



Dorset Town Report 2020

TOWN REPORT DEDICATION:

Gay & Roger Squire:

Without any doubt, Roger and Gay Squire love Dorset. Roger hails from Meriden, CT and attended Yale University, while Gay grew up in West Hartford, CT and Rhode Island and attended Vassar College. The couple met as young adults during summers spent in Weekapaug, RI. Roger was drafted into the Army in 1963 and spent 18 months serving in Turkey. Upon his return, Gay and Roger were married and began living and working in the greater New York City area. Roger worked in advertising for Citibank and Gay was active in the community. Together they raised two sons, Max and Billy.

Upon moving to Dorset in 1997, they began tackling the daunting task of turning the tired Grohndahl Estate into a classic Vermont Bed & Breakfast named Squire House. They have offered unique and beautiful accommodations ever since.

Gay and Roger broke onto the civic scene in Dorset upon arrival. Over the years they have immersed themselves into the community life in Dorset. Gay has worked hard to manage the Squire House, while still finding time to give back to the community. Gay has served on the Planning Commission since 1998, and has been its chair for the past two years. Dorset continues to benefit from her spirit of helpfulness and common sense during what can often be tense meetings about land use regulations.

Gay and Roger are both active in the United Church of Dorset & East Rupert giving much of their time to efforts that serve the community. Roger joined the Prudential Committee of the Dorset Fire District in 2015 and has worked tirelessly to organize, plan, and carry out improvements to the water system in Dorset Village. He also serves as leader of the Dorset Marble Preservation Association, a non-profit that has partnered with the Town to restore and improve the historic marble sidewalks in Dorset and East Dorset Villages. Gay and Roger love classical music and can often be found volunteering their time as Festival Associates for the Manchester Music Festival.

Roger is a true renaissance man, by day he works to keep the grounds of the Squire House in good order (it's said that his talents for cutting grass are perhaps the best on the Dorset West Road), and by night he dons a bow tie and soothes the ears as part of the Dorset Barbershop Quartet. Gay and Roger love to travel and have many great stories from their trips around the world. A pillar of their community, a door open to all and always down for a game of Bridge, Roger and Gay blazed a marvelous trail of love and devotion to each other, their family and their friends for over 50 years and there is no sign of them slowing down

We are fortunate that Gay and Roger decided to make Dorset their home. Their civic, community, and business contributions will have long lasting positive impacts for Dorset and we recognize and honor Gay and Roger with the 2020 Town Report Dedication!

Photos: Gay & Roger as Innkeepers and Squire House in winter.



(Front Cover Photo Credit: Daniella Stewart)

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AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTING: TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021

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TOWN OFFICE CALENDAR & MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Town Manager's Office..... Monday to Friday ~ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Town Clerk's Office..... Monday to Friday ~ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Zoning Administrator Tuesday to Thursday ~ 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Assessor's Office Monday to Friday ~ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Select Board Meetings Third Tuesday each month at 7:00 p.m. ~ Town Office
 Planning Commission Meetings First Tuesday each month at 7:00 p.m. ~ Town Office
 Zoning Board Meetings Third Monday each month at 7:00 p.m. ~ Town Office
 Design Review Board Third Monday each month at 5:30 p.m. ~ Town Office

Bennington County Sheriff	CPL Chris Miller	(802) 442-4900	www.benningtonsheriff.org
Town Office		(802) 362-4571	www.dorsetvt.org
Town Manager	Rob Gaiotti	x3	townmanager@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant & Bookkeeper	Nancy Aversano	x4	dorsetadmin@comcast.net
Town Clerk Assistant Town Clerk	Sandra Pinsonault Judy Collins	x2	dorsetclerk@gmail.com dorsetclerk2@gmail.com
Zoning Administrator	Tyler Yandow	x5	dorsetza@gmail.com
Assessors	Margot Schoffstall	x6	dorsetlister@gmail.com
Town Office Fax		(802) 362-5156	
Town Garage		(802) 362-5244	
Town Road Foreman	Jim Hewes	(802) 362-5244	
Animal Control Officer Vermont Game Warden	Town Manager Justin Turner	(802) 362-4571 (802) 442-5421	
Health Officer	Dolores Marcotte	(802) 362-4571	
Town Constable	Ryan Matteson	(802) 430-8407	
Dorset Chamber of Commerce	dorsetvtchamber@gmail.com	(802) 440-0455	www.dorsetvt.com
Schools	Dorset School	(802) 362-2606	sites.google.com/brsu.org/ thedorsetschool/home
	Burr & Burton Academy	(802) 362-1775	www.burrburton.org
	Long Trail School	(802) 867-5717	www.longtrailschool.org
Taconic & Green Regional School District Board		(802) 362-2452	sites.google.com/brsu/home
Post Offices	Dorset	(802) 867-5501	
	East Dorset	(802) 362-3233	
East Dorset Fire Warden Dorset Fire Warden	Doug Beebe Shawn Hazelton	(802) 362-4601 (802)-867-5311	www.dorsetfiredistrict.org/
Dorset Library	Erica Shott	(802) 867-5774	dorsetvillagelibrary.org
VNA & Hospice	Ron Cioffi, Executive Director	(802) 362-1200	(802) 362-2126
State Representative	Linda Joy Sullivan	(802) 768-8668	lsullivan@leg.state.vt.us
State Senator	Brian Champion	(802) 753-7705	bcampion@leg.state.vt.us
State Senator	Richard Sears	(802) 442-9139	rsears@leg.state.vt.us

2020 Appointed Town Officers

Town Manager	Rob Gaiotti
Administrative Assistant & Bookkeeper	Nancy Aversano
Zoning Administrator	Tyler Yandow, AIA
Select, Planning & Zoning Boards Secretary	Nancy Aversano
Assessor	Margot Schoffstall
Health Officer	Dolores Marcotte
Animal Control Officer	Town Manager
Fence Viewers	Henry Chandler
	Megan Thörn
Tree Warden	Hal Coolidge
Town Service Officer	Ellen Maloney
Energy Coordinator	Jim Hand

Planning Commission

Gay Squire, Chairperson	2023	Will Clarke	2021
Scott Thompson, Vice Chair	2023	Dave Berard	2022
Kit Wallace	2023	Conor Welch	2024
Natalie Quigley	2022	Scott Ross	
Scott Durgin	2024		

All four (4) year terms expire April 30th of the year indicated

Zoning Board of Adjustment

John LaVecchia, Chairman	2021	Kevin O'Toole	2023
David Wilson, Vice Chairman	2022	Ruth Stewart	2023
Martha Merwin	2022	Ed Tanenhaus	2022
Bill Bridges	2022	Patrick McGuire	2023
Tuck Rawls	2023		

All three (3) year terms to expire April 30th of the year indicated

Conservation Commission

Malcolm Cooper, Jr., Chairman	2021	Kevin O'Toole	2024
Alan Calfee	2021	Chip Ams	2024
Lee Romano	2023		

All four (4) year terms expire May 31st of the year indicated

Design Review Board

Kit Wallace, Chairperson	2023	Michele Pagan	2021
Arnie Gottlieb	2023	James Clubb	2021
Lindy Bowden	2023	Ruth Tanenhaus (Alternate)	2022

All three (3) year terms expire April 30th of the year indicated

Bennington County Regional Commission

John LaVecchia	2022	Nancy Faesy	2021
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All two (2) year terms expire on April 30th of the year indicated

Elected Town Officers

Moderator, Town	Kevin O'Toole	1 Year Term	Expires 2021
Moderator, School	Kevin O'Toole	1 Year Term	Expires 2021
Town Clerk	Sandra Pinsonault	3 Year Term	Expires 2023
Town Treasurer	Sandra Pinsonault	3 Year Term	Expires 2023
Select Board	Henry Chandler	3 Year Term	Expires 2021
	James Salsgiver	3 Year Term	Expires 2022
	Tom Smith	3 Year Term	Expires 2023
	Liz Ruffa	1 Year Term	Expires 2021
	Megan Thörn	1 Year Term	Expires 2021
First Constable	Ryan Matteson	1 Year Term	Expires 2021
Town Agent	Kevin O'Toole	1 Year Term	Expires 2021
Justices of the Peace	Brian Kelly		Michele Pagan
	Willard (Chip) Watson		Mary Barrosse-Schwartz
	Sandra Pinsonault		Roger Squires
	Bo Thörn		Alan Sullivan
	Jennifer Rich		

2 Year Terms for all Justices Expire November 2022

Taconic & Green School District Representatives: David Chandler & James Salsgiver

ZOOM Meeting Link for March 1st:
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83583500052?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83583500052?pwd=TDBZb3EybUJLVjFPZXo5M29mRm5sUT09)
 pwd=TDBZb3EybUJLVjFPZXo5M29mRm5sUT09

Meeting ID: 835 8350 0052 & Passcode: 667586
Call in by phone: 626 876 9923 US (New York)

SCHOOL INFORMATIONAL MEETING FEBRUARY 23RD AT 7:00PM VIA ZOOM:

ZOOM Meeting Link for February 23rd:
<https://brsu.zoom.us/j/89525785320>

Meeting ID: 895 2578 5320 & Passcode: meeting
Dial by your location
646 558 8656 US (New York)

Select Board & Town Manager Report

Everyone will agree that 2020 was a challenging year to say the least. The COVID-19 pandemic changed much of the ways we function and communicate as a community. The Town has done its best to address our obligations and be a resource to residents during these difficult times. The Town Offices have remained accessible during most of the year and we are grateful for the many good works of our Town staff during these times. Town Board meetings will continue to be held online via Zoom. This includes the **2021 Town Meeting**; our informational meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday **March 1st** with all voting taking place via **Australian Ballot**. We will be mailing ballots to every voter in Dorset. In person voting will take place at the Town Offices on **March 2nd**.

We continue to benefit from what we consider the best small Highway Department in the State. Many thanks to Jim Hewes, Duane Sherman, Bill Nichols, and Mark Towslee for their commitment to providing us the best service possible. During 2020 we saw the completion of a FEMA grant funded flooding study for the Read Farm Lane area in East Dorset. As a result, the Town has installed an overflow culvert under Read Farm Lane and applied for grant funding for other improvements. Longer term our goal is to work with our partners: VTrans, US Forest Service, and Trout Unlimited to address restoration of portions of the Battenkill.

Our Outdoor Recreation Director Rachel Batz has done an amazing job in her first year. She has diligently cared for our Town Forest properties, engaged residents, held a fundraising event, and completed a Master Plan for Outdoor Recreation in Dorset. Rachel's position will be expanded to full time in 2021 and we look forward to her continued good works.

The Dorset Planning Commission has continued its review and updating of the zoning bylaw. Planning Consultant Brandy Saxton has been working with board members to develop the bylaw updates. Many thanks to the PC members for the many tedious hours spent on this important process.

Route 30 was finally resurfaced after nearly 25 years, we're grateful to VTrans for the inclusion of pedestrian improvements in Dorset Village. Our hope is that the changes like the crosswalk at the Post Office will help to make walking safer and also slow the speed of traffic in the village. A similar project was completed in East Dorset at the Mad Tom Road & Route 7 intersection, a new section of sidewalk was constructed with pedestrian access improvements. We are also looking into the possibility of creating green space in East Dorset behind the post office. The Town is in the planning process for walking/biking connection from the Post Office to HN Williams Store, we hope to have plans available for public input by Summer 2021.

Town ownership of Raptor Lane made some great strides in 2020 with the completion of a master plan by the Raptor Lane Subcommittee. Thanks go out to: Cindy Loudenslager, Kit Wallace, Allison Clarke, Ben Weiss, Malcolm Cooper, Alan Calfee, Liz Ruffa, Jim Salsgiver, and Sandy Pinsonault for their work to create the master plan. Top priorities from the plan include the further expansion of recreation opportunities and possible re-location of the Town Offices. The Selectboard has taken steps to hire an architect to develop options for a new Town Office building that we will present at Town Meeting in March, as a basis for Town discussion. We are excited about some of the opportunities for our community at Raptor Lane. The master plan can be found on the town website: www.dorsetvt.org

The Dorset Chamber and Town have continued the effort to support a business and lifestyle website/campaign that will be a resource for visitors with the great stories about what life is like in our community. www.dorsetvt.com

Respectfully Submitted,
Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager

Town Clerk Report

I have had the pleasure of serving the Town of Dorset since March, 2005. While I am completing my sixteenth year in office, I am still amazed at how each day is different and the love for my job never fades. Our office continues to maintain and preserve the land and vital records for our town. This past year, our office was extremely busy with land record recordings. While we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, home sales were a huge part of our daily recordings.

2020 saw a big election year. For the August Primary, we did our first ever, drive-by voting and it was very successful. In November, the State of Vermont sent ballots to all registered voters. This proved to be very successful as we had an almost 95% turnout!

Please remember to license your dog on or before April 1st of each year. A spay/neutered dog is \$11 and \$15 for one that is not. Large penalties will be assessed after April 1. We normally have almost 400 dogs licensed in Dorset, this past year only 207 registered. This is state law for the protection of your dogs and our citizens.

I want to thank my Assistant, Judy Collins, for her continued support and service to the Town.

Sandra "Sandy" Pinsonault, MMC/CVC

Town of Dorset Liquor Licenses: 2019

<u>First Class License</u>	<u>Second Class License</u>
Barrows House..... \$115	Dorset Union Store \$70
Chantecleer Restaurant..... \$115	Global Montello Group.....\$70
Dorset Field Club \$115	HN Williams Store..... \$70
Dorset Inn \$115	Hasgas General Store..... \$70
Dorset Playhouse \$115	Total Second Class..... \$280
Dorset Bakery \$115	
Inn at West View Farm \$115	
Marble West Inn..... \$115	Total All Licenses..... \$1,200
Total First Class \$920	
<hr/>	
<u>2019 Animal License Report</u>	<u>2019 Vitals</u>
101 Spayed Female @ \$6..... \$606	Births
87 Neutered Male @ \$6 \$522	Males 5
8 Males @ \$10..... \$80	Female 5
11 Females @ \$10 \$110	Deaths
207 Dogs - Total Town Revenue \$1,318	Males 10
	Females 10
	Marriages
	Resident 4
	Non-Resident 6

Treasurers Report

I am currently serving the first three-year elected term as Treasurer for the Town of Dorset. As Treasurer, my duties include the review and approval of accounts payable, payroll checks and delinquent tax warrants for the Town of Dorset.

In addition to an annual external audit (currently conducted by Mudgett, Jennett, & Krough – Wisner, PC) the Town of Dorset has in place internal controls into the municipal finance system; this includes monthly testing of accounts by retired finance person and monthly review of balanced bank statements by the Treasurer.

Previous fiscal year audits can be found on the Town website at: www.dorsetvt.org

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Pinsonault, Clerk/Treasurer

Health Officer Report

In 2020 the Health Officer received around 10+ phone calls with regard to health questions. No on-site inspections were required. The health officer responds to health & safety complaints and helps residents get in touch with the proper resources to remedy the situation. Residential rental properties in Vermont are regulated by the Vermont Rental Code Handbook. This regulation is drafted by the Vermont Department of Health and is available online.

COVID 19: The Vermont Department of Health updates information and guidance relative to COVID regularly, it's a good idea to become familiar with this site: [COVID-19 | Vermont Department of Health \(healthvermont.gov\)](https://healthvermont.gov)

The Vermont Department of Health provides support to the Health Officer and is a good resource for residents: <http://healthvermont.gov>

Respectfully Submitted,

Dolores K. Marcotte

Animal Control Officer Report

In 2019 the Animal Control Officer received 25+ calls about animal related issues. Common issues were dogs running at large, unlicensed dogs. The Animal Control Officer position is currently vacant, anyone interested in filling the position should contact the Town Manager's Office. For Animal Control calls contact the Town Manager at 417-7814.

If you have a problem with a wild animal please call VT Game Warden Justin Turner at 442-5421. If the Game Warden cannot be reached, the ACO should be contacted in case of an emergency. Due to the fact that we live in a rural area with wildlife, rabies and distemper can be a concern, so be sure to get your pets vaccinated.

Please remember to license you dog, it's required by Vermont Law. Dog licenses are due April 1st, all dogs over the age of 6 months are required to be licensed and have proof of vaccination with the Town Clerk's Office.

During the year we always have dogs that get loose from a property. PLEASE buy a collar with your name, address, and phone number for your dogs. This will help us return your dogs to you safely and quickly. PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager

Assessor's Department Report

For the twelve months ending December 31, 2020, the Assessor's Office processed 77 valid "arms-length" sales. These sales ranged from \$39,900 to \$2,750,000 for residential property, \$48,000 to \$1,975,000 for land, and \$165,000 to \$900,000 for commercial property. In addition, there was other routine maintenance done on the working Grand List such as property transfers into trusts, transfers between family members, or abutters sales and foreclosures.

Dorset's new 2020 CLA (common level of appraisal) – a three-year average of total town sales divided by the total assessment, is now established by the State at 103.02%. The State rate for the education tax is factored by the CLA for each Vermont Town in order to arrive at the "equalized tax rate" for that Town. Further our new COD (coefficient of dispersal) -- that measured equity across types of property is now at 17.17%.

2015-2020	Education Equalized Value		% Change	CLA
2015	\$663,489,000		-2.46%	107.50
2016	\$665,605,197		0.30%	105.94
2017	\$651,285,470		-2.2%	108.00
2018	\$645,580,592		-1.8%	108.18
2019	\$640,220,999		-0.80%	108.49
2020	\$681,775,466		6.1%	103.02

We are concerned with the fairness of your assessed value. Every year a property owner has the right to appeal their property value. This should be done before the start of the Town's spring grievance period. We encourage you to contact us with any questions or comments on your property assessment. Office hours Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Phone 802-362-4571 x 6 or E-Mail: dorsetlister@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted, Margot Schoffstall, Assessor

Reappraisal Update

During the summer of 2018 Dorset kicked off a Town wide Reappraisal effort to update property record information and values throughout the community. Previous to this effort Dorset conducted a statistical reappraisal in 2006, and the last full Town wide Reappraisal was conducted in 2003.

For the purposes of taxation, the State of Vermont has statistical benchmarks that Towns in Vermont are judged by; these are the Common Level of Appraisal and the Coefficient of Dispersion. The CLA gives a snap shot of the % proximity to 100% value, if a Town's CLA goes about 120% or below 80% the State requires mandatory reappraisals. The COD measures the equity within the Grand List, by tracking the relationships between the low end and high end of the real estate markets. When the COD approaches 20% it triggers a mandatory reappraisal as well.

In Dorset's case, the CLA has been between 103% and 108% for the past decade, and the COD had been increasing up to 18% in recent years. Based on the level of the COD and the fact that it had been 15 years between in person Town wide Reappraisals, the Dorset Selectboard approved moving forward with a reappraisal effort "in house".

Much of the western portion of the Town were inspected over the course of 2018 and early 2019. In the summer of 2019, our progress was delayed for 6+ months due to unforeseen health issues with our contracted staff members. By the fall of 2019 inspections started back up again until March 2020.

Due to the pandemic all inspections were stopped in March of 2020. Later in 2020 we did some very limited outside inspections of properties. During 2020 we also experienced a large bump in the number of sales due to COVID. This resulted in our CLA declining down to 103%, and our COD down to 17%. Statistically Dorset's Grand List well positioned.

We have worked with our State District Advisor to review our current reappraisal status and the recommendation has been made to put the effort on hold. With much of our data set being old and a recent change in the market the results could be inconsistent.

During the interim, property owners who believe that the value of their property is either too high or too low are welcome to grieve their property valuation each spring during the annual grievance period. If you have questions about this or anything related to the assessed value of your property please contact Margot at the Assessor's Office at: dorsetlister@gmail.com or 802-362-4571 x 6

Delinquent Tax Report ~ December 31, 2020

Butler, Jonathan	\$3,346.75
Casey, David.....	\$6,982.31*
Casey, Evelyn	\$208.22*
Goodwin, James	\$464.73
Greene, Kristyn	\$2,793.38*
3557 Route.....	\$9,285.38*
McPhee, Kate.....	\$22,411.70*
McGinnis, Linda	\$9,994.27*
Mical, Dennis	\$5,469.23*
Murphy, David.....	\$382.68*
Prouty, Gladys.....	\$2,421.28
Shavell, Stephen.....	\$987.50
Sheldon, Shelly.....	\$2,228.70*
Staunton, Sidney Jr.....	\$3,826.03*
Stimson, Ellen	\$25,799.50*
Wrend, Jonathan.....	\$1,441.61
Total	\$88,869.05

** Paid or partially paid after December 31, 2020*

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Gaiotti - Town Manager/ Delinquent Tax Collector

Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission & Design Review Board Report

A summary of permit applications and board referrals is shown in the table below.

Permit Type	# of Applications		Referred to Planning Commission		Referred to Zoning Board of Adjustment		Referred to Design Review Board		Referred to Selectboard	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Building	59	46	3	5	2	3	4	10	---	---

Demolition	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	---
Change of Use	0	0	0	1	1	1	---	---	---	---
Boundary Line Adjustment	3	5	0	1	0	0	---	---	---	---
Sign	5	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	---	---
Subdivision	0	2	0	2	0	0	---	---	---	---
Driveway Access	5	1	0	---	---	---	---	---	5	1
Totals	73	57	3	9	3	4	5	11	5	1

Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission began to work on revision of the Town's Zoning Bylaws to ensure that they accurately reflect the changes in our revised (adopted January, 2020) Town Plan, and any new state statutes. Guiding us through this very detailed work are two consultants, Brandy Saxton and Rod Francis of *PlaceSense*. We expect to be working on this revision for the remainder of 2021.

We continued to discuss the feasibility of a multi-use pathway between the Dorset Post Office and HN Williams general store. The engineering study was completed by MSK Engineering, and our Town Manager has been interviewing the various home owners on Rt. 30 whose properties would be affected by the construction of the pathway. Most are very receptive to the idea. The Planning Commission formed a 3 person sub-committee of its members to continue working with the Zoning Administrator and our Town Manager on the implementation of this project,

The following PC members left the Board in 2020: Brooks Addington, Dick Coss and Charlie Wise. We thank them for their service to our town. In June, Gay Squire was elected Chairperson and Scott Thompson was elected Vice Chairperson.

We welcomed the following new members of the PC Board in 2020: Dave Berard, Will Clarke, Scott Ross and Conor Welch.

Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission, and Design Review Board Report

(continued)

Design Review Board:

The DRB continued work updating Chapter 9 of the Bylaw which contains criteria for evaluating zoning applications in the Design overlay district. The final draft was forwarded to the Town's planning consultant, *PlaceSense*, for review and incorporation into the proposed revised town Bylaw.

The Board also sent a letter to all property owners in the Design overlay district, reminding them of the need for zoning permits and review by the Design Review Board, as described in the current Bylaw.

The town continues to be grateful for the time and energy donated by members of each of these boards.

Respectfully Submitted,

For the Dorset Planning Commission & Design Review Board

Tyler W. Yandow A.I.A.

Zoning Administrator

Zoning Board Of Adjustment

The Zoning Board of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body comprised of nine Dorset residents appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The current Board includes Vice-Chair David Wilson and members-at large Bill Bridges, Tuck Rawls, Ruth Stewart, Kevin O'Toole, Ed Tanenhaus, Martha Merwin and Patrick McGuire. The Chair wishes to thank everyone for their continued commitment to volunteer their time and talents during the past year.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment meets on an as-needed basis on the third Monday of the month, and hears applications for conditional use permits and variances, as well as appeals from decisions of the Zoning Administrator.

During 2020, the Board considered five applications. In the first, the Board granted a conditional use permit to the Dorset Field Club to build a fourth paddle tennis court. In the second, the board granted a time extension to the operator of the parking area adjacent to the Dorset Quarry. In the third, H. N. Williams was granted an expansion of a pre-existing, non-conforming use to accommodate pandemic considerations. The Board held two hearings to consider an application to change the pre-existing, non-conforming use at 1805 Route 30. When it became clear the Board would deny the application, it was withdrawn. Lastly the Board granted a conditional use permit for property at 40 Awesome View Drive.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. LaVecchia, Chairman

DORSET ENERGY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Dorset Energy Committee (DEC) was launched by the Dorset Select Board to help the Town and its residents work toward a viable energy future. We are an all-volunteer committee under the leadership of Ellen Maloney and Jim Hand, the Town Energy Coordinator. Like everyone else, the DEC's activities in 2020 were impacted in a big way by the pandemic.

The DEC expected a major focus of its work in 2020 would be related to Dorset Tomorrow – the product of two community-wide meetings in 2019 in which Dorset residents came together to identify community priorities and create four Task Forces to work to achieve goals set by those discussions. Some progress was made, but COVID-19 put a real wrench in the works. *A Report on the discussions and progress made is expected to be available soon* – but we are also hopeful that some of this effort can be picked up once again when we are better able to come together in groups.

The DEC also continued work to help Dorset residents and businesses be aware of, understand and achieve opportunities for weatherization projects. This includes helping to make low cost energy audits available to Dorset (from Neighborwork's HEAT Squad (www.nwvvt.org/heat-squad), and to support our residents and businesses with individual weatherization projects.

For 2021 the DEC is planning a new project – bringing WindowDressers to Dorset. WindowDressers is a not-for-profit started and based in Maine – that brings communities together to help them make highly-effective energy-saving insulating window inserts for local residents. DEC is working with neighboring community energy committees to bring the WindowDressers program to Dorset. Community volunteers are trained by WindowDressers to build low-cost insulating window inserts, custom fit for your home. The inserts improve the warmth and comfort of interior spaces, lower heating costs, and reduce carbon dioxide pollution. We will be looking for volunteers for a Community Build (when it's safe to do so). A Community Build is like an old-fashioned barn-raising for inserts! Volunteers gather for several days to build all of the inserts ordered in their community. Experienced volunteers teach new volunteers, food is provided, and the end results are high-quality inserts at a very affordable price and a stronger, more connected community. Learn more at: windowdressers.org .



The Dorset Energy Committee is always looking for community members interested in joining DEC's effort to help our neighbors and Town (and, in 2021, for our planned WindowDressers Community Build). Feel free to contact any one of us to find out about our next meeting.

Respectfully,
Ellen Maloney, DEC Chair
Jim Hand, Town Energy Coordinator

Committee Members: Jim Hand, Ellen Maloney, Jim Salsgiver, Nancy Faesy, Bill Laberge, Lisa Laberge

Committee Advisors: Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager, Tyler Yandow, Zoning Administrator, Liz Ruffa, Select Board

Conservation Commission Report

We want to thank the community and the Dorset Selectboard for their continued support of Dorset's phenomenal Town Forests. We continue to see increasing use of the properties by locals and visitors alike and are getting a lot of great feedback from folks who really enjoy being able to easily access these properties for various types of recreation.



With the COVID 19 pandemic, outdoor recreation was one of the few respites over the course of 2020. Rachel Batz, our Outdoor Recreation Director, did a masterful job of working to maintain Town properties and update our signage and informational pamphlets for each property. In addition, Rachel worked with the Commission to craft an Outdoor Recreation Master Plan, which will help to serve as the backdrop for the Department's efforts in future years.

Dorset is truly fortunate to have the unique blend of natural, historic, and cultural features in our properties and we look forward to seeing the Master Plan carried out.

The Commission will be suffering a huge loss at the end of the term cycle in 2021, as Alan Calfee will be stepping away from the Commission. Alan Calfee has served as co-chair and an integral part of the Commission since 2006. Alan's leadership has been exceptional and he was a major driving force behind the acquisition of the Gettysburg Quarry property as well as the Pinnacle. We couldn't imagine Dorset without these resources and we owe our thanks to the Alan and the Commission members for having the vision. We will miss Alan's knowledge of the natural world and all the special places in and around Dorset. Lucky for us, Alan has agreed to be available when the Commission needs to tap into his vast institutional knowledge. Thank you Alan for all you've done for Dorset over the years!

We're also happy to say that we have Tim Duclos on board as a new Commission member. Tim lives on 30 acres in Dorset and works as the Conservation Manager at Merck Forest. We are very excited to have time supporting our efforts and look forward to his contributions moving forward.

Please visit the "Hike" page on the Dorset website to see lots of great information on how to get out and enjoy the Town's Forests as well as other great recreational opportunities in the region.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dorset Conservation Commission

Members: Malcolm Cooper (Chair), Alan Calfee, Kevin O'Toole, Chip Ams,
Lee Romano, Art Gilbert

MASTER PLAN ~ RAPTOR LANE PROPERTY

Background:

In 2018, the Town of Dorset acquired 308 acres located on Raptor Lane off Route 30 in Dorset through a bargain sale. The property is made up of an 8 lot subdivision, lots 1-7 range from 11 acres to 30 acres in size and lot 8 is 140 acres in size. The recent appraisal of the property noted a value of \$1,875,000 and the Town purchased the property for \$100,000.

Upon completion of the purchase the Dorset Selectboard created the Raptor Lane Committee, a group of interested residents and business owners that embarked on a 12+ month study to review the property and outline short- and long-term options for uses that would benefit the community. The Committee worked with a consulting engineer to commission a first phase environmental assessment of the property to better understand existing conditions. In addition, the Committee structured a short survey for residents to give input on possible future uses for the property. This report culminates the work of the Committee and serves as a resource for the Selectboard and community with regard to this great asset.

Engineering Review:

Upon purchasing the property, the Town Manager worked with Greg Kepler of Kepler Consulting to read through all existing permits, memos, maps and any information related to the previous development of the property. During this process the following items were noted:

- Certain Municipal Uses on areas larger than 10 acres or part of a larger project involving more than 10 acres require Act 250 permitting.
- Upon development an updated stormwater operational permit would be needed
- Slope maps show that lots 1, 2, and 7 are largely not steep, they also show a few flat areas on the upper part of the property above 1,300' elevation.
- A project(s) that disturbs 1 acre of earth will require construction stormwater discharge permits etc.
- Permits would be needed for potable water supply and wastewater disposal etc.
- The property is currently permitted as an 8-lot subdivision with water/wastewater permits in place for residential uses on lots 1-7.

As a next step the Town contracted with Kepler Consulting in association with engineering firm VHB to perform a more in-depth environmental review of the property. After review and discussion, the project scope was limited to the +/- 210 acres that were located below the 1,300' elevation contour. The Committee felt that the upper lands were generally steep in nature, difficult to access, and abutted the Owls Head Town Forest, therefore not being an appropriate area for development.

The VHB report was completed in the fall/winter of 2019 and Kepler Consulting presented the report at a Committee meeting for review and discussion.

Key Points of Interest from Environmental Study

Deer Wintering Area:

VHB was able to determine that the State mapped Deer Wintering areas located on lots 1 & 2, 3 & 7 was not observed. Kepler Consulting suggests confirming this information with State Fish & Wildlife biologists and getting their concurrence of findings.

Bear Habitat:

VHB observed portions of Beech stands on the upper slopes of the property and noted bear scarred beech trees which is indicative of bear habitat. Kepler Consulting noted that these areas would likely be considered Necessary Wildlife Habitat and not be feasible for development and could require a buffer from nearby activities.

Wetland & Streams:

Multiple Class 3 and Class 2 wetlands were delineated on the site. Two possible vernal pools were located and then reviewed in spring 2020 and determined not to be vernal pools. Multiple seasonal and perennial streams were located and delineated on the property as well. Buffers from wetland and stream locations were noted on the natural resources map.

Rare, Threatened or endangered (RTE) natural communities and species: It was noted that the property is within 1.5 miles of the Aeolus bat hibernaculum and located within a zone where certain trees are protected as they offer important habitat to bats. Two on-site significant natural communities were also identified. Approximately 85 acres of the property covering much of lots 3,4,5 & 6 was identified as a Transition Hardwood Limestone Forest community that would likely be considered significant by the State and subject to FWD review and concurrence. There was also an area of approximately 2.1 acres on lots 4 & 5 that contained Rich Fenn plant communities that would likely be considered a Rare Irreplaceable Natural Area (RINA) by the State. Noteworthy is that strategically, the study did not contemplate a complete RTE plant survey meeting ACT250 requirement for the entire site and additional RTE field survey is recommended after concept/preliminary development plans are completed.

realities.

MASTER PLAN ~ RAPTOR LANE PROPERTY (continued)

Springs:

There are multiple springs on the property, the most notable being the Owls Foot Spring which is located on the central portion of the property (researched by DeSimone & Gale 2009) with a yield of 10 to 100 gallons per minute.

Upon completion of the VHB report the Committee tasked Kepler Consulting with boiling much of the report down and creating a map that helps to provide a better understanding of the areas that are likely more appropriate for development than other areas based on the environmental resources and constraints identified in the VHB study, and Slope Analysis map. After careful review it appears that around 100 acres of the 200+ acre study area could be feasible for certain developments. It should be noted that these 100 acres are not contiguous, but spread out over portions of the property, as shown on the Areas of Consideration Map attached. In general, each delineated area has differing opportunities and constraints which will result in different development

Survey Process & Results:

The Committee crafted a simple online survey that could be found on the Town website. Over the course of the study over 160 participants took the survey. Questions asked participants to rank options based on the following use categories: Municipal, Housing, Recreation/ Conservation, Energy & Commercial. The following results were noted (Listing the top two most popular options for each)

Municipal:	1. Community Center	2. Playground & Greenspace
Housing:	1. Planned sustainable community	2. Single Unit Housing
Recreation & Conservation:	1. Hiking & Mountain bike trails	2. Natural Area
Energy & Commercial:	1. Small scale solar	2. Large scale solar

Comments were also received as part of the survey process. Comments were found to be very generalized and spanned a wide range of input and topics.

Summary/ Conclusions:

The Town has been fortunate to receive valuable time and input from nine volunteers who worked hard to help determine a best path forward to better understand the property and this unique opportunity for Dorset. The general consensus of the group was that the property could be used for a wide array of options based on the preliminary engineering and environmental report. The environmental report does inform us that there is a limit to the location, scale, and scope of some of these options. It is the consensus of the Committee that the large upland track that was not included in the environmental review should become part of Owls Head Town Forest. Based on the past investment, including infrastructure such as roads and utility work, the lower portions of the property are more feasible for development. The Committee outlined the following appropriate uses for the property:

- 1. Municipal Offices/ Community Center**
- 2. Green Space / Recreation**
- 3. Housing**
- 4. Energy/**
- 5. Commercial**

Each use has been given a priority ranking by the committee. They are numbered from 1 to 5, with 1 being highest priority and 5 being the lowest. Priority rankings were determined by: survey data, ease of accomplishment, and timeframe for doing so.

It is also worth noting that this property and the plans moving forward represent a very unique opportunity for our community and the Selectboard should be sure to include layers of public input during the pursuit of any of the options outlined above. In addition, it likely makes sense to reserve portions of the developable property for future community leaders to use as an asset for Dorset.

Town of Dorset, Vermont

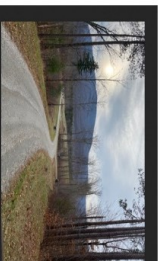


Chartered 1761

Over the past 6 months the Town has been working with Maclay Architects to create concept designs of a new Town Office building located on Raptor Lane. As part of the March 1st informational meeting Maclay will present options to Dorset residents for feedback. We look forward to getting your valuable thoughts and input on this exciting possibility for Dorset.

Maclay Architects, is a Waitsfield Vermont based architecture firm that specializes in net zero building design and has a portfolio of many unique and beautiful buildings for institutions around Vermont and New England: <https://www.maclayarchitects.com/>

Early Elevation Option Sneak Peak:



Dorset Town Office
Dorset, VT

Concept Refinement :
Elevation, Central Gable
February 11, 2021
MaclayArchitects

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON PHASE 3 OF VERMONT'S VACCINE DISTRIBUTION EFFORT:

Who is eligible and when can they make an appointment?

If you are age 75 or older, you can make an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccination starting **Tuesday, February 16.**

The best way to make an appointment is through the Health Department's website: healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine. The page currently has information for Vermonters to learn about the process, but **you will not be able to register until Monday.** Eligible Vermonters should plan to register online – it will be the fastest way to register. There will be a call center option, but we encourage you to use the online form. Both the phone number and the website link will be released when registration opens Monday.

Why vaccinate older and at-risk Vermonters first?

The data is clear that the older you are, the higher your overall risk of hospitalization and death. In fact, more than 70% of Vermont's COVID-19 deaths have been Vermonters 75 or older – and about 93% are 65 or older.

Given these facts -- and the limited number of doses states are receiving from the federal government -- we have a moral obligation to take this age-based approach.

By prioritizing based on that risk we are meeting our number one goal in this emergency: To save lives. Expanding to a broader population based on jobs and sectors would distract us from this mission, and given the limited supply, would make little impact on stopping the spread of the virus to our most vulnerable.

This approach is the fastest way to reduce the number of people who have severe illness, which will help us get back to normal earlier.

After everyone over 75 has had access, we'll move to 70+ then 65+ then people of any age with certain high-risk conditions. And once everyone at the greatest risk of severe illness, complications or death has access, or many more doses of vaccine become available, the State may modify this age-banded vaccination strategy.

What time on Monday will registration open?

Once registration is open, the State will announce it on social media, through email updates, as well as through a press release to local news media. The Vermont Department of Health will also share the information through community partners across the state.

How does the registration work?

We strongly encourage people to review the step-by-step video showing and explaining the registration process, which can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

After going to healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine, you will need to create an account, then you will be prompted through the process. Family members are strongly encouraged to help their elderly loved ones register online. This will help leave the phone lines open for those who do not have help.

What will I need to make an appointment?

You will be asked to provide your name, date of birth, address, email if you have one, and a phone number. You'll be asked for your insurance information, but this is not required.

You will also be asked a few medical questions to make sure you can get the vaccine. The video referenced above provides more details about the questions, so you can be prepared to answer them when you make your appointment.

What if I can't register online?

Once registration opens, a phone number will be released that can connect you with a registration assistant. These assistants will be available Monday – Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Where will the clinics be?

Vaccinations will be given through the Health Department at clinics around the state. You will see available locations and be able to choose a day and time for your appointment.

You must have an appointment to receive a vaccine at one of these locations. You **will not** be allowed to walk-in to a location without an appointment. And when you make an appointment, it is VERY important that you keep it – so vaccine is not wasted.

What if I am unable to leave my home to get to a clinic?

We are currently working with home health agencies and first responders to make sure people who are unable to leave their home can get a COVID-19 vaccine.

These in-home vaccine visits are not yet ready, but we will provide an update as soon as possible.

Do I need to live in Vermont to make an appointment?

Yes. You will need to provide your primary address to make an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine. However, you can still get a vaccine in Vermont if you moved to Vermont within the last 6 months with the purpose of becoming a resident.

If I am not qualified to make an appointment at this time, is there a waiting list I can get on?

No, there is not a waiting list at this time and you should not attempt to register until you are eligible. We will continue to provide updates and announcements as we expand the age range that can be vaccinated.

What should I expect at my appointment?

First, it's critical to show up on time and keep your appointment.

People who receive their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine will receive either the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Most people will be asked to wait for 15 minutes after receiving the vaccine. They will also be given information about side effects and how to report any adverse reactions.

How will I receive my second dose?

After getting your first dose, clinic staff will help you make a second appointment to receive the second dose.

Stay up to Date: There are ways you can stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations, including who can get the vaccine and who will be eligible next. Check this website often: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/about-covid-19-vaccines-vermont>

Additional resources:

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions: <https://apps.health.vermont.gov/COVID/faq/#vaccine>

COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>.

COVID-19 Cases Dashboard: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>.



Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

Arlington, Bennington, Dorset,
Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury,
Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance works to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills by promoting recycling and reuse as well as resource conservation. The Alliance offers education and outreach to businesses, schools, institutions, and event organizers in complying with the Universal Recycling Law and other solid waste management requirements primarily by increasing reuse and recycling. These programs help residents, businesses, schools, and institutions find solutions to recycling, food scrap diversion and the disposal of items such as electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, paint, and others that are banned from landfills.

The Alliance website at www.bcswavt.org and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance) provide information on:

- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that accept motor oil
- recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including retail stores that accept paint
- prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- recycling of textiles by the One World Center, Goodwill, and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items at transfer stations, retail establishments and at household hazardous waste collection events
- disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill, and retail establishments
- diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen containers

This past year the Alliance assisted 40 businesses as well as several major event organizers primarily via phone, email, and webinars due to COVID-19. Given COVID-19, meals and snacks in most schools are served in classrooms rather than lunchrooms. To help with this, the Alliance received 170 food scrap buckets from the Agency of Natural Resources that we distributed to 17 schools along with instructional signage to allow for food scrap collections within classrooms.

The Alliance held two household hazardous waste events with nearly 500 participating households. We also sold over 180 backyard compost bins and 60 green cones to residents. In 2021, we will hold three household hazardous waste events for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns. The spring event will be in Bennington and the fall in Dorset. We will hold a third event for residents and businesses of Searsburg and Stamford given the long driving distance they have to either of our other events. Check the website above for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the 13 towns, but this past year received grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets.



Bennington County Regional Commission

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) works with and on behalf of its member municipalities to build strong, resilient, and sustainable communities, to foster economic prosperity, and to promote a high quality of life for residents of the region. The BCRC plays an important role in coordinating work among local governments, state and federal agencies, regional public and nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and private interests.

In addition to its ongoing role in supporting the comprehensive planning work of municipal officials and volunteer boards and commissions, the BCRC serves as a regional center for work in community and economic development, transportation, energy, environmental conservation, water quality, solid waste management, and emergency management. The BCRC regularly conducts and sponsors public meetings and workshops on these topics.

During the past year, the BCRC has worked to implement its comprehensive plan through a variety of programs and cooperative work with member municipalities. Economic development planning in the region has become one of the BCRC's main program areas. Economic development planning at the BCRC, including dedicated staff directed by a committee with representatives appointed by the regional development corporation, supports business retention, growth, and recruitment. The BCRC also has provided support for the Putnam Block project in Bennington's downtown and is cooperating with local and state officials on new redevelopment initiatives in downtowns and village centers. Concern over the state's water quality has led the BCRC to identify and implement local projects that not only reduce stormwater runoff, but also protect roads, bridges, culverts, and private property. Other important accomplishments have included: assistance with updates to several municipal comprehensive plans and land use bylaws, development of municipal energy plans and support for local energy committees, village center and neighborhood development area designations and successful grant applications, implementation of the regional solid waste management plan in cooperation with the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, and planning for roadway, bicycle and pedestrian, public transportation improvements.

Like everyone, the BCRC has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The office transitioned to remote work and meetings in April and, while staff have recently started spending some time in the office, it generally is easiest to contact us via email (see contacts at www.bcrcvt.org). Fortunately, technology has allowed us to continue work on all of our projects with little interruption in progress. Of course, significant staff resources have been dedicated to providing assistance to businesses and municipalities as they work to navigate the challenges associated with changes to the way operations are conducted, with staffing and revenue disruptions, and to chart a course forward through and beyond the current crisis.

The BCRC is governed by locally appointed commissioners from seventeen area municipalities and commissioners who represent interests ranging from public health to economic development. As of January 2021, our offices will have relocated to 210 South Street in Bennington, and post-pandemic, we expect to have regular office hours at the Manchester Town Offices as well. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of every other month, with frequent special meetings throughout the year (information at: www.bcrcvt.org).

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Sullivan, Director

Activity Summary for Member Town Annual Reports
18 January 2020

Southern Vermont Communications Union District (SoVT CUD) was voted into existence in March 2019 by 12 towns in Bennington County. We have since grown to 13 towns: Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Peru, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Shaftsbury, Sunderland, Woodford.

In less than a year we have:

- Been awarded grants totaling \$190,000, plus \$12,000 awarded to Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) to support our efforts,
- Conducted on a utility pole survey to lay the groundwork for fiber optic network construction,
- Entered into a teaming agreement with Tilson, a network technology company, Green Mountain Power (GMP), and others to seek federal grants for rural broadband.

While the bid for federal rural broadband grants was not successful, we did build relationships with Tilson and GMP that continue to enhance and inform our development.

In June 2020 we were awarded a \$60,000 Broadband Innovation Grant (BIG) from the state of Vermont to undertake a feasibility study of building a fiber optic network in Bennington County. Preliminary results from that study suggested we need to grow in size and merge or collaborate with the also newly formed Deerfield Valley CUD in Windham County in order to be financially viable. Such a collaboration has been in the minds of people in both counties from inception. We are currently redirecting our feasibility study to evaluate a two-county solution for getting broadband to our under-served.

In September we were awarded a \$100,000 COVID relief grant to accelerate our network deployment plans. That was used to conduct a utility pole survey in our most under-served towns, Sandgate, Rupert, Peru, Dorset. A pole survey is a necessary first step toward network design and construction. Each pole we intend to hang fiber on must be evaluated in several measures, such as:

- Does the pole need replacement or reinforcement?
- Will other telecom lines need to be moved to accommodate ours?
- Is the pole in a favorable position to branch to a residence?

COVID relief money has allowed us to start early the design work for fiber optic network construction.

The Vermont Community Foundation (VCF) donated \$30,000 to SoVT CUD and the other CUDs for operating expenses. This money was sorely needed and greatly appreciated. Previously, SoVT CUD volunteers who had been giving so generously of their time were also giving their money for basic operating expenses like teleconferencing software and filing fees.

In December, the FCC awarded \$16B for rural broadband in its Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) reverse auction. Consolidated Communications (CCI) and SpaceX received significant awards in our area. This has changed the landscape significantly. Many areas that we had hoped to serve are now obligated to CCI and SpaceX. Our two-county feasibility study is working to create financial models to evaluate this new landscape.

All the representatives, alternates, and officers of SoVT CUD have given mightily to this effort and deserve respect and gratitude. They have made for an impressive first year.



Bennington County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Chad D. Schmidt

(01/01/2020-12/30/2020)

Currently the Bennington County Sheriff's Department provides Law Enforcement services to 8 towns in Bennington County. Dorset recently acquired these services in April of 2017. Ssgt. Jesse D Bravata is currently assigned to handle this patrol area. However, as of January 4, 2021, Deputy Christopher Miller will be taking over the Dorset duties.

In summary for the Town of Dorset, the Bennington County Sheriff's Department investigated 858 incidents in 2020. These incidents included but are not limited to:

6	911 calls
5	Accident Investigations
21	Alarms
4	Noise Complaints
10	VIN Verifications
11	Animal Problem Calls
3	DUI Arrests
1	Arrest for Disorderly Conduct
1	Burglary (Warrant Issued)
174	Traffic Tickets

Ssgt. Bravata has also participated in numerous events with the Town of Dorset, Dorset School, Long Trail School and The United Church of Dorset. Ssgt. Bravata also helped to organize a Secret Santa Program in which Christmas gifts were purchased for needy kids in Dorset and neighboring communities. These funds were raised by donations from the Sheriff's Deputies and local businesses.

The Sheriff's Office continues to provide a number of services. We continue to accept unused prescription drugs for destruction. We offer TSA Pre-Check, Haz-Mat and fingerprinting for employment and background checks.

Chad D. Schmidt
Sheriff
Bennington County Sheriff's Department
www.benningtonsheriff.org

Green Mountain National Forest



The Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) and the Finger Lakes National Forest (FLNF) are Vermont's and New York's only public, federally managed national forests. While both the GMNF and FLNF are managed in ways that strive to be sensitive to local concerns and resource capabilities, they share an administrative unit on the GMNF to take advantage of efficiencies to be gained by close geographic location.

The Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) encompasses more than 400,000 acres in southwestern and central Vermont, forming the largest contiguous public land area in the State. Characterized by striking scenery that combines rugged mountain peaks with quintessential Vermont villages, the Forest is an attraction for many visitors. The GMNF signifies a multiple-use ethic through its role of providing ecological and science-based forestry stewardship, clean water, diverse vegetation, high-value, high-quality forest products, economical and educational contributions, and trail-based backcountry recreation.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/gmfl>

<https://www.facebook.com/GreenMountainFingerLakesNF/>

**Manchester Ranger Station
2538 Depot Street
Manchester Center, VT 05255
1-802-362-2307**



MAPLE HILL CEMETERY

Maple Hill Cemetery, about a half mile south of Dorset Village along Route 30, is fast approaching its Sester-Centennial. Benjamin Baldwin, who died as an infant, is memorialized on a still legible headstone which reads in part “NB he was the first that was beuryd in this year.” The year was 1772, which makes Maple Hill the oldest as well as the largest of the 14 cemeteries in the Town of Dorset and one of only three that remain active. An online listing of all 3,000+ recorded burials can be found at www.dorsetvthistory.org/cemetery.



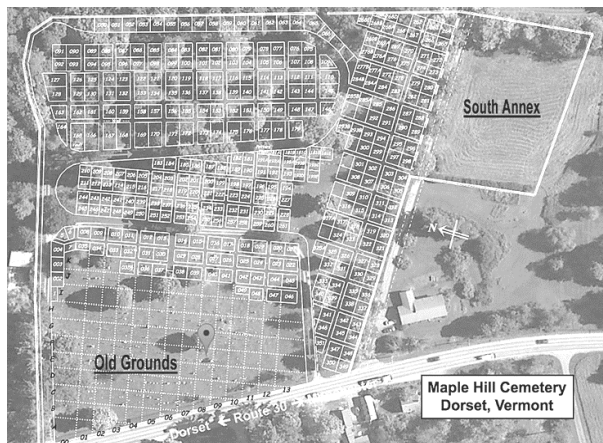
During our 2020 season, major initiatives included:

- 1) Removing bushes and saplings from overgrown corners of the grounds.
- 2) Clearing access paths to a new 1.2 acre “southern annex” which will provide expansion for years to come.

In 2021, we anticipate:

- 3) Establishing a layout for 520 lots in this annex and laying down an access roadway.
- 4) Contracting for several large toppled headstones to get new foundations.

The Association of Deed Holders and their heirs is run by an all-volunteer Board. Ongoing expenses for grounds maintenance are met by burial fees, lot sales, gifts and income from an endowment built up over the years. No Town money is received and none is now requested, though a capital drive is being planned to help celebrate Benjamin Baldwin’s 250th birthday.



We invite all interested Dorset residents to get involved with Maple Hill Cemetery. Please contact Malcolm Cooper, President (867-2528/tractormalc@gmail.com) or Andy Longacre, Sexton (867-0297/alongacre@aol.com) for more information.

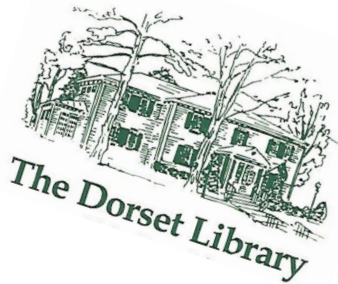
VOTER APPROVED APPROPRIATIONS



Neighbor to Neighbor
An Interfaith Community Project



SOUTHWEST-ERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON



East Dorset Cemetery



Dorset Marble Preservation Association, Inc.





The Dorset Library

In March of 2020, the Dorset Library, along with many other businesses and organizations, modified their method of service due to the pandemic. By order of the Governor, we closed our doors to the public in mid-March. This pandemic has been a trying time for our patrons, as well as our staff! We have been able to work safely to continue improving the library space and collections for the community. We reorganized and moved a few collections to create a better user experience and a better flow; we painted walls; and we completed an overhaul of the book sale room downstairs. Most exciting is our new circulation desk which was a custom build to suit our space and create a more functional work environment for the staff. We hired a new assistant director in spring, Stephen Niles, who has been instrumental in keeping the Library moving forward in a creative way!

Slowly but surely we began reinstating services, although with modifications. In May we began to offer books and movies at curbside, allowing patrons to call or email us and search the catalog from the comfort of their homes when requesting library materials. The staff has been kept busy implementing this service as it is used daily by our patrons. In August, we started offering appointments for patrons who needed to use our computers, printers, or copiers. Finally, in October, we opened for browsing appointments. Our summer reading program had a record number of participants despite the pandemic! The library also hosted virtual programs, such as poetry readings and book club meetings, and our wi-fi is available 24-7 for community use from anywhere outside of the library. This summer we created new seating areas and added an extra table for those who needed a work space to access our internet. If you're inclined to learn a new language, download an audio or e-book, or take a course in Excel, our digital services are available online to patrons at any time. This was also an exceptional year for our Halloween festivities. The whole town came together, residents and businesses, to create a safe and fun drive through Trick or Treat for the kids.

Everything we've done since March of 2020 has worked to keep our staff and community safe and healthy while providing the best services possible. Of course, the Library can't wait until we can reopen our doors to the community. We look forward to seeing everyone and resuming our usual programs and events.

The Library thanks you for your support as always.



Note:

1. All of town appropriations are restricted to library programs and materials, which directly benefit community citizens.
2. Budget deficit is covered by the Library's endowment.

4000 · Revenue	Jan-Dec 20	Draft Budget 2021
4100 · Investment Income.	50,565	41,645
4185 · Grant	0	500
4020 · Art Sale Income	357	500
4030 · Book Sales	117	500
4040 · Conscience Fund	104	200
4050 · Donations & Annual Fund	31,190	30,500
4060 · Gift	0	0
4080 · Town Appropriations	20,000	20,000
4090 · Interest	3	5
Total Revenue	102,336	93,850
6000 · Expenses		
6000 · Administration	36,461	34,671
6500 · Personnel	121,222	135,412
6600 · Library Materials	19,023	27,700
6700 · Building & Grounds	20,832	28,319
Total Expense	197,538	226,102
Surplus/Deficit	(95,202)	(132,252)



On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action was available to the residents of the Town of Dorset. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, weatherization, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$1,000.00.

We truly value our collaboration with Dorset as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO

tdonahue@broc.org

BROC.ORG

802.775.0878

45 Union Street, Rutland, VT 05701**332 Orchard Road, Bennington, VT 05201**

BROC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont

	Budget FY21
SUMMARY	
<u>Funding</u>	<u>\$5,772,400</u>
Federal Grants	\$2,555,954
STATE GRANTS	\$2,570,776
FOUNDATION GRANTS	\$52,500
RENTAL INCOME	\$118,104
Contributions	\$101,066
TOWN FUNDING	\$42,000
WX - EVT	\$240,000
UNITED WAY	\$5,000
WARMTH	\$60,000
OTHER	\$27,000
<u>TOTAL SALARIES:</u>	<u>\$ 1,717,540</u>
FRINGE: % of Salaries:	\$628,589
<u>TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES</u>	<u>\$2,346,128</u>
OPERATIONS	
Indirect % of Salaries:	\$520,193
Space	\$307,109
Insurance	\$77,768
Computer Services	\$11,778
Telephone	\$26,112
Postage	\$5,195
Travel	\$95,604
Equipment/Depr/Pur/Use	\$112,905
Supplies	\$68,183
Professional Services/Audit	\$34,765
Contracts/Dues & Subscriptions	\$19,554
Printing/Copying	\$30,557
Training and Staff Development	\$81,134
Transfer In/OUT	\$0
<u>TOTAL OPERATIONS</u>	<u>\$1,390,857</u>
<u>TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATIONS:</u>	<u>\$3,736,986</u>
DIRECT CLIENT SUPPORT:	
WX Materials	\$607,723
Subcontract Labor	\$228,431
Direct Service -Providers(CACFP)	\$243,516
Direct Service - Food	\$34,000
Direct Service Housing	\$304,932
Direct Service Other Embrace Grants	\$279,501
Direct Service Fuel/Electric/Other	\$276,441
<u>TOTAL DIRECT CLIENT SUPPORT:</u>	<u>\$1,974,543</u>
<u>TOTAL BUDGET:</u>	<u>\$5,711,529</u>
Total Net	\$60,871

* Indirect Rate Agreement is 30.3% of salaries



It is with your town support, the Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) was able to serve over 1,225 individuals this past year. Even in a year with an unprecedented pandemic, CRJ continued to provide county-wide, community justice programs and intervention services. CRJ's programs are based on the principles of restorative justice, a philosophy of justice that focuses on the people and communities harmed by crime; it emphasizes bringing together everyone affected by wrongdoing to address needs and responsibilities. Some CRJ highlights from this past year include:

CRJ launched a new program this past year called Threads. Threads is a teen clothing boutique shop that accepts donations of quality, gently used clothing. Any teen can come shop at Threads and all clothing and accessories are free of charge.

165 individuals with suspended licenses were assisted to get legally back on the road.

362 youth and adults participated in one of CRJ's many Court Diversion Programs; after successful program completion, which includes repairing the harms caused to their victims, engaging in treatment programming, or giving back to their community, the individuals' records were expunged.

321 at-risk youth received support to successfully engage in school and were supported through intervention programs such as The Lounge (after school program), movie nights, mentoring and life skill development.

47 adults reentering the community from incarceration were supported through a variety of programs to help them positively reintegrate into the community.

CRJ is grateful for your continued support in helping individuals to get their lives on the right track, empowering victims to have a voice in the justice process, and helping to restore and strengthen our communities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director

Center for Restorative Justice
439 Main Street
Bennington, VT 05201
447-1595
www.bcrj.org

<i>FY 2019 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT</i>		
Revenue:	State Grants	432,828
	Other Grants	50,641
	School Funding	38,992
	Fees- Diversion/TASP	38,191
	Town Funding	7,740
	Contributions, Fundraising	3,397
	Total Revenue	571,789
Expenses	Personnel	470,793
	Facilities	35,539
	Operations	28,277
	Ins	5,493
	Training & Travel	8,034
	Prof Fees	16,245
	Total Expenses	564,381



Rutland Office: 802-786-5990
Bennington Office: 802-442-5436
Helpline: 1-800-642-5119

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Dorset in 2020:

Nutrition Support

The Council helped provide 878 meals that were delivered to the homes of 7 elders in your community. This service is often called “Meals on Wheels”. In addition, 5 Dorset elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 22 meals were provided.

Additionally, SVCOA provided 2 hours of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments and resource connections and referrals, to 5 residents of Dorset.

Case Management Assistance:

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 12 elders in your community for a total of 71.25 hours. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder’s home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder’s situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

1) “Senior Helpline” assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues and opportunities via various agency articles and publications 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA’s Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance; 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to elders and younger disabled individuals.



Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) is committed to providing compassionate support, practical services and the pathway to healing and safety for countless victims of domestic violence and sexual assault throughout Bennington County. Our organization has grown from a crisis hotline to the multiple and comprehensive support services we now provide. These services include 24-hour hotline, court and social service advocacy, case management, emergency financial assistance, access to legal services, access to emergency housing, supervised visitation, parenting classes, community awareness, school-based prevention education and more.

The hotline is still where it often begins for victims accessing our services and our volunteers remain the backbone of the support we offer. In the past year, we provided 18 Dorset/East Dorset residents with comprehensive services. About a quarter of those residents made initial contact with us through our crisis hotline. These residents received advocacy services including emotional support, safety planning, court advocacy, case management and housing services. In addition, 2 families with 2 children received supervised visitation services through our Family Time Program.

Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families. Our emergency shelter program provides families with short-term housing and case management services with the goal of obtaining safe, permanent housing. In the past year, we provided 65 adults and 39 children with 5,028 nights of shelter services.

To stop the generational cycle of abuse, we must start early and invest in prevention strategies that provide healthy parent-child relationships, friendships and dating relationships. Through our education and empowerment programs pre-kindergarten to college; Nurturing Parenting classes, Women's Support Groups, Healthy Mind, Body and Family workshops and Financial Literacy Program, we've helped over 3,500 children, teachers and other adults learn new skills and techniques.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and families served, I thank the residents of Dorset and East Dorset for your ongoing support to PAVE. Your support creates greater opportunities for the people impacted by domestic and/or sexual violence who need our services each year.

Respectfully,

Nadia Lucchin

Executive Director

PAVE Budget Fiscal Year 2020-2021	
Budget Total: June 28, 2020 Board Approved: 06-30-2020	Budgeted Total
Notes	
Income - Cash Reserves	
4020 - Contrib - Indiv, Bus, Group	7,993
4045 - Contributions - Towns	9,100
4060 - Contrib - Program -Clients	3,600
4200 - Contracts -State	30,830
4120 - Grant Income Federal	299,377
4110 - Grant Income State	254,499
4130 - Grant Income Other	10,000
4135 - Grants - Restricted	9,090
4500 - Deferred Grant Income	16,063
11400 - Grant Receivable	14,054
4140 - SBA COVID-19 Funds	4,889
4150 - FVPSA COVID-19 Funds	4,807
4160 - CARES ACT (1) COVID-19 Funds	11,989
4160 - CARES ACT (2) COVID-19 Funds	22,629
4550 - Interest Income	0
Total Income	698,920
Expenses	
60001 - Salaries	315,861
Employee Benefits	
60003 - Payroll FICA Expense	27,402
60004 - Health/Dental Insurance	81,308
60005 - Reliance ST Disability Ins	8,286
60064 - SUTA	7,176
60066 - Worker's Comp Insurance	1,706
Program Services	
60006 - Monitor/Subcontractor Expense	52,862
60007 - Education/Workshop Expense	13,000
60012 - Training & Travel	8,479
60065 - Mileage - Outreach	2,126
60045 - Client Subsidies	9,480
60045 - Client Subsidies - 1 (Motels)	12,500
60048 - Client Legal Fees	0
60067 - Animal Emergency Subsidy	2,500
Operations Expense	
60013 - Accounting Audit Fee & 990	7,790
60016 - Payroll Service Fee	3,360
60017 - Legal Fees-PAVE	0
60018 - Bank Charges	840
60034 - Postage	176
60035 - Dues & Subscriptions	6,485
60037 - Materials & Supplies	14,275
60038 - Telephone & Internet	12,320
60044 - Hotline	11,324
60040 - Website	400
60056 - Misc Expense	594
60061 - Staff Fundraising Exp	0
60062 - Board Fundraising Exp	768
60080 - Subcontractor/Advertising	0
Insurance Expense	
60020 - Liability & Flood Insurance	7,729
60051 - D & O Insurance	1,622
Facility Expense	
60022 - Building Rent-Family Time	6,874
60019 - Rent - Gore Rd	36,000
60068 - Rent - DB McKenna	16,000
60024 - Mortgage Principal	0
60053 - Mortgage Interest Expense	0
60025 - Utilities - Electric	2,200
60026 - Utilities - Fuel	5,600
60027 - Utilities - Sewer & Water	0
60021 - Repairs & Maintenance	150
60028 - Trash	660
60028 - 1 Snow	640
60028 - 2 Pest	0
60028 - 3 Cleaning	2,100
Equipment Expense	
60029 - Equipment Expense - All	18,327
60063 - Unpaid Grant Obligation	0
Total Expenses	698,920
	0

Dorset Marble Preservation Association



In September 2020, our contractor began work restoring the sidewalk on the east side of Route 30. About 25% of the old marble was unusable, so it was necessary to acquire new material. We purchased three-inch slabs cut from one of the old blocks removed from the Dorset Quarry, and when those slabs were all used, we arranged to buy additional marble from the Danby Quarry. By early November, our contractor finished the masonry work, which extends from 3330 Route 30 to Dorset Hollow Road – over 500 feet. In the spring, as soon as possible, topsoil, grass seed and mulch will be applied to finish the project and blend it in with the surrounding lawns and landscape.

scape.

Viewers will note that “new” marble looks different from “old” marble, even though it all comes from the same geological source. DMPA encourages everyone to walk on these slabs as often as possible, preferably with dirty shoes, so that the new material will blend with the old.

We are grateful to the voters for supporting the restoration of Dorset’s historic marble sidewalks through a budget appropriation, and for contributions we’ve received from private sources. The Town of Dorset was enormously helpful, providing an excavator and operator at no cost to us for several weeks, as well as negotiating with the Danby Quarry and transporting several tons of marble to the worksite.

It was our intent in 2020 to do a project in East Dorset, but the Covid-19 crisis obstructed us from coming to an agreement with a property owner. Our intent is to focus on East Dorset in 2021.



Roger Squire
President, Dorset Marble Preservation Association

2020 Financial Report

Revenue

Beginning Balance 1/1/2020.....	\$28,242
Town appropriation.....	15,000
Grants and contributions.....	1,000
Property owner reimbursements	<u>3,720</u>
Total	\$47,962

Expenses

Sidewalk restoration	\$33,506
Marble purchase	5,220
Maintenance and repair	<u>1,100</u>
Total	\$39,826



Dorset Historical Society



The year 2019 was one of significant and varied activity for the Dorset Historical Society. We continued to play a major role in the cultural calendar of the Dorset community and we continued to work closely with the Town Office, the Library and the local schools.

Our Third Thursday monthly luncheon lectures were well attended and covered many topics of local historic interest. Our on-line maps of historic sites continues to grow and can be found on our website under the heading “Dorset History GO!”. We continue to sponsor quarry hikes during the summer and our annual “Ice Cream Social” continues to be a big draw in July. We also participated in the Halloween Trick or Treat celebration.

The major exhibits during 2019 included Natalee Everett’s Barrows House Mural, Dorset BroadSides and Posters, 1865-2019 and Dorset to 1791. Also included were recently donated paintings, drawings and photographs and the latest batch of prints taken from the Hunt Gilbert negative collection. New exhibits will be coming in 2020.

Board of Directors

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
Membership income.....	\$28,901.....	\$28,000
Museum Proceeds.....	\$ 1,401.....	\$ 1,300
Special Gifts.....	\$ 5,989.....	\$ 1,000
Dorset Town Grant	<u>\$ 7,000.....</u>	<u>\$ 7,000</u>
Total Income.....	<u>\$43,291.....</u>	<u>\$37,300</u>
 <u>EXPENSES</u>		
Programs and Exhibits.....	\$ 5,829.82.....	\$ 6,000
Newsletters	\$ 1,243.88.....	\$ 3,000
Administration.....	\$16,539.23.....	\$16,150
Facilities	\$ 6,963.37.....	\$ 8,050
Utilities	<u>\$ 2,899.12.....</u>	<u>\$ 2,950</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$33,475.42.....</u>	<u>\$36,150</u>
 NOTE – Dorset Town Support	 \$ 7,500 (provided)	 \$ 7,500 (requested)



The Dorset Players have had a presence in the Dorset Community since 1927. The Playhouse, built with proceeds from plays, a bank loan, and many generous gifts, was opened in 1929. In 1999, the Dorset Players and The Dorset Theatre Festival undertook a three million dollar restoration and the Playhouse "re-opened" in 2001.

Since then, the Players have done their best to maintain the 28,000+ square foot building. Now, 20 years later, the costs for repair and upkeep have grown. With the help of grants, fundraisers, programs and donations, we have replaced the roof, repaired the marble patio, removed decaying trees, installed a new HVAC unit, and replaced rotted windows. Inside we have fixed doors and locks and weatherized doors, cleaned and fireproofed all stage curtains, installed new security lights and ballasts and done necessary plumbing repairs.

We still need to install roof gutters, grade the parking lot, replace aisle lights and carpeting in the auditorium and replace 12 baseboard heating units. Eventually, the seats (used since 1947) need to be replaced.

We have not been able to mount any productions since March 2020 due to COVID, but we still offer the Playhouse and its property for community events.

Since June, the CSA (now Northshire Grown: Direct local food initiative!) has used the Playhouse café every two weeks to distribute locally grown food and other products from 50 different regional producers to an average of 100 customers and 35-50 neighbor boxes.

At Halloween we participated with the Town of Dorset for a holiday drive-by event with over 225 cars passing by. Christmas saw another drive-by with holiday lights and decorations, letters to Santa being dropped off and Santa and the Elves waving to kids of all ages.

The Dorset Players Inc.	Profit & Loss 8/1/2019 to 7/31/2020	Budget 8/1/2020 to 7/31/2021
Income		
Production	70,509.21	5,125.00
Fundraising/Donations	88,722.42	82,796.27
Membership	9,795.00	9,745.00
Program Advertising	16,625.00	
Rental Income	14,294.67	13,694.67
Other Income	1,215.38	552.53
Total Income	201,161.68	111,913.47
Expenses		
Production Expense	20,974.10	2,856.26
General Theater Expenses	1,065.85	1,046.93
Program Advertising	7,423.50	
Administrative Expenses	49,333.75	18,743.73
Building Expenses	89,907.94	79,254.40
Total Expenses	168,705.14	101,901.32

Dorset Town Report: Neighbor to Neighbor

Neighbor to Neighbor’s mission is to assist our neighbors to live independently by providing no-cost volunteer services that nurture relationships.

Since 2004, Neighbor to Neighbor and our group of volunteers has provided vital services to older and disabled residents of the Northshire. In 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to assist our care recipients with things like going grocery shopping for them, making friendly phone calls to check in and make sure they were OK and staying safe, and writing personal notes to each care recipient. This year, we also started a new tradition of giving a beautifully decorated home-made birthday cake to each care recipient. In addition, due to a grant ear-marked specifically for food distribution during the pandemic, we distributed \$5,000 in Price Chopper gift cards to our care recipients.



Twenty-six (26) Dorset residents are either Neighbor to Neighbor volunteers or care recipients. Our volunteers provide all of our services free of charge. We continue to receive requests for our assistance, and once we can safely meet, we will add them to our care recipient base. We speak with care recipients who praise our work and who count on Neighbor to Neighbor—now more than ever—to keep them engaged with the larger Northshire community. We will resume our regular services such as transportation and monthly events when we can do so safely.

We receive funding through local towns as well as through private, corporate, and foundation donations. This year, we wrote several successful grants from The Hoehl Family Foundation, The Windham Foundation, and The Berkshire Bank Foundation.

On behalf of the Steering Committee, our incredible volunteers, and most importantly the care recipients we serve, Neighbor to Neighbor is most grateful for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Galguera,
Executive Director

Grants	\$5,000.00	Total Payroll Expenses	\$30,200.00
Foundations/ Corporations	\$10,500.00	Worker’s Comp	\$750.00
Fundraising Events	\$4,000.00	In-Kind Contributions	\$16,600.00
Individual Contributions	\$18,000.00	Utilities	\$2,100.00
Support from Towns	\$3,000.00	Phone/Internet	\$1,500.00
Support from Houses of Worship	\$1,000.00	Office Supplies	\$2,000.00
Interest Income	\$1,000.00	Printing/Publicity/ Advertising/Newsletter	\$1,500.00
In-Kind Donations	\$18,500.00	Postage	\$800.00
Total Revenue	\$61,000.00	Petty Cash	\$100.00
		Fundraising Event Expenses	\$1,500.00
		Care Recipient Events	\$750.00
		Insurance: Liability	\$2,250.00
		Volunteer Recognition	\$200.00
		Computer/Copier Support	\$250.00
		Mileage Reimbursement	\$3,600.00
		Total Expenses	\$64,400.00



Strengthening Communities Through Local Independent Media

GNAT-TV Service Territory:

- Arlington
- Dorset
- Londonderry
- Manchester
- Peru
- Rupert
- Sandgate
- Stratton
- Sunderland
- Weston
- Winhall

WAYS TO WATCH

COMCAST CABLE

CHANNELS:

- 1074 (PUBLIC)
- 1084 (GOVERNMENT)
- 1094 (EDUCATION)

GNAT-TV.ORG

YOUTUBE

ROKU & APPLE TV

LISTEN VIA PODCAST

Thank you for your past support of GNAT-TV. Your continued support enables us to continue providing transparent access to your government. We feel a tremendous responsibility to each and every citizen that we serve. This has never been more evident than during this past year, as we helped people in our communities navigate life during the pandemic.

We worked with local schools to live stream graduation ceremonies. We provided technical and educational resources, equipment and training to the faith community to enable them to share their weekly services. We also handled the distribution and archival of those events. We launched a "Kids Create Variety Show" with content submitted by local children.

We produced 272 News Project segments, expanding our local independent news coverage. We engaged community members to produce and share their stories on our open distribution network. We continued to facilitate and distribute coverage of 211 of our local town government meetings across our region. Additionally, we expanded our distribution to digital platforms including Roku, Apple TV and Podcast for those that don't or can't subscribe to cable. We are committed to being an informational resource for everyone.

Our primary revenue source is based on cable subscriptions in the eleven towns we serve. As we navigate the impact of declining subscribers and a changing global media industry, we rely on local donors, underwriters and towns, now more than ever. Please support our vision for an engaged, informed and inspired public. A strong local community media organization is vital to our democracy and to our collective futures. We hope you will continue to support government access, education, and an independent platform for local voices. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and support.

GNAT-TV Statement of Financial Activities Summary Year Ending 09.30.20

Operating Revenue

Mandated PEG Access Operating Revenue	407,448
Program Services	4,536
Municipal Contributions (Total 7 Towns)	14,000
Contributions	29,928
Investment Income	5,895
Other (PPP Loan)	64,739
Net Assets Released from Restriction (Acquisition of Capital Assets/Expense)	-
Total Operating Revenue	526,546

Capital Expense

Operating Expense: Program Services	383,056
Operating Expense: Support Services	91,080
Total Operating Expense	474,136
Change in Net Assets without Restrictions	52,410

Capital Revenue / Expense

Changes in Net Asset with Restrictions:	
Mandated PEG Access Capital Revenue	40,745
Net Assets Released from Restriction (Acquisition of Capital Assets/Expense)	-
Change in Net Assets with Restrictions	40,745
Changes in Net Assets	*93,155
Net Assets Beginning of Year	546,229
Net Assets End of Year	639,384

*FY20 balance is dedicated to retiring FY19 deficit and to help fund critically important capital purchases, including broadcast and streaming equipment.

2020 Usage Data

- 725 Local Public Programs Produced
- 211 Government Meetings
- 75 Community Video Announcements
- 273 Community Bulletin Board Announcements
- 339,418 Online Video Views
- 664 Equipment & Facility Reservations
- 317 Training Sessions, 50 People Trained

Greater Northshire Access Television is a 501c3 Not for Profit Organization
Created by Community Members in 1995



shirekidsvt.org • nicole@shirekidsvt.org • 603.759.9415 • PO Box 218, Dorset, VT 05251

"The single most significant factor influencing a child's early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school"
- National Commission on Reading

Board of Directors

Nicole Campbell

Founder and Executive Director

Rehana Grip

Director of Development

Dr. Lynn Mann

Pediatrician, SVMC

Heather McGuire

Library Media Specialist, BRSU

Jennie Moon

Children's Integrated Services

Shall the Town of Dorset vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$2,000 for the support of Shire Kids to provide books and reading programs for young children and families in Dorset?

Shire Kids served over 1,000 children in Bennington County and the town of Danby with monthly books from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in 2020. Each enrolled child (currently 890 total) receives a new age-appropriate book mailed to their home every month until the child's fifth birthday. A preschool teacher recently told me that "the volume and regularity [with which children receive books] is the most important and amazing aspect of this program."

Of those, 55 children reside in Dorset and East Dorset. Eight additional children were served by Shire Kids in 2020, and graduated from the program on their fifth birthday. We expect the number of Dorset children served to grow by 20% in 2021.

In addition to increasing the number of children served, Shire Kids is expanding our program offering by initiating programs to connect families and communities. These programs will include virtual (and in-person, when appropriate) story times and read-alongs of Imagination Library books, and play groups for young families. Shire Kids will be working with local preschools and libraries to implement these programs.

Thank you for your support of this valuable program in our community. Parents of enrolled children often tell me that their Imagination Library books are among their child's favorites. Thank you for helping us continue this work.

 @shire_kids_vt

 @shirekidsvt



Number of children currently registered in each town

- Arlington - 78
- Bennington - 380
- Bondville - 10
- Danby - 26
- Dorset - 31
- East Dorset - 23
- Manchester - 125
- Pawlet - 16
- Pownal - 58
- Rupert - 10
- Peru - 6
- Readsboro - 8
- Sandgate - 7
- Searsburg - 1
- Shaftsbury - 62
- Stamford - 9
- Sunderland - 15
- Winhall - 7
- Woodford - 6

889

Total Books Mailed since start of program (July 2019)

10,230

SHIREKIDSVT.ORG



IT WAS A GOOD YEAR TO READ

What a year! We will all remember 2020. With so many challenges presented to our community and our children this year, I am amazed every day by the signs of hope and positivity for our future.

This year Shire Kids grew in many ways thanks to the incredible support of our donors. Over 600 new children in Bennington County and the town of Danby enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, bringing the total number of children served by Shire Kids to over 1,000. Currently, 889 children are actively enrolled and receive a new book from the Imagination Library every month. They will continue to do so every month until their fifth birthday.

Shire Kids added two members to our all-volunteer Board of Directors. Rehana Grip brings over a decade of experience in graphic communications, fundraising and community building. Heather McGuire is a Library Media Specialist at BRSU and brings insight on youth book trends and knowledge of the academic environment our children will enter into after graduating from the Imagination Library.

Awareness of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library grew exponentially this year, as evidenced by the continued increase in enrollment across the globe and addition of new Imagination Library Programs. Shire Kids is spearheading efforts to create a coalition among Vermont nonprofits that operate Imagination Library programs (currently there are eight!), and advocate for the program to our legislators and to towns where the program is not yet available.

Thank you for helping to bring the love of reading to our community. We're excited to continue to grow in 2021, and are counting on your continued support.

Sincerely,

Nicole Campbell, Founder and Executive Director
Shire Kids
PO Box 218, Dorset, VT 05251
nicole@shirekidsvt.org



ANNUAL REPORT November 2020
Bill Hoyt – Board President

Habitat for Humanity International (HfHI) is a global non-profit housing organization whose vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat works in all 50 of the United States and in 70 countries. Since its founding in 1976 by Linda and Millard Fuller, Habitat has helped more than 35 million people achieve strength, stability and self-reliance through safe, decent and affordable shelter.

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity (BCHfH) is an affiliate of HfHI. BCHfH works in partnership with Bennington County residents who cannot otherwise become homeowners or afford needed home repairs. Applicants must have a need for better housing, the ability to pay, and the willingness to partner with BCHfH. Once accepted into the homeownership program, each adult family member must complete 200 hours of sweat equity. Homebuyers pay an interest free mortgage thru monthly payments that include escrow for property taxes, insurance, and Homeowner Association fees, where applicable. Homebuyers' monthly payments never exceed more than 30% of their income. The monthly mortgage payments help build more homes.

BCHfH is locally run and funded. With the exception of some contract services, volunteers build Habitat houses. Businesses, subcontractors, and individuals help build, donate materials, and provide financial support. Town appropriations purchase building supplies and materials for our construction programs.

In Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020), BCHfH was well on its way to completing three houses and 10 home repair projects by June 30, 2020. Then COVID-19 hit, and we were required to suspend operations for 2 ½ months. We got back to building and reopened our ReSale Store the first week of June, although with fewer volunteers due to strict Reopening Protocols. We finished one of our three FY20 houses before June 30th, and the Greene family moved home to the Jennifer Lane neighborhood of Manchester Center in mid-August. By late November, we completed the second of our three FY20 houses, along Corcoran's Way in Bennington; closing is set for December 7th with the Furciniti-Julius family. We currently are working to finish the third house, which is in Manchester Center. Our home repair program remains on hold at this time, but we were grateful to finish nine home repair projects in FY20 with homeowners who needed ramps and simple exterior repairs in order to remain safely in their homes.

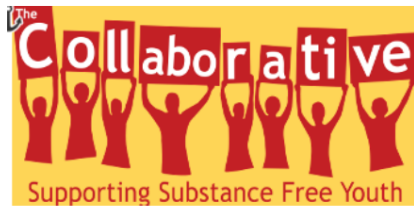
Our Resale Store in Manchester sells, at reasonable prices, new and gently used furniture, building supplies, appliances, housewares, tools, and home improvement products that have been donated to us. Not only does the store provide people with quality furnishings they can afford, it also keeps items out of the landfill. The proceeds from the store provide meaningful support for our construction programs.

Four Dorset residents serve on our Board of Directors and many Dorset residents have helped build our local Habitat homes. We encourage Dorset residents to apply for homes and home repair projects. We are grateful for the Town of Dorset's continued support. None of the projects would be possible without the support we receive from the local community. Together, we do make a difference in the lives of hard-working, lower-income area residents. Our website address is www.benningtoncountyhabitat.org.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Hoyt, President, Board of Directors

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity
Town Reports
7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020
Cash Flows

	FY20 Actual	FY20 Budget
Contributions & Other Income	\$121,113	\$196,989
Restricted Contributions/Grants	95,900	226,200
Fundraising Events	68,700	54,700
Resale Store Fundraising	73,068	100,000
Interest & Other Income	7,993	7,000
<i>Mortgage/Loan Payments Received</i>	<u>105,097</u>	<u>116,985</u>
Total Cash Flow In	<u>\$471,871</u>	<u>\$701,874</u>
Construction, Property Development & Program Operations	\$402,593	\$550,705
Fundraising and Resale Store Operations	80,890	96,910
Administrative & Other	<u>174,797</u>	<u>183,393</u>
Total Cash Flow Out	<u>\$658,280</u>	<u>\$831,008</u>
Net Cash Flow/(Budgeted Use of Surplus)	<u>(\$186,409)</u>	<u>(\$129,134)</u>



THE COLLABORATIVE
91 VT Route 11, Londonderry, VT 05148
802-824-4200 / www.thecollaborative.us
Board of Directors: Mark Weikert, Chair;
Ann Alford, Jim Lind, Jim Sullivan,
Kathleen O'Reilly, Martha Cowles

Dec. 2020

Dear Dorset Residents,

The Collaborative appreciates your vote of confidence as you vote for the 2021-22 budget. Since 1999, we have grown from a small after school program to an organization providing a wide range of individual, youth, and family programs focused on preventing youth substance use, supporting working families and creating a healthy community. It was a year of change and uncertainty for everyone, but with you on our team The Collaborative was able to continue to provide healthy opportunities for our youth and young adults, strengthen community connections and increase outreach in the Northshire and mountain communities.

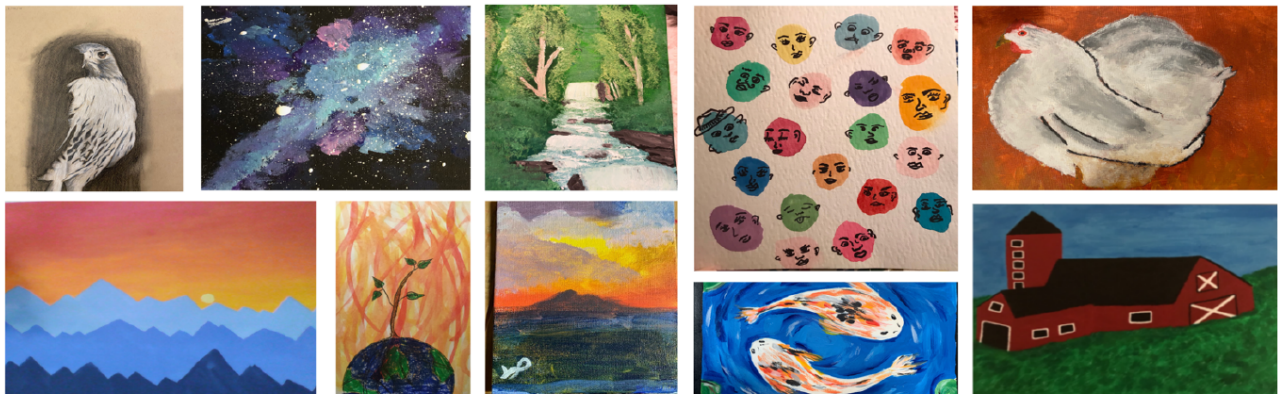
In the town budget we are requesting funds for The Collaborative mission to support substance free middle and high school youth. Just like you, we had to rethink how we do what we do and determine what was at the heart and soul of it. For example, this year, it was connection, community and healthy choices for the Refuse to Use program. We are honored that 337 RTU participants from 8 schools are participating in over 50 virtual or distanced substance misuse and healthy alternative programs. These programs are primarily led by community volunteers who recognize the value of this education in our community. With a focus on healthy choices this project allows for over **50,000** ways for our young people to pick their unique path toward a healthier future.

We are requesting your approval of \$750 in your town's budget to assist The Collaborative in continuing to provide these services to our community. We appreciate your involvement!

Sincerely,

Maryann Morris
Executive Director

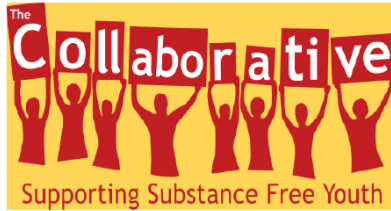
Artwork by Refuse to Use participants 2020



91 VT Route 11, Londonderry, VT 05148

www.thecollaborative.us

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		July 2019-June 2020			
		Income vs Expenses			
		Refuse	Youth	Town	Total
		to Use	Outreach	Funding	
Income					
	Contributed support (including grants & contributions)	\$ 69,970	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,300	\$ 79,270
	Program Fees & Other Earned revenues	\$ 16,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,600
	Total Income	\$ 86,570	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,300	\$ 95,870
Expense					
	Payroll Processing Fees	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100
	Salaries & wages	\$ 36,561	\$ 455	\$ 3,721	\$ 40,736
	Payroll taxes & Other Fringe	\$ 10,840	\$ 193	\$ 1,274	\$ 12,308
	Salaries & related expenses	\$ 47,501	\$ 648	\$ 4,995	\$ 53,144
	Contractual Expenses	\$ 14,045	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,045
	Materials & Supplies	\$ 8,321	\$ 1,223	\$ 745	\$ 10,288
	Occupancy expenses	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 125
	Travel & meetings expenses	\$ 736	\$ 141	\$ 20	\$ 897
	Event Expenses	\$ 8,499	\$ 863	\$ -	\$ 9,361
	Misc expenses	\$ 4,513	\$ -	\$ 540	\$ 5,053
	Total Expense	\$ 83,614	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,300	\$ 92,914
	Net Income/Loss	\$ 2,956	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,956

Note: After School & other programming ended with the shutdown in March. For 2020-21 we are running virtual programming and are committed to keeping staff on by reassinging tasks and duties.

DORSET 2020 TOWN REPORT

Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless (BCCH) has continued to serve the needs of those experiencing homelessness in 2020.

BCCH gratefully acknowledges the Town of Dorset's support for Bennington County families and individuals experiencing Homelessness. BCCH strives to prevent and end homelessness by providing emergency overnight shelter, short term emergency housing, and transitional housing. We are committed to providing more than just a bed. Our programming provides the building blocks necessary for people to become self-sufficient so that they may sustain permanent housing and remain independent. Because we strive for sustainable solutions, clients are required to participate in coordinated case management with our staff and partner agencies. Other offerings include workshops on budgeting, cooking and employability skills as well as individual support in seeking employment, housing, and services to meet their various needs.

BCCH's mission states we are Dedicated to Collaboration, Coordination, and Implementing Services to the Homeless in Bennington County and Promoting Awareness. In fulfilling this mission, we operate 2 shelters in Bennington, serving the entire county – 966 Main Street shelter for adults and Thatcher House, our family shelter; both shelters operate year-round. We are also actively involved in community efforts to serve and support those experiencing homelessness by partaking in numerous community efforts and by partnering with local agencies in our work such as PAVE, DCF, Sunrise, GBICs, Shires Housing, BHA, BROCC and Economic Services.

This past year has been unique in both challenges and success. The COVID-19 pandemic involved several months of daily pivoting with our services and our shelters. With a dual goal of keeping those we shelter healthy and continuing to provide services, we worked tirelessly with the State of Vermont's OEO and Department of Health to stay current and abide by health protocols as they developed and continually evolved. We also immediately kept our 966 Main shelter open 24/7. Our major successes during this global crisis included intense partnerships with other local entities as well as expanding staffing to include an Outreach Case Manager position to serve those being sheltered in motels by Economic Services. We also had great success in supporting several individuals and families to obtain permanent housing during the pandemic.

While our original plans involving transitioning to the new family shelter, 300 Pleasant Street, were delayed, our primary goal for the upcoming year is a successful move which will provide improved space for our families as well as being more energy and cost efficient. BCCH is also committed to continually strengthening and expanding our work with community partners.

A portion of the BCCH annual budget is made up of state grants. The remainder of the budget is made up of town funding appropriations, foundation grants, and donations from our community. Town participation is a crucial part of our annual budget and we greatly appreciate the support from Dorset.

Sincerely,

Stephannie Peters
Executive Director, Bennington Coalition for the Homeless

PO Box 4736 Bennington, Vermont 05201 802-442-2424 www.bcchvt.org





Town of Dorset

TO THE OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF DORSET:

In 2019, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, formerly known as Dorset Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice provided Bennington County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. From infants with hi-tech needs to our most senior population facing end-of-life care, we continued to bring medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

In the face of shrinking government and state reimbursements and rising healthcare costs, VNAHSR has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective health care services to some of Bennington County's most vulnerable individuals.

In 2019, VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 141,507 visits to 3,212 patients. In the town of Dorset, we provided 1,829 visits to 68 individuals.

In closing, we wish to thank you for your past support. With your vote of confidence, we will continue to meet our mission to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald J. Cioffi".

Ronald J. Cioffi
CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan DiBattista".

Dan DiBattista
President of the Board of Directors

VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, Inc.
Annual Budget
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020, 2021

	<u>12/31/20 BUDGET</u>	<u>12/31/21 BUDGET</u>
REVENUE		
Home Care	\$ 11,172,045	\$ 11,975,711
Hospice	5,235,639	6,443,532
Pediatric Programs	1,348,000	1,243,140
Choices for Care	2,364,350	2,107,390
Outpatient Therapy	310,000	300,000
Private Duty	661,500	588,700
Community Services	18,900	8,300
	<u>\$ 21,110,434</u>	<u>\$ 22,666,773</u>
OTHER REVENUE		
Grant Revenue	1,012,445	1,077,832
Contract Services	476,560	371,500
Thrift Shop	140,000	120,000
Flu Clinics	126,600	117,100
	<u>1,755,605</u>	<u>1,686,432</u>
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	22,866,039	24,353,205
CONTRACTUAL ALLOWANCES	<u>(1,707,420)</u>	<u>(2,139,748)</u>
NET OPERATING REVENUE	21,158,619	22,213,457
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Wages and Benefits	\$ 15,846,682	\$ 15,650,120
Contract Services	1,615,850	2,349,480
Administrative Expenses	1,285,515	1,377,225
Program Expenses	3,361,515	3,339,581
Occupancy Costs	181,100	160,000
	<u>22,290,662</u>	<u>22,876,406</u>
EXCESS OF OPERATING REVENUE OVER OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ (1,132,043)	\$ (662,949)
NON OPERATING REVENUE		
United Way	55,000	55,000
Town Appropriations	225,500	225,500
Contributions	349,350	327,300
Investment Income	1,000,700	475,610
	<u>1,630,550</u>	<u>1,083,410</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 498,507</u>	<u>\$ 420,461</u>

BUDGETED APPROPRIATIONS





GREEN UP VERMONT

www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Vermont celebrated its 50th Anniversary of Green Up Day on May 30, 2020. Although 99% of all events were cancelled due to Covid-19, Green Up Day was successfully executed with social distancing by 14,000+ volunteers, cleaning up over 241 tons of litter, and 9,000 tires statewide. It is imperative for all of us to keep building awareness and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment. Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride and engagement.

Support from municipalities is essential to our program. Funds help pay for administration, supplies (including 65,000 Green Up trash bags), promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, poster and writing contests, and a \$1,000 scholarship.

Early awareness initiatives for Green Up Day tripled the number of submissions to our annual poster art and writing contests and produced 184 applicants for our first scholarship. We were able to offer "Greener" bags made with 70% post-consumer waste; add a Green Scuba team to clean in Lake Champlain; and had over 100 editorial stories in the news as well as a national mention in the *Washington Post*.

Donations can be made to Green Up Vermont on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at [**www.greenupvermont.org**](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Visit our website and follow us on Facebook (@greenupvermont) and Instagram (greenupvermont).

Green Up Day, May 1, 2021

Thank you!



Northshire Rescue Squad

PO Box 26

Manchester Center VT 05255

Business: (802) 362-1995 Fax (802) 362-8175

Email: northshirerescue@gmail.com

"Serving the community since 1964"

www.northshirerescue.com

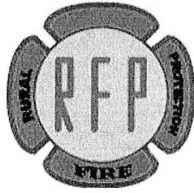
Northshire Rescue Squad has the honor of serving this community with Emergency Medical Service at the paramedic level. We do this with a mixture of dedicated volunteer first responders and full & part-time paid staff. This past year has shown the dedication our members have to providing this service to our friends, family, neighbors, and visitors. With the growing angst that has come with the unknown of the COVID-19 virus their commitment to this community has not waivered. We would also like to acknowledge the overwhelming support of this community and would like to thank all that have reached out with words and gestures of gratitude. We will continue to respond to your calls for assistance and ever strive to provide the highest level of care to this community.

We responded to the following calls during fiscal year 2019-2020:

Danby	87	Mount Tabor	15
Dorset	151	Winhall	7
East Dorset	64	Hospital transfers	15
Manchester	884	Mutual aid	46
Rupert	8	Total	1277

Northshire Rescue Squad

			2020 - 2021 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000-1 · Current Income			
4000 · Patient Med Ins Receipts			535,000.00
	(Provider Tax - medicaid)		-16,000.00
4010 · Municipal			
	4010-1 · Manchester		143,004.00
	4010-2 · Dorset		30,962.00
	4010-3 · Danby		13,159.00
	4010-4 · Mt Tabor		3,483.00
	4010-5 · Winhall		2,903.00
	4010-6 · Rupert		
	4010 · Municipal - Other		1,597.00
Total 4010 · Municipal			195,108.00
4013 · Annual Fund			85,000.00
4022 · Subscriptions - Donations			25,000.00
4025 · Subscriptions			90,000.00
4031 · CPR Classes			
4051 · Classes			2,000.00
4500 · Ambulance Coverage			0
Vermont Summer Festival Revenue			0
4000-1 · Current Income - Other			
Total 4000-1 · Current Income			916,108.00
Total 4150 · Investments			20,000.00
4156 · Ambulance Lease - Municipal			
	4156-1 · Danby		10,833.00
	4156-2 · Dorset		16,782.00
	4156-3 · MT Tabor		2,107.00
	4156-4 · Winhall		661
	Manchester		36,283.00
Total 4156 · Ambulance Lease - Municipal			66,666.00
4300 · Miscellaneous Income			
Total 4300 · Miscellaneous Income			
Total Income			1,002,774.00
Expense			
5000.1 · Administrative Expense			
	5010 · Wages (Medical Staff)		550,800.00
	5100 · Building Maint/Cleaning		1,500.00
	5150 · Building Cleaning Supplies		1,500.00
	5505 · Employee Medical Insurance		86,501.19
	5600 · Mileage		0
	Total 6001 · Insurance EXP		50,000.00
	6012 · Functions - Other		1,000.00
	6049 · Professional Services		
	6050 · Accounting		2,400.00
	6051 · Legal		1,000.00
	6052 · Billing - medical services		58,850.00
	6055 · Bookkeeping		8,250.00
	6565 · Simple IRA - Company		4316
	Total 6049 · Professional Services		
	Total 6300 · Office Supplies/Software		4,400.00
	6560 · Payroll Expenses		41,929.65
	6750 · Utilities - Other		12,500.00
Total 5000.1 · Administrative Expense			
5080 · Payroll Service charge			1,200.00
5490 · Grounds/Snow/Sewer - MTO Charge			2,500.00
Rent - under agreement with Town of Manchester			43,000.00
Dispatch - under agreement with Town of Manchester			62,000.00
	Total 5300 · Communications/Repairs		3,000.00
	Total 5700 · Medical Equipment		6,000.00
	Total 5710 · Medical supplies		31,500.00
	Total 5800 · Education		1,000.00
	6033 · Educational Supplies - Other		3,000.00
	6700 · Uniforms		2,000.00
	6795 · Ambulance Lease		62,387.88
	Total 6800 · Vehicles Maintenance/Repairs		25,000.00
	7100 · Gifts/Dues /Subscriptions		250
6017 · Public Relations/Fundraising			6,500.00
6650 · Misc Expense			2,000.00
Total Expense			1,076,284.72
Net Ordinary Income			-73,510.72
Total Other Income			126,300.00
			52,789.28



Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
170 Lower Sumner Hill Road, Sumner, ME 04292
(802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

November 1, 2020

Re: **Request for Town Appropriation, Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program**

Dear Board of Selectpersons, Town Clerks and Auditors:

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The RFP program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, design installations, and find financial support to support the costs of construction. During the **23+ years** of the program, almost **1200 grants** totaling **\$2.6 million** have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

The Rural Fire Protection Program has made a successful transition from the Northern Vermont and George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils to the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD). VACD is the membership association of Vermont's fourteen Natural Resources Conservation Districts, whose mission is to work with landowners and communities to protect natural resources and support the working landscape throughout the state.

We have made several adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project. New rural fire protection systems, along with repair, replacement, relocation, upgrades of existing systems, and drafting site development, are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2020 was \$200,432, of which \$107,524 was paid in grants to Vermont communities for construction costs. The remaining budget covered site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Vermont Department of Public Safety through annual appropriations by the Vermont Legislature. In addition, the program receives support from the US Forest Service through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force (continued)

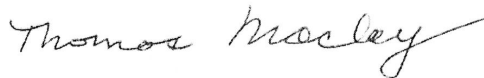
and Recreation. Unfortunately, these grants do not completely cover the costs of the program. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. Since last year's appropriation request, we have received nearly **\$10,000** in town appropriations from almost **100** towns, with contributions still coming in. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

215 Vermont communities have benefitted from the Rural Fire Protection program. Our goal is to extend this support to all Vermont towns and continue to assist local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources, thereby improving the safety and welfare of Vermont communities.

Enclosed please find a summary report for the Rural Water Supply Grant Program, as well as an invoice and W-9 from VACD in case they are required. VACD's tax from 990 is also available upon request. Please feel free to contact me, Troy Dare, or Jill Arace, Executive Director of VACD, with any questions you may have. Our contact information is provided below. If you would like to receive this appropriation request by mail instead of by email, please contact Troy Dare.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tom Maclay, Chair
Rural Fire Protection Task Force
(802) 426-3265 | 83creameryst@fairpoint.net

Troy Dare, Program Manager & contact person Town Appropriation business
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program
(802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com

Jill Arace, Executive Director
Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
(802) 496-5162 | jill.arace@vacd.org

Rural Fire Protection Task Force Members:

Tom Maclay, Chair, Marshfield VFD
Bill Sanborn, Vice-Chair, Town of Maidstone
Tyler Hermanson, VT Enhanced 9-1-1
Haley Pero, Senator Bernie Sanders' Office
Mike Greenia, Vermont Division of Fire Safety
Christine Kaiser, Stowe VT
Lars Lund, VT Forest Parks & Recreation Dept.



Dorset Fire District #1

The Dorset Fire District #1 serves over 1000 property owners in the Town of Dorset and operates the Dorset Water Company, providing water to approximately 180 customers. Our next annual meeting will be held on May 10, 2021.

The fire department responded to 102 calls in 2020, with the following breakdown:



In 2020, the firemen of the Dorset Fire District #1 logged a total of 749 hours of in-house training.

Fire Chiefs

Chief: Shawn Hazelton
 1st Assistant Chief: Joe Clark
 2nd Assistant Chief: Jacob Gribble

Firefighters

David Green
 Greg Harrington
 Dan Zimmerman
 Tyler King
 Chris Dyer
 Jolene Sweet
 Nathaniel Mychack
 Eaden Ryan
 August Staffer
 Rusty Kelly
 Alan Casey
 Jamie Meuiner
 Alan Dufresne
 Derek Burgess

Prudential Committee

Ben Weiss: Chairman
 Lee Fox: Treasurer
 Roger Squire
 Abbott deRham
 Milton McWayne

Type of Call	Amount
Accident with Injuries	4
Brush Fires	2
Chimney Fires	2
CO ² Alarm	1
CO ² Problem	1
Electrical Power Issue	2
EMS Assist	4
Fire Alarms:	
Cooking	5
False Alarms	19
Fireplace	4
Other	10
Furnace Malfunction	2
Good Intent Calls	2
Hazmat	1
Mutual Aid:	
Arlington	0
Danby	0
East Dorset	21
Granville, NY	0
Manchester	6
Pawlet	0
Rupert	5
Wells	1
West Pawlet	0
Service Call	1
Smoke Condition	1
Structure Fires	4
Traffic Control	0
Trees Down in Road	0
Trees on Wires	1
Vehicle Fire	0
Water Emergency	1
Wires Down	2
TOTAL	102



East Dorset Fire District #1

The East Dorset Fire Department responded to 106 calls in 2020.

East Dorset	19	Dorset	69
Manchester	4	Danby	2
Wallingford	1	Wells	1
Rupert	1		1

Types of calls :

Dryer Fire	1	Trees on Wire	5
Structure Fires	2	Accidents	13
Wood Rescue	3	Standby	3
Grass/Brush Fires	7	Alarm Calls	56
Trans/Explosions	1	Smell of Electrical	2
Chimney Fires	4	Water Emergency	1
Car Fire	1	Propane Leak	1
Odor in House	1	Oil Spill	1
Washer Fire	1	EMS Assist	1
Good Intent Call	1	Missing Person	1

The Department is in need of additional members.

As the Chief of the Department, I would like to thank all the members of the Department for the time and training they donate to our community.

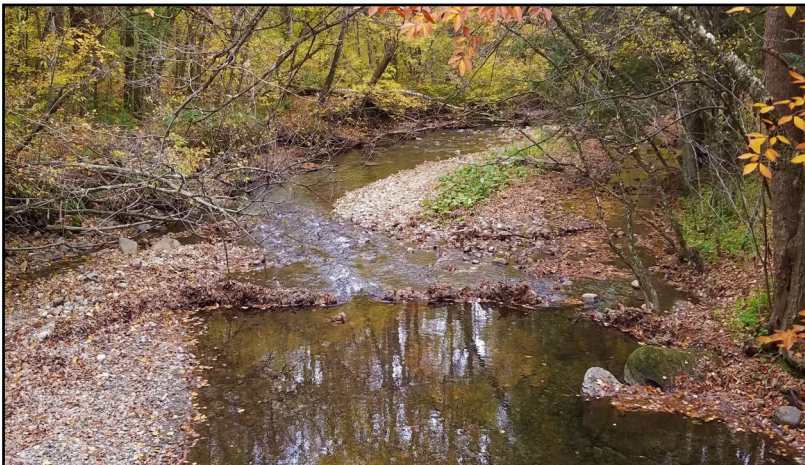
Respectfully Submitted,
Howard Towsley, Jr., Fire Chief

EAST DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1 -FIRE DIVISION 2019/2020

ACCT. #	EDFD #1	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUD. 2020/2021
	COMPARATIVE BUDGET			
	2018/2019			
	FIREHOUSE			
2000	MAINTENANCE/REPAIR	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 24,550.22	\$ 13,500.00
2100	UTILITIES	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,335.08	\$ 7,000.00
2200	SUPPLIES	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
2201	ALARM MAINTENANCE	\$ 560.00	\$ 1,045.79	\$ 1,200.00
	APPARATUS			
3000	MAINTENANCE/REPAIR	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 13,057.58	\$ 10,000.00
3001	NEW EQUIPMENT	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 6,498.36	\$ 15,000.00
3002	FUEL	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,220.80	\$ 5,000.00
3003	RADIOS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,284.45	\$ 3,000.00
3005	TRUCK SINKING FUND	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	PERSONNEL			
4000	PROTECTIVE GEAR	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
4001	AIR BOTTLES	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	
4002	DUES/TRAINING	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,218.00	\$ 1,500.00
4004	MEALS	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 819.00	\$ 1,000.00
4200	FEC	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 5,069.17	\$ 9,000.00
4100	AIR PACKS	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 49,416.70	
	ADMINISTRATION			
5000	PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,550.00
5001	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 900.00	\$ 908.01	\$ 1,000.00
5005	ADVERTISEMENTS	\$ 100.00	\$ 56.40	\$ 100.00
5200	INSURANCE	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 23,457.40	\$ 25,000.00
5201	ADMINISTRATION/CHIEF	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
5202	FIRE PREVENTION	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
5203	AUDIT	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00
	TOTALS	\$146,360.00	\$ 155,436.96	\$ 147,600.00



Town Warning & Budget





TOWN WARNING

Legal voters of the Town of Dorset, County of Bennington, State of Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet via ZOOM on Monday, March 1, 2021 at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the evening to transact any business not involving a vote by Australian Ballot, and on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon to transact voting by Australian Ballot as required by law.

ZOOM Meeting Link for March 1st:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83583500052?pwd=TDBZb3EybUJLVjFPZXo5M29mRm5sUT09>

Meeting ID: 835 8350 0052 & Passcode: 667586

Call in by phone: 626 876 9923 US (New York)

Due to COVID-19, all articles (2-21) will be voted by Australian Ballot.

Article 1. To hear and accept reports of Town Officers and take proper action on same.

Article 2. To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year. To be voted by Australian Ballot. Officers to be elected as follows:

- Moderator, Town 1 year term**
- Select Board Member 3 year term**
- Select Board Member 1 year term**
- Select Board Member 1 year term**
- First Constable 1 year term**
- Town Agent 1 year term**

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize the collection of property taxes in two (2) installments on September 14, 2021 and March 8, 2022. Payments not received will be subject to 1% interest on September 18, 2021 and 1% interest and 8% penalty on March 12, 2022?

Article 4. Shall the voters approve total highway and general fund expenditures of \$2,247,961.00?

Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the programs and services of BROCC (Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council)?

Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750 to Neighbor to Neighbor, a home - based care giving program?

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,600 to the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging for support of its activities with Dorset Elders?

Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750 for the support of the Center for Restorative Justice Program?

- Article 9.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the operations of the Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless?
- Article 10.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$500 for the support of Project Against Violent Encounters for its support of Dorset residents?
- Article 11.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to the Dorset Historical Society to support its activities and continued efforts to serve as a cultural resource to our community?
- Article 12.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$850 for the support of the Bennington Area Habitat for Humanity?
- Article 13.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region (formerly known as Dorset Nursing Association) for support of its services provided to Dorset residents?
- Article 14.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to the East Dorset Cemetery Association for the care and maintenance of the cemetery?
- Article 15.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to the Dorset Village Library for support of its services provided to Dorset residents?
- Article 16.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to the Greater Northshire Access Television (GNAT-TV) for support and defray of costs related to videotaping and television cable cast of the Select Board, School Board, and other municipal meetings?
- Article 17.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750 to The Collaborative for support of its substance free events and educational programs to middle and high school youth?
- Article 18.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to the Dorset Marble Preservation Association for the purpose of restoring Dorset's marble sidewalks?
- Article 19.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to the Dorset Players Inc. to help sustain the playhouse preservation and maintenance fund for the ongoing repairs to the Dorset Playhouse?

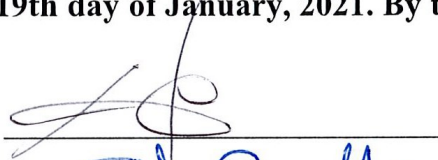
Article 20: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to Shire Kids; a program of Dolly Parton's Imaginary Library to help defray the costs of production and mailing of books that are provided to Dorset children from birth to 5 years?

Article 21: Shall the voters approve the exemption of property taxes for the Wilson House of East Dorset for a period of five (5) years, (2021-2026), tax map 25, block 21, lot 005; 378 Village Street, Building and 0.5 acres?

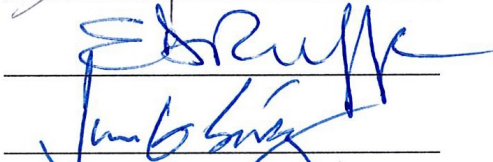
Article 22: To transact any other business, to properly come before this meeting.

So approved on this 19th day of January, 2021. By the Dorset Select Board.

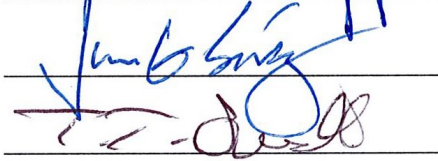
Henry L Chandler



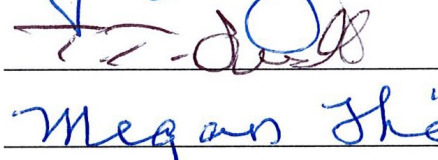
Elizabeth Ruffa



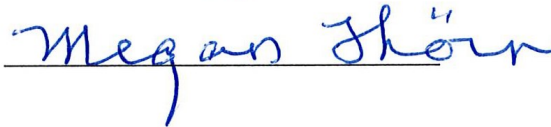
James Salsgiver



Thomas Smith



Megan Thorn





Town of Dorset
Town Budget FY2022

	Previous/ Current Year			Upcoming Year
	FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22
	Adopted Budget	Actual Budget	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget
DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES - BY DEPARTMENT				
Selectboard				
Selectboard Salaries	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	6,300.00
Misc Expense	400.00	3,362.14	400.00	400.00
Legal Expense	12,500.00	8,722.30	12,500.00	12,500.00
Tax Sale Expense	1,200.00	-	1,200.00	1,200.00
Recording Clerk	-	336.68	-	-
VLCT Dues	3,400.00	3,457.00	3,599.00	3,700.00
Total Selectboard:	23,800.00	22,178.12	23,999.00	24,100.00
Town Manager's Office				
Town Manager Salary	81,885.00	85,034.34	84,341.00	86,871.00
Administrative Assistant Salary	55,000.00	70,296.04	56,650.00	59,000.00
TM Clerk Expense	250.00	90.87	250.00	250.00
TM Office Expense	3,800.00	4,530.99	3,800.00	3,800.00
Vehicle Expense Reimbursement	3,500.00	3,490.79	3,500.00	6,000.00
TM Phone - Life Insurance	2,500.00	1,417.40	3,000.00	3,000.00
Training - Travel - Dues	2,500.00	1,538.05	2,500.00	2,500.00
Postage	3,500.00	3,459.77	3,000.00	3,000.00
TM Fund	2,000.00	2,222.08	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Town Manager's Office:	154,935.00	172,080.33	159,041.00	166,421.00
Town Clerk & Elections				
Town Clerk Salary	63,000.00	63,000.08	64,900.00	67,000.00
Assistant Town Clerk Salary	9,500.00	7,663.00	9,500.00	9,500.00
Office Expense	2,000.00	4,180.86	2,000.00	2,000.00
Record Preservation	3,000.00	4,741.17	3,000.00	3,000.00
Postage	700.00	717.66	700.00	700.00
Training - Travel - Dues	3,000.00	1,903.85	3,000.00	3,000.00
Vault Preservation Projects	5,500.00	1,589.03	3,500.00	3,500.00
BCA Worker Salary	600.00	-	600.00	600.00
BCA Expense	100.00	-	100.00	100.00
Town Meeting Expense	500.00	77.61	500.00	500.00
Ballot Printing	700.00	-	700.00	700.00
Tabulator Programming	1,500.00	-	3,100.00	1,600.00
Tabulator Maintenance	-	-	-	-
BCA Postage	150.00	110.00	500.00	500.00
BCA - State Abatements	250.00	19.97	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Town Clerk & Elections:	90,500.00	84,003.23	93,100.00	93,700.00



**Town of Dorset
Town Budget FY2022**

	Previous/ Current Year			Upcoming Year
	FY20 Adopted	FY20 Actual	FY21 Approved	FY22 Proposed
Town Treasurer & Outside Audit				
Treasurer Salary	3,100.00	2,000.00	3,200.00	3,200.00
Postage	500.00	495.00	500.00	500.00
Outside Audit	12,500.00	10,500.00	13,000.00	13,500.00
Town Report Printing - Mailing	3,000.00	1,678.84	1,800.00	1,800.00
Total Treasurer & Audit:	19,100.00	14,673.84	18,500.00	19,000.00
Assessors				
Assessors Salaries	68,000.00	50,845.16	70,000.00	70,000.00
Reappraisal Expense	95,000.00	46,740.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
Office Expense	1,500.00	2,150.97	1,500.00	1,500.00
Mileage	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Training - Travel - Dues	1,000.00	387.05	1,000.00	1,000.00
Tax Mapping	500.00	3,238.00	500.00	1,200.00
Computer - Software Support	3,800.00	3,955.62	4,500.00	4,500.00
Postage	500.00	188.99	500.00	500.00
Total Assessors:	171,300.00	107,505.79	114,000.00	114,700.00
Planning & Zoning				
Zoning Administrator Salary	23,000.00	22,843.75	23,000.00	23,000.00
ZBA Clerk	300.00	11.60	250.00	250.00
PC Clerk	300.00	204.30	250.00	250.00
DRB Clerk	1,200.00	792.50	500.00	500.00
Office Expense	1,800.00	2,248.52	5,800.00	1,500.00
Planning Consultant	6,500.00	12,917.92	6,500.00	10,500.00
Mileage	850.00	535.03	850.00	850.00
Training - Travel - Dues	600.00	125.00	600.00	600.00
Postage	400.00	191.35	400.00	400.00
Ads - Printing - Notices	1,800.00	2,412.64	1,500.00	1,500.00
Regional Planning	3,825.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,500.00
DRB Expense	300.00	-	300.00	300.00
Board Education Expense	800.00	-	800.00	800.00
Total Town Manager's Office:	41,675.00	48,282.61	46,750.00	46,950.00



Town of Dorset
Town Budget FY2022

	Previous/ Current Year			Upcoming Year
	FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22
	Adopted	Actual	Approved	Proposed
Town Office Building				
General Office Expense	6,000.00	5,614.77	9,500.00	4,000.00
Equipment	2,500.00	3,959.03	7,500.00	6,000.00
Town Website	375.00	251.28	375.00	375.00
Heat	2,800.00	1,671.06	2,800.00	2,500.00
Electric	1,800.00	1,082.06	1,800.00	1,600.00
Phone	3,000.00	3,643.02	3,000.00	3,400.00
Water	750.00	1,049.29	750.00	800.00
Maintenance	6,500.00	8,249.49	6,500.00	6,500.00
New Town Office Design/Permitting	-	-	-	40,000.00
Total Town Office Building:	23,725.00	25,520.00	32,225.00	65,175.00
Public Safety				
Constable	200.00	-	200.00	200.00
Animal Control	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	2,500.00
Health Officer	1,800.00	1,800.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
ACO/ Constable Expense	400.00	-	400.00	400.00
Law Enforcement	105,000.00	128,760.00	105,000.00	110,000.00
Radar - Speed Signs	-	1,456.12	-	-
ACO/ Constable Mileage	200.00	11.60	200.00	200.00
Street Lighting	11,500.00	11,815.55	10,500.00	10,500.00
Animal Boarding Fees	600.00	-	600.00	600.00
East Dorset Fire District - Fire Contract	146,360.00	146,360.00	147,000.00	148,000.00
Dorset Fire District - Fire Contract	179,888.00	179,988.00	183,700.00	184,000.00
Fire Dispatch & Appropriations	10,200.00	10,200.00	10,200.00	10,500.00
Northshire Rescue Squad	45,762.00	45,762.00	47,744.00	49,839.00
Total Public Safety:	504,410.00	526,153.27	510,444.00	519,139.00
Insurance & Bonds				
Health Insurance - Current Employees	121,500.00	127,244.06	130,000.00	155,000.00
Health Insurance - Former Employees	22,500.00	18,993.17	20,000.00	19,000.00
Dental Insurance	6,600.00	6,125.88	6,600.00	7,650.00
Vision Insurance	-	-	-	-
PACIF Insurance	50,000.00	32,134.00	55,000.00	52,000.00
Unemployment Insurance	-	-	-	-
Total Insurance & Bonds:	200,600.00	184,497.11	211,600.00	233,650.00



Town of Dorset
Town Budget FY2022

	Previous/ Current Year			Upcoming Year
	FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22
	Adopted	Actual	Approved	Proposed
General Services				
Payroll Taxes	41,000.00	42,732.08	43,000.00	47,500.00
Employee Retirement - VMERS	25,500.00	25,258.80	26,000.00	29,500.00
Recreation - Staff & Events	25,000.00	24,270.37	35,000.00	56,000.00
Recreation - Programs	50,000.00	57,869.65	50,000.00	50,000.00
VYCC Internship	25,000.00	25,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
NATs Trails Support	10,000.00	10,000.00	25,000.00	15,000.00
East Dorset Village Improvements Expense	-	-	-	20,000.00
Green Space & Streets	3,500.00	3,966.68	4,000.00	4,000.00
Mad Tom Garden	-	-	-	-
Marble Sidewalks Expense	-	-	-	-
Old Cemetery Maintenance	1,000.00	1,876.80	750.00	750.00
Solid Waste Expense	20,000.00	21,984.38	20,000.00	21,500.00
Interest Expense	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	2,500.00
County Tax	51,000.00	51,681.80	51,000.00	51,500.00
Employee Christmas	800.00	800.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Contingency	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	2,000.00
Bank Service Charge	200.00	18.00	200.00	200.00
Town Event - Picnics	2,000.00	628.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Town Forest Expense	-	-	-	-
Raptor Lane Expense	10,000.00	39,948.09	25,000.00	10,000.00
Total General Services:	269,500.00	305,834.63	327,450.00	353,450.00
Budgeted Appropriations				
East Dorset Fire Department	-	-	-	-
Dorset Fire Department	-	-	-	-
Memorial Day	500.00	-	500.00	500.00
July 4th	-	-	-	-
East Dorset Fire Dispatch	-	-	-	-
Dorset Fire Dispatch	-	-	-	-
Green Up Day	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
Northern VT Conservation District	-	100.00	-	-
Dorset Economic Development	20,000.00	17,608.85	20,000.00	30,000.00
Conservation Commission Association	100.00	-	100.00	100.00
Bennington County Industrial Corp.	2,031.00	-	2,031.00	2,031.00
Total Budgeted Appropriations:	22,781.00	17,858.85	22,781.00	32,781.00



Town of Dorset
Town Budget FY2022

	Previous/ Current Year			Upcoming Year
	FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22
	Adopted	Actual	Approved	Proposed
Highway Department				
Road Crew Wages	210,000.00	211,394.91	216,300.00	223,870.00
Overtime Wages	22,500.00	15,299.60	23,500.00	23,500.00
DOT Testing	100.00	-	100.00	100.00
Equipment Replacement Fund	175,000.00	175,000.00	155,000.00	185,000.00
Town Garage Electric	2,500.00	4,306.42	2,500.00	2,500.00
Town Garage Water	725.00	910.00	725.00	725.00
Town Garage Maintenance	3,000.00	10,335.96	3,000.00	3,000.00
Route 30 Garage Re-build	-	-	-	-
Equipment Repairs - Supplies & Parts	45,000.00	49,520.20	42,000.00	40,500.00
Fuel - Gas - Diesel - Oils	42,000.00	34,529.34	42,000.00	42,000.00
Federal Fuel Tax	-	3,307.65	-	-
State Fuel Tax	-	381.29	-	-
Trees - Mowing	5,000.00	4,996.40	4,500.00	5,000.00
Training - Safety	500.00	-	500.00	500.00
Highway phones	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
Gravel Road Surfaces	28,000.00	29,373.03	28,000.00	30,000.00
Highway Construction Reserves	125,000.00	125,000.00	95,000.00	105,000.00
Village Pedestrian Improvements	-	-	75,000.00	5,000.00
Cold Patch	100.00	-	100.00	100.00
Paved Roads - Striping - Cracksealing	10,000.00	9,585.88	8,500.00	8,500.00
Storm Emergencies - Misc.	4,000.00	1,681.48	4,000.00	4,000.00
Engineering Expense	30,500.00	21,140.18	15,000.00	15,000.00
Lane Road Culvert Expense	-	-	-	-
Road Salt	70,000.00	82,546.80	75,000.00	80,000.00
Winter Sand - Gravel	38,000.00	94,135.77	38,000.00	40,000.00
Chloride	15,000.00	11,547.04	15,000.00	15,000.00
Culverts	1,500.00	8,217.76	1,500.00	1,500.00
Equipment Rental	800.00	1,055.00	800.00	800.00
Road Signs - Guardrails	1,200.00	5,356.40	1,200.00	1,200.00
Bridge Maintenance	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
State - Road General Permit	1,800.00	1,350.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
Grant Expense	-	12,204.38	-	-
FEMA Storm 2019	-	25,839.40	-	-
Total Highway Department:	837,325.00	944,114.89	854,125.00	839,695.00
Voter Approved Appropriations				
BROC	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Homeless Coalition	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
RSVP	-	-	-	-
Council on Aging	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
Center for Restorative Justice	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
PAVE	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Neighbor to Neighbor	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
Dorset Historical Society	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
Habitat for Humanity	850.00	850.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
School Facility Use Fee	-	-	-	-
Community Food Cupboard	-	-	-	-
East Dorset Cemetery	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
GNAT-TV	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Dorset Village Library	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
VNA & Hospice - Dorset Nursing	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
The Collaborative	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
Dorset Marble Preservation Association	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Dorset Playhouse	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Bromley Fire Tower	-	-	-	-
Shire Kids	-	-	-	2,000.00
Total Voter Approved Appropriations:	114,200.00	114,200.00	114,350.00	116,350.00



Town of Dorset
Town Budget FY2022

	Previous/ Current Year			Upcoming Year
	FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22
	Adopted	Actual	Approved	Proposed
DETAIL OF REVENUES - By Source				
Assessors Income	250.00	10.00	250.00	250.00
Town Clerk Fees	28,000.00	33,865.93	28,000.00	30,000.00
Vital Records	-	1,425.00	-	-
Penalty on Taxes	32,000.00	26,684.30	32,000.00	32,000.00
Town Forest Donations	-	2,125.00	-	-
Town Forest Grants	-	-	-	-
State Aid Highways	95,000.00	94,155.01	95,000.00	95,000.00
Liquor Licenses	1,000.00	1,200.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Dog Licenses	2,000.00	2,044.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Animal Control Fines	-	-	-	-
Interest (Late Taxes)	35,000.00	37,937.81	35,000.00	35,000.00
Unanticipated Income	-	5,986.68	-	-
Mad Tom Garden Donations	-	-	-	-
Wilson House Donations	-	-	-	-
DMPA Donations	-	-	-	-
Zoning Income	10,000.00	7,814.48	10,000.00	10,000.00
State Owned Properties	22,000.00	24,485.84	22,000.00	22,000.00
Federal Owned Properties	13,500.00	15,805.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
State Land Use Tax	28,000.00	41,363.00	35,000.00	37,500.00
Current Use Tax	-	-	-	-
DFD No. 1 Agreement	13,500.00	12,131.50	13,500.00	14,000.00
Interest Revenue	2,500.00	3,481.11	2,500.00	2,500.00
Weight Permits	400.00	470.00	400.00	400.00
Solid Waste Revenue	-	100.00	-	-
Sale of Equipment	-	-	-	-
Traffic Fines	13,500.00	6,984.08	10,000.00	10,000.00
Municipal Education Grant	800.00	-	800.00	-
Better Backroads Grant	-	-	-	-
Storm Water Grant	-	-	-	-
Dorset Quarry Grant Revenue	-	-	-	-
Reappraisal Fund Transfer	95,000.00	51,540.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
Other Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Previous Year Surplus	15,000.00	53,012.00	25,000.00	37,000.00
Total Non - Property Tax Revenues	407,450.00	422,420.74	360,950.00	377,150.00
PROPERTY TAXES				
Town Budget Expense	2,473,851.00	2,566,902.67	2,528,365.00	2,625,111.00
Less Town Budget Revenues	407,450.00	422,420.74	360,950.00	377,150.00
Total Amount Taxed	2,066,401.00	2,144,481.93	2,167,415.00	2,247,961.00

Reserve Funds		Equipment	Hwy Paving	Hwy Recon.	Buildings	Reappraisal	Record Pres.	Unemployment	Conservation
Balance 6/30/19		44,615	106,086	3,126	43,250	153,837	4,852	50,250	823
Revenues									
	FY20 Budget	175,000	125,000	2,000	0	14,487	2,900	0	500
	State Loan	100,000							
	State Grant	0							
	Interest	750	750	10	250	350	75	250	5
	Equip Sale	0							0
Expenses									
	FY20 Budget	-320,000	a -228,000	d 0	0	-46,740	-2,400	h 0	0
Balance 6/30/20		365	3,836	5,136	43,500	121,934	5,427	50,500	1,328
Revenues									
	FY21 Budget	155,000	95,000	2,000		14,487	2,900	0	13,000
	State Loan	0							
	State Grant	0							
	Interest	750	750	10	250	350	75	250	5
Expenses									
	FY21 Budget	-80,000	b -95,000	e 0	-25,000	g -17,000	-2,400	h 0	0
Projected Balance 6/30/21		76,115	4,586	7,146	18,750	119,771	6,002	50,750	14,333
Revenues									
	FY22 Budget	175,000	105,000	2,000	40,000	14,487	2,900	0	500
	State Loan	0							
	State Grant	0	175,000						
	Interest	750	750	10	250	350	75	250	5
Expenses									
	FY22 Budget	-205,000	c -270,000	f 0	-40,000	-35,000	-2,400	h 0	0
Projected Balance 6/30/22		46,865	15,336	9,156	19,000	99,608	6,577	51,000	14,838
Expense:									
	a. Road Grader								
	b. Pick Up Truck/ Tractor								
	c. Excavator								
	d. Pleasant Street/ Village Street								
	e. Nichols Hill Rd/ Dorset West Road partial								
	f. Dorset West Partial pave								
	g. Town Office Design - Raptor Lane								
	h. Record preservation expense								
Equipment Debt:									
					Loader	\$26,000	Paid off 2021		
					Grader	\$48,000	Paid off 2022		



2020 Town of Dorset, Vermont Minutes

In accordance with the legally warned notice, the annual meeting of the Town of Dorset was called to order by Moderator, Kevin O'Toole at the Dorset School, 130 School Drive, Dorset, Vermont on Monday, March 2, 2020 at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the evening to transact any business not involving a vote by Australian Ballot.

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Girl Scouts, Briana Merrow, Rylan Nichols and Nora Woods. Introduction of the Select Board and Town Manager was done. Moderator Kevin O'Toole then encouraged everyone to take a look at the inside cover of the town report and then offered a moment of silence for Henry Chandler, Bonnie Burke and John "Jack" Stannard.

Article 1. To hear and accept reports of Town Officers and take proper action on same.

A motion was made by Michael Oltedal and seconded by Craigin Salsgiver Rules of the meeting were temporarily suspended to allow Linda Sullivan our State Representative to speak. She thanked all those for the emails, calls and letters for support and concerns with the regards to legislation in Montpelier. She has presented a bill in support of issuing tickets for cars illegally parked along Route 30 near the quarry. She will keep us posted on the progress of the bill. Act 250 is currently being discussed on the floor with many changes being considered. She then presented the town with a resolution honoring Terry Tyler. Brad Myerson then asked if it could be framed and presented to Terry. Kevin O'Toole then said he would pay for it, and Brad Myerson offered to split the cost.

Rob Gaiotti, then spoke on the budget and thanked the highway crew for their outstanding performance during the last storm. He then spoke on the recreation trails and work being done by new town employee Rachel Batz. Other projects in the works are Read Farm drainage, Route 30 repaving, Dorset Chamber of Commerce website, sidewalks, crossings on Route 7, planning commission and new town plan, reappraisal going into third year, Raptor Lane, and the budget will have a 4% increase. With no further discussion, the reports were accepted.

Article 2. To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year. To be voted by Australian Ballot. Officers to be elected as follows:

Moderator, Town	1 year term	Kevin O'Toole	661
Select Board Member....	3 year term	Thomas Smith II	611
Select Board Member....	1 year term	Eliazabeth Ruffa.....	515
Select Board Member....	1 year term	Megan Thörn	546
Town Clerk	3 year term	Sandra Pinsonault ...	663
Town Treasurer	3 year term	Sandra Pinsonault ...	358
First Constable	1 year term	Ryan Matteson	634
Town Agent	1 year term	Kevin O'Toole	648

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize the collection of property taxes in two (2) installments on September 8, 2020 and March 9, 2021. Payments not received will be subject to 1% interest on September 11, 2020 and 1% interest and 8% penalty on March 12, 2021?

A motion was made by Marilyn Kinney and seconded by Ruth Stewart. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 4. Shall the voters approve total highway and general fund expenditures of \$2,167,415.00? To be voted on by Australian Ballot.

Rob Gaiotti then spoke about the changes and increases in the budget. Ruth Stewart asked about the Sherriff's report and the Fire District budgets. Rob Gaiotti explained that the Fire District are talking with each in regards to large purchases and he would look into the duplication in the Sherriff's report for an explanation.

Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the programs and services of BROCC (Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council)?

Motion was made by Brad Myerson and seconded by Allan Sullivan. Elizabeth Eddy spoke on behalf of BROCC. Last year 33 folks from 13 households were served in Dorset. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750 to Neighbor to Neighbor, a home based care giving program?

A motion was made by Elizabeth Karet, seconded by Lynne Worth. Elizabeth Karet then spoke on the programs behalf. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,600 to the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging for support of its activities with Dorset Elders?

A motion was made by Martha Merwin and seconded by Thea Kelly. Michelle Pagan spoke on behalf of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging and encouraged constituents to visit the office and thanked the town for its continued support. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750 for the support of the Center for Restorative Justice Program?

A motion was made by Michael Oltedal and seconded by Jordan Dickinson. Ellen Maloney spoke on the programs behalf and explained how the program works, either through substance support, court diversion, and juvenile restorative justice. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 9. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the operations of the Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless?

A motion was made by Sheila Childs and seconded by Rosanna Moran. Stephanie Peters, Director; spoke about the program and expressed how lucky Bennington County is with having a 24 hour, year round shelter. She thanked the residents for their continued support. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 10. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$500 for the support of Project Against Violent Encounters for its support of Dorset residents?

A motion was made by Katie Adams and seconded by Jordan Dickinson. There being no discussion, the motion carried.

Article 11. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to the Dorset Historical Society to support its activities and continued efforts to serve as a cultural resource to our community?

A motion was made by Rehanna Grip and seconded by Marilyn Kinney. Charles Ams then spoke on behalf of the Historical Society. He encouraged everyone to check out their new website. He thanked everyone for their support. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$850 for the support of the Bennington Area Habitat for Humanity?

A motion was made by Gay Squire and seconded by Ryan Downey. Alan Sullivan spoke on its behalf. Last year, three homes were built by volunteers from the Northshire and its program is funded entirely by donations. The monies from this article will go directly to building supplies. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 13. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region (formerly known as Dorset Nursing Association) for support of its services provided to Dorset residents?

A motion was made by Kim Beaty and seconded by David Sands. David Sands then spoke about its programs and stated that it is currently rated in the top 25% nationally for its programs and services provided. David Sands then explained that the \$40,000 stays in Dorset to help Dorset residents. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 14. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to the East Dorset Cemetery Association for the care and maintenance of the cemetery?

A motion was made by Ryan Downey and seconded by Ruth Stewart. With no discussion, the motion carried.

Article 15. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to the Dorset Village Library for support of its services provided to Dorset residents?

A motion was made by Cindy Loudenslager and seconded by Sheila Childs. Thea Kelly spoke on behalf of the Library and thanked the town for its support and that recently the renovations at the Library uncovered the old gas fireplace which has been repaired. She encouraged everyone to stop by, pick up a book, and nestle in near the fireplace to enjoy the warm atmosphere. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 16. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to the Greater Northshire Access Television (GNAT-TV) for support and defray of costs related to videotaping and television cable cast of the Select Board, School Board, and other municipal meetings?

A motion was made by Chip Watson and seconded by Bill Laberge. Bob Niles spoke on behalf of GNAT. He stated that last year 39 Dorset meetings were covered by the station. GNAT has become Dorset's "local" television station. Rosanna Moran stated GNAT is very supportive of the Dorset School and has helped students produce a school news program. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 17. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750 to The Collaborative for support of its substance free events and educational programs to middle and high school youth?

A motion was made by Katie Brooks and seconded by Tyler Yandow. Lauren Kabis spoke on behalf of the Collaborative and stated that 30 Dorset students participated in the Refuse to Use program. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 18. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to the Dorset Marble Preservation Association for the purpose of restoring Dorset's marble sidewalks?

A motion was made by Gay Squire and seconded by Sheila Childs. Roger Squire then explained that there is approximately 6,000 feet of marble sidewalks within the Town of Dorset. He thanked the voters for their continued support in this ongoing project. Kate Parberg-Kvam then asked why so much money was being given for sidewalks as where the other organizations were getting such smaller amounts. Kevin O'Toole explained that we were only giving the organizations what they had requested. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 19. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to the Dorset Players Inc. to help sustain the playhouse preservation and maintenance fund for the ongoing repairs to the Dorset Playhouse?

A motion was made by Elizabeth Karet and seconded by Katie Brooks. Rehana Grip thanked the community for its continued support and went on to explain that the Playhouse is home to two organizations; the Dorset Players and the Dorset Theatre Festival. They have just completed their 92nd year, recently replaced the roof and siding along with some electrical upgrades. This year they hope to replace the HVAC system and gutters. She feels the Playhouse brings plenty of people to our area and helps with the economy. Kim Beaty then spoke on behalf of the Dorset Theatre Festival. Rosanna Moran thanked the Playhouse for allowing the Dorset students to hold their concerts there and teaching the children the backstage and technical crew details. Abbott DeRham then asked about the rental income vs. expenses. Lynne Worth said that the Dorset Players have a 30 year lease agreement and the budget increases are controlled by the lease. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 20: Shall the Town of Dorset enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as Southern Vermont Communication Union District, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. Ch. 82?

A motion was made by Mike Oltedal and seconded by Jim Salsgiver. Jim Salsgiver then explained that the district is an effort to find solutions of the broad band access issues throughout Vermont. Several towns have agreed with this district and he encouraged Dorset to do so as well. Mike Oltedal then added that the more towns that agree with the district, the cheaper it will be in the long run. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Article 21: To transact any other business, to properly come before this meeting.

Justine Cook stated her concerns with the new town plan and the enhanced energy section. Jim Salsgiver explained that we had no options but to include it in the plan. Malcolm Cooper spoke on behalf of the Maple Hill Cemetery and that the board is looking for more volunteers to serve.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Chip Watson and seconded by Mike Oltedal to recess the meeting until 7:00 before noon on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. The motion carried.



Dear Sending Town School Boards and Residents:

This letter is to announce that Burr and Burton Academy's sending town tuition will increase by 2.8%, to \$18,490, an increase driven primarily by a 10% increase in the cost of medical insurance. In considering our tuition, we share the following thoughts:

As we near Town Meeting Day 2021, we also approach the one-year anniversary of Covid disrupting our lives, shutting down our businesses, and closing our schools. On March 16, 2020, BBA made the decision to shift to remote learning. Because we had been preparing for this possibility, only two days later, we were able to reopen as an online school. We transitioned to online classes, we held virtual meetings, we gathered via zoom and other platforms; we even created an online spring musical, Hair, that was amazingly well done. We focused on what we could do rather than what we couldn't, and we culminated the school year with a senior fire truck parade, individual cap-and-gown ceremonies for each senior, and a drive-up commencement at the Bromley parking lot complete with a huge diamond vision screen.

This past fall, we opened the school year using marquee tents as outdoor classrooms, video conferencing technology for every class, enhanced ventilation and cleaning protocols, and an absolute commitment to safely bring students back on campus, in person. We recognized that the steps would be costly (we have incurred over \$500,000 in extraordinary Covid-related expenses this year), and we have met the financial challenges by increased fundraising and tapping our cash reserves. Our entire faculty and staff accepted a salary freeze in recognition of these financial challenges and uncertainties.

We have navigated through the school year operating in hybrid fashion to reduce the density in our classrooms while still encouraging the essential student-teacher bond that is a hallmark of a BBA education. Our teachers have faced extraordinary challenges and have demonstrated flexibility, resilience, and care. Through it all, BBA students are showing an indomitable spirit as they roll with the punches, embrace BBA for what it is today, and struggle - and mostly succeed - with hybrid learning. Their efforts and successes inspire our efforts and successes and remind us what we knew all along: a caring, supportive community is the foundation for great education.

We have done our absolute best to contain costs while meeting the arduous challenges of the current school year. With a Covid vaccine on the horizon, the future is bright, but there is no getting around the 10% increase in healthcare costs, an increase experienced by all schools throughout Vermont.

We sincerely appreciate the tremendous support we have received throughout this school year, and we ask for your support and your vote to continue as an appreciated and valued BBA sending town.

Respectfully submitted

Mark H. Tashjian
Headmaster

Ed Campbell
Chair, Board of Trustees

