	11,800.00	13,400.00	15,000.00	
Office Capitol Exp.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Landfill Monitoring/Testing	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,500.00	2,000.00	
Green Up VT	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	
Misc./Bank Fees	-	428.12	400.00	450.00	
Reappraisal Sinking Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
E-911 - Signs	1,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	
Southgate Project	5,000.00	4,034.98	5,000.00	5,000.00	
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Total Operating Expense:	128,992.00	122,602.16	119,230.00	118,197.00	-0.87%
<b>Emergency Services</b>					
<b>SHERIFF &amp; CONSTABLE</b>					
Constable Exp./Travel	150.00	-	150.00	150.00	
Sheriff's Dept.	198,500.00	195,536.00	205,000.00	205,000.00	
Police Liab.& Work. Comp.	360.00	391.00	400.00	600.00	
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Total Sheriff:	199,010.00	195,927.00	205,550.00	205,750.00	0.10%
<b>FAST SQUAD</b>					
Fast Squad Appropriation	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Fast Squad Liab.&Work Comp.	1,500.00	1,560.00	1,600.00	1,200.00	
Woodstock Ambulance Assess.	27,144.00	27,144.00	28,100.00	29,020.00	
Ambulance Bills Uncollected	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Dispatch Services	-	-	-	936.00	
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	<b>Budget FY - 2015</b>	<b>Actual FY-2015</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	
Total Fast Squad & Ambulance:	32,644.00	32,704.00	33,700.00	35,156.00	4.32%
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>					
Fire Dept. Appropriation	11,000.00	11,000.00	12,250.00	12,250.00	
Fire Dept. Insurances	8,500.00	9,269.00	10,000.00	9,000.00	
Fire Dept. Work. Comp.	1,020.00	1,396.00	1,500.00	1,600.00	
Fire Truck Improvements	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Fire Truck Bond Expenses	16,000.00	16,014.25	15,310.00	-	
Dry Hydrant Program	-	100.00	100.00	100.00	
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Total Fire Dept.	51,520.00	52,779.25	54,160.00	37,950.00	-29.93%
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Total Emergency Services:	283,174.00	281,410.25	293,410.00	278,856.00	-4.96%
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Total General Fund Expenses:	558,341.00	547,746.36	562,531.00	552,886.00	-1.71%
<b>WARNED APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
VN&H – VT & NH	4,900.00	4,900.00	4,900.00	4,900.00	
Woodstock Council on Aging	5,250.00	5,250.00	5,408.00	5,570.00	
Woodstock Recreation Dept.	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,000.00	
Woodstock Job Bank	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
Pentangle	900.00	900.00	-	-	
Spectrum Teen Center	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00	
Ottauquechee Comm. Partners	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
SEVCA	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
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Total Warned Appropriations:	19,600.00	19,600.00	18,858.00	17,020.00	-9.75%
<b>BVS OPERATING EXPENSE</b>					
BVS Operating Exp.	-	-	60,000.00	50,000.00	-16.67
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Total BVS Operating Expenses:	-	-	60,000.00	50,000.00	-16.67%
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Total General Fund Expenses:	577,941.00	567,346.36	641,389.00	619,906.00	-3.35%
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Surplus/(Deficit)	-	1,136.94	-	-	
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<b>HIGHWAY REVENUE</b>					
Current Taxes (Highway)	459,558.48	459,558.48	472,030.00	469,478.92	-0.54
St. of VT -Highways	92,000.00	91,242.41	91,000.00	92,000.00	
Grants-Paving	-	-	-	-	
Permit Fees	-	240.00	-	-	
VLCT-Reimb.	-	-	-	-	
Prior Year Surplus/(Deficit)	191.52	191.52	-	20,031.08	
Misc.	-	-	-	-	
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Total Revenue:	551,750.00	551,232.41	563,030.00	581,510.00	3.28%

<b>Highway Expenses:</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2015</b>	<b>Actual FY-2015</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	
<b>Payroll &amp; Benefits</b>					
Highway Salaries	125,000.00	124,156.29	126,000.00	128,000.00	
FICA /Medi. Taxes	9,500.00	9,412.93	9,650.00	9,800.00	
Benefits	43,800.00	44,969.44	48,000.00	50,000.00	
Work. Comp. Ins.	9,500.00	10,750.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	
Unemployment	250.00	310.00	280.00	310.00	
VMERS	6,700.00	6,673.55	6,800.00	7,000.00	
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<b>Total Salaries &amp; Benefits:</b>	<b>194,750.00</b>	<b>196,272.21</b>	<b>201,730.00</b>	<b>206,110.00</b>	<b>2.17%</b>
<b>GARAGE</b>					
Phone	2,400.00	2,496.94	2,400.00	2,600.00	
Electricity	1,000.00	1,063.59	1,000.00	1,100.00	
Heat	4,000.00	4,588.98	4,500.00	4,500.00	
Bldg. & Liab. Ins.	7,200.00	7,655.00	8,000.00	8,400.00	
Equipment Ins.	7,200.00	7,048.00	7,000.00	7,400.00	
Prof. Liab. Ins.	2,000.00	2,134.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	
Mileage / Misc. Reimb.	200.00	-	200.00	200.00	
Misc.	-	-	-	-	
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<b>Total Garage:</b>	<b>24,000.00</b>	<b>24,986.51</b>	<b>25,300.00</b>	<b>26,400.00</b>	<b>4.35%</b>
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>					
Equipment Hired	15,000.00	17,165.00	16,000.00	18,000.00	
Equipment Fuel	35,000.00	36,636.78	35,000.00	35,000.00	
Equipment Repairs	12,000.00	4,667.33	14,000.00	14,000.00	
Materials	100,000.00	132,805.17	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Equipment Maintenance	15,000.00	13,539.10	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Class 4 Road Maintenance	5,000.00	5,514.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
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<b>Total Maintenance:</b>	<b>182,000.00</b>	<b>210,327.38</b>	<b>185,000.00</b>	<b>187,000.00</b>	<b>1.08%</b>
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>					
Grant Projects Expense	-	-	-	-	
Highway Bldg. & Salt Shed	-	-	-	-	
Yearly Projects	10,000.00	22,752.26	85,000.00	85,000.00	
Paving	75,000.00	10,862.97	-	-	
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<b>Total Special Projects:</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>33,615.23</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>CAPITOL SINKING</b>					
Building Improvements	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Equipment Sinking Fund	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	75,000.00	
Bridge Sinking Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	1,000.00	
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<b>Total Capitol Sinking:</b>	<b>66,000.00</b>	<b>66,000.00</b>	<b>66,000.00</b>	<b>77,000.00</b>	<b>16.67%</b>
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<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>551,750.00</b>	<b>531,201.33</b>	<b>563,030.00</b>	<b>581,510.00</b>	<b>3.28%</b>
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	20,031.08	-	-	

<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2015</b>	<b>Actual FY-2015</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	
<b>SEWER DEPT. REVENUE</b>	-	-	-	-	
Quarterly Fees	76,749.75	76,564.18	76,500.00	79,360.00	3.74
Delinquent Interest	501.60	1,267.86	545.00	500.00	
Sewer Permits	-	-	-	-	
Interest on Investments	-	-	-	-	
Transfer from Reserved Fu	-	-	-	-	
Appropriation from GF	-	-	-	-	
Previous Year Surplus	(401.35)	-	765.00	-	
Misc.	-	5.00	-	-	
Legal Fees Reimb.	-	-	-	-	
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Total Revenue:	76,850.00	77,837.04	77,810.00	79,860.00	2.63%
<b>SEWER DEPT. EXPENSES</b>					
Plant Labor	50,200.00	51,600.00	53,160.00	54,760.00	
Supplies	1,500.00	1,299.80	1,000.00	1,500.00	
Electricity	3,300.00	3,458.14	3,500.00	3,500.00	
Heat	1,000.00	878.68	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Phone	250.00	322.72	300.00	300.00	
Administrative Fees	200.00	212.50	300.00	200.00	
Outside Testing	4,000.00	4,505.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
Outside Labor	500.00	-	-	-	
Chemicals	500.00	411.80	500.00	500.00	
Maintenance	4,500.00	4,254.79	4,000.00	4,500.00	
Sludge Disposal	6,000.00	5,917.50	6,500.00	6,000.00	
Property & Liab. Ins.	1,900.00	1,933.00	2,050.00	2,100.00	
Sinking Fund Appropriation	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Misc.	-	-	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Expenses:	76,850.00	77,793.93	77,810.00	79,860.00	2.63%
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	43.11	-	-	
<b>Recreation Committee Fund</b>					
Donations	3,000.00	-	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Interest on Investments	2,700.00	2,610.00	2,610.00	2,610.00	
Misc.	-	150.00	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Revenue:	5,700.00	2,760.00	5,110.00	5,110.00	0.00%
<b>Recreation Committee Exp.</b>					
Account Maint. Fee	-	50.00	50.00	50.00	
Rec. Field Electricity	250.00	229.68	250.00	250.00	
Insurance	-	87.00	100.00	100.00	
Grounds Maintenance	5,450.00	4,567.00	4,710.00	4,710.00	
Reserve for Field Equipment	-	-	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Expenses:	5,700.00	4,933.68	5,110.00	5,110.00	0.00%
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	(2,173.68)	-	-	

<b>Cemetery Fund</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2015</b>	<b>Actual FY-2015</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	
<b>Cemetery Fund Revenues</b>					
Appropriations	11,800.00	11,800.00	13,400.00	15,000.00	
Sale of Lots	1,000.00	1,400.00	1,000.00	300.00	
Cemetery Corner Stones	-	-	-	-	
Donations	1,000.00	32.00	1,000.00	100.00	
Cemetery Book Sales	-	20.00	-	-	
Misc.	-	-	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Revenue:	13,800.00	13,252.00	15,400.00	15,400.00	0.00%
<b>Cemetery Fund Expenses</b>					
Mowing	11,800.00	12,500.00	12,000.00	13,400.00	
Maintenance /Clean up	1,300.00	600.00	1,400.00	2,000.00	
Corner Stones	-	-	-	-	
Repairs (Stones & Road)	700.00	2,286.50	2,000.00	-	
Misc.	-	600.00	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Expenses:	13,800.00	15,986.50	15,400.00	15,400.00	0.00%
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	(2,734.50)	-	-	
 <b>Tropical Storm Irene Fund</b>					
<b>Tropical Storm Irene Revenue</b>					
Hazard Mitigation Grants	-	35,943.37	-	-	
Misc.	-	-	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Revenue:	-	35,943.37	-	-	0.00%
<b>Tropical Storm Irene Expense</b>					
Hazard Mitigation/Buyout	-	35,943.37	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Expenses:	-	35,943.37	-	-	0.00%
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	-	-	
 <b>School Revenue</b>					
Homestead Education Tax	866,757.29	866,757.29	748,387.37	-	
Non-Residential Education	1,031,739.71	1,031,739.71	908,541.63	-	
Non Resident Ed Liab to State	768,652.29	768,652.29	846,296.37	-	
Retained by Municipality	6,315.28	6,315.28	5,644.67	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Revenue:	2,673,464.57	2,673,464.57	2,508,870.04	-	
<b>School Expenses</b>					
Payments to Schools	1,898,497.00	1,898,497.00	1,656,929.00	-	
ACT 68 - Net Payment to State	768,652.29	768,652.29	846,296.37	-	
ACT 68 - Town Retains	6,315.28	6,315.28	5,644.67	-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total Expenses:	2,673,464.57	2,673,464.57	2,508,870.04	-	
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	-	-	

**Designated Fund Balances:**

<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Balance 7/1/14</b>	<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>6/30/15</b>
<b>General Fund:</b>					
Town Reappraisal	38,985.96	5,000.00	7,182.00	5,390.00	45,777.96
Fire Truck Improvements	73,143.42	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	88,143.42
Southgate House	184.17	13,000.00	0.00	0.00	13,184.17
Planning Comm.	4,453.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,453.43
Office Capitol	1,640.00	500.00	0.00	215.71	1,923.89
Veteran's Monument	1,431.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,431.88
Landfill	0.00	4,000.00	150.42	3,049.19	1,101.23
E-911 Road Signs	1,472.51	1,000.00	0.00	417.23	2,055.28
Encumbered Projects	0.00	0.00	947.13	0.00	947.13
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>121,311.37</b>	<b>38,500.00</b>	<b>8,279.55</b>	<b>9,072.13</b>	<b>159,018.79</b>
<b>Highway Restricted Funds:</b>					
Encumbered Project Funds	46,000.00	0.00	2,806.01	46,000.00	2,806.01
Excess Flood Money	203,836.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	203,836.00
Bridge	131,377.76	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	136,377.76
Highway Equip.	760.29	60,000.00	0.00	54,094.08	6,666.21
Salt Shed & Bldgs.	19,987.27	1,000.00	0.00	1,012.22	19,975.05
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>401,961.32</b>	<b>66,000.00</b>	<b>2,806.01</b>	<b>101,106.30</b>	<b>369,661.03</b>

**Town Indebtedness:**

<b>Compensated Absences</b>	<b>10,223.00</b>
<b>Western Star Truck Loan</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>
<b>Sewer Upgrade Loan Payable</b>	<b>35,000.00</b>
<b>Fire Truck Bond</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>
<b>Freightliner '12</b>	<b>43,961.00</b>
<b><u>Freightliner '14</u></b>	<b><u>67,678.00</u></b>
<b>Total Indebtedness:</b>	<b>171,872.00</b>

**BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 2015  
GENERAL ACCOUNT**

**ASSETS:**

Checking Account	308,526.16
Due to other funds:	-133,091.69
Landfill Coupons	272.00
Landfill Stickers	0.00
Petty Cash	100.00
AR-Delinquent Taxes due	<u>70,880.36</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>246,686.83</b>

**LIABILITIES:**

Accounts Payable	79,432.97
AFLAC Deductions	359.36
Insurance	4,246.00
Pre-paid Taxes	2,876.00
Delinquent Tax Collector	406.08
St. of VT- Dog Licenses	72.00
Planning Comm. Fund	4,453.43
Road Sign / 911 Admin.	2,055.28
Landfill Testing	1,101.23
Listers / Reappraisal Fund	45,777.96
Office Capital	1,923.89
Southgate House Reserved Fund	13,184.17
Fire Truck Improvement Fund	88,143.42
Encumbered Clerk Book	1,900.00
Encumbered Projects	947.13
<u>Veterans Monument Reserve</u>	<u>1,431.88</u>
<b>Total Liability</b>	<b>246,410.83</b>

**TOTAL FUND BALANCES**

<b>Fund Balance Prior Year</b>	<b>-860.94</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance Current Year</b>	<b><u>1,136.94</u></b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>276.00</b>

**Total Liability, Fund Balance** **246,686.83**

**HIGHWAY ACCOUNT**

**Assets:**

Due from General Account	101,888.27
<u>Flood-FEMA Reimb.CD</u>	<u>182,341.84</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>284,230.11</b>

**Liabilities:**

Equipment Reserve Fund	6,666.21
Building Improvements & Salt Shed	19,975.05
Bridge Reserve Fund	136,377.76
Flood Reimb. Restricted	203,836.00
<u>Encumbered Project Funds</u>	<u>2,806.01</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>369,661.03</b>

<b>Fund Balance Prior Year:</b>	<b>-105,462.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance Current Year</b>	<b><u>20,031.08</u></b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>-85,430.92</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE** **284,230.11**

## SEWER ACCOUNT

<b>Assets:</b>	
Due from General Account	17,046.00
AR-Delinquent Sewer Taxes	<u>17,455.69</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>34,501.69</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Undesignated Fund Balance	5,000.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>	
<b>Fund Balance Prior Year</b>	<b>231.63</b>
<b>Fund Balance Restricted</b>	<b>29,226.95</b>
<b><u>Total Prior Years Fund Balance</u></b>	<b><u>29,458.58</u></b>
<b>Current Year Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>43.11</u></b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>29,501.69</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>34,501.69</b>

## RECREATION COMMITTEE ACCT.

<b>Assets:</b>	
Due from General Fund	12,885.02
Robert Thomas Sec. Investment	37,843.16
Fidelity Invest.	<u>35,847.27</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>86,575.45</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Designated Fund Balance	<b>6,291.13</b>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>	
Fund Balance Prior Year	82,458.00
Current Year Fund Balance	<u>-2,173.68</u>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>80,284.32</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>86,575.45</b>

## CEMETERY FUND

<b>Assets:</b>	
Due from General Fund	38,018.81
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>38,018.81</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Cemetery Reserved-Corner Stones	<b>960.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>	
<b>Fund Balance Prior Year</b>	<b>39,793.31</b>
<b>Current Year Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>-2,734.50</u></b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>37,058.81</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>38,018.81</b>

## TROPICAL STORM IRENE FUND

<b>Due From/To General Fund</b>		<b>-31,634.13</b>
<b>Hazard Mitigation Receivable</b>		<b>-656.00</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>-32,290.13</b>
<b><u>Liabilities:</u></b>		
<b>Flood-Encumbered Projects</b>		<b>655.87</b>
<b>Total Liabilities:</b>		<b>655.87</b>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>		
<b>Fund Balance prior year</b>		<b>-32,946.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance Current Year</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>		<b>-32,946.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>		<b>--32,290.13</b>

\*The numbers presented in this report of FY 2014-2015 have been audited by Pace & Hawley CPA, the Town's contracted audit firm. The complete audit report is available for inspection at the Town Office.

**Explanation of 2014 Grand List  
Town Fiscal Year 2014/2015**

Fair market and Listed Value of  
Real Estate and Personal Property  
Taxable Parcels: 775  
Acres: 29,394.48

**Municipal Grand List: 1,781,209.17**  
**Education Grand List: 1,755,067.85**

	<b>Municipal</b>	<b>Homestead</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>	<b>Total Education Listed Value:</b>
Real Property	192,649,000.00	68,713,661.00	123,935,339.00	192,649.00
PP & Cable	2,902,774.00		205,882.00	205,882.00
(-)Vet Exempt.	30,000.00	30,000.00		30,000.00
(-) Land Use Exempt.	17,204,957.00	3,803,970.00	13,400,987.00	17,204,957.00
(-) Non-Approved Contracts	195,900.00			
(-) Special Exemptions		68,700.00	44,440.00	113,140.00
-----				
<b>Grand List:</b>	<b>1,781,209.17</b>	<b>648,109.91</b>	<b>1,106,957.94</b>	<b>1,755,067.85</b>

**STATEMENT OF CURRENT TAXES**

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2015

Taxes Billed:

<u>R.E. &amp; P.P.</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>		<u>Grand list</u>	<u>Taxes Raised</u>
Local Agreement	.0018	+ / -	1,781,209.17	3,206.24
<b><u>Amounts to be Raised in Taxes:</u></b>				
Municipal	.4099	+ / -	1,781,209.17	730,117.57
Homestead Ed.	1.8217	+ / -	653,398.91	1,190,296.81
Non-Residential	<u>1.6301</u>	+ / -	1,099,709.94	<u>1,792,637.22</u>
				3,716,257.84
<b>Adjustments &amp; Penalty's from Late Filed HS-122's</b>				<u>0.00</u>

**Total Taxes Raised: 3,716,257.84**

**Resident Tax Rate: \$2.2334**

**Non-Resident Tax Rate: \$2.0418**

**Receipts:**

<b>School Taxes Received:</b>	<b>2,673,464.57</b>	
<b>Highway Taxes:</b>	<b>459,558.48</b>	
<b>Town Taxes:</b>	<b>268,972.37</b>	
<b>Town Retains:</b>	<b>6,315.28</b>	
<b>State Tax Credits (net)</b>	<b>311,349.43</b>	<b>3,719,660.13</b>
<b>Tax Appeal refund</b>	<b>+ 1,880.74</b>	
<b>(Late Filed Adjustments)</b>	<b>- 5,283.03</b>	
<b>Net Taxes after adjustments:</b>		<b>3,716,257.84</b>

\* Note: Due to ACT 68 - Amounts Billed and Amounts received change over the course of the year – Late filed HS 122's change the totals of the Grand List – thus changing the amounts due causing either a shortfall or collecting more than anticipated.

## Delinquent Tax Collectors Report

January, 2016

Dear Bridgewater Residents,

I always like to take a moment to say thank you once again for the opportunity to serve as the Delinquent Tax Collector for the Town of Bridgewater. I thoroughly enjoy working with the taxpayers and community members and always enjoy meeting new people.

I'd like to share with you the progress that has been made in the collection of delinquent taxes. In November of 2014 **\$194,186.61** in property taxes became delinquent for the fiscal year 2014-2015 and as of January 7, 2016 all but **\$19,652.26** has been collected for that tax year. The balance on all the remaining delinquent property taxes which are listed in this year's town report (which lists totals as of June 30, 2015) is currently at **\$21,543.47** as of January 7, 2016. This is the combined total of tax years 2013 and 2014. You will notice that several tax years have been paid off in full. It has been a very busy year. This balance will go down as I work to resolve these accounts.

This past November 2015, the new property tax year for the fiscal year 2015-2016 became due. An amount of **\$183,778.49** in property taxes became delinquent. This amount is down **\$10,408.12** from last year's delinquent property taxes 2014-2015 which is listed above. As of January 7, 2016 over one third of the amount due (**\$71,769.40**) has been collected over the past two months bringing the balance down to **\$112,009.09** for this current tax year 2015-2016 as of January 7, 2016. Many of the taxpayers have payment arrangements or installment agreements to resolve these delinquent accounts.

I hope to continue to lower the amount of delinquent taxes in our town and continue to serve as the towns Delinquent Tax Collector for the Town of Bridgewater. If you ever have any questions or if I can be of any help please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joni Kennedy

Delinquent Tax Collector P.O. Box 372 Bridgewater Corners, VT 05035 672-3402

### Delinquent Sewer Report

Delinquent Sewer Taxes	FY '14 & '15 totals:
Bellimer, Lyle	742.50
Blanchard, Warren & Brian	1,160.92 pp
Bontrager, Jean	147.09 *
Booth, Harold	371.25 *
Bruck, Gina	248.65 *
Caizzi, Lawrence	371.25
Carr, Samuel	123.75 *
Fadden, David Est of	123.75 *
Federal Nat'l.	610.00 *
Goudreau, Shari	1,485.00
Greenough, Ronald	134.06

Herdegen, Gillian	141.19	pp
Mattsson, Claus	2,338.95	pp
Old Mill Marketplace	7220.85	*
Olmstead, Everett	93.84	*
Simpson Development	1,732.50	*
Testa, Glen	680.55	
Waters, Nicholas	116.55	*
<u>Wheeler, Angela</u>	<u>247.50</u>	
<b>Total: as of 06/30/15</b>	<b>17,455.68</b>	

Total includes Interest & Penalty charges.

\* = Paid in full after June 30, 2015

pp=partial payment

### Delinquent Tax Report – FY's 2010 - 2014

Delinquent Tax List	Totals:	*
Andrews, J.F.	1,237.04	pp
Bellimer, Lyle	2,429.71	pp
Bixler, Parker & McGonagle	204.79	*
Blanchard, Warren & Brian	3,130.16	pp
Bridge, Edwin Est.	1,507.45	*
Brooks, Rodney	758.68	*
Burton, David	898.72	*
Danforth, Maureen	1,943.80	
Dayton, Douglas	703.31	
Elliot, Diana	1,802.07	*
Floyd, Robt. Est.	640.72	pp
Hoisington, Anthony	4,341.35	
Joyce, Michael	425.80	*
Lombard, Alexander (06-090.001)	3,511.47	*
Lombard, Alexander (06-090.)	4,439.40	*
Makkonen, Sylvia	243.47	*
Manning, Michael	728.15	*
Mattsson, Claus (02-037)	5,090.42	pp
McLeod, Andrew	1,681.25	pp
Mingarelli, Ronald (04-011)	1,384.34	pp
Morse, Ronald	1,745.64	pp
Prior, David	21,936.56	*
Tanguay, Paul	4,417.62	*
Testa, Glenn (01-049)	1,525.25	
Webb, Joyce Estate (07-003)	691.32	pp
<u>Worth, David</u>	<u>999.43</u>	pp
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>68,586.62</b>	

**Balance As of June 30, 2015**

**(Includes Interest & Penalty charges)**

\* = Paid in full after June 30, 2015    pp= partial payment

## **Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report 2015**

The B.V.F.D. responded to a total of 48 incidents in 2015. Thirty three of those incidents were in town calls and the remaining fifteen were mutual aid calls provided to our neighboring communities. The in-town calls consisted of one structure fire, one chimney fire, seven smoke alarm activations, three carbon monoxide alarm activations, one motorcycle accident, six motor vehicle accidents, one oven fire, two smoke/propane odor investigations, three accidental fire alarm activations, one wood pile fire, one good intent call, one lawn mower fire, one ice rescue, one swift water rescue, and three times provided assistance to the F.A.S.T. Squad/Woodstock Ambulance for a total of 207 hours spent on these scenes. The B.V.F.D. spent 496 hours training and 356 hours maintaining our equipment, station, and dry hydrants.

Of the fifteen mutual aid calls eight of them were to Killington for three working structure fires, four calls cancelled en-route, and one log truck fire. Six calls were to Woodstock, three grass fires, one structure fire, one smoke alarm activation, and one burnt food. One call to Pomfret for a grass fire. The B.V.F.D. spent a total of 245 hours at these scenes.

The B.V.F.D. was fortunate to have two new firefighters join our ranks this year, we are always looking for more volunteers, and anyone interested is encouraged to stop by the station on any Monday evening after 6:30 or approach any Member for more information. Thanks to the efforts of Bruce Maxham and Mike Olmstead we now have a new dry hydrant located below Atwood Lane on the North Bridgewater Road. The Chicken Bar-B-Que at the Town Celebration and the Ham Supper held at the Bridgewater Congregational Church were both a success and we look forward to doing them again in the coming year as well as the annual Father's Day Fishing Derby held on the morning of Father's Day.

The Department is still investigating the best way to grow our operation to best meet the needs of our community, whether renovating and expanding our current location or possibly moving into an entirely new building in a new location. There is much to consider for either decision and it is our intention to keep our community informed as we move forward.

The Department would like to remind everyone to replace the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms twice a year, a good way to remember to do this is to change the batteries every time you change your clocks for daylight savings time. It is also very important that everyone makes sure that their 9-1-1 signs are visible year round so the Fire Department or F.A.S.T. Squad can find your house when you need them. As always the Department would like to thank our community for all their continued support and donations over the years, making it possible for us to continue to help support all of you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zach Bowley, President

## Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department 2015

### RECEIPTS:

General Donations/Misc.	8,811.33
Fund Drives	17,515.00
Coin Drops	8,848.15
Chix BBQ/Raffle	3,607.10
Ham Supper	2,561.00
Interest income	56.63
Fire extinguishers sales/service	389.00
Town Appropriation	<u>\$ 12,250.00</u>

**Total Receipts:** **\$54,038.21**

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Building repairs	637.62
Communications	832.51
Fire gear & equip, etc	7,268.73
Fire extinguishers sales/service	1,018.95
Fund raiser expenses	1,866.24
Generator/ lights	1,502.30
Grant equipment purchases	12,721.61
Insurance	1,210.00
Memberships/dues	509.00
Miscellaneous	987.60
Office expense/postage	1,601.22
Repairs/Maint Equipment	263.66
Supplies	306.20
Telephone	1,309.57
Training	200.00
Truck Expenses- Fuel, repairs	8,775.15
Electric	1,454.09
Fuel oil/propane	3,832.43
Sewer usage	742.50
Trash pickup	53.00
Transfer to Building Reserve	15,000.00
Bunker Gear Reserve Acct Int.	<u>40.72</u>
<b>Total Disbursements:</b>	<b>\$ 62,133.10</b>

### BANK ACCOUNTS:

Lake Sunapee Bank- General Acct	\$ 34,117.61
Bunker Gear Reserve Acct	\$ 16,232.21
Bldg. fund Reserve Acct	\$ 31,000.00

<b>Jan 1, 2015 Beg Balance</b>	<b>\$ 42,212.50</b>
Receipts	\$ 54,038.21
Disbursements	\$ 62,133.10
<b>Dec 31, 2015 End Balance</b>	<b>\$ 34,117.61</b>

### AUXILIARY ACCT

<b>Jan 1, 2015 Beg Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,811.63</b>
Receipts:	\$ 3,404.18
Disbursements:	\$ 2,780.55
<b>Dec 31, 2015 End Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,435.26</b>

## Report of the Bridgewater Cemetery Commission For the year 2015

In listing Bridgewater's thirteen known cemeteries, we are unable to include any unknown personal burial places of individuals which may have taken place over the years on private property. That count of *thirteen* known cemeteries consists of *five* private burial grounds (Pratt, White, Woodward, Josselyn and Martin), *six* Town burial grounds (Mount Pleasant, Baker Hill, Topliff, Bridgewater Hill, Mendell and North Bridgewater, all of which are mown at Town expense) and *two* other Town burial grounds (Kellogg and Angell) which are in remote, off-road locations. We inspect all thirteen regularly, and encourage others to do so as well, especially those resting places in beautiful, historic locations. Of the over 2,000 graves in Bridgewater, 10 % contain a veteran, each one of whom gets a fresh American flag each year, placed by Bridgewater's American Legion Post # 11, honoring each veteran's service to the United States in all of our country's wars.

While the Town is responsible for the cost of mowing those six cemeteries, the considerable cost of repairing damaged or fallen old gravestones and storm damaged trees in all thirteen cemeteries is not born by Town expense, but by voluntary donation of funds and /or time, or by grants from the Vermont Old Cemetery Association -- or as a last resort, from the Cemetery Commission's own asset fund. Between 2007 and 2013 we underwent a major, six year program of repairing long-overlooked storm, frost, vandalism and other severe damage to gravestones in the years between 2007 and 2013. During that period of restoring our cemeteries, those repair costs amounted to \$23,867, with an additional \$2,287 spent in 2014 to fix storm damage to the road through Mount Pleasant. We spent no money for repairs in 2015. Despite all those expenses, our asset fund today remains a little larger than it was in 2007. We are pleased to hear from you about well our cemeteries look today; especially how well mowed those six are, paid for by the Town. Our three year mowing contract expired in 2015, and we must put out bids in the spring of 2016 for a new three year mowing contract.

The price for a single burial plot in Bridgewater's Town cemeteries (still a bargain at \$350, plus a nominal amount for corner stones) remains competitive with neighboring Towns.

We urge your family to acquire a plot if you have not already done so. Our rule is that two cremated remains may be placed in one Bridgewater Town plot. Our negotiations about enlarging one or two cemeteries are continuing, since burial space is growing short. Bridgewater's School population may be shrinking, but our Senior population (eventual candidates for cemetery plots) is growing.

If you need another copy of the book we published in 2005, "*The History of Bridgewater 1779-1976*" by Gladys and Tom Adams, a supply is always available at the Bridgewater Historical Society for \$20, with whom we share the receipts 50-50. This book lists most graves in our cemeteries, makes a wonderful gift, and has contributed over \$1,500 to the Cemetery Commission asset fund. We need - *and always appreciate* - further contributions to that fund.

James Bulmer  
Coleman Hoyt  
Paul Hutt

Bridgewater Cemetery Commissioners

## **Geno-Robinson American Legion Post # 11 – Bridgewater, Vermont**

Our Purpose: to provide Patriotic Services to the Town of Bridgewater

Our History: Chartered August 1, 1919, one of Vermont's oldest Posts

Named in honor of: William Geno of WW I and Clyde Robinson of WW II

Our Membership: includes Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force veterans of Bridgewater

The year of 2015 was our Year of United States Flags:

We placed decorative Flags on utility poles along Route 4 through Bridgewater, aided by the Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department, and with generous donations from many, including the Bridgewater Congregational Church.

We placed Flags on over 200 veterans' graves in 12 Bridgewater Cemeteries in May, and removed them in November, saving them for Memorial Day 2016, when they will be handed out to children and viewers of the Woodstock parade, in which we participate -- after providing Bridgewater's Memorial Services.

We lend our Color Guard Flag for the Town Meeting, and we have been providing a Flag for the Bridgewater School (and will now for the Town's WW I Memorial).

During the annual Woodstock Memorial Day parades we have the honor of firing our 1846 brass naval cannon on the iron bridge over the Ottauquechee River to honor Naval and Marine veterans of all U.S. wars. This Spanish cannon was captured by Admiral Dewey of Vermont in the 1898 Battle of Manila Bay. We also fire it in Bridgewater's Memorial Day Service.

While it is our custom to provide Military Remembrance burial Services for all veterans, with prayers by our Chaplain, a rifle salute and a presentation of a Flag to the next of kin, we fortunately did not have any such sad occasion during 2015. Our ranks are regrettably thinning due to age, and we encourage all veterans to join us in Bridgewater's Post # 11 to enjoy our companionship and share the use of our free lending library of books and films of military, naval and patriotic subjects.

Richard Brackett, Commander  
Coleman Hoyt, Chaplain and past Commander  
John Griggs, past Commander

## Bridgewater Historical Society 2015 Report to the Town

### Bridgewater Historical Society 2015 Report to the Town

The past year has been a rewarding one for the Bridgewater Historical Society. The collection continues to grow and support from our members and friends remains strong. Volunteers keep the Brick Schoolhouse open Saturdays from May to October. Here are some highlights of our busy year:

- The Brick Schoolhouse was painted on the North, East and South sides. Additional track lighting was added to the main room to better illuminate the displays.
- The Oral History Project got off to a good start. Interviews were held with Henry Biathrow, Kathleen Carr and Pauline Carr.
- The Bridgewater Village School students visited twice, researching their families and the history of their town.
- Two evenings were held with members and friends sharing their knowledge and experiences about “sugaring” and “antique tools”.
- Paul Wood, sponsored by the VT Humanities Council, spoke on “Inventive Vermonters”, focusing on Bridgewater’s own inventor Sullivan White.
- Jere Daniell spoke on “Log Drives in the CT River Valley”.
- Bridgewater native Ernest Kendall hosted an afternoon conversation with neighbors who had worked in the Mill.
- BHS initiated a class photos project where school photos are being organized, cataloged and labeled with students’ names: the goal being to post on our web site a complete collection of school photos from 1900 to the present.
- We served refreshments at the Town Meeting.
- Board members have attended seminars: the first on grant applications, sponsored by the Vermont Arts Council and the second on textile conservation, sponsored by the Vermont Historical Society,
- Our newsletter is now published twice a year.
- The BHS calendar continues to be successful Christmas fundraiser.
- In addition to helping the American Legion with their flag project, BHS has started a tradition of ringing the school bell on Memorial Day to honor those who have served,

This June the Bridgewater Historical Society will be joining the Vermont History Expo in Tunbridge with an exhibit on “The Power of Water in Vermont History”. The annual meeting will be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 2:00 PM, with a guest speaker.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers and members for their continued hard work and support in helping us preserve the history of our town.

## GREATER UPPER VALLEY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste District (GUVSWD) is composed of 10 Upper Valley towns. The GUVSWD was established in 1992 for the purpose of providing an integrated system for waste management for both solid waste and unregulated hazardous waste through the establishment of recycling and reuse programs, composting and food diversion, and special collections for bulky wastes. In addition to these programs, the District provides outreach and education program to area businesses and schools. In our 23 year history, thousands of tons of recyclables and hazardous waste have been removed from the waste stream through these education and diversion programs.

The programs and services the District provides include special collection events for household hazardous waste, paint electronics, tires, fluorescent bulbs, and other hard to dispose of items. The District also provides outreach and education for students, residents, businesses and technical assistance to member towns.

In fiscal year 2015 the GUVSWD provided the following direct services to Bridgewater and District residents:

- Assisted in the recycling and disposal of hard-to-manage materials collected at regional events including: fluorescent light bulbs, used motor oil, tires, and paint..
- 312 GUV residents participated in district sponsored Household Hazardous Waste events held in Hartford in June and Thetford in September, in which over 20,000 lbs of hazardous material was disposed of.
- District residents also recycled 2,367 tires and over 20,000 lbs. of electronics at our collection events.
- The District held collection in Bridgewater, Sharon, Strafford, Thetford, and Vershire where it collected bulky trash, fluorescent bulb, book, and scrap metal.
- The next household hazardous waste day will be held on Saturday June 4, 2016 at the Hartford Recycling Center.
- 

In FY 15, John Timken and Norman Martin were Bridgewater's representatives to the GUVSWD Board of Supervisors. We thank them for their service.

The District's Green Guide will be available at Town Meeting. After Town Meeting, the Green Guides can be picked up at your Town Clerk's office, District office or on the District's website. Contact the GUVSWD by email at [guvswd@valley.net](mailto:guvswd@valley.net); call us at 296-3688 or visit us on the web at [www.guvswd.org](http://www.guvswd.org).

**VISITING NURSE & HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH**  
***Home Health, Hospice and Maternal Child Health Services in Bridgewater, VT***

The Visiting Nurse & Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is a compassionate, non-profit healthcare organization committed to providing the highest quality home health and hospice services to individuals and their families. VNH provides care for people of all ages and at all stages in life, and delivers care to all, regardless of ability to pay.

VNH services reduce costs associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, VNH made 907 homecare visits to 36 Bridgewater residents. We provided approximately \$30,060 in unreimbursed – or charity – care to Bridgewater residents.

- **Home Health Care:** 804 home visits to 31 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Hospice Services:** 101 home visits to 6 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.

Additionally, residents made visits to VNH wellness clinics at local senior and community centers throughout the year, receiving low- and no-cost services including blood pressure screenings, foot care, cholesterol testing, and flu shots.

Bridgewater's annual appropriation to the VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



*Jeanne McLaughlin, President & CEO (1-888-300-8853)*



**GREEN UP VERMONT**  
P.O. Box 1191  
Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191  
(802)229-4586, or 1-800-974-3259  
[greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org)  
[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

Green Up Day marked its 45th Anniversary in 2015! Green Up Vermont, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, continues to proudly carry on this tradition of Green Up Day. **Green Up Vermont is not a State Agency.** The success of Green Up Day depends not only on individuals volunteering to clean up, but also on financial support given by both the public and private sectors throughout Vermont. New, starting in 2015, people can now choose to donate to Green Up Vermont by entering a gift amount on Line 29 of the Vermont Income Tax Form.

With your town's help, we can continue Vermont's unique annual tradition taking care of our state's lovely landscape and promoting civic pride with our children growing up with Green Up. Green Up Day is a day each year when people come together in their communities to give Vermont a spring cleaning! Green Up Vermont also focuses on education for grades K-2 by providing two free activity booklets to schools and also hosts its annual student poster and writing contests for grades K-12. To learn more please visit [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Support from cities and towns has been an essential part of our operating budget. It enables us to cover 15 percent of our budget. These funds help pay for supplies, including over 48,000 Green Up trash bags, and promotion, education and services of two part-time employees.

**Mark your calendar -- May 7, 2016 Green Up Day, 46 years of tradition!**  
**Join with people in your community to clean up for Green Up Day, always the first Saturday in May.**

## **Vermont League of Cities and Towns 2015 Overview** *Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government*

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that is owned by its member municipalities and directed by a 13-member Board of Directors comprising municipal officials from across the state, elected by the membership.

VLCT's mission is to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, along with 136 other municipal entities, including villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts.

Vermonters use local government services – including highways, police, fire, recreation, libraries, sewer, and water – on a daily basis. In large part, volunteer elected and appointed municipal officials lead these local governments.

VLCT provides the following services to its member cities and towns to help them provide their citizens with quality services at affordable costs:

- **Legal, consulting, and education services.** VLCT's Municipal Assistance Center (MAC) provides training, information, and assistance to municipal officials to help them carry out their roles and responsibilities. In 2015, attorneys and staff responded to nearly 3,500 inquiries from municipal officials about their statutory duties and about best practices in municipal governance. More than 1,300 people attended 16 workshops on topics ranging from municipal budgeting to solid waste management, and training for selectboard members, auditors, and land use officials. Additionally, MAC conducted 10 on-site workshops at municipal offices covering Open Meeting Law compliance, financial fraud prevention, effective property tax appeal hearings, as well as other topics. Attorneys provided 28 municipalities with legal review of ordinances and policies, financial assistance, and other specialized consulting services. Many municipalities have received technical assistance on water quality and stormwater management related to the recent passage of Vermont's Clean Water Act. All handbooks, technical papers, model documents, and past newsletter articles – more than 1,000 documents – are available on VLCT's website.
- **Advocacy representation at the state and federal levels to ensure that municipalities have the resources and authority needed to serve their citizens.** VLCT is a leader in the education property tax debate, enhancing local voter authority in governance decisions, municipal efforts to clean up Vermont's lakes and rivers, and securing revenues for town highway and bridge maintenance programs. Municipalities will face significant challenges in the 2016 legislature as limited financial resources at the national and state level continue to force more demand for services at the local level. VLCT also publishes a *Weekly Legislative Report* that details legislative issues affecting municipal government. It is available free of charge on the VLCT website.
- **Opportunities to provide purchasing of needed services at the lowest cost.** Members may purchase municipal unemployment, property, and casualty and workers' compensation insurance coverage for town operations. The **VLCT Employee Resource and Benefit (VERB) Trust** continued to assist towns navigate their way to Vermont Health Connect and, where appropriate, to secure health insurance through the marketplace. When substantial municipal damages occur as a result of weather events, the value to our members of **VLCT Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF)** is quite clear, as members benefit from the broad coverage, excellent re-insurance, and prompt service and claims payments provided. The two Trusts are responsible for \$24 million in municipal tax dollars spent for insurance and risk management services in 2015.

To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including its audited financial statements, visit the VLCT website, [www.vlct.org](http://www.vlct.org).

## **Woodstock Recreation Center, INC.**

The Woodstock Recreation Center (WRC) is 69 years old in 2016. There have been many positive changes over the years; I will give a brief timeline below:

- In August of 1958 the first “small” pool was built, with funding from the Woodstock Rotary club.
- In June 1968 the “big pool” was built
- In February 2007 a major renovation project was completed removing the bowling alley and adding a Fitness Center and dance studio where many fitness classes, dance classes, and other programs are taught today.
- Included in this renovation is a new teen center  
(This used to be the old gym)
- In April 2008 the construction of a new “big pool” began.
- The small pool is still used today.
- In June 2009 the new “big pool” was ready for use.
- In 2010 the lower level of WRC was fully renovated with new bathrooms, showers, floors, walls, electrical, and plumbing.
- In August 2011 Tropical Storm Irene came through with flood waters filling the small pool with silt, entering the lower level of WRC and rising to 5ft. In the theater.
- This amounted to over 250,000.00 in damages.
- The lower level of WRC had to have all the recently completed renovations ripped out from 4ft and below due to water damage. This was all repaired within two months.
- The Theater had so much water and silt, all of the electrical, plumbing, and heat was ruined, the entire lower level had to be gutted from the ceiling down, there was no heat, or electricity in the building.
- In October 2012 all repairs to the theater were complete. The theater was again habitable and rainbow preschool moved back in and all classes resumed upstairs.
- In 2015 The original wood floors in the theater were refinished and the exterior side doors replaced.

The WRC is home of the Spectrum teen center, and the Options program. Both of these valuable entities rent from the Woodstock Rec Center. The teen center has a teen lounge with games and electronics. The teen center has had many special events at the WRC and utilizes the little theater for its dances. The options program is an alternative education program for Woodstock high school students where 12 to 15 students are taught daily. This gives students who have a difficult time learning in the school environment an incredible opportunity to learn in an environment that will enable them to do well and earn their diploma.

The Bridgewater community is a vital part of what we offer here at the Woodstock Rec Center, With a total of 14 Bridgewater resident children signed up for our summer camp program over 8 weeks, 6 in basketball, 10 in soccer, 9 in baseball, 4 in lacrosse, and numerous families in our swim lesson, swim team, and pool membership program. For adults and teens we have 40 Bridgewater residents using our fitness center and 15 who regularly take fitness classes.

Your continued community support and input is invaluable to us, we hope you continue to see the benefit in your partnership with the WRC. Please contact Gail Devine Executive Director, for further details or to offer your support, contribution, or expertise.

### Current WRC Staff:

Gail Devine – Executive Director  
 Joel Carey – Assistant Director  
 Kerri Elkouh – Office Administrator  
 Mike Tarleton – Maintenance

The staff and board of the WRC are committed to the goals that have been set forth and continue to strive toward improvements that will benefit the entire community.

Sincerely,  
 Gail Devine  
 Executive Director

### Current Board members:

Chair,– Emma Schmell Vice,– Kent McFarland, Secretary, Jim Giller – Treasurer, Sarah Weiss – Select board Rep. Preston Bristow – board members at large: - Tom Emery - Dave Doubleday.



32 Pleasant Street · Woodstock, Vermont 05091 · www.ocpvt.org · 802-457-2679

Ottauquechee Community Partnership Town Report  
*Healthy Youth, Healthy Community*

## OCP's 2015–2016 Initiatives

### OCP's Mentor and Buddy Program

OCP's goal for 2014-15 was to recruit more men to serve as mentors for boys. We are delighted to report that we are training twelve new mentors this year, and half of them are men!! This wave of new mentors is due in large part to our program veterans who have gone above and beyond in recruiting through word of mouth. We are deeply grateful for our mentors, who are having a great impact with kids and are having fun while doing so! This year we are bringing mentoring into two new elementary schools, and continuing to recruit, train, match and support our existing matches.

If the thought has occurred to you that you'd like to be a mentor, just ask to find out more, and we'll put you in touch with a neighbor or friend who serves as a mentor. You'll find out why many mentors say "being with my buddy is the highlight of my week." An hour a week – such a small amount of time that makes a big difference!

### Vermont Youth Action Network

OCP's goals and values are at the core of the OCP supported Vermont Youth Action Network, commonly known as VYAN. VYAN led the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Summit** in March 2015. The vision for expanding and supporting youth leadership in WUHS was first articulated by youth during OCP's Generations Together youth/adult retreat in 2009. Gradually and steadily through the last six years, this vision has guided many youth trainings and retreats. Now VYAN is being led by three Vermont-grown youth leaders who were in high school and college during the 2009 retreat. They are leading youth social change trainings in Woodstock, in the region and, this fall, are conducting a media literacy and anti-tobacco training for 100 young people from across the state of Vermont. Youth action doesn't get better than this!

### Healthy Youth: Healthy Communities

We believe that positively engaging young people is not only good for families and community but also creates thriving communities. This happens through building positive intergenerational relationships, developing strong partnerships between organizations that work together rather than competitively, and creating vibrant environments in which support for our children and healthy choices are the standards in our communities. If you agree, please consider supporting OCP. We depend on you, our donors to continue doing the work we do.

### An OCP/Artistree Youth and Adults Art Event – March 4-11

A family and community friendly few weeks designed to engage artists - young and not so young - with each other at Artistree to support OCP.

**Board of Directors**  
**Kathy Astemborski, Chair**  
**Robbie Blish, Vice-Chair**  
**Emma Schmell, Co-secretary**  
**Crys Szeleky, Co-secretary**  
**Denel McIntire, Treasurer Marie Anderson, Susan Ford**



Spectrum Teen Center  
 Attn: Heather Rubenstein & Joni Kennedy  
 70 Amsden Way  
 Woodstock, VT 05091

**January 8, 2016**

The Spectrum Teen Center would like to once again thank you for your continued support of our program by approving our request for town appropriations last year. Your support has been incredibly valuable to our program. For 19 years Spectrum has been serving teens in the Windsor Central Supervisory Union on Friday and Saturday nights, 7-11 pm, September - June.

Our program still resides in the Woodstock Recreation Center where we rent space in the downstairs of their facility. Every weekend there are movies, board games, computers, video games, billiards, foosball, air hockey, basketball, and dodge ball. Our teens enjoy our other activities like pizza night, build your own ice cream sundaes, board games, swimming, rock climbing, barbecues, create your own canvas, crafts, art and design your own tie die t-shirt's. **Our program is FREE to all teens.**

The Spectrum Teen Center serves an important population of teenagers in our community. We offer a safe and healthy environment where teens feel included and valued. It offers new experiences and gives the teens in our community a sense of belonging. We strive to create an environment where teens are able to be responsible and respected. Our program provides a safe social outlet and allows teens to come and spend time with their friends, meet new friends, and engage in healthy activities. Teens are involved in decision making, program and event planning, fundraising and community service projects.

We continue to promote healthy choices throughout our community. As members of the Woodstock community we like to remind youth to celebrate safely during the prom and graduation season. On May 21st, students from Woodstock Union High School, Spectrum Teen Center, VTLSP (Vermont Teen Leadership Safety Program), and OVX (Our Voices Xposed) participated in our Annual Sticker Shock Initiative at the South Woodstock Country Store, Woodstock Beverage, Macs Market, Maplefields and Cumberland Farms. The group of 10 students, one police officer, and four adult advisors went out and placed stickers designed by the group on alcoholic beverages to make adults aware of the risk of providing alcohol to minors. These stickers displayed warnings such as "distributing alcohol to minors can leave you with a \$10,000 fine and 5 years in jail" etc. The teens designed both the stickers as well as the posters that were displayed.

Your support is so important to our program and the teens in our community. The Spectrum Teen Center would greatly appreciate if your town would once again approve our request for town appropriations. Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope you will look favorably upon our request.

Sincerely,

Heather Vonada & Joni Kennedy, Co-Directors  
[hvonada@wcsu.net](mailto:hvonada@wcsu.net) & [jkennedy@wcsu.net](mailto:jkennedy@wcsu.net)  
 Spectrum Teen Center  
 70 Amsden Way  
 Woodstock, VT 05091

## **TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION (TRORC)**

### **TRORC 2015 YEAR-END REPORT**

The Two Rivers-Ottawuechee Regional Commission is an association of thirty municipalities in east-central Vermont that is governed by a Board of Representatives appointed by each of our member towns. As advocates for our member towns, we seek to articulate a vision for building a thriving regional economy while enhancing the region's quality of life. Our staff provides technical services to local, state and federal levels of government and to the Region's citizens, non-profits, and businesses. The following are highlights from 2015:

#### **Technical Assistance**

In 2015, TRORC staff assisted numerous towns with revisions to municipal plans, ranging from minor updates to comprehensive, substantive overhauls. A number of our towns incorporated a new flood resiliency element that is required for all plans adopted after July, 2014. Many towns have improved and clarified implementing regulations, easing permitting by making results more predictable. Collaborative efforts to improve town plans, zoning, and other ordinances demonstrate a regional commitment to foster vibrant, resilient towns and villages.

#### **Emergency Management & Preparedness**

Our LEPC #12 efforts with local emergency response and town officials continue across the region. With TRORC's help, all thirty member towns successfully completed annual updates to Local Emergency Operations Plans, which are critical components to disaster response efforts. Further, we have been working diligently with numerous TRORC towns to update Hazard Mitigation Plans, often in tandem with the remaining TS Irene property buy-outs in the region.

#### **Working Landscapes & Economic Development**

TRORC is committed to projects that preserve and protect our region's natural, scenic, and economic heritage. We continually seek to find a healthy, equitable balance between development and conservation that will both secure the region's future vitality and prosperity while ensuring effective stewardship of our landscape. To this end, we assisted in completing a new Economic Development Action Plan, since approved by the East Central Vermont Economic Development District. In addition, TRORC applied for and received \$400,000 in federal funding to assess contaminated properties leading to redevelopment and tax payments on delinquent properties.

#### **Transportation**

Transportation infrastructure and public transit services are integral components to safety and growth. We continue to work with towns on grants to enhance our roadways, inventory infrastructure, establish new park and ride locations, and make downtowns and village centers more accessible and pedestrian-friendly. We also have continued sponsoring Transportation Advisory Committee meetings and facilitating meetings with our region's road foremen.

Specifically in Bridgewater this past year, we assisted with updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and completed a Flood Damaged Buyout through our continuing efforts to recover from Tropical Storm Irene.

*We are committed to serving you, and welcome opportunities to assist you in the future.  
Respectfully submitted, Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director  
William B. Emmons, III, Chairperson, Pomfret*

**The Woodstock Area Council on Aging  
(The Thompson Center)**

*Your First Resource for Aging in our Community*

As the local resource and advocate for more than 1,500 seniors in Bridgewater, Barnard, Pomfret, Woodstock, and surrounding communities, The Thompson is so much more than our building located in West Woodstock.

The Thompson encourages and enables all those in our area to “age well.” We are a vibrant community of active participants, energetic volunteers, dedicated staff, expert advisors and teachers, and generous donors. Together, we enrich the experience of aging in our area through meals, exercise, speakers and classes, transportation, and a myriad of other activities and opportunities for socialization.

Our challenges—and needs—increase as the senior population in our area continues to grow in size and in age. In fact, people over 65 represent the fastest growing age group nationally, and in our area.

The Thompson continues to provide daily meals, rides, and other resources like medical equipment, referrals, and caregiver support for Bridgewater residents at home. Many Bridgewater residents also participate at the Center for meals, exercise, educational and entertaining programs, by volunteering, for flu shots, and more.

- 17,192 meals were served in 2015 (including 7,947 home delivered meals) in total. Our highest percentage of home delivered meals continues to be to Bridgewater, and Bridgewater residents represent the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest group of participants at the Center.
- 3,460 rides were provided in 2015 including local rides and out-of-town medical rides throughout the Upper Valley.

We're pleased to be the senior center that serves our communities and truly care about our participants and helping them to “age well.” Your continued support will help to ensure the success of this valuable community resource. Please contact us at [info@thompsonscenter.org](mailto:info@thompsonscenter.org) or 457-3277 with any questions or needs. You can also see the menu and program calendar online at [www.thompsonscenter.org](http://www.thompsonscenter.org) or find us on Facebook. Thank you for your support!

Respectfully submitted,  
Deanna Jones, Executive Director

[www.thompsonscenter.org](http://www.thompsonscenter.org)  
[info@thompsonscenter.org](mailto:info@thompsonscenter.org)  
(802) 457-3277

## The Woodstock Area Job Bank

*“Bringing together people who need work  
with people who need workers.”*

Since 1974 the Woodstock Area Job Bank has helped people in our community by matching those looking for work with those having jobs to be done.

Today the jobs listed vary from full-time professional to hourly household work – and everything in between. This valuable referral service has always been offered free of charge.

### **What’s happening at the Job Bank?**

- We provide individuals in our community with valuable work experience, exposure to new work environments, and opportunities to sharpen their skills.
- We provide businesses and families the opportunity to connect with workers in our community and even serve as mentors on the job.
- We support volunteers! We’re continuing our effort to promote volunteer opportunities in the area.
- We maintain an interactive website that allows employers to post jobs directly online AND the ability for job-seekers to register their skills online.
- We’re collaborating with area nonprofits to better serve our community, ease donor fatigue and share common resources.

### **How are we doing?**

- Our requests for workers continue to grow each year. In 2015 the number grew from 650 requests to over 700. There are over 450 active job seekers on our list.
- The Job Bank serves job-seekers, volunteer-seekers and employers throughout the greater Woodstock area.

### **How are we funded?**

This year our funding request to the Town of Bridgewater remains level with last year.

While we do receive some funding from area towns - Woodstock, Hartland, Bridgewater, Barnard, Pomfret and Reading - our budget is limited. These funds will help toward operating expenses as we continue offering in-person, online, and telephone resources and strive to expand service hours.

*The Woodstock Area Job Bank is a 501 c-3 organization  
We thank the voters of Bridgewater for supporting  
this worthy organization!*

Board of Directors: Sara Norcross, President - Michelle Fields, Secretary - Ann Marie Boyd, Treasurer  
Susanne Lodge - Patrick Fultz - Leo Lacroix

**Woodstock Town Hall -2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - 31 The Green - Woodstock, VT 05091**

**802-457-3835**

**Hours: Tues., Wed, Thurs. 9-3 pm**

**[www.woodstockjobbank.org](http://www.woodstockjobbank.org)**  
**[info@woodstockjobbank.org](mailto:info@woodstockjobbank.org)**

## Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)

### Southeastern Vermont Community Action

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965.

Our mission is to enable people to cope with and reduce the hardships of poverty; create sustainable self-sufficiency; reduce the causes, and move toward the elimination of poverty. SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include: Weatherization, Head Start, Emergency Services/Crisis Intervention (i.e., fuel/utility assistance, food, shelter), Micro-Business Development, Individual Development Accounts, Tax Preparation, VT Health Connect Navigation, Emergency Home Repair, and Thrift Stores.

In the community of Bridgewater we have provided the following services during FY2015:

**Weatherization:** 1 home (1 person) was weatherized at a cost of \$421

**Emergency Heating Systems:** 3 homes (6 people) received a furnace repair or replacement at a cost of \$881

**Tax Preparation:** 2 households (2 people) received services and tax credits totaling \$2,514

**Thrift Store Vouchers:** 2 households (2 people) received goods & services valued at \$114

**Emergency Services:** 7 households (15 people) received 45 services (including crisis intervention, financial counseling, nutrition information, referral to & assistance with accessing needed services) valued at \$373

**Fuel & Utility Assistance:** 13 households (38 people) received services valued at \$8,304

**Housing & Other Support Services:** 2 households (2 people) received services valued at \$3,219

**Emergency Home Repair:** 1 home (2 people) received services to address health and safety risks, structural problems, and reduce energy waste, valued at \$2,569

Community support, through town funding, helps to build a strong partnership. The combination of state, federal, private and town funds allow us to not only maintain, but to increase and improve service.

We thank the residents of Bridgewater for their support.

Stephen Geller  
Executive Director

**State of Vermont  
Department of Health  
White River Junction District Office**

**Phone: 802-295-8820  
Fax: 802-295-8832  
Toll Free: 888-253-8799**

**118 Prospect Street, Suite 300  
White River Jct. VT 05001  
HealthVermont.gov**

## **Vermont Department of Health Report for Bridgewater**

**Your local health district office** is in White River Junction at the address and phone number above. Come visit or give us a call! At the Vermont Department of Health, we are working every day for your health. With twelve district offices around the state, and state office and laboratory in Chittenden County, we deliver a wide range of public health services and support to your community. For example, in 2015 the Health Department:

**Provided WIC nutrition services and healthy foods to families:** We served about half of all Vermont families with pregnant women and children to age five with WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children). WIC provides individualized nutrition counseling and breastfeeding support, home-delivered foods, and a debit-like card to buy fruit and vegetables. In Bridgewater, 24 women, infants and children were enrolled in WIC. The average value of foods provided is \$50 per person per month. Families served by WIC are now able to shop for WIC foods themselves, increasing choice (a change from home delivery).

**Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease:** In 2014, we responded to 227 cases of infectious disease in Windsor County. In 2014, \$13,916,297 of vaccine for vaccine-preventable diseases was distributed to healthcare providers statewide, \$917,954.11 of which was in your district's area.

**Aided communities in emergency preparedness:** In 2014/15, \$10,000 was contributed to fund training for Windsor County's Emergency Medical Services and Medical Reserve Corps.



## **Report of the Superintendent January 2016**

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians, Staff and Taxpayers of the Windsor Central Supervisory Union:

Annually in January, I am pleased to have the opportunity to report to the communities of Windsor Central Supervisory Union on the educational activities that I think make WCSU a special place. I understand that for many in the community, WCSU is a little known entity. Some may think of it as a bureaucracy that has little direct interaction or influence with the local schools; others may lament that outside of their locally elected board members, they have little opportunity to influence the direction and spending of the supervisory union. However, in Vermont the supervisory union is expected to provide guidance, structure, and support to the local schools so that they can focus their attention on student learning by providing high quality, exciting learning opportunities for students. In my tenure as your superintendent, I have tried to ensure that our board, my staff, and I do just that.

From our office at 70 Amsden Way we provide direction, advice, and materials for curriculum, assessment, and program development. For example, last year we adopted a consolidated PreK - eight literacy curriculum that identifies the skills, knowledge, and dispositions students need to be college and career ready readers and writers. Teachers have ongoing professional development on site at the local schools provided by a skilled coach and embedded in their work day. We also employ a highly skilled mathematics coach and special education reading specialist who work in the schools directly with teachers. We are currently developing new science curriculum aligned with The Next Generation Science Standards under the guidance of an expert consultant as well as some of our own expert teachers. Our coaches are employed through federal grants and exemplify the power of consolidating resources to meet a common need across multiple schools in the service of improving learning opportunities and outcomes for students. WCSU also provides direction, service, and support in the areas of instructional technology, special education, finance, human resources, professional development, long range planning, and education related law and governance. Collaborative work within consolidated structures is intended to provide equity of learning opportunities across schools and efficiencies that can keep the taxpayers resources focused on learning.

Few would argue that the most important task of a community is to provide high quality education for its youth. In 2016 this means educating kids to be inquisitive, reflective, critical thinkers, problem solvers, analytic readers, competent and confident writers, technologically skilled, and civic minded. They need opportunities to meaningfully experience the arts, music, physical education, and learning in the areas of health and wellness, not only to become well rounded, independent, happy, healthy, and confident adults but to understand the limitless possibilities and to cultivate their own interests as they plan for their futures. As we move into a new calendar year, I would encourage every citizen to reflect on the increasing challenges we face as a community and nation, the myriad needs of our youth to face those challenges and ways in which members of the WCSU community can work together to maximize our ability to prepare our young people for the future. It is imperative that citizens become informed and involved in shaping the future of our local schools.

While some would argue that the Vermont Legislature's approach to address our shared responsibility to provide educational opportunities in a way that is sustainable as the population in the state ages and school enrollment declines is heavy handed or draconian, I believe it is critical that we proactively face this dilemma. On June 2, 2015, Governor Peter Shumlin signed into law Act 46 of 2015 which is intended to provide incentive and opportunity to increase our current efforts of collaboration. This landmark education legislation calls on school boards and administrators to lead changes in their districts and supervisory unions that will result in greater opportunities for students, increased efficiency in delivering those, and models that are sustainable. The Act provides incentives for the creation of PreK-12 education districts designed to work collaboratively through shared governance and with shared resources. Act 46 should not be thought of as a one size fits all directive. Rather, it should be looked on as an opportunity to redesign the future of our schools.

WCSU is well positioned to become a Vermont “preferred PreK-12 School District” and at this time a Study Committee, approved by the Boards, is exploring the challenges and opportunities associated with this. Moving to a merged PreK-12 system does not necessarily mean consolidation or closure of schools and the incentives offered could actually make it possible for our small schools to thrive. Inherent in the Act and the challenge of implementation of it is for communities to rethink the delivery of education in a broader and more creative context. For example, in our smaller school communities, school buildings could become more flexible *community education centers* that may house Prek-2 classrooms, a community center for the arts, a local museum or historical society, classes for adult learners, after school programs or day care, etc. Older students could be consolidated in fewer buildings thus providing more opportunities to work, learn and play with peers. Creative use of a community resource could have broader appeal to community members and provide the sustainability needed to keep the education of young children in the community. Other models, such as creating magnet schools within the PreK-12 district or using one building for lower elementary grades and another for upper grades, are all possible. As we move ahead to address the requirements, opportunities, and challenges inherent in Act 46, we are confident that we can continue the thoughtful, proactive conversations and hard decision making needed to “do the right thing” for our children and our communities. We need your help to do so and encourage attention and participation in this important work.

As always, I am indebted to the teachers and board members of WCSU for their ongoing commitment to our students, and to the WCSU staff for their diligent work and professionalism. We appreciate the opportunity to serve the communities of Windsor Central in a proactive and fiscally responsible way.

Respectfully,

Alice Thomason Worth  
Superintendent/Director of Education

### **WCSU Board Chair’s Annual Report January 2016**

Windsor Central Supervisory Union (WCSU) continues to pursue its mission to support our local schools and communities through a variety of centralized activities. By providing educational, financial, operational, and governance services, WCSU paves the way so that our schools can focus their attention on the education of our youth. We continue to be challenged by conditions such as declining enrollment, increased costs, and constraints that the Vermont Legislature has placed on school districts through cost containment strategies. For example, this year health insurance costs alone have risen 7.9%, and cost containment methods penalize districts whose costs rise above 2.5%.

#### **Act 46 and Consolidation Strategies:**

Even before the signing into law of Act 46 mandating consolidation of school governance, WCSU has been making efforts to consolidate some services that have historically been provided by the individual districts that make up the supervisory union. For example, we have established a unified transportation system, and we have consolidated special education staff and expenditures.

Starting this fiscal year, we have opened a new Joint District School to provide elementary school services to Pomfret and Bridgewater children. While closing schools is not a goal of WCSU, nor of Act 46, closing the Bridgewater Elementary School because of its low enrollment and the age of its building made sense to the community. Pomfret also felt the pinch from declining student enrollment and partnered with Bridgewater to solve both districts’ problems.

Now a new Act 46 Study Committee, made up of board members from the individual school districts and interested citizens from affected communities, is looking at other ways to consolidate governance and services so as to reap educational and financial benefits. With the support of a small study grant from the Vermont Agency of Education the committee has begun working with a consultant to gather and analyze information and consider a number of possible actions. The voters in all WCSU communities are encouraged to become familiar with the issues and opportunities inherent in Act 46. The committee will report to our communities and any recommended actions will not be implemented without an informed consent from the electorate.

**The Budget:**

Last year a significant change to the WCSU budget occurred as a result of the state-mandated consolidation of special education teaching services in the Supervisory Union. This year additional special education costs have been consolidated in the Supervisory Union budget as a result of a state mandate. As a consequence taxpayers will notice a reduction in special education costs in their local budgets, offset by the resulting increase in the administrative charge to the local budgets based on the WCSU budget. This effort to centralize services is driven by legislative action intended to manage escalating costs.

The WCSU's FY17 expense budget of \$3,213,485 reflects a net increase of \$587,381 as compared to the budget for the current year (FY16). Of that net increase, the sum of \$537,600 is a result of bringing all special education costs, except those of support staff personnel, from all K-6 schools as well as the high school and middle school into the FY17 WCSU budget. The WCSU assessments charged back to the schools will reflect this. There have also been modest increases in staff salaries, some dictated by contractual teacher obligations, and a 7.9 % increase in health insurance costs. Teachers' salaries for next year are still under negotiation. In total, the budget increase, not accounting for the new transfer of special education costs, is only a 1.9% increase over last year.

**Contract Negotiations:**

Per state statute all schools which have a professional staff organized in a collective bargaining unit must work to merge their collective bargaining agreements in an effort to improve efficiencies across schools. Barnard Academy, Reading Elementary School, Woodstock Elementary School, Woodstock Union Middle and High School, and Windsor Central Supervisory Union fall into this category and have been negotiating with their professional staff since October 2015 to create a new collective bargaining agreement for FY17.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Green  
Chair of the Windsor Central Supervisory Union Board

### **WCSU Instructional Support Services January 2016**

Throughout the 2014-2015 school year, WCSU Special Educators have continued in their professional development regarding specialized instruction in reading and writing. Educators furthered their skills in Wilson Reading Instruction and are looking forward to a three day training with the Wilson team to ensure that all special educators are competent in delivering this system of instruction. Also, special education teachers are completing a review of the Landmark School's writing program called From Talking to Writing which will be used as the district's writing intervention program. These professional development activities parallel those of the regular educators to provide a comprehensive system of instruction and support. Special Educators also spent a full day developing their assessment skills in reviewing the new Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement.

The special education team has also changed over the last year because of retirements and relocations of some of our team. Melanie McGoven, special educator, joined the middle school; Katie Rougeux, special educator, is teaching at Woodstock Elementary School; Sue Hagerman, school psychologist, is working with the entire district, and Nancy Nicholas, occupational therapist, will also work with students from all towns. One of the goals for the last year was to provide after school programs for all of the elementary schools. Applications for child day care licenses were opened for all of the elementary schools, and an application was submitted and approved for the Summer SOAK program. This license allows after school programs to apply for subsidies for families in need and insures that programs are well structured for success. Currently afterschool programs are offered at Woodstock Elementary, Killington Elementary, Reading Elementary and Barnard Elementary. Costs for the program are covered by parents, grants and state subsidies.

The District Whole School Whole Child Team researched assessments that could be used to evaluate the health needs of WCSU students. They selected the Center for Disease Control's School Health Index (SHI). After reviewing the tool, the group voted to collect data from each school on School Health and Safety Policies and Environment. Topics in this module include school climate, wellness policies, harassment and bullying, physical environment, physical activities, food services and tobacco issues. The team is composed of individuals from each school. They will meet with members of their school community to complete the assessment and then reconvene in January. The group developed a timeline for the completion of the index, formation of recommendations, and presentation to the WCSU Board.

The WCSU Food Services Coordinator, Gretchen Czaja, conducted a district wide survey of parents, students and educators of the current building based food programs, and organized meetings for the Food Service personnel. The survey results demonstrated a strong interest in healthy food choices at school. Meetings with staff focused on the role of food service personnel, the results of the district survey, child nutrition best practices, professional development updates, media platforms for the Food Services program and goal setting. The group will meet four times during the school year. Ensuring that our food service program meets state and federal standards, as well as the nutritional needs of our students, provides true health opportunities at all levels to those we serve.

During Summer SOAK 2015, nineteen instructors provided thirty-two different offerings; including ballet instruction, rocket building, martial arts, women in engineering, Introduction to College Studies through CCV, and a Week in the Woods. The program received a grant of \$8,000 from Hypertherm, \$20,000 from the Byrne Foundation, \$10,000 from the Department of Children and Families Child Development Division Expansion Grant and \$1,500 from the Woodstock Endowment Grant. These grants helped to cover scholarship requests from families and program costs. Over 250 students participated in the program from within and outside of the district. Planning is in progress for Summer SOAK 2016.

In the fall, a workshop was offered to all teachers and staff on Developmental Trauma with Northeast Family Institute (NFI) at the Marsh Billings Rockefeller National Park Forest Center. The event included teams identified by principals of educators, counselors and school nurses. The workshop addressed the impact that chronic trauma has on the developing child. The training was designed to help adults work more successfully with students with chronic trauma exposure; many of the concepts covered were useful in

working with all youth.

Fritz Weiss has been working in all of the schools as a consulting teacher in the area of student behavior since the start of the school year. He has conducted observations and Functional Behavioral Assessments for the purpose of developing individual student plans and to provide recommendations to school teams on how they respond to student behavior. Principals and teachers have welcomed this new set of eyes on some challenging situations. Fritz will also be meeting with building administrators and special educators to improve skill sets in addressing student behaviors.

The state has put together a panel of superintendents, Consolidated Federal Grant team leaders, Title I teachers, parents and school board members to review the state policies and procedures for implementation of the CFG grant. Nancy LaBella, Title 1 teacher for more than 20 years in our district, and Sherry Sousa were asked to participate on this committee. As the parent and daughter of Hard of Hearing individuals, I was also asked to serve on the Vermont Deaf and Hard of Hearing State Advisory Council. This advisory group will be recommending policy and service revisions at the state level.

Instructional Support Services at WCSU has taken on a very broad definition to include the physical, mental and emotional health of all our students. I am very proud of how we have diversified the opportunities that we can provide our community and how we have varied our use of existing resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Sousa

Director of Instructional Support Services



### The Prosper Valley School Joint District Report

The Prosper Valley School (TPVS), the consolidation of the Bridgewater Village School and The Pomfret School, officially opened its doors on Wednesday, August 26, 2015 to 81 students in Grades K-6. Families from our two towns had the chance to meet and greet one another at two summer events, a “Community Welcome” in July and a Back-to-School Barbecue in August.

**School Launch.** Concentrated, sustained effort preceded our inaugural day on the part of the joint school board, newly-acquainted faculty and staff, and WCSU administrators. TPVS faculty and Principal Lisa Sjoström gathered together for the first time in May to begin to hone a vision for the joint district school. At a two-day “school design institute” in June, TPVS educators considered a range of matters vital to launching a new school—from educational vision and core convictions to the nuts and bolts of scheduling, spiraling curricula, school traditions, student behavioral code, and more. “School formation” work is evolving throughout our first year. For instance, in November students in each grade presented a nominee for school mascot. The “Mountaineers” garnered the most votes in an all-school election and we since have been exploring the teamwork, perseverance, skillfulness required to “summit” as scholars and citizens, as well as athletes.

**Current grade level teaching assignments** are as follows: Deanne Fitzpatrick, Kindergarten; Katrina Gedney, Grade 1; Barbara Leonard, Grade 2; Mercy Grinold, Grade 3; Jennifer Hewitt, Grade 4; Erin Webster, Grade 5; and Robert Hanson, Grade 6. TPVS opened without a designated Grade 5 teacher; classroom teachers in Grades 3, 4 and 6 assumed responsibilities for different subject areas of Grade 5. It quickly became apparent that students would benefit from the concentrated attention of one single teacher. Monies were reallocated from the current 2015-’16 budget to hire a Grade 5 teacher who joined faculty in January. Our Special Education staff includes teacher Lori Elliott and para-professional Lori Flynn. Jennifer Gubbins is a general education para-professional. School nurse Susan Clarke is with us one day per week. Psychologist Fritz Weiss works two half days supporting students, families and overall community formation.

**Specials teachers.** Lisa Kaija teaches Art two days per week, including an open Art Studio on Thursday afternoons during which any teacher can book time for interdisciplinary art projects. Christine Morton teaches Music one and a half days per week, along with instrumental lessons (woodwinds, brass, percussion) and a school band comprised of 31 students in grades 4, 5 and 6, an 80% participation rate and the largest elementary-school band in the supervisory union. Foreign language teacher Elaine Leibley teaches Spanish across grades (K-6) two days per week. Ted Panasci teaches PhysEd two days and Health one day per week.

**Ongoing Professional Development.** Faculty are involved in educational initiatives that are having a direct positive effect on student learning. Teachers are implementing new best practices in Math and Literacy and writing new Science units incorporating Next Generation Science Standards. As well, teachers are piloting mindfulness practices from the acclaimed “Mind Up” curriculum to improve student focus, concentration and academic performance.

**Student Enrichment.** Students participate in a variety of enrichment activities during and after school. The Prosper Valley School Drum Corp meets weekly under the direction of Mark van Gulden. Students are attending five Pentangle performances throughout the year. During our “Winter Fridays” program, students in Grades 1-6 alpine ski at Suicide Six, ice skate at Union Arena, create art at Artistree, dance at Pentangle, and participate in outdoor activities at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park. In March, Grade 5 and 6 students will travel to Nuvu Studio in Cambridge, MA to participate in a day of hands-on Engineering followed by an insider’s tour of the MIT campus. We will pilot a school-wide Spring Fling seminar program that brings in professionals from a range of creative fields—architects, dancers, sculptors, musicians—to work with students for five sessions. In May, 6<sup>th</sup> graders will join peers from across the supervisory union on the Nature’s Classroom trip to Ocean Park, Maine. We are poised to launch a collaboration with The Montshire Museum with a focus on Engineering in all grades. Starting in Fall 2016, TPVS will join with The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics, based at MIT, to pilot a series of teacher and parent workshops to support children’s ethical development. We are one of two international sites involved in this pilot project. Our sister school is in Mexico City. We are working with Aristree to design a related program for students who will share artwork with counterparts in Mexico.

**Working Kitchen.** TPVS has a fully-functioning kitchen that serves hot breakfasts and lunches to students and staff. The kitchen underwent complete renovations and opened in mid-January. The Abbey Group, a food service provider, oversees kitchen operations. Student lunch count is averaging 80% daily. Our aim is to feature whole, local foods and establish partnerships with local farms. Chef Randall Szott is designing a garden-greenhouse program involving students in planting, harvesting and food prep.

**Supportive Organizations.** Our active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) supports a variety of school activities. The inaugural TPVS Harvest Supper was a resounding success, involving hard work on behalf of students, teachers and families from both Bridgewater and Pomfret. With PTO support, we provided student-created Helping Hands holiday baskets to senior citizens of our two towns. The Prosper Valley School Trust has funded the purchase of a new greenhouse, provided instruments to make it possible for every interested student to participate in band, and has funded a TPVS Rock Climbing Team.

**Distinguished School Board.** TPVS has become a united community with its own distinct identity in large part due to the extraordinary efforts and support of our Joint District School Board comprised of members Jennifer Gieseke, Seth Shaw and Justin Shipman from Bridgewater, and Robert Coates, Jody Eaton and Greg Greene (board chair) from Pomfret. Our board won the “Exceptional School Board Leadership Award” from the Vermont School Boards Association in recognition of “demonstrable contributions to the well-being of students and exceptional contributions to the effective and efficient operation of The Prosper Valley Joint School District.”

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Sjoström, Principal

## Prosper Valley School Trust - 2015 Annual Report

Recognizing the need to enrich educational opportunities within our public school, the Pomfret School Trust was founded in 1992 to nurture excellence in education in Pomfret, Vermont. On July 9, 2015, to keep pace with the new Joint School District, the Pomfret School Trust officially changed its name to the Prosper Valley School Trust. Moreover, we have broadened our mission to provide educational enrichment for the children of Bridgewater and Pomfret who attend the Prosper Valley School. The Trust provides funds for enrichment beyond that which can be fairly and reasonably raised through local and state taxes. The Prosper Valley School Trust is a private foundation that conforms to all provisions of section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS. All funds held by the Trust are privately raised through donations.

Programs funded by the Trust in 2015:

- In the spring of 2015, all of the students at The Pomfret School participated in a variety show directed by Trish Denton. Trish spent a couple of weeks working with the students to create a show of their own making.
- Last spring also saw the creation of a rock climbing team for students in grades 5 and 6. Students' families pay as they are able and the Trust subsidizes the remaining cost of membership to the Rock Wall in Quechee where the team practices. The team took a break for the summer and began again at the end of October with a new set of students from The Prosper Valley School.
- The Drum Corps continues to be a popular extra-curricular activity for students in grades 4-6. Mark van Gulden instructs and leads the group with great skill and enthusiasm. The Drum Corps performed in the Woodstock Memorial Day parade, for the Covered Bridges marathoners, and in the Woodstock Alumni Day parade as well.
- This fall the Trust provided two band scholarships for beginning band students in the Prosper Valley School Band.
- Finally, the Trust purchased a small greenhouse previously owned by Chippers. This greenhouse will allow students more gardening opportunities during the school year and further opportunities for an expanded food education program.

The Prosper Valley School Trust wishes to thank the community for its continuous support, and wishes everyone a happy, healthy 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Trustees: Hope Yeager, Deanna Jones, Kim Bean, Marie Cole, Mica Seely, and Lisa Sjostrom.

The Prosper Valley School Trust  
 Financial Statement  
 Reporting Period: 1/1/2015 – 12/31/2015

Balance Forward (12/31/2014)	\$22,754.64
Direct Public Support – Individual Contributions	\$ 4,025.00
Birdseye Foundation Grant	\$10,000.00
Grant for School Kitchen	\$77,000.00
Rock Climbing Fees Collected	\$ 550.00
Total Revenue	\$91,575.00
Operating Expenses	
Drum Corps	\$ 500.00
Postage & Delivery	\$ 254.80
Band Scholarships	\$ 420.20
Annual Appeal	\$ 65.00
Green House Purchase	\$ 3,260.00
Stage Show Production	\$ 2,989.83
Rock Climbing Memberships & Scholarships	\$ 2,300.00
Legal Fees	\$ 590.00
School Kitchen Grant Allocations	\$42,571.25
Total Operating Expenses	\$52,951.08
Checking Account Balance (12/31/15)	\$ 61,578.57
Investment Portfolio Balance (12/31/2015)	\$ 47,838.29
Total Assets	\$109,416.86
Balance of School Kitchen Grant (as of 12/31/15)	\$ 34,428.75
Total Assets of Prosper Valley School Trust (12/31/15)	\$ 74,988.11

**The Prosper Valley School  
Expenditure Report and Proposed Budget  
2016-2017 Budget Year**

	<b>Budget 2015-2016</b>	<b>Projected 2015-2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
<b>Regular Instruction</b>			
Teachers' Salaries	386,989	495,751	520,584
Art/Music Salaries	42,149		
Aides' Salaries	-	19,044	19,520
Instruction - Substitute Salaries	5,125	5,125	5,253
Regular Instruction - Health Insurance	112,675	148,255	157,187
Regular Instruction FICA	33,220	39,344	41,720
Life Insurance	92	92	-
Municipal Retirement	(1384)	0.00	1261
Workers' Comp. Ins	1,931	2,146	2,591
Dental Insurance	3,147	3,342	3,720
Pentangle	200		
Nature's Classroom	5,379		
Regular Ed Excess Costs	4,000	4,000	4,000
Purchased Educational Services		5,579	5,579
General Supplies	6,500	6,925	6,925
Pre-K Tuition	-	-	15,000
General Texts	1,825		
Photocopier Supplies	600		
Supplies Kindergarten	250		
Supplies Grades 1-2	250		
Supplies Grades 3-4	250		
Supplies Grades 5-6	250		
Art Supplies	1,000	500	500
English Supplies	500	500	500
Foreign Language Materials	550	550	550
Phys Ed Supplies	550	550	450
Equipment	500	500	500
Math Supplies	1,698	1,698	750
Math Texts	500	500	500
Music Supplies	950	950	750
Music Dues & Fees	400	400	400
Science Consulting	250		
Purchased Educational Services		850	850
Science Supplies	1,700	1,100	900
Social Studies Supplies	950	950	700
Language Arts Supplies	4,000	4,000	2,000
Lang Arts - Textbooks	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>Total Regular Education</b>	<b>619,380</b>	<b>743,651</b>	<b>793,690</b>

	<b>Budget 2015-2016</b>	<b>Projected 2015-2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
<b>Guidance</b>			
Counselor Salary	16,545	10,900	13,510
Health Insurance	6,698	2,577	2,846
FICA	1,266	834	1,033
Workers' Comp. Ins.	83	343	64
Dental Insurance	384	77	84
VCAT Program Expense	300		
IST/504 Services		300	-
Supplies	500	500	500
Standardized Testing	1,200	1,200	1,000
<b>Total Guidance</b>	<b>26,976</b>	<b>16,731</b>	<b>19,037</b>
<b>Health Services</b>			
Nurse Salary	8,781	7,774	10,459
FICA	672	595	800
Workers' Comp. Ins.	48	48	50
Supplies	850	850	400
AV Materials	500	500	-
Equipment	500		
Periodicals	75	575	-
<b>Total Health Services</b>	<b>11,426</b>	<b>10,342</b>	<b>11,709</b>
<b>Instructional Staff Training</b>			
Professional Development - Stipends	-	6,000	-
Course Reimbursement - Teachers	15,000	15,000	5,000
Staff Conference	1,000	1,000	1,000
Professional Development - General	800	800	-
Staff Travel	-	-	250
<b>Total Instructional Staff Training</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>22,800</b>	<b>6,250</b>
<b>Education Media Services</b>			
Salary	20,644	19,325	20,566
Health Insurance	17,647	3,620	5,439
FICA	1,579	1,478	1,573
Workers' Comp Ins	52	52	98
Dental Insurance	384	77	166
Library Books	2,000	1,300	1,200
Newspapers and Periodicals	1,000	1,700	500
<b>Total Education Media Services</b>	<b>43,306</b>	<b>27,552</b>	<b>29,542</b>
<b>Audio-Visual Services</b>			
Audio-Visual Materials	6,400	400	400
Ed Media - Software	1,500	7,500	1,500
<b>Total Audio-Visual Services</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>1,900</b>
<b>Technology</b>			
Purchased Technical Services	5,000	5,000	4,500
Repairs and Maintenance	400	400	400
Communications	3,700	3,700	3,700
Ed Media - Computer Supplies	700	700	200
Software	800	800	800

	<b>Budget 2015-2016</b>	<b>Projected 2015-2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
Equipment	9,900	9,900	1,000
<b>Total Technology</b>	<b>20,500</b>	<b>20,500</b>	<b>10,600</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>			
Legal Liability Insurance	4,000	4,000	4,000
Postage	600	300	300
Advertising	1,500	1,000	1,000
Stipends	750		
Supplies	750	1,050	300
Expenses	300	350	350
Dues and Fees	350	850	850
Treasurer	850	600	600
Legal Services	600	750	750
<b>Total Board of Education</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>8,150</b>
<b>Office of the Principal</b>			
Salary	75,000	80,000	82,000
Secretary Salary	24,870	24,870	19,719
Health Insurance	24,345	30,983	33,726
FICA	7,641	8,023	6,273
Secretary Soc Sec	-	-	1,508
Municipal Retirement	497	497	789
Workers' Comp Ins.	305	305	484
Professional Development	1,500	1,500	1,500
Dental Insurance	384	768	800
Copier Lease	5,220	6,000	2,125
Postage	750	3,470	1,500
Travel	600	800	500
Supplies	1,500	3,800	500
Administrative Expenses	2,000		
Professional Dues	800	800	800
<b>Total Office of the Principal</b>	<b>145,412</b>	<b>161,816</b>	<b>152,224</b>
<b>Operation/Maintenance of Plant</b>			
Maintenance Salaries	27,938	35,000	11,852
Summer Salaries	12,504	-	5,000
FICA	2,137	2,678	907
Municipal Retire.	1,702	1,715	-
Worker's Comp Ins	1,736	1,736	282
Dental Insurance	384	-	-
Water Testing	600	600	600
Disposal Services	2,500	2,500	2,500
Contracted Maintenance	32,680	25,000	43,000
Equipment Repairs	800		
Property Insurance	4,725	4,725	4,865
Communications	6,500	4,800	4,800
Maintenance Supplies	4,000	7,700	7,700
Maintenance Materials	9,000		
Lamp Replacement	700		
Electricity	16,480	18,980	17,000

	<b>Budget 2015-2016</b>	<b>Projected 2015-2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
Propane Gas	900	4,900	1,500
Heating Oil	24,000	18,000	19,500
Equipment	2,000	1,000	1,000
Furniture	600	1,600	1,600
Dues and Fees	400	400	400
<b>Total Operation/Maintenance of Plant</b>	<b>152,286</b>	<b>131,334</b>	<b>122,506</b>
<b>Care and Upkeep of Grounds</b>			
Repairs and Maintenance	5,500	5,500	5,500
Supplies	1,000	1,000	800
<b>Total Care and Upkeep of Grounds</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,300</b>
<b>Student Transportation</b>			
Contracted Services	59,484	59,484	60,971
Field Trips	4,570	4,570	4,570
Pentangle	385		
<b>Total Student Transportation</b>	<b>64,054</b>	<b>64,054</b>	<b>65,541</b>
<b>Fund Transfers</b>			
Transfer to Health Reimbursement Account	34,412	10,000	-
<b>Total Fund Transfers</b>	<b>34,412</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Elementary</b>	<b>1,158,652</b>	<b>1,232,080</b>	<b>1,226,188</b>
<b>Special Education</b>			
ESY Salary	3,024	3,024	-
Paraprofessionals	17,786	20,593	21,108
Health Insurance	6,698	6,441	7,115
FICA	1,592	1,807	1,615
Municipal Retirement	398	617	1,104
Workers' Comp	50	95	131
Dental Insurance	384	384	435
ESY Purchased Services	2,850		
Consultations	6,200	1,000	
Evaluations	1,000	1,000	
Mileage Reimbursement	2,000		
Excess Costs	34,410	1,000	-
General Supplies	1,300	1,000	-
Instructional Materials	1,000	4,800	-
Equipment	1,000	-	-
Evaluations	1,000	2,000	-
<b>Total Special Education</b>	<b>80,692</b>	<b>43,761</b>	<b>31,508</b>
<b>Special Education Transportation</b>			
ESY Transportation	1,000	1,000	-
Mileage Reimb.	2,000	2,000	-
<b>Total Special Education Transportation</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-</b>

	<b>Budget 2015-2016</b>	<b>Projected 2015-2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
<b>EEE</b>			
Evaluations	500		
EEE Salary	-	-	6,500
EEE FICA	-	-	497
<b>Total EEE</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,997</b>
<b>WCSU Assessments</b>			
Technology Integration	9,628	9,628	8,701
Executive Admin.	70,214	70,214	61,749
Special Ed	144,915	144,915	146,428
Special Ed - Other Exp.	-	-	22,075
Administration Services	<b>224,757</b>	<b>224,757</b>	<b>238,953</b>
<b>Food Service</b>			
Salaries	19,962	1,650	-
Substitutes	500	-	-
Health Insurance	6,697	-	-
Social Security	1,565	-	-
Municipal Retirement	798	-	-
Workers' Comp	391	-	-
Staff Training	200	-	-
Dental Insurance	384	-	-
Contracted Services	-	1,100	36,000
Mileage	500	-	-
Supplies	500	-	-
Food Purchases	15,250	10,000	-
Equipment	1,000	-	-
Milk Purchase	1,000	-	-
<b>Total Food Service</b>	<b>48,747</b>	<b>12,750</b>	<b>36,000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,516,348</b>	<b>1,516,348</b>	<b>1,540,907</b>

**Bridgewater School District  
Revenue Report and Proposed Budget  
2016-2017 Budget Year**

	Budget 2015-2016	Proposed 2016-2017
<b>Local Revenues</b>		
Tuition From Other LEA's	18,000	18,000
Prior Year Surplus Applied	110,755	62,000
<b>Total Local Revenues</b>	<b>128,755</b>	<b>80,000</b>
<b>State Revenues</b>		
Education Spending Grant	1,036,969	1,148,928
Small Schools Grant	147,686	125,805
State Transportation Reimb	24,155	29,420
<b>Total State Revenues</b>	<b>1,208,810</b>	<b>1,304,153</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,337,565</b>	<b>1,384,153</b>
<b>Special Education</b>		
Special Ed Excess Cost Revenue		
Special Ed Block Grant	37,003	35,867
Special Ed Expenditures Reimbursement	111,351	90,000
Early Essential Education Grant	12,029	12,487
<b>Total Special Education</b>	<b>160,383</b>	<b>138,354</b>
<b>Food Service</b>		
Food Service Revenue	7,300	7,300
Subgrant - Annual State Match - LUNCH	250	250
Subgrant - Annual State Match - BRKFST	100	100
Subgrant - State Add'l Breakfast	50	50
Subgrant - Federal School Lunch	6,700	6,700
Subgrant-Federal Sch Brkfst/Start Up	1,000	1,000
St Of Vt Lunch Match	3,000	3,000
<b>Total Food Service</b>	<b>18,400</b>	<b>18,400</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,516,348</b>	<b>1,540,907</b>

**Bridgewater School District**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of June 30, 2015 (unaudited)**

<b>Assets</b>		
Checking and Investment Accounts	\$202,436.76	
Investment Account	\$16,478.54	
Petty Cash	\$200.00	
Accounts Receivable	<u>\$29,397.96</u>	
 Total Assets		 <u><u>\$248,513.26</u></u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$29,552.08	
Accrued Payroll	\$0.00	
		\$29,552.08
<b>Reserves</b>		
Reserve for Specific Purpose	\$54,871.04	
		\$54,871.04
<b>Fund Balance</b>		
<b>Designated for F16 Budget</b>	119,430.41	119,430.41
<b>Undesignated Fund Balance</b>		
Revenue 2014-2015	\$900,620.12	
Expenses 2014-2015	<u>\$855,960.39</u>	
	\$44,659.73	
 Undesignated Fund Balance June 30, 2015		 <u><u>\$44,659.73</u></u>
 Total Liabilities, Reserves, Fund Balance		 <u><u>\$248,513.26</u></u>

**Bridgewater School District**  
**Report of Grants and Reserved Funds**  
**Year Ending June 30, 2015**

	Balance 6/30/2014	Revenues	Expenses	Balance 6/30/2014
After School Program	\$ 2,862.71	\$ 6,234.60	\$ (10,364.04)	\$ (1,266.73)
Building Maintenance	\$ 2,588.35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,588.35
Bottles & Cans Redemption	\$ 971.52	\$ 3,386.31	\$ (3,466.59)	\$ 891.24
Box Tops for Education	\$ 787.47	\$ 84.50	\$ (3.76)	\$ 868.21
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$ 4,444.77	\$ -	\$ (4,098.38)	\$ 346.39
Fancher Trust	\$ 16,478.54	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,478.54
HRA Medical Reimbursements	\$ 25,840.50	\$ 26,098.50	\$ (17,660.93)	\$ 34,278.07
Reserve For Technology	\$ 3,492.00	\$ -	\$ (2,805.03)	\$ 686.97
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 57,465.86</b>	<b>\$ 35,803.91</b>	<b>\$ (38,398.73)</b>	<b>\$ 54,871.04</b>

**The Prosper Valley School - BVS/Pomfret**  
**Assessment Analysis based on Eq. Pupil**  
**FY17 Proposed Budget**

	Total	BVS	Pomfret
<b>FY17 Equalized Pupil</b>	94.07	42.28	51.79
Percent of Total Eq. Pupil		44.9%	55.1%
Local Revenue	391,979	176,176	215,803
Education Spending	1,148,928	516,389	632,539
Total Expenses	1,540,907	692,565	848,342
<b>For Town Report - Consolidation Amount to be Appropriated</b>		<b>692,565</b>	<b>848,342</b>





**FYI  
- Phone Numbers -**

<b>Town Office</b>	<b>672-3334</b>
<b>Town Office Fax</b>	<b>672-5395</b>
<b>Town Highway Garage</b>	<b>672-5379</b>
<b>Health Officer-Kathleen Paglia</b>	<b>672-1067</b>
<b>Town Constable-Mike Sawyer</b>	<b>369-0099</b>
<b>Bridgewater Village School</b>	<b>672-3464</b>
<b>Bridgewater Corners Post Office</b>	<b>672-5345</b>
<b>Bridgewater Village Post Office</b>	<b>672-5166</b>
<b>Town Fire Warden – Ken Tarleton</b>	<b>672-3061</b>
<b>Town Fire Chief –Edwin Earle</b>	<b>672-5032</b>
<b>Emergency Phone Numbers:</b>	
<b>Fire, Police, Ambulance</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>State Police (Bethel Barracks)</b>	<b>234-9933</b>

**Town Meeting March 1, 2016  
9:00 a.m.  
Bridgewater Village School  
Multi-Purpose Room**

**Town of Bridgewater  
7335 US RT 4  
Bridgewater, VT 05034**

*Please bring this report with you to Town Meeting*