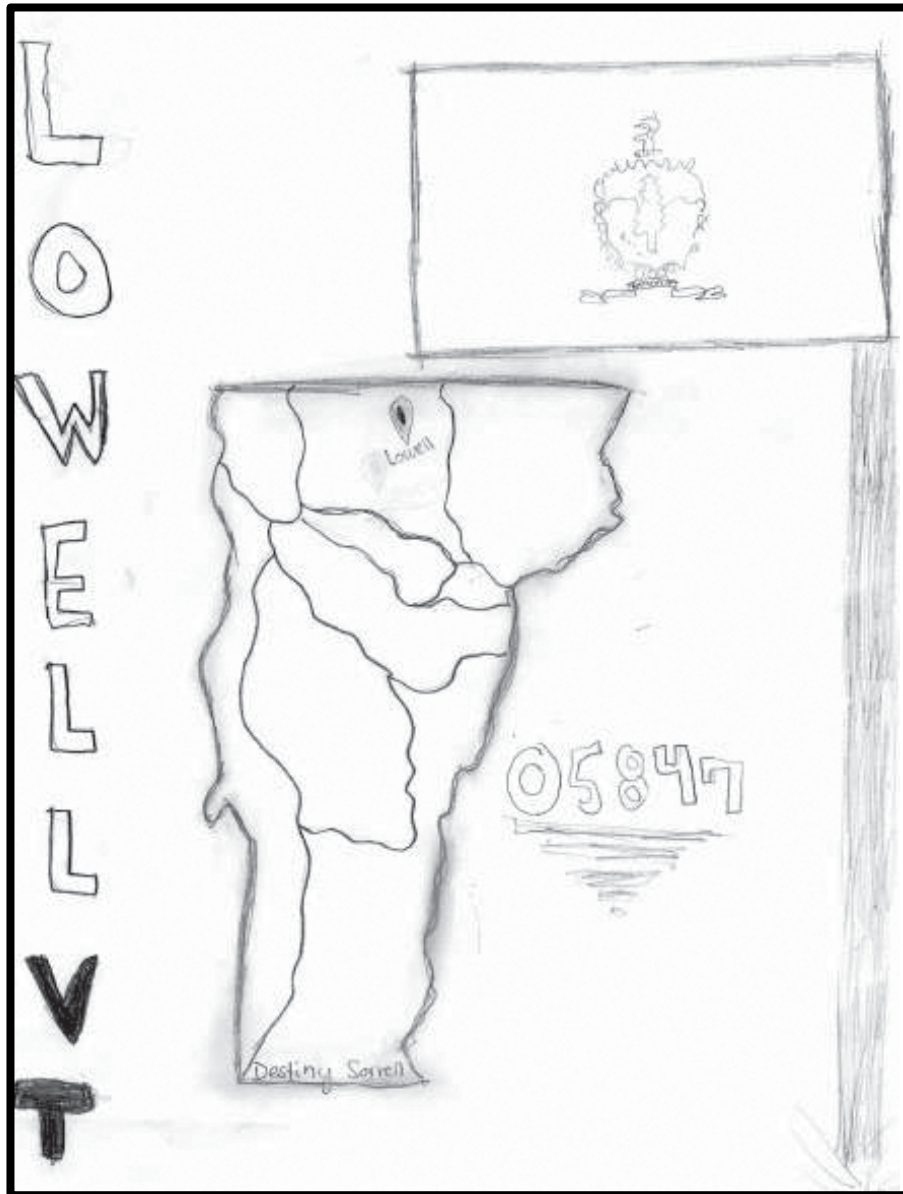


Town of Lowell



Annual Town & School Report
FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31
2016

2016

Thank you for your service to our Town.



With special Thanks to former Lister Carolyn Arel, and former Road Commissioner, Reginald Pion.

The Town of Lowell will always be grateful for their years of dedicated service.

The students of the Lowell Graded School were asked to draw what they love about their Town. You will see many of the wonderful pictures throughout the Town Report. Thank you to the talented students who participated.

Cover Picture by Destiny Sorrell – Grade 7

ANNUAL TOWN & SCHOOL REPORT

For Year Ending December 31, 2016
Town of Lowell, Vermont



Food shelf donations will be collected this year at Town Meeting.

Please bring any non-perishable items with you to the
Lowell Graded School on Tuesday March 7th, 2017.
The F.O.L.K Group will have collection bins set up for your donations.

Donations will also be accepted at the
Town Clerk's Office throughout the month of February.

Thank you for your support.

Register your dog:

Dog tags will be available for purchase on Town Meeting Day.

- \$9 spayed/neutered \$13 unaltered
- Must have current rabies vaccination and copy of certificate.

All dogs must be licensed by April 1, 2017

Note: Please bring a copy of this report with you to Town Meeting.

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Announcements & Reminders:

- All Australian ballot articles warned by North Country Union High School (NCUHS) will be voted by the Australian ballot system at the Lowell Graded School.
- **Polls will be open this year at 9:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.**

The recycling bins at the Town Garage are open to the public on Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. There is a staff member on site to assist you and answer any questions you may have about acceptable items.

- You must file a HS122 Homestead Declaration Form **each year** with your annual state tax return in order to receive the residential tax rate from the Town. For more information please see www.tax.vermont.gov
-

2017 DATES TO REMEMBER:

Rabies Clinic	March 25	1:45 p.m. To 2:45 p.m.	Lowell Fire Station
Green Up Day	May 6	All Day	Vermont
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day	May 13	7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Waste USA Landfill on Airport Road in Coventry, VT
Tire Collection Event	May 20	8 a.m. to 12 noon	Lowell Town Garage
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day	October 14	7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Waste USA Landfill on Airport Road in Coventry, VT

Town Clerk's Office

Services offered at the Town Clerk's Office:

- **Purchase/update/renew hunting & fishing Licenses**
- **DMV Renewals for auto & snowmobile registration**
- **License your dog**
- **Obtain certified vital records – Birth/Death/Marriage**
- **Obtain property tax maps, listers valuation cards or copies of property deeds**
- **Pick up building permits & zoning by-law information**
- **Voter registration**

The Town is now accepting Credit Card payments for all services and fees. This is no-charge to the Town but will cost the user a convenience fee (2.45% or \$3 minimum per transaction). As always cash & check are accepted with no additional fees.

If you have any questions or need assistance with services offered at the Town Office please don't hesitate to contact us or stop by during our new extended business hours.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Thursday
9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Lowell Town Clerk's Office
2170 VT Rte 100
Lowell, VT 05847
Tel: (802) 744 6559
Fax: (802) 744 2357

Kavlee Sargent – Grade 6



LOWELL TOWN OFFICERS

2016

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MODERATOR:	Alden Warner	2016
TOWN CLERK:	Sandy LaDeau	2019
TREASURER:	Sandy LaDeau	2019
SELECTMEN:	Dwight Richardson	2017
	Richard Pion	2018
	Alden Warner	2019
SCHOOL DIRECTORS:	Shauna Richardson (Resigned)	2017
	David Legacy (Appointed)	2017
	Steven Mason	2018
	Gilles Bathalon (Resigned)	2019
	Jason Blay (Appointed)	2017
UNION SCHOOL DIRECTOR:	George Swanson	2019
1st CONSTABLE:	Darren Pion	2017
AUDITORS:	Arlon Warner	2017
	Priscilla Matten	2018
	Gordon Spencer	2019
ROAD COMMISSIONER:	Calvin Allen	2019
LISTERS:	Lerry Chase	2017
	Carolyn Arel (Resigned)	2018
	Chris Hagar (Appointed)	2017
	Mark Higley	2019
TOWN AGENT:	Andre Tetreault Sr.	2017
GRAND JUROR:	Andre Tetreault Sr.	2017
LIBRARIAN:	Regine Griswold	
LIBRARY TRUSTEES:	Gina Arel	2017
	Gynette Manning	2018
	Jill Legacy	2020
	Gail Sicotte	2021
	Fay Starr	2021
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:	Daphne Dolan-Christiansen	
	Sadie Willey	
	Gilbert Hill	
	Steven Mason	
	Jeff Parsons	

OFFICERS BY APPOINTMENT

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:	Sandy LaDeau	
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:	Amanda Carlson	
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:	Darren Pion	
HEALTH OFFICER:	Carol Wood- Koob	2019
SERVICE OFFICER:	Steve Mason	2017
FIRE WARDEN:	Gerard Nick	
ASST. FIRE WARDEN	Marc Sicotte	
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	Gordon Spencer	
ZONING COMMISSION:	Sam Thurston	
	Keith Christiansen	
	Rolf Koob	
	Charles Boulmetis	
	Vacancy	

WARNING

LOWELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Lowell, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Lowell Graded School on **TUESDAY MARCH 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** to act on the following articles of business:

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING:

All Australian ballot articles warned by North Country Union High School (NCUHS) will be voted by the Australian ballot system at the Lowell Graded School.

Polls open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

- ARTICLE 1:** To ELECT **SCHOOL MODERATOR** for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 2:** To ELECT an **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTOR** for a two year term.
- ARTICLE 3:** To ELECT an **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTOR** for a three year term.
- ARTICLE 4:** Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$1,827,093.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year 2018. It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$12,488.00 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 6.95% higher than spending for the current year.
- ARTICLE 5:** Shall the voters of the LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT authorize the Board of School Directors to use \$69,316.00 of the unallocated, unaudited general fund balance from the 2015-2016 school year, to reduce taxes in the 2017-2018 school budget?
- ARTICLE 6:** To transact any other non-binding business which may legally come before this meeting.
- ARTICLE 7:** To adjourn.

TOWN MEETING:

- ARTICLE 8:** To ELECT **TOWN MODERATOR** for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 9:** To HEAR and ACT upon reports of TOWN OFFICERS.
- ARTICLE 10:** To ELECT the following **OFFICERS** required by law:
- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| a. SELECT PERSON | 3 year term |
| b. LISTER | 3 year term |
| c. LISTER | 1 year term |
| d. AUDITOR | 3 year term |
| e. 1 st CONSTABLE | 1 year term |
| f. 2 nd CONSTABLE | 1 year term |
| g. TOWN AGENT | 1 year term |
| h. GRAND JUROR | 1 year term |
| i. LIBRARY TRUSTEE | 5 year term |
- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the legal voters appropriate the sum of **\$280,000.00** for **TOWN EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES** (Select Board's Account)?
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the legal voters appropriate **\$ 125,000.00** plus Vermont State Aid funding for **WINTER ROADS**?
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the legal voters appropriate **\$ 125,000.00** plus Vermont State Aid funding for **SUMMER ROADS**?
- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the legal voters appropriate **\$ 25,000.00** for the **FIRE DEPARTMENT**?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the legal voters allow the Select Board to **BORROW** up to **\$150,000.00** to **REPLACE** the Lowell Fire Department's 25 year old **TANKER TRUCK**?

ARTICLE 16: Shall the legal voters appropriate **\$ 6,000.00** for the **COMMUNITY LIBRARY**?

ARTICLE 17: Shall the legal voters appropriate **\$ 3,000.00** for the **LITTLE LEAGUE & T-BALL** teams?

ARTICLE 18: Shall the legal voters appropriate **\$ 1,000.00** for the **JR. HOOP BASKETBALL** teams?

ARTICLE 19: Shall the legal voters appropriate the sum of **\$ 3,500.00** to the **ORLEANS ESSEX VNA & HOSPICE, INC.** for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Licensed Nurse's Aide, Homemaker, Personal Care Attendant, Hospice, and Maternal Child Health Programs, and other community health programs provided by the Agency?

ARTICLE 20: Shall the legal voters appropriate the following sums:

- a) **\$ 500** to AMERICAN RED CROSS
- b) **\$ 250** to GREEN MOUNTAIN FARM-to-SCHOOL, INC
- c) **\$ 50** to GREEN UP VERMONT
- d) **\$ 450** to HAZEN'S NOTCH ASSOC. CAMPERSHIP FUND
- e) **\$ 250** to JAY AREA LOCAL FOOD SHELF
- f) **\$ 200** to JAY PEAK POST NO. 28, INC. - AMERICAN LEGION
- g) **\$ 300** to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY ACTION, INC. - ORLEANS COUNTY COURT DIVERSION
- h) **\$ 300** to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COUNCIL ON AGING
- i) **\$ 923** to NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICE, INC.
- j) **\$ 200** to NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES INC
- k) **\$ 659** to NORTHEASTERN VT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
- l) **\$ 500** to ORLEANS COUNTY CITIZEN ADVOCACY
- m) **\$ 375** to ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
- n) **\$ 500** to POPE MEMORIAL FRONTIER ANIMAL SHELTER
- o) **\$ 200** to PREVENT CHILD ABUSE VERMONT
- p) **\$ 700** to RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION
- q) **\$ 600** to UMBRELLA
- r) **\$ 100** to VACD - VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION
- s) **\$ 200** to VT ASSOC for the BLIND and VISUALLY IMPAIRED
- t) **\$ 90** to VT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
- u) **\$ 85** to VT TRAILS & GREENWAYS

Total for above appropriations = 7,432.00

PLEASE NOTE: Individual service reports printed in back of town report.

ARTICLE 21: To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the Town.

ARTICLE 22: TO ADJOURN.

SELECTBOARD:
Richard Pion, Chairman
Dwight Richardson
Alden Warner

SCHOOL DIRECTORS:
Steve Mason, Chair,
Jason Blay
David Legacy

ATTEST:
Sandy LaDeau – Town Clerk / Treasurer
Received for posting: January 31, 2017

2016 Town of Lowell Audit Report

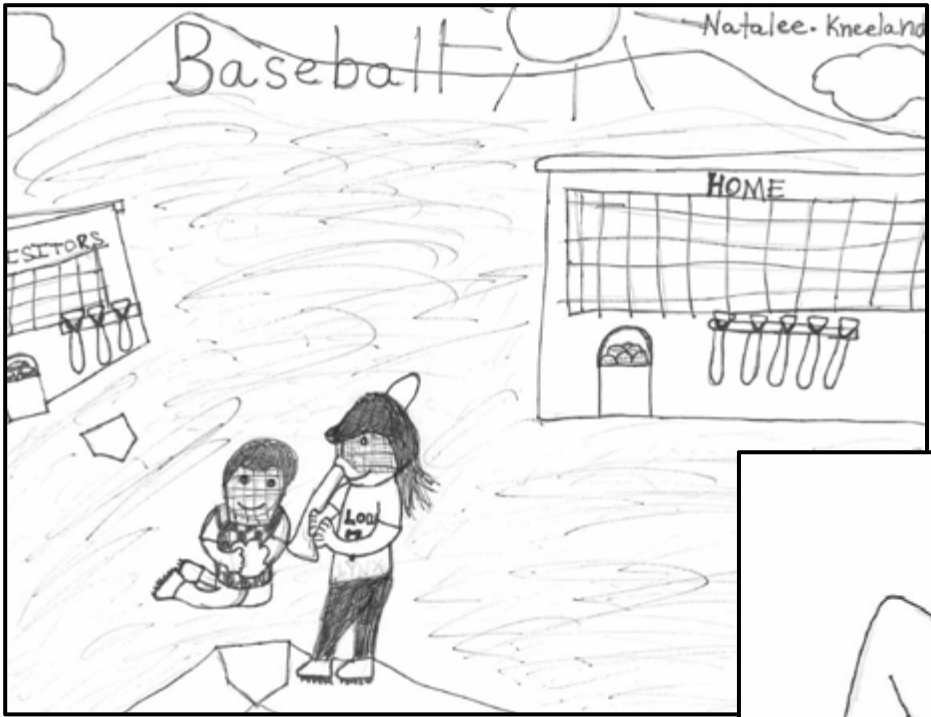
The Town Auditors have continued to follow the same process of auditing throughout the years, which basically consists of verifying the checking account balances via deposits made and checks written, orders(warrants) issued by the Select Board, and payroll records. In addition, this year the Audit Team, Town Clerk and Town Administrator have devoted numerous hours reviewing in-depth processes and have made multiple adjustments.

The Town's first external audit was performed in 2016 covering the 2014 year. The audit report noted a need for updated financial reports in accordance with GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles), a policy and procedural manual, revised accounting process for reporting property taxes and line of credit activity, tracking deferred and prepaid property taxes based on GAAP process. A review of NEMRC revealed these processes had never been implemented.

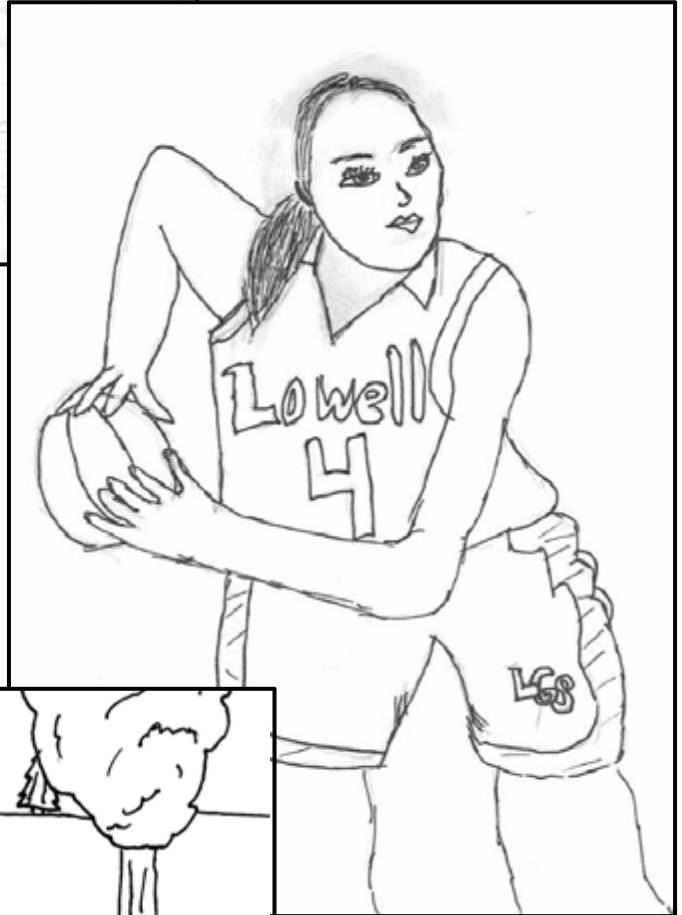
- Our Town Audit Team began an in-depth review of the electronic accounting system (NEMRC) to achieve a more complete understanding of the internal control measures in place. The Town adopted this system based on State requirements. It is a very extensive program with a multitude of components which can only be fully understood with years of exposure. The Town Treasurer has adamantly been in contact with NEMRC's support team to become more adept with the process.
- Our Audit Team has found the NEMRC support team to be very helpful with our research and understanding. We are not suggesting we have completed this process but have taken preliminary steps in the right direction. We are aware, due to the complexity of the software modules, that it will be a lengthy process at best, but we are encouraged by the accomplishments in that direction to date.
- The Town Treasurer/Tax Collector has activated the property tax module to automatically post property taxes into the general ledger appropriately. This has become effective 2017.
- The delinquent taxes, interest and penalty charges, as well as prepaid taxes are now being posted appropriately into the general ledger.
- The Town Treasurer has written a policy and procedural manual and the auditors have begun a review of that.
- Our Team's research into the Town's accounting process led us to some discrepancies in the 2014 and 2015 balancing of accounts. After extensive research and consultation with NEMRC specialists, we and NEMRC specialists are working on the necessary adjustments. Some of these issues are too complicated to describe in detail in this notice, but the Town Auditors/Treasurer welcome you to come to the Town Office so we can clarify any questions you may have.

We are pleased with the upgrades and improvements that have been progressing in our Town Office. Some of the other major changes: The Town Treasurer has established a process for complete and understandable backup documents for all activities. New checks and balances have been put into place. Many other daily improvements have been made that have now just become a part of the daily routine. Outside of the role of Auditor, it has also been noted that The Town Administrator has implemented a process to create a complete backup of all permanent land records with an off-site backup as well.

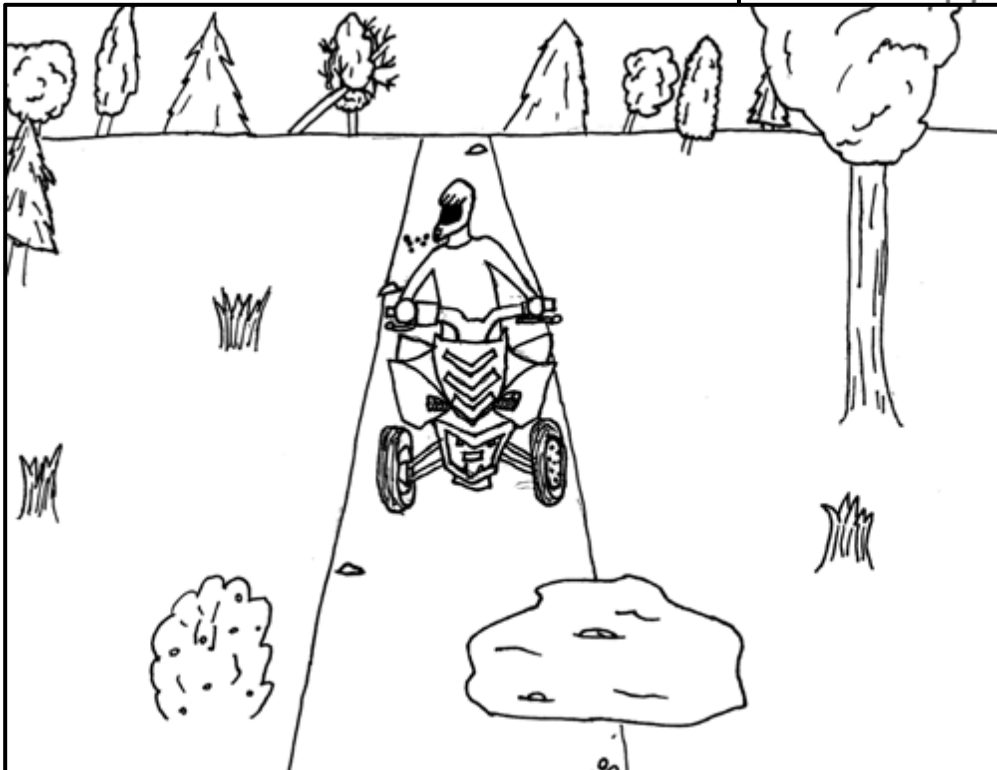
**Respectfully Submitted by The Lowell Auditors,
Arlon Warner, Gordon Spencer, Priscilla Matten**



Natalee Kneeland – Grade 4



Jordan Wright – Grade 7



Caleb DiZazzo – Grade 7

Ron L. Beaulieu & Company

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

www.rlbco.com
accting@rlbco.com

41 Bates Street
Portland, Maine 04103

Tel: (207) 775-1717
Fax: (207) 775-7103

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Select Board of
Town of Lowell, Vermont
Lowell, Vermont

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Lowell, Vermont, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, which collectively comprise a portion of the Town's basic financial statements required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion

Management has not presented government-wide financial statements to display the financial position and changes in financial position of its governmental activities. Management has not aggregated remaining fund information. Management has not presented Statement of Net Position – Fiduciary Funds. Management has not presented notes to the financial statements. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the presentation of government-wide financial statements, aggregated remaining fund information, fiduciary financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. The amounts that would be reported in government-wide financial statements of the Town of Lowell, Vermont's governmental activities have not been determined.

Management has not recorded Taxes Receivable, Line of Credit, or Deferred Tax Revenue in the General Fund. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that those asset and liabilities be recorded, which would increase the assets, liabilities, fund balance, and revenues of the General Fund. The amount by which this departure would affect the assets, liabilities, fund balance, and revenues has not been determined.

Adverse Opinion

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the "Basis for Adverse Opinion" paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly the financial position of Town of Lowell, Vermont, as of December 31, 2014, or the changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have issued our report dated April 13, 2016 on our consideration of the Town of Lowell, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Town of Lowell, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Ron L. Beaulieu & Co.

Portland, Maine
April 13, 2016

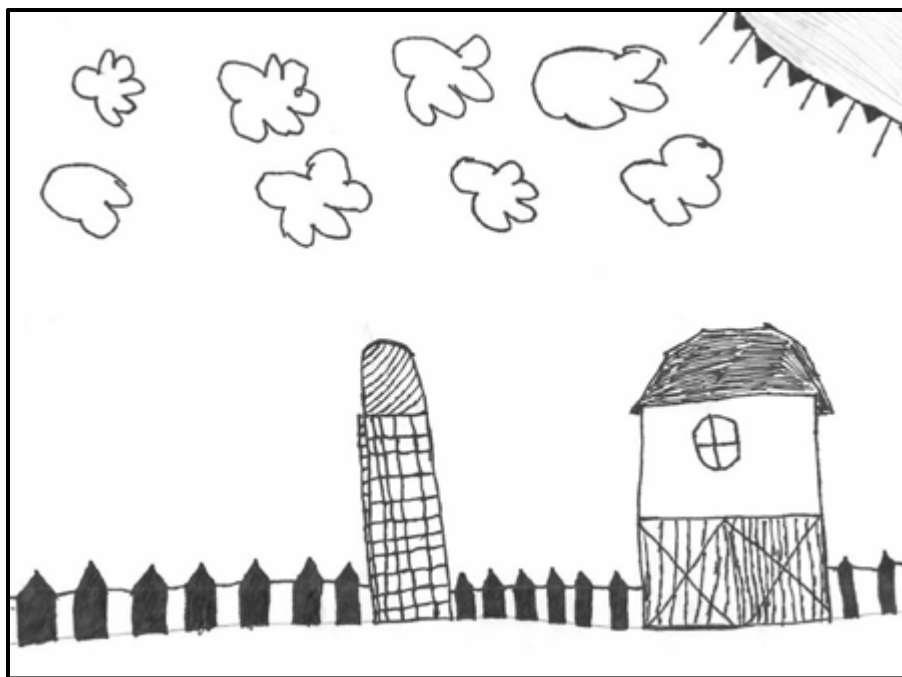
IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING FUND BALANCES:

This notice is to inform you that prior year errors have been found, which were a combination of posting and software errors. NEMRC, the software company, is in the process of researching and making corrections to the software. Until that has been finalized, the fund balances for the affected departments cannot be confirmed as correct. For this reason, those affected fund balances have been omitted from the report for 2016.

Submitted by:

Town Auditors and Select Board

Mikayla Richardson – Grade 5



TREASURER'S REPORT OF PUBLIC MONEY

The Archie Powers Memorial Trust at People's United Bank for the Town of Lowell Recreational Park was created in 1985.

- \$1,267.66 was drawn out to complete the building at Gelo Park in 1997.
- \$2,500 was withdrawn in 2005 towards matching grant funds for the Playground Fund.
- \$1,500 was withdrawn in 2012 towards Security Camera.

This account has a balance as of 12/31/15 of \$7,428.16 of which \$391.39 is available to be used.

Town of Lowell CD at People's United Bank earned interest of \$90.78.

This account has a balance as of 12/31/15 of \$43,672.99

SUMMARY OF 2016 TAXES

EDUCATION TAXES BILLED					
	TAX RATE	X	GRAND LIST VALUE	=	TOTAL RAISED
Non-Residential Education	1.5356	X	415,939.00	=	638,715.93
Homestead Education	1.2857	X	392,283.00	=	504,358.25
Local Agreement (Veterans Exemption)		X		=	-
Town Tax		X		=	-
TOTAL EDUCATIONAL TAX BILLED				\$	1,143,074.18

MUNICIPAL TAXES

REVENUE	
Municipal Tax Raised	0.00
Payment Received From GMP	542,875.00
Local Agreement (Veterans Exemption)	0.00
Current Use / State Land	789.00
Office Revenue – Licenses, Fees, Etc.	13,074.76
HS131 State Prebates	3,646.20
Delinquent Tax Penalty	6,788.79
Delinquent Tax Interest	10,048.30
TOTAL:	\$ 577,222.05

EXPENSES

Summary of Voted Money

Select Board Assessments - Town Liabilities	275,000.00
Summer Roads	125,000.00
Winter Roads	125,000.00
Fire Department	25,000.00
Library Assessment	6,000.00
Little League T-Ball & Jr. Hoop	8,000.00
Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice, Inc.	3,500.00
Voted Appropriations	7,397.00
TOTAL:	\$ 574,897.00

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Total Delinquent Tax Receivable as of 12/31/2016

<i>Property Tax Receivable as of 12/31/2016</i>	67,913.51
<i>Interest Receivable as of 12/31/2016</i>	3,668.22
<i>Penalty Receivable as of 12/31/2016</i>	4,218.98
<i>2014 Delinquent Tax / Interest / Penalty</i>	2,052.29
<i>2015 Delinquent Tax / Interest / Penalty</i>	14,491.21
<i>2016 Delinquent Tax / Interest / Penalty</i>	59,257.21
Total Delinquent Tax Receivable	\$75,800.71

Isaac Heinchon – Grade 1



DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

2016 DELINQUENT TAX

Albrecht, Creed
Bessette, Crystal
Blake, Daniel
Bonneau, Donald
Booth, Robert
Brasseur, Krystal
Champagne, Larry
Clark, Peggie
Collins, David
Dennett, Bucky & Bessette, Kasey
Donna, Patrick
Gosselin, Daniel
Haselton, Alvin
Hill, Jeffrey
Hoadley, David
Hoffman; Dwayne
Jackson, Alfred
Joiner, Billy
King, Joshua & Ashley
Labarron, Brian
Langmaid, Randy & Tonya
Machia, David
Mayo, Cecil Jr
McAllister, Barbara
McLeod, Michael
McTighe, James & Danielle Dambach
Morin, Joseph
Pepin, Theresa
Pion, Bruce & Laurie
Pion, Christopher
Pion, Jeremy
Schachter, Gary
Sotherden, Jason
St Onge, Joseph
Villeneuve, David
Vincelette, Jonathon
Warner, Kevin & Laurie
Warner, Marcia
Warner, Shawn Daniel & Marcia
Wynn, Ricky & Cindy

2015 DELINQUENT TAX

Albrecht, Creed
Champagne, Larry
Collins, David
Donna, Patrick
Hill, Jeffrey
Jackson, Alfred
King, Joshua & Ashley
Labarron, Brian
Machia, David
McAllister, Barbara
McLeod, Michael
Morin, Joseph
Sotherden, Jason
Warner, Kevin

2014 DELINQUENT TAX

Hill, Jeffrey
Machia, David
St Onge, Joseph

SELECT BOARD'S PROPOSED BUDGET - 2017

	2016 Revenue Anticipated	2016 Actual	2017 Revenue Anticipated
REVENUE			
State (Local Fines)	400	287	250
Licenses	2,000	2,458	2,000
Fees	7,500	7,093	6,500
Permits	400	345	350
Interest	300	396	350
Delinquent Tax Penalty & <i>Interest</i>	5,000	16,837	10,000
Other	2,000	2,891	2,000
TOTAL REVENUE	17,600	\$ 30,307	\$ 21,450
	Proposed 2016 Budget	2016 Actual	Proposed 2017 Budget
EXPENSE			
Salary & Benefits	97,000	92,779	97,000
Insurance/Outside Prof.	40,000	48,210	45,000
Office Expense	20,000	17,502	20,000
Town Office Utilities & Maintenance	13,000	14,152	15,000
Town Garage Utilities & Maintenance	17,000	7,091	15,000
Solid Waste	8,000	12,232	20,000
Misc. Exp. less Del Tax	20,000	21,075	25,000
	215,000	213,041	237,000
LINE ITEMS			
Cemetery Expense	4,500	4,500	4,000
Road & Bridge Fund	12,000	12,000	12,000
Paving Fund	25,000	25,000	25,000
Town Appraisal Fund	4,000	4,000	4,000
Ambulance Assessment	12,042	12,042	13,000
Lowell 8th Grade Class Trip	2,000	2,000	2,000
	59,542	59,542	60,000
SELECT BOARD EXPENSES	\$ 274,542	\$ 272,583	\$ 297,000
Anticipated Revenue			21,450
Anticipated Expenses			297,000
			-275,550
PROPOSED BUDGET			280,000

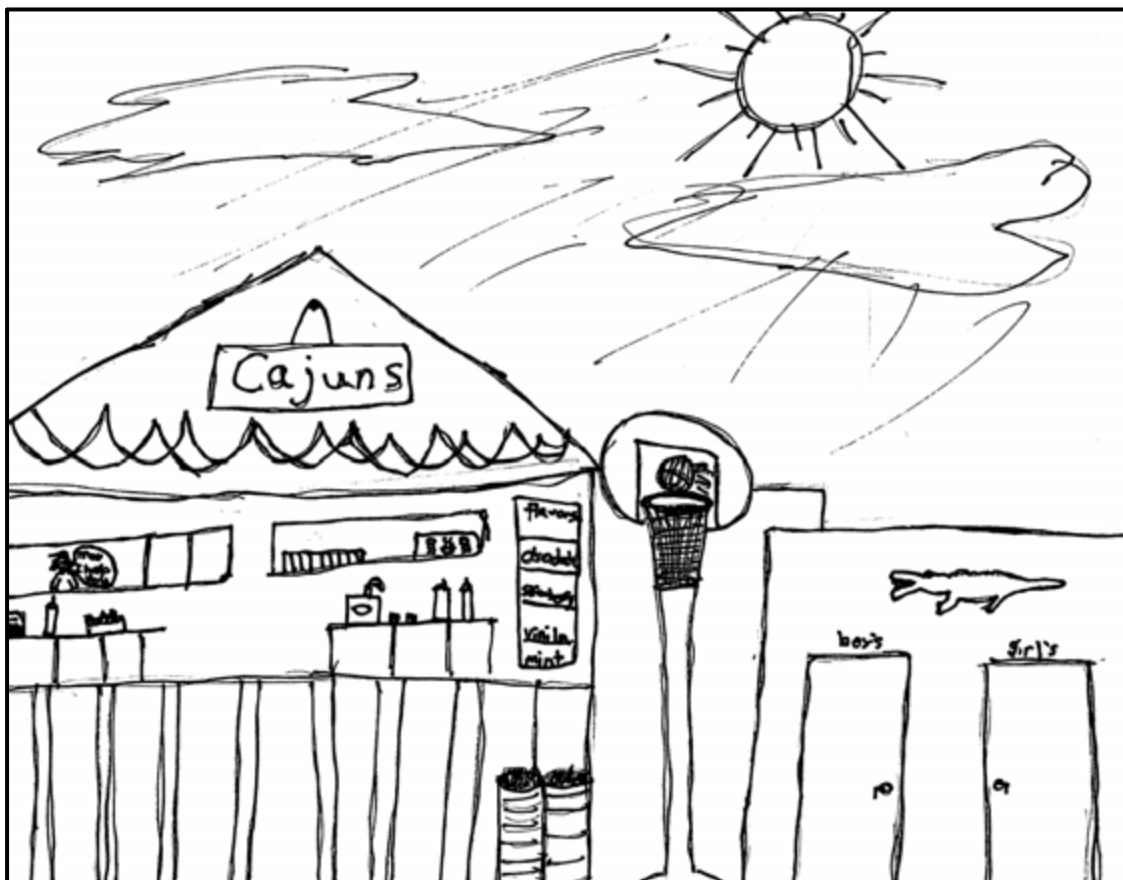
GENERAL FUND

TAX REVENUE :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Current Year Taxes	890,892.93	889,059.44
Property Taxes Prepay	5,179.12	0
GMP Contract to Tax	542,875.00	542,875.00
HS-131 Reconciliation	16,722.89	3,646.20
Current Use / State	3,862.82	789.00
Tax Sale Redemption	4,357.65	219.65
Misc. Tax	2.59	0.00
Delinquent Taxes - <i>All prior years</i>	90,985.11	79,802.28
Delinquent Interest - <i>All prior years</i>	6,909.11	10,048.30
Delinquent Penalties - <i>All prior years</i>	7,625.03	6,788.79
	1,569,412.25	1,533,228.66
STATE REVENUE :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
State - Local Fines	333.50	286.50
LICENSES :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
DMV Renewals	33.00	15.00
Dog Licenses	1,605.00	1,858.00
Hunting/Fishing Licenses	144.50	45.00
Liquor Licenses	300.00	300.00
Marriage Licenses	270.00	240.00
	2,352.50	2,458.00
FEES :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Certificate of Vital Records	500.00	450.00
Copying Fees	1,757.00	1,452.00
Green Mountain Pass	24.00	6.00
Miscellaneous Fees	115.00	84.82
Posted Land Fees	10.00	40.00
Recording Fees	5,595.00	4,616.00
Research Fees	307.00	225.00
Truck Weight Permit Fees	190.00	220.00
	8,498.00	7,093.82

PERMITS :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Zoning Permits	435.00	305.00
Driveway Permits	10.00	40.00
	445.00	345.00
OTHER REVENUE :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Household Hazardous Waste Grant	1,100.00	2,000.00
Interest on Money Market - Checking	297.56	413.02
Interest on Money Market- Office Sales	12.98	4.39
Land Rent	150.00	150.00
Miscellaneous	159.01	52.03
Tax Sale Redemption	785.00	0.00
Tire Event	137.00	272.00
	2,641.55	2,891.44
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE	1,583,682.80	1,546,303.42

***See page 14 regarding reporting of fund balance*

Lauren Legacy – Grade 4



VOTED ASSESSMENTS: ACTUAL EXPENSE 2016		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Select Board Operating Account	295,966.19	272,583.24
Fire Department Assessment	25,000.00	25,000.00
High School Assessment	327,615.52	348,211.97
Town Audit Fund Assessment		
Library Assessment	6,000.00	6,000.00
Little League - T-Ball	2,000.00	3,000.00
Ball Field		4,000.00
JR Hoop Basketball		1,000.00
Orleans Essex VNA & hospice	3,500.00	3,500.00
Road Department Assessment	250,000.00	250,000.00
Local School Assessment	612,758.56	647,392.95
Adult Learning Center	200.00	200.00
American Legion Jay #28	200.00	200.00
American Red Cross	250.00	500.00
Cornucopia	225.00	225.00
Green Mountain Farm to School	300.00	250.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00	50.00
Hazen Notch Summer Camp	450.00	450.00
Jay Food Shelf	250.00	250.00
NE Area Agency on Aging	300.00	300.00
NE VT Development Association	659.00	659.00
NEK Community Action		200.00
NEK Human Services	1,123.00	923.00
Orleans Citizen Advocacy	500.00	500.00
Orleans Historical Society	250.00	300.00
Pope Frontier Animal Shelter	500.00	500.00
Prevent Child Abuse	200.00	200.00
Rural Community Transportation	700.00	700.00
Umbrella - Step O.N.E.	600.00	600.00
VT Assoc. for Blind	200.00	200.00
VT Ctr Independent Living	90.00	90.00
VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00	100.00
VT Trails & Greenways	35.00	0.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	1,530,022.27	1,568,085.16
TOTAL REVENUES	1,583,682.80	1,546,303.42
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,530,022.27	1,568,085.16
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR	53,660.53	-21,781.74

***See page 14 regarding reporting of fund balance*

SELECT BOARD ACCOUNT

SALARY & BENEFITS :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Animal Control Officer	385.00	368.50
Auditors	450.52	114.56
Ballot Clerks	1,135.42	3,962.69
Board of Civil Authority	52.54	-
FICA Expense	5,433.40	5,702.63
Health Insurance		(196.96)
Health Officer	155.53	-
Listers	6,520.96	8,089.51
Medicare Expense	2,056.82	1,333.85
Mileage	933.92	1,212.90
Recycling Attendant	1,998.67	2,528.90
Select Board	4,500.00	4,786.40
Town Administrator	18,050.00	30,250.00
<i>Assistant Clerk/Treasurer</i>	11,298.88	
<i>Clerk to Select Board</i>	945.00	
Town Clerk / Treasurer & Del. Tax Collector		31,205.80
<i>Town Clerk</i>	18,327.63	
<i>Town Treasurer</i>	14,637.81	
Vermont Municipal Retirement	1,367.03	2,467.83
Zoning Board Meetings	1,166.63	703.12
Zoning Board-Permit Fees	405.00	249.70
	89,820.76	92,779.43
INSIDE / OUTSIDE PROFESSIONAL		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Legal Fees - Town	23,957.94	20,382.23
Legal Fees - Tax Sale	1,075.78	-
Liability Insurance	4,235.75	7,371.24
Property Insurance	5,479.50	6,262.24
Public Official & Employee Liability	1,748.00	2,386.24
Unemployment	1,270.00	1,582.00
VLCT Dues & Fees	1,971.00	1,972.00
Workers Compensation	6,369.75	8,254.28
	46,107.72	48,210.23
OFFICE EXPENSE :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Advertising	805.34	443.32
Cartographic - Tax Mapping	1,715.50	1,700.00
Computer Support & Software	6,072.93	5,166.38
DMV Renewal Fee	70.00	-
Dog License Fee - VT Treasurer	577.00	870.00
Dog Tags / Books	149.02	144.35
Hunting & Fishing Licenses	106.50	-
Marriage License - VT Treasurer	305.00	135.00
Office Equipment / Repairs & Maintenance	884.87	1,242.56
Office Supplies	3,038.15	4,645.87
Postage	1,184.05	1,525.09
Printing - Town Reports	1,256.00	665.60
Seminars & Training	828.00	964.00
	16,992.36	17,502.17

TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Town Office Utilities	9,268.66	8,964.44
Town Office Cleaning & Supplies	1,169.55	2,246.97
Town Office Repairs & Maintenance	1,118.50	2,940.99
	11,556.71	14,152.40
TOWN GARAGE MAINTENANCE		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Garage Utilities	10,086.27	5,469.80
Garage Repairs & Maintenance	4,654.23	1,094.81
Office / Garage Supplies	699.10	526.13
	15,439.60	7,090.74
SOLID WASTE EXPENSE		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Green-Up Day Removal	128.00	107.00
Hazardous Waste Events / Plan	426.99	2,113.05
In Town Recycling	4,453.93	9,151.47
Tire Event	384.00	860.00
	5,392.92	12,231.52
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Commission to Tax Collector	933.05	-
County Tax	11,230.76	19,086.44
Dog Kennel / Food etc	515.35	62.00
Miscellaneous	679.68	1,926.31
Fines for Late Filing to IRS in	112.81	-
Tax Management Fees	-	-
	13,471.65	21,074.75
LINE ITEMS :		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Ambulance Assessment	12,006.00	12,042.00
Appraisal Fund	4,000.00	4,000.00
Flood Loan Payments	38,678.47	-
Lowell 8th Grade Trip	2,000.00	2,000.00
Mountain View Cemetery	3,500.00	4,500.00
Paving Fund	25,000.00	25,000.00
Road & Bridge Fund	12,000.00	12,000.00
	97,184.47	59,542.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 295,966.19	\$ 272,583.24

ROAD DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT

	FY 2015	FY 2016 ACTUAL	Proposed Budget 2017
REVENUE			
State Aid to Roads Class 2	54,832.32	40,438.90	54,500.00
State Aid to Roads Class 3	27,568.59	36,721.53	27,500.00
State Flood Assistance - 2012/13 Flood	2,984.60	53,828.54	
FEMA Flood Grant - 2012/13	-	75,875.55	
Assessment for Summer Roads	125,000.00	125,000.00	125,000.00
Assessment for Winter Roads	125,000.00	125,000.00	125,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	335,385.51	456,864.52	332,000.00
DISBURSEMENTS	SUMMER ROADS		
	FY 2015	FY 2016 ACTUAL	Proposed Budget 2017
Beaver Trappings	695.00	175.00	200.00
Chloride - Dust Control	3,062.42	5,561.70	5,500.00
Cold Patch	586.19	483.00	500.00
Crushed Stone	270.34	-	
Culverts	2,929.06	6,409.00	6,000.00
Diesel Surcharge	1,455.31	544.04	750.00
Ditching Fabric	3,847.50	662.64	1,500.00
FICA Expense	2,595.29	2,616.95	2,600.00
Gravel	3,150.00	(5,856.33)	3,200.00
Gravel - Albany	1,687.50	-	1,000.00
Gravel Out of Town	1,518.75		1,000.00
Health Care- Summer	6,647.40	6,648.65	6,650.00
Hired Equipment - Sweeper	2,815.00	1,050.00	1,500.00
Hired Equipment - Albany	337.50	331.25	350.00
Hired Equipment - Road Ditching	1,306.25	3,927.50	3,500.00
Hired Equipment - Road Mowing	6,996.00	6,670.00	6,500.00
Hired Equipment - Summer	41,691.40	29,614.50	32,000.00
Medicare Expense	607.01	612.03	620.00
Miscellaneous	194.49	(50.07)	200.00
Municipal Retirement	1,679.69	2,211.76	2,500.00
Paving	1,028.98	-	1,000.00
Salaries - Other - Summer	33,724.75	19,722.77	25,000.00
Salary - Road Commissioner - Summer	16,661.43	15,620.88	20,000.00
Use of Town Grader - Summer	6,895.00	10,990.00	10,000.00
Use of Town Loader - Summer	12,540.00	22,295.00	20,000.00
TOTAL SUMMER ROADS	154,922.26	130,240.27	152,070.00

DISBURSEMENTS	WINTER ROADS		
	FY 2015	FY 2016 ACTUAL	Proposed Budget 2017
Diesel Surcharge	5,271.62	2,224.90	3,000.00
FICA Expense	3,199.76	2,906.89	3,000.00
Health Care - Winter	6,085.56	6,845.43	6,900.00
Hired Equipment - Winter (Calvin Allen) 4 months of 2016 Season	63,327.75	36,136.00	60,000.00
Hired Equipment - Winter (Reginald Pion) 2 months of 2016 season		24,570.00	-
Hired Equipment - Stone Roads	-	900.00	1,000.00
Medicare Expense	854.47	679.84	800.00
Miscellaneous	-	13.98	200.00
Municipal Retirement	1,448.48	1,180.85	1,000.00
Road Stakes	900.00	1,036.91	1,000.00
Salaries - Other - Winter	34,419.98	32,206.72	32,500.00
Salary- Road Commissioner - Winter (Calvin Allen)	-	18,525.76	20,000.00
Salary - Road Commissioner - Winter (Reginald Pion)	21,339.40	9,710.52	-
Salt - Winter Roads	9,170.10	22,534.79	15,000.00
Sand	4,200.00	4,200.00	4,000.00
Sand Screening	10,474.00	-	
Stone for Roads	933.00	8,046.54	5,000.00
Town of Albany - Plowing	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Use of Town Grader-Winter	7,000.00	7,560.00	7,530.00
Use of Town Loader-Winter	7,910.00	15,505.00	15,000.00
TOTAL WINTER ROADS	180,534.12	198,784.13	179,930.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 335,456.38	\$ 329,024.40	332,000.00

REVENUE	335,385.51	456,864.52	332,000.00
EXPENSES	335,456.38	329,024.40	332,000.00
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR	(70.87)	127,840.12	-

**** In 2016 - \$129,704.09 Revenue received from 2012/13 FEMA & State Flood Grant Reimbursement.**

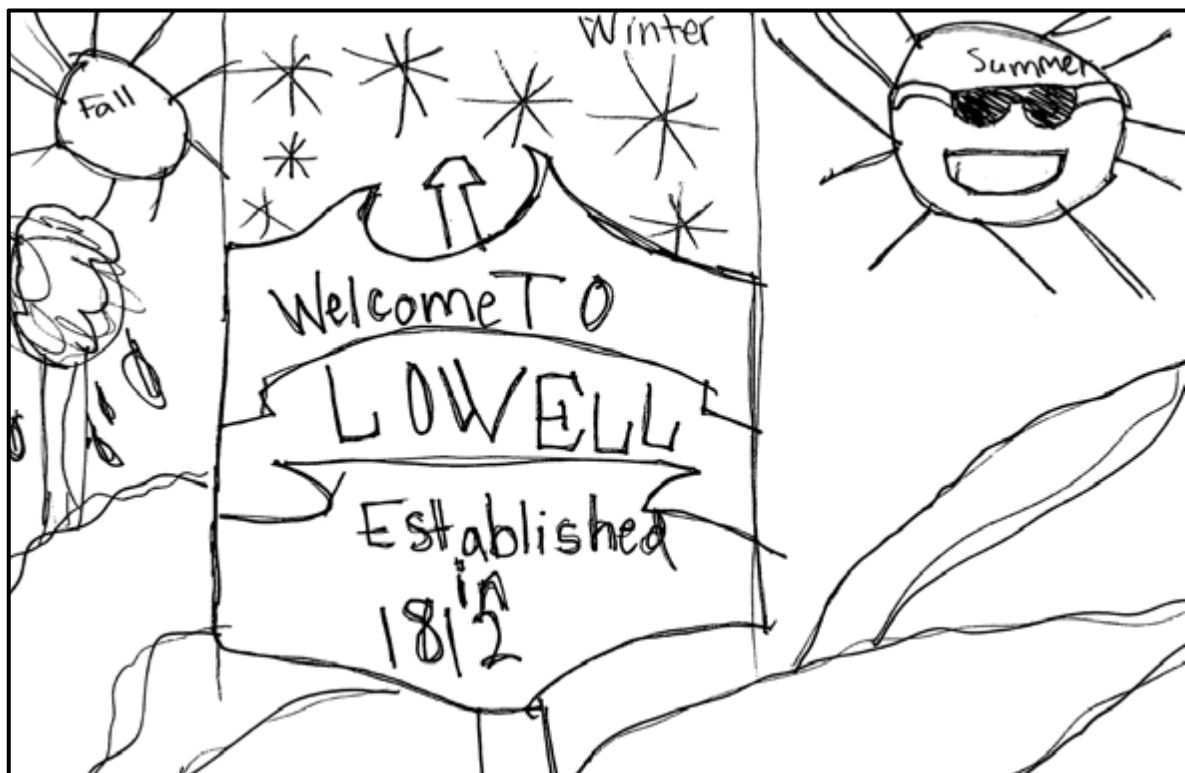
****See page 14 regarding reporting of fund balance**

Flood - June 28, 2016

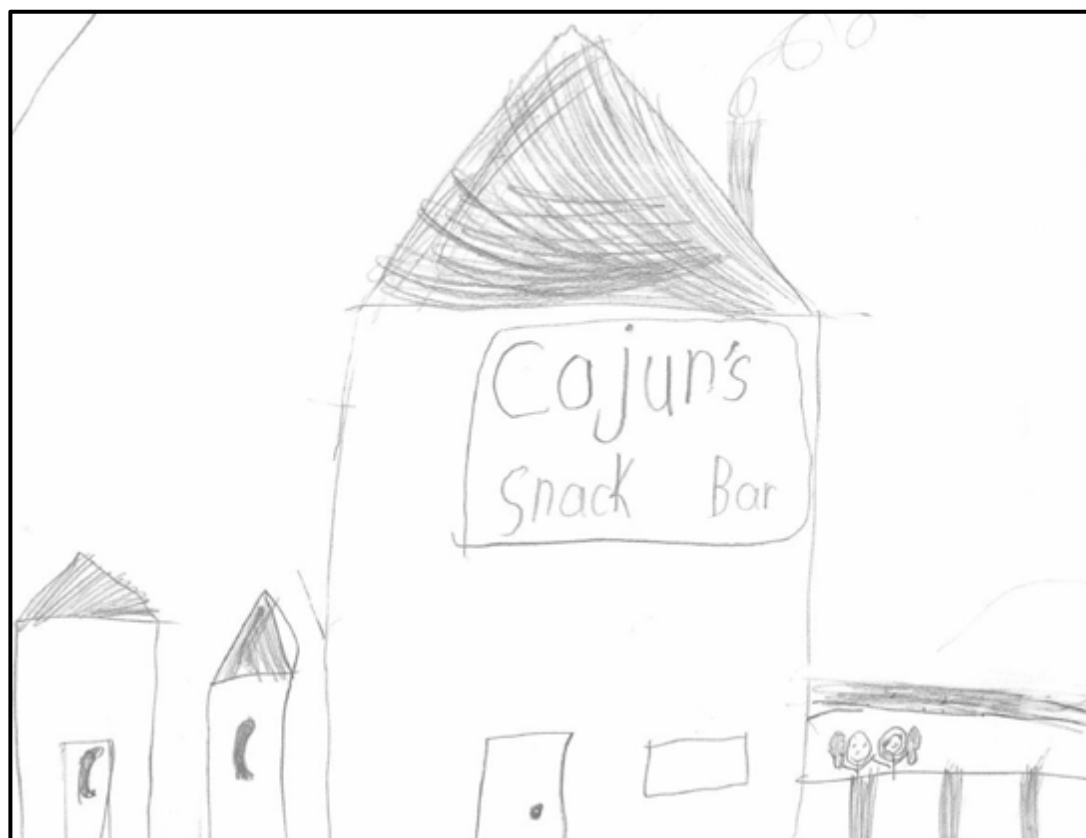
On June 28, 2016, the Town of Lowell experienced extreme rain causing severe unexpected damage to the roads. Most affected was Carter Road and Adams Road but also included Irish Hill Road and Diette Road.

The Road Commissioner was successful in securing 90% emergency grant funding from the Vermont Department of Transportation. Below is the itemized cost of all repairs and the total received from State assistance. The 10% responsibility from the Town is reflected in the Road Department Budget.

	TOTAL HOURS	x \$ / HR	TOTAL ITEM COST
TRUCK #1	135	\$27.00	\$3,645.00
TRUCK #2	186	\$27.00	\$5,022.00
TRUCK #3	16	\$27.00	\$432.00
PICK-UP TRUCK	23	\$24.00	\$552.00
WAYNE'S TRUCK	3.5	\$24.00	\$84.00
LOADER	72	\$70.00	\$5,040.00
GRADER	30	\$70.00	\$2,100.00
GRAVEL - YARDS	2204	\$6.50	\$14,326.00
FILL - YARDS	728	\$1.50	\$1,092.00
LABOR			
CALVIN ALLEN	199	\$18.27	\$3,635.73
CHRIS PION	196	\$16.72	\$3,277.12
A.J. SICOTTE	19	\$12.00	\$228.00
JESSICA PION	14	\$12.73	\$178.22
JAMES CARLSON	85	\$12.00	\$1,020.00
WAYNE RICHARDSON	3.5	\$15.20	\$53.20
AMANDA CARLSON (ADMIN)	2	\$20.00	\$40.00
INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR BILLS			
ALL PHASES	EXCAVATING		\$1,530.00
ALL PHASES	DITCHING AND RIP-RAP		\$4,400.00
BRUCE PION	HAULING GRAVEL TO ADAMS ROAD		\$637.50
CALKINS	STONE		\$3,955.11
DLT	TRUCKING		\$712.50
JOE MYERS - MYERS CUSTOM	TRUCKING		\$600.00
JOHNSON HARDWARE	CULVERTS		\$1,714.20
JOHNSON HARDWARE	SEED & SUPPLIES		\$221.57
JOHNSON HARDWARE	CULVERTS		\$405.60
MSM INC	EXCAVATOR & LABOR F		\$1,505.00
MSM INC	REPAIR DITCHING ON ADAMS ROAD		\$735.00
MSM INC	RIP RAP ON ADAMS ROAD		\$420.00
NEW ENGLAND WATER SYSTEMS	MULCHER CARTER ROAD		\$150.00
NORMAN & MELISSA PION	MULCH / HAY		\$240.00
Total Cost of Repairs			\$57,951.75
State of Vermont Emergency Grant Reimbursement			\$52,156.58
TOTAL COST TO TOWN			\$5,795.17



Jeremy Lapan-Ward - Grade 8



Landon Richards - Grade 1

PAVING FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	25,000.00	50,000.00
REVENUE		
TOWN ASSESSMENT	25,000.00	25,000.00
STATE PAVING GRANT		99,955.20
	25,000.00	124,955.20
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 174,955.20
DISBURSEMENTS		
PAVING EXPENSE	-	175,003.68
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	-	\$ 175,003.68
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	50,000.00	174,955.20
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	-	175,003.68
PAVING FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 50,000.00	\$ (48.48)

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
REVENUE		
TOWN ASSESSMENT	12,000.00	12,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	12,000.00	12,000.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
BRIDGE LUMBER	-	444.44
BRIDGES		74.72
CULVERTS - 6FT AND OVER	-	
ROAD SIGNS	530.28	879.98
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	530.28	1,399.14
TOTAL REVENUE	12,000.00	12,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	530.28	1,399.14
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR	11,469.72	10,600.86

**See page 14 regarding reporting of fund balance

EQUIPMENT FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
REVENUE		
USE OF TOWN LOADER	30,800.00	42,840.00
USE OF TOWN GRADER	13,545.00	20,650.00
EQUIPMENT FUND - TAXPAYER USE	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	44,345.00	63,490.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
CHAINS - LOADER/GRADER	-	1,956.84
DIESEL	7,169.45	4,744.48
HIRED EQUIPMENT		300.00
GRADER REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	6,451.28	18,061.73
LOADER REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	5,974.79	3,868.73
MAINTENANCE & SUPPLIES	3,133.86	1,775.69
PLOW BLADES & SHOES	5,135.20	1,447.35
PRESSURE WASHER / PARTS & REPAIR	4,611.73	399.58
SANDER REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	444.28	1,627.89
SCREENER REPAIRS	-	1,341.66
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 32,920.59	\$ 35,523.95
TOTAL REVENUE	44,345.00	63,490.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	32,920.59	35,523.95
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR	11,424.41	27,966.05

GRAVEL PIT FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
REVENUE		
FROM SELECT BOARD BUDGET		
RENT OF GRAVEL PIT (MULCH)	2,000.00	2,000.00
USE OF SAND	4,200.00	4,200.00
USE OF GRAVEL	3,150.00	3,766.50
USE OF GRAVEL - OTHER		
TOTAL REVENUE	9,350.00	9,966.50
DISBURSEMENTS		
CRUSHING OF STONE	12,360.14	
GRAVEL PIT MAINTENANCE		440.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 12,360.14	\$ 440.00
TOTAL REVENUE	9,350.00	9,966.50
TOTAL	\$ 12,360.14	440.00
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR	\$ (3,010.14)	9,526.50

**See page 14 regarding reporting of fund balance

APPRAISAL FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	\$ 3,474.04	13,893.04
REVENUE		
STATE- LISTER FUND	6,278.95	6,669.00
STATE- LISTER TRAINING	390.05	0.00
TOWN ASSESSMENT	4,000.00	4,000.00
	10,669.00	10,669.00
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	\$ 14,143.04	\$ 24,562.04
DISBURSEMENTS		
APPRAISAL FEES	-	
LISTER COMPUTER SUPPORT / HARDWARE	-	215.00
LISTER TRAINING	250.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 250.00	\$ 215.00
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	14,143.04	24,562.04
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	250.00	215.00
APPRAISAL FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 13,893.04	\$ 24,347.04

KINGDOM COMMUNITY WIND FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	136,031.86	136,367.49
REVENUE		
GMP REVENUE ABOVE TAX 2014	-	-
INTEREST REVENUE	335.63	340.40
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	136,367.49	136,707.89
DISBURSEMENTS		
TRANSFER TO KCW CD	-	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	136,367.49	136,707.89
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	-	-
KCW FUND ENDING BALANCE	136,367.49	136,707.89
KCW CD BALANCE \$136,707.89		

RESTORATION FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	6,275.75	6,482.46
REVENUE		
RESTORATION FEES COLLECTED	775.00	641.00
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	\$ 7,050.75	\$ 7,123.46
DISBURSEMENTS		
RESTORATION EXPENSE	568.29	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 568.29	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	7,050.75	7,123.46
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	568.29	-
RESTORATION FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 6,482.46	\$ 7,123.46

COMPUTERIZATION FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	9,706.90	10,805.59
REVENUE		
COMPUTERIZATION FEES COLLECTED	1,546.00	1,216.00
	1,546.00	1,216.00
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	\$ 11,252.90	\$ 12,021.59
DISBURSEMENTS		
COMPUTERIZATION EXPENSE	447.31	6,347.66
COMPUTERIZATION SALARY	-	1,900.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 447.31	\$ 8,247.66
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	11,252.90	12,021.59
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	447.31	8,247.66
COMPUTERIZATION FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 10,805.59	\$ 3,773.93

AUDIT FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	-	18,500.00
REVENUE		
TOWN ASSESSMENT	20,000.00	-
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 18,500.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
AUDIT EXPENSE	1,500.00	5,019.75
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,019.75
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	20,000.00	18,500.00
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	1,500.00	5,019.75
AUDIT FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 13,480.25

LIBRARY FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	1,173.23	621.92
REVENUE		
ASSESSMENT	6,000.00	6,000.00
DONATIONS	-	20.00
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 7,173.23	\$ 6,641.92
DISBURSEMENTS		
LIBRARIAN SALARY	3,121.76	2,849.68
LIBRARY ASSISTANT	-	44.00
FICA EXPENSE	193.57	176.68
MEDICARE EXPENSE	45.27	41.33
BOOKS	2,804.76	1,415.60
MAGAZINES	153.95	175.85
SUPPLIES	120.00	351.25
POSTAGE	112.00	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 6,551.31	\$ 5,054.39
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	7,173.23	6,641.92
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	6,551.31	5,054.39
LIBRARY FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 621.92	\$ 1,587.53

THANK YOU FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT, PLEASE VISIT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY LIBRARY.

LIBRARY HOURS
TUESDAY 4 PM TO 6 PM
SATURDAY 10 AM TO 12 NOON

LOWELL ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Town of Lowell Zoning Board would like to thank the people and owners that applied for and received building and other related permits during 2016. There are however, several residents that failed to apply for permits. To ensure that there are no problems or delays in obtaining financing for building projects or property sales you must comply with all ordinances. If you have any questions or concerns relative to obtaining a permit or complying with your town's ordinances please contact any member of the zoning committee or myself.



*Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Spencer, Zoning Administrator*

Kelcee Doaner – Grade 3

LOWELL PLANNING BOARD & BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT ZONING BOARD

The Lowell Zoning Board needs a new member and asks any town resident who wishes to serve the town to inform a member of the Selectboard or the Zoning Board.

In 2016 the board finished working on the hazard Mitigation Plan and sent it to the state and clarified the zoning district boundaries of the zoning map and made the map larger.

Lowell Zoning Board meetings are open to the public. The regularly scheduled meeting time is **the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.** at the Lowell Town Offices on Route 100. To confirm meeting time or agenda, call the Town Clerk's Office or Sam Thurston at 744-6859.

Please remember that most buildings and alterations whether commercial or residential need a permit. Permit applications may be picked up from the Town Clerk, the Zoning Administrator or online at townoflowell.org

The Board welcomes your feedback and encourages your input so please feel free to contact any board member with questions and suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kieth Christiansen, Rolf Koob, Charles Boulmetis, Sam Thurston
Lowell Planning Board and Board of Adjustment (Zoning Board)*

FOLK (FRIENDS OF LOWELL'S KIDS) ACCOUNT

	FY 2015	FY 2016
PRIOR BALANCE	5,317.94	8,110.28
REVENUE:		
DONATIONS	97.56	100.00
FOLK BINGO		1,044.00
FOLK FESTIVAL	2,304.00	2,426.50
HUNTER'S BREAKFAST	1,956.28	2,963.08
PETTY CASH		200.00
TOTAL REVENUE	4,357.84	6,733.58
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	9,675.78	14,843.86
DISBURSEMENTS:		
FOLK BINGO		1,044.00
FOLK FESTIVAL	425.00	275.00
HUNTER'S BREAKFAST RAFFLE	315.00	500.00
HUNTER'S BREAKFAST	-	102.99
MISCELLANEOUS	25.50	-
PLAYGROUND		5,294.72
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	700.00	200.00
SCHOOL - FIELD TRIPS	-	500.00
SCHOOL - STORYTELLER	100.00	215.94
SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATED		300.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	1,565.50	8,432.65
FOLK ENDING BALANCE	\$ 8,110.28	\$ 6,411.21

Megan Kneeland - Grade 2



F.O.L.K.

(Friends of Lowell Kids)

F.O.L.K. is a group of community members dedicated to supporting the needs of all of the children in the Town of Lowell. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30pm at the Lowell Town Offices. It has been great to welcome some new members this year and community members are always welcome to join! You can find out more about what we are doing by following us on Facebook, emailing us at friendsoflowellkids@gmail.com, or talking with any member.

We would like to thank all of you who were able to come out and support our F.O.L.K. events throughout 2016. F.O.L.K. also owes a lot of appreciation to our local sponsors like Cajun's, Bonneau's Sugarhouse, the Raboin Farm and all who donate to our annual auction and fundraisers. Ashley Randall helped make this year's Hunters' Raffle a huge success! The Lowell Fire Department, as always, was instrumental in keeping the F.O.L.K. Festival parade running smoothly, and all of the parade participants along with our vendors, activity organizers and the patient, welcoming people who brought their animals for the petting zoo are owed a big thank you too!

2016 was a busy year for F.O.L.K. LGS students voted on some great new playground equipment, which was installed in the spring of 2016. Local authors Leslie Rivver and Grannie Snow were invited to visit the school and their books were a big hit! A scholarship was awarded to Nathan Charland, who wrote a touching letter on how his life has been affected by his grandfather, George Sargent. F.O.L.K. also helped sponsor a trip to Africa for a group of NCUHS students including local high schoolers Laura Masi and Loren Searles. These young ladies then put on a nice presentation about their trip for middle school students at LGS. We helped the Lion's Club put on their exciting annual BINGO for the 8th grade D.C. trip. The 2016 F.O.L.K. Festival brought together many community members for a day of fun. Finally, our Hunters' Breakfast was very well attended. Feel free to come to a meeting some time. We'd love to welcome your new ideas to our traditions!

Sincerely,

Carla Raboin, Keri Willey, Mandy Kneeland, Jennifer Blay, Cheryl Clarke,

Amanda Carlson, Sonja Blodgett, Becky Dizazzo, Hannah Heinchon and Samantha Santaw-Wright

2017 F.O.L.K. EVENTS

Tuesday, March 7th

Donations for the Jay Area Food Shelf will be collected at Town Meeting

Saturday, March 11th

BINGO at St. Ignatius Parish Hall to benefit 8th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, May 3rd

Deadline for High School Senior Scholarship Applications

Saturday, September 16th

Annual F.O.L.K. Festival

Saturday, November 11th

Hunters' Breakfast & Raffle

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Lowell Cemetery Association manages the care and finances of the Mountain View Cemetery. Its mission is to maintain, improve and beautify the cemetery. Thanks to town funding, volunteer effort, and contributions of material and equipment, several improvements were made in 2016:

- The eastern boundary property line was cleared and reseeded
- Eastern boundary property corners were marked
- Five maple trees were planted
- Many sunken graves were filled and reseeded
- Cemetery regulations were updated

In order to provide necessary ongoing maintenance and support additional improvements, the Association requests town funding of \$4,000.00 for 2017. In addition to grounds care, the funds would be used for projects currently under consideration: new fencing, tree planting, painting the tool shed, installing a flag pole, and developing new roads.

www.lowellmountainviewcemetery.org

LOWELL CEMETERY ACCOUNT

	FY 2015	FY 2016
<i>Prior Balance - CHECKING</i>	\$ 4,739.01	\$ 6,236.65
REVENUE:		
Grave Prep	200.00	25.00
Lot Sold	1,080.00	685.00
MA Mutual Interest	771.92	785.93
Town Assessment	3,500.00	4,500.00
	5,551.92	5,995.93
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 10,290.93	\$ 12,232.58
DISBURSEMENTS:		
<i>Clearing Fence Line</i>	-	1,890.00
Co-Op Ins.	125.00	125.00
Corner Post	320.00	250.00
Filling Sunken Graves		89.00
Lawn Mowing & Trimming	2,355.00	2,920.00
Perm Care	300.00	500.00
Repair Shed	506.06	
Stone Repair	350.00	
Trees		488.74
Website	98.22	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	4,054.28	6,262.74
CHECKING ENDING BALANCE	\$ 6,236.65	\$ 5,969.84
SAVINGS	1,147.10	1,148.26
TOTAL CEMETERY FUND	\$ 7,383.75	\$ 7,118.10

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Lowell Historical Society is in the process of writing a History of Lowell. We have contracted with the writer Bethany Dunbar to help us; we discuss topics and she writes a chapter that we all think will be of interest. Then we choose another chapter together. So far she has written a chapters on the asbestos mine, on Betty Kelley and her files on the families of Lowell, and she is in the process of working on the early history of Lowell. Other chapters might be on the schools, farm conditions, the Mink Farm, the geology of Lowell and who knows what else? We welcome everybody's input. If you have ideas, information or stories get in touch. The Asbestos article was published in the Chronicle and the Northern Journal.

The Lowell Historical Society's yearly scholarship will again be offered to a graduating Lowell Senior or Seniors attending any schooling who is enrolling in college. The award (up to \$200) will be chosen among those submitting an essay on any aspect of Lowell history. You may base your essay on interviews with family, friends and residents, written sources like diaries, old newspapers and published books and from direct observation of remains of the past (rock wall foundations of now gone buildings, etc). The 2016 recipient was Janey Masi. Congratulations, Janey! Her essay was accepted for publication by the Chronicle! Essays are due Monday May 15th and should be emailed to daphne.christiansen@gmail.com or sent to Lowell Historical Society, Lowell Town Offices, 2170 Vermont Route 100 in Lowell. The essay should be no less than 500 words. Any questions may be directed to Sam Thurston at 744-6859 or samuelthurston@gmail.com

The Lowell Historical Society maintains a history room in the Town Offices which is open to the public by appointment. It contains numerous interesting artifacts from the Lowell of the past, including photos, old town reports, maps, old school photos, newspaper and magazine and articles on Lowell, census data, records and other historical data. If you have not visited it for a few years come take a look: you may be surprised at how we keep accumulating interesting things.

If your ancestors were born in Lowell there is a great source for research and study in the Betty Kelley Archives, which is located in the Town Clerk's office and may be used anytime the Town Clerk's office is open. Compiled by Betty Kelley, this cabinet has a folder for practically every family born in Lowell from the earliest settlers to the end of the Twentieth Century. It contains extensive genealogical dates, photocopies of obituaries and weddings and other newsworthy articles. Occupations are sometimes noted and some stories and reminiscences are included.

The Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the donations of historical photographs, artifacts and genealogical materials that we receive. Any letters, documents, maps, photos, postcards, artifacts, reminiscences etc. that may help us to document the history of Lowell are most welcome.

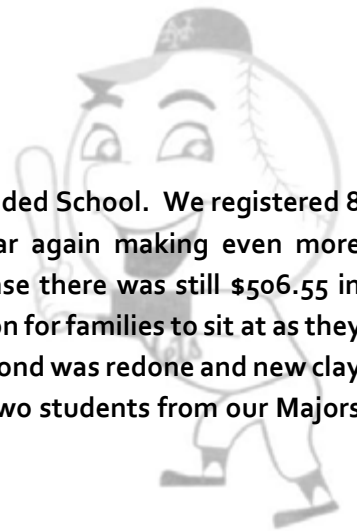
Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th at 6:30 at the Town Offices. Further meetings to be announced. All our meetings are open to all and everyone is welcome. We are a small society and your presence would be most welcome.

LOWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

	FY2015	FY 2016
<i>Prior Balance - Checking</i>	\$ 1,942.74	\$ 1,772.10
<i>Prior Balance - Money Market</i>	4,396.72	4,403.32
REVENUE:		
<i>Donations</i>	110.00	
<i>Fundraisers</i>	323.00	507.50
<i>Interest - Checking</i>	0.93	0.86
<i>Interest - Money Market</i>	6.60	6.63
<i>Membership Dues</i>	10.00	15.00
<i>Sale of History Article to Media</i>		400.00
	450.53	929.99
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 6,789.99	\$ 7,105.41
DISBURSEMENTS:		
<i>Bethany Dunbar - Research</i>	260.00	480.00
<i>Candy Bars for Fundraiser</i>	64.57	36.48
<i>Membership VT Historical Society</i>	45.00	-
<i>Northland Journal Subscription</i>	45.00	-
<i>Scholarship</i>	200.00	200.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	\$ 614.57	\$ 716.48
HISTORICAL SOCIETY ENDING BALANCE	\$ 6,175.42	\$ 6,388.93

Baseball Sports Fund

We had 60 students ages prek through age 12 play baseball here at Lowell Graded School. We registered 8 teams with the Cal Ripken program. Roger and Deb Willey worked the snack bar again making even more improvements. The snack bar made \$676.55 and then after the picnic table purchase there was still \$506.55 in revenue for the town sports fund. We purchased the picnic table from the FOLK auction for families to sit at as they eat. This year we hired AJ and Marc Sicotte to do work on the existing field. The diamond was redone and new clay mix was added. Benches were built by Steve Sheltra and Dennis Guyette. We had two students from our Majors team have the opportunity to play for the All Stars at the district level.



Special Baseball Appropriation

Thank you for the special baseball appropriation! The new field was established and the backstop installed. Sargents Construction was hired to build new bleachers. There is still some work to be done in the spring to finish the new field. Jennifer Blay wrote a grant to the State of Vermont through the Regional Economic Development Grant and received \$4, 983.70. The students in grades 2 thru 5 went to The state capital to take part in the ceremony and receive the grant to improve their baseball fields.



If you have any questions about baseball programs, or about the appropriations requests please don't hesitate to talk to us.

Thank you

Jennifer Blay & Mandy Kneeland

SPORTS FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
REVENUE		
TOWN ASSESSMENT	2,000.00	3,000.00
DUES / FUND RAISERS	2,175.44	1,576.55
TOTAL REVENUE	4,175.44	4,576.55
DISBURSEMENTS		
BUILDING & GROUNDS	169.00	1,299.99
EQUIPMENT	532.29	1,396.96
FIELD IMPROVEMENTS		0.00
LEAGUE INSURANCE	885.00	733.00
MISCELLANEOUS - TROPHYS	355.90	670.98
UMPIRE	300.00	130.00
UNIFORMS	865.50	806.40
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 3,107.69	\$ 5,037.33
TOTAL REVENUE	4,175.44	4,576.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,107.69	5,037.33
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR	1,067.75	-460.78

BASEBALL FIELD MAINTENANCE FUND

		FY 2016
REVENUE		
TOWN ASSESSMENT		4,000.00
FUND RAISERS & DONATIONS /GRANTS		4,983.70
TOTAL REVENUE		8,983.70
DISBURSEMENTS		
FIELD IMPROVEMENTS		4,982.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		\$ 4,982.00
TOTAL REVENUE		8,983.70
TOTAL EXPENSES		4,982.00
PROFIT / LOSS FOR YEAR		4,001.70

Lowell Volunteer Fire Department

Letter from the Chief

2016 was a busy year for the Lowell Fire Department with 27 fire related calls, and another 8 calls assisting the Mississquoi Valley Ambulance.

We have gained 5 new members, to bring our membership to 25 very active members. I am grateful for having such a supportive team of volunteers.

The Lowell Fire Department has recently purchased a 2007 rescue truck using money received from the newly installed cell tower. This truck replaces our old 1986 van.

This year the Lowell Fire Department is asking the voters to approve the borrowing of money to replace our old 1992 tanker truck. The old tanker has served us well, but due to safety issues such as weight and drivability, along with age and dependability we need to plan for a replacement. Resident safety is our number one priority and we don't want to compromise that with unreliable equipment. So the time has come, and we respectfully ask for your support at Town Meeting.

And as always, if you see us at the station, feel free to stop in and check out the new truck, to say hi, or stop to say thank you to our exceptional group of volunteers who dedicate their time to protect our town.

Fire Chief
Calvin Allen



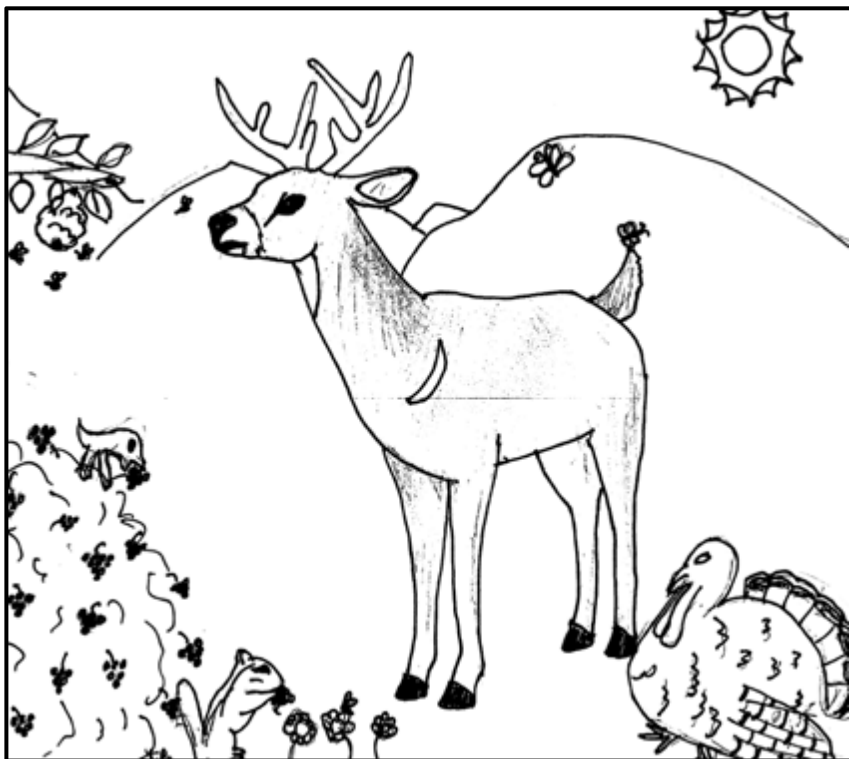
Miriam Langmaid – Grade 6

FOREST FIRE WARDEN REPORT

Anyone in the Town of Lowell wishing to have an open fire must first receive a "Written Burn Permit" from the local Fire Warden, or Deputy Fire Warden. You may find their telephone numbers posted around town. All burn permits are free.

This year there WERE 98 permits issued by the Fire Warden, Deputy Warden and Town Fire Chief. The Fire Warden and Deputy Warden should be the first to call for a permit as they are updated daily on fire weather danger and conditions. As you may have seen at the town green there is a daily fire danger sign to let residents know of the fire danger level. This is updated daily during spring, summer and fall fire seasons.

We wish to thank everyone who called for a permit this year before burning. And please help prevent forest fires.



Grace Robitille – Grade 8

Respectfully Submitted: Gerry Nick- Forest Fire Warden Marc Sicotte- Deputy Warden



Mckenna Blay – Grade 6

LOWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATING ACCOUNT

	FY 2015	FY 2016
Prior Balance	1,800.49	6,981.12
REVENUE		
Town Appropriation	25,000.00	25,000.00
	25,000.00	25,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	\$ 26,800.49	\$ 31,981.12
DISBURSEMENTS		
Diesel / Gas	1,566.00	631.08
Dues & Memberships	337.00	711.00
Electricity	1,005.49	1,112.47
Equipment Repair	565.73	1,689.20
Fire Extinguisher / Inspection	183.85	104.95
Fire House Supplies & Gas	251.76	151.65
Fire Hydrant Maintenance	100.00	-
Gear	199.99	225.12
General Maintenance	2,673.00	3,146.27
Heat	1,949.50	1,225.00
Insurance	5,081.00	4,368.00
Insurance - Workman's Comp	1,460.00	(110.00)
Miscellaneous	109.84	115.97
New Equipment	-	3,033.61
Postage	112.00	116.80
Repair - Pages, Radio & Batteries	853.13	3,151.88
Snow Removal - Fire Department	800.00	350.00
Snow Removal - Fire Hydrants	520.00	270.00
Telephone	523.58	497.99
Training	502.50	360.00
Volunteer Stipend	1,025.00	4,975.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 19,819.37	\$ 26,125.99
TOTAL REVENUE & FUND BALANCE	26,800.49	31,981.12
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	19,819.37	26,125.99
OPERATING FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 6,981.12	\$ 5,855.13

LOWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FUND

	FY 2015	FY 2016
Prior Balance	\$ 17,868.28	\$ 20,128.99
REVENUE		
Donations	275.00	500.00
Donations - Jam Session	1,227.87	2,274.00
Great Auk Wireless - Internet	975.00	825.00
Interest (Savings)	9.57	10.61
Sale of Old Rescue Van	-	3,500.00
Services Rendered	312.00	1,040.00
T-Mobile	200.00	9,100.00
	2,999.44	17,249.61
Returned to Checking from jam session kitty (reduced kitty from \$100 to \$50)		50.00
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 20,867.72	\$ 37,428.60
DISBURSEMENTS		
Christmas Dinner	550.00	1,021.25
Fund Raiser & Fire House Supplies	29.78	93.21
Miscellaneous-Books & Training Manuals	58.95	42.85
New Equipment	100.00	
New 2006 Rescue Truck Deposit		20,000.00
New Rescue Truck Set-Up Costs		2,470.72
Postage		18.79
Rescue Truck Loan Payments		1,700.00
Training		225.00
Vehicle Registrations & Inspections		58.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 738.73	\$ 25,629.82
TOTAL REVENUE	20,867.72	37,428.60
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	738.73	25,629.82
EQUIPMENT FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 20,128.99	\$ 11,798.78

Side Note: Just to satisfy some curiosity, the original asking price on the rescue truck we purchased, was \$145,000. The department that owned it, needed a larger truck and needed it sold for a down payment, and thus dropped the price to \$115,000. We offered them \$100,000 and they accepted. We paid \$20,000 down payment, and financed \$80,000 for 10 years.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection days, to be held at the New England Waste Services of Vermont, Inc. (WASTE USA) landfill facility on Airport Road in Coventry. All residents from participating towns may attend to dispose of HHW. Residency will be proven through vehicle registration. Residents sharing a vehicle with another household must provide additional proof of residency. Each household will be limited to 10 gallons or 20 pounds of HHW.

2016- HHW DATES:

Saturday, May 13th, 2017
Saturday, October 14th, 2017



7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

If you qualify as a small quantity (CEG) business, and wish to dispose of your hazardous waste, arrangements for disposal and payment must be made in advance and at least one week prior to the event.

TIRE COLLECTION EVENT

Where: Town Garage

When: Saturday, May 20th, 2017

Time: 8am to 12 noon

Cost:	Car/ Truck (13"- 19.5")	\$1.00 ea.
	Truck (19.5")	\$3.00 ea.
	Tractor Trailer (22.5"- 24.5")	\$7.00 ea.



8 tires max. per family/ No rims, please
For more information contact: Town Clerk's Office @ 744-6559

REPORT OF DOG LICENSES

Dogs Licensed (2016).....	201
Penalties	\$ 38.00
Special Licenses	\$ 84.00
Total License Fees Received	\$ 1,838.00
Fees Paid to VT State Treasurer	\$ 894.00

DOG REMINDER

ALL DOGS 6 MONTHS & OLDER MUST BE LICENSED BY
APRIL 1ST, 2017

50% Penalty charged after April 1st, 2016

Dog License Fees:

\$ 9.00 each neutered or spayed

\$13.00 each not neutered or not spayed

The Animal Medical Hospital will host a Rabies clinic for
\$15.00 per rabies vaccination on
SATURDAY- MARCH 25TH, 2016 ONLY
from 1:45 TO 2:45 P.M.
at the Lowell Fire Station

LICENSING WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THAT TIME.
(YOU MUST SHOW PROOF OF VACCINATION AT TIME OF LICENSING)

PLEASE NOTE

All dogs, cats, ferrets & wolf/ hybrids must be vaccinated against rabies.

TOWN OF LOWELL- DOG ORDINANCE

An ordinance establishing regulations for the control of domestic pets and wolf-hybrids has been adopted by the select board since October 5, 2004 and took effect on December 6, 2004.

No owner, keeper or other person shall permit a dog or wolf-hybrid owned by him or under his or her keeping or control, to run at large; such person found in violation shall be subject to civil penalties or other enforcement remedies – as provided by law.

A copy of the ordinance is available at the Town Clerk's office.

LOWELL VITAL RECORDS

The names listed were printed with permission

BIRTHS			
Name	Mother	Father	Date
Aubrey Lynne Geoffroy	Megan Geoffroy	Matthew Geoffroy	4/6/16
Kambria Izabelle Doaner	Katie Doaner	Vince Doaner	8/14/16
Kylar Cason Nick	Michelle Nick	Jeremy Nick	9/29/16
Ava Mae Richardson	Kristen Dopp	Adam Richardson	10/18/16
Oliver George Dennett	Kasey Dennett	Bucky Dennett	11/10/16

Total number of Births Recorded in Lowell for 2016:

11 Births

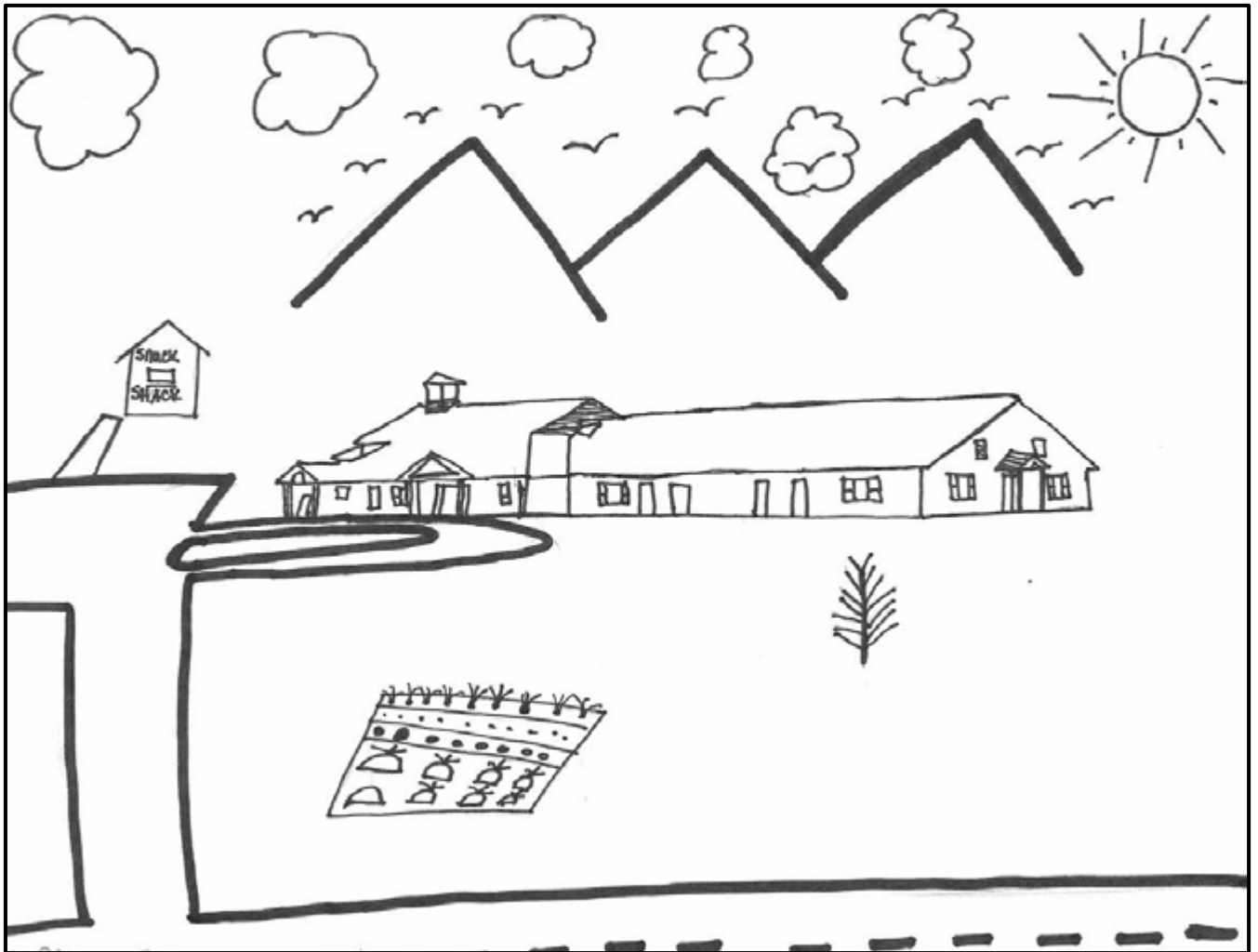
MARRIAGES	
	Date
<i>Dory Sublett and Brian Lemieux</i>	7/2/16
<i>Jessica LaQuerre and Chrsitopher Pion</i>	9/24/16
Total Number of Marriages Recorded in Lowell for 2016:	3 Marriages

DEATHS				
Name	Residence	Birth Place	Age	Date
Paul Stanley Winship	Lowell	Fairfax, VT	81	Nov-16
Jacqueline E. Kennison	Lowell	Glover, VT	84	Dec. 21, 2016

Total Number of Deaths Recorded in Lowell for 2016:

10 Deaths

SCHOOL REPORTS



Aliza Coburn – Grade 8

LOWELL GRADED SCHOOL
52 Gelo Park Road
Lowell, Vermont 05847-9796
(802) 744-6641 (phone)
(802) 744-9989 (fax)

Anita Gagner
Principal

John Castle
Superintendent

“The mission of Lowell Graded School is to provide a safe, challenging and engaging learning environment that promotes achievement and is tailored to individual student needs.”

Greetings from your Principal,

I would like to start by thanking all of you. We are so very fortunate to be part of a community that supports quality education and has done so for many years. This support is shown in a variety of ways; bringing your child ~ grandchild to school and sharing breakfast with them, sitting in on a class, attending an afterschool sports event or concert, chaperoning a field trip, purchasing from yet another fundraiser and of course passing the annual budget; ensuring continued academic excellence for the children in our community.

Our small school continues to be a powerful force and a positive influence for the children in our community, allowing all the opportunity to excel. With the school and community working together, we are creating opportunities to ensure that today’s students become active and positive community members and create opportunities to open doors for their future.

The students of today are preparing for future jobs that are yet to be created. This being stated, schools (our school, our classrooms) look much different than they did a few years ago. Students are becoming leaders of their own learning. They are engaged in creative, cooperative learning opportunities, as well as using and working on transferable skills where communication and cooperation are essential tools for preparing a child for their future.

Lowell Graded School is considered a small school. We can and should be proud of the many contributions made regarding education on a daily basis. We continue to raise expectations and provide rigorous challenging content along with any extra assistance that may be needed in order for each student to reach their full potential.

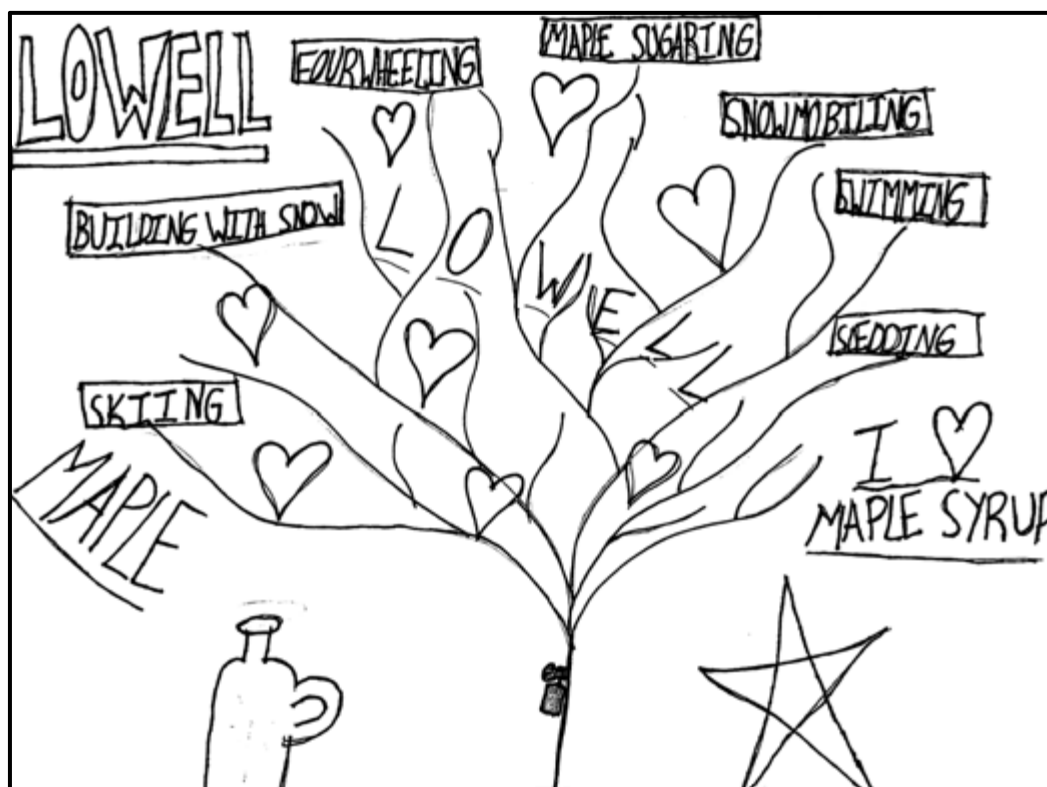
The staff at Lowell continues to focus on constant school improvement. Teachers are continuously working to teach children to think critically and analytically in the areas of digital



Naomi Balcom – Grade 1

literacy, reading, writing, mathematics and the sciences. Students are learning to be problem solvers as well as self-assessing advocates in an effort to prepare them for a future that is moving and changing faster than ever. Our teachers are using Project Based Learning; this allows students to apply their learning to areas of interest which also fosters their self-esteem.

Education is endlessly evolving with an ever-increasing list of mandates and operating within shrinking sources of revenue and resources. A couple new requirements are the use of Personalized Learning Plans and Transferable Skills. Personalized Learning Plans allow students to look critically



Aleisha Bonneau – Grade 5

at their learning, reflect on future goals, and develop goals and self-assessing strategies to help them attain their hopes and dreams. In addition to this, students are creating portfolios that show exemplary work as well as analysis to show academic growth and proficiency towards Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards and transferable skills.

Changes at Lowell Graded School help to ensure that our school continues to maintain high levels of expectations through the efforts of all of us working together. The changes for the 2016-2017 school year include: a new Kindergarten through Fifth grade math program titled *Bridges*, from The Math Learning Center, a nationally recognized, research based non-profit organization. This math program was purchased by each school in our district to ensure continuity for all NCSU students. Teachers will continue to receive on-going training through our first year of implementation. We also welcomed the following new staff: Keri Willey in First and Second grade, Darah Zurit in Special Education, Travis Terrell in Physical Education, Inga Hoag in Guidance, Lisa Geoffroy in the kitchen and Gilles and Kelly Bathalon as our Custodians.

On behalf of the students, staff and board at Lowell Graded School, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your continued consideration, cooperation and support.

Don't forget: It's all about our children!

**Sincerely,
Anita Gagner**

A Letter from the Lowell School Board – January 2017

One of Lowell Graded School's missions is to promote student voice and engagement through authentic place-based learning that celebrates the unique environment, culture and heritage of our rural community. We encourage that approach, and we know that being rural, Lowell faces a variety of economic challenges. The way we face such challenges - with a supporting attitude and pride, is less common.

Rural school districts, even in Vermont, are as diverse as the communities they serve - and the students they educate. Our unique histories, cultures, and landscapes result in community-based schools that defy categorization. Still, there are common themes:

- We are community hubs and bring people together,
- We encourage student participation and ownership,
- We serve as centers for the arts,
- We are catalysts for movements, like the Farm-to-School and recycling and renewable energy, to name a few.

There is compelling evidence to show that when you take socio-economic factors into account, children in smaller schools do well. We know that we have great participation in extracurricular activities, and that is linked to academic success and that the Lowell students feel they "belong" in the school. For the most part, our small class size allows more individualized instruction and that good teaching methods are easier to implement. Having more grades in one school alleviate many problems of transitions to new schools.

Given all these positives, why does it feel like our small schools are under attack? Sure, we know that historically rural schools have been geographically and politically isolated. We know that there are federal concerns about the quality of teachers and the progress of students are accompanied by state standards, proficiency tests for high school graduation, and school report cards and that most of the requirements based on these "concerns" result in unfunded or under-funded mandates. The result, of course, is rising cost. Add to the equation the fact that health insurance costs continue to rise and salaries increase to match cost-of-living expenses and you have a recipe for the occasional unhappy taxpayer in part because of the way that we finance public education in that it is tied to property taxes.

Recently we have been confronted by a challenge that started out making a case for Vermont's system of governance in our public school, which led to cost-cutting motivation for changes, and ultimately led to criticisms of how our students experience (or don't) equity in their schools. Over the past several months, North Country Supervisory Union has engaged in a series of conversations to inform community members of Act 46, and to solicit input on how to proceed. The goals of the law are to address equity, quality, efficiency, transparency and educational costs. Goals we have always sought to advance in each of our schools and together as a supervisory union. The legislation encourages the consideration of centralized governance, and elimination of local school boards, to achieve these goals. We are interested in hearing from our school-community before considering what direction to take. We encourage you to complete the survey that we have made available at the Town Meeting, and you can find more information on Act 46 at www.NCSUVT.org

As in years past, in considering the Lowell school budget for 2017-18, be reminded that our budget and per pupil costs have been, and continue to be, among the lowest in Vermont.

For more detailed words on activities during the past year at the Lowell Elementary School, we would direct you to the *Principal's Letter* in this Report.

Finally, as a school board, we believe that it is never over-stated that we wish to express our appreciation for the support we receive each and every day from the Lowell community.

Sincerely,

Lowell School Board members:

Steve Mason (chair)

Jason Blay

David Legacy

LOWELL GRADED SCHOOL STUDENTS & STAFF

LOWELL GRADED SCHOOL STUDENTS	
PRESCHOOL	12
KINDERGARTEN	13
1 st GRADE	9
2 nd GRADE	9
3 rd GRADE	5
4 th GRADE	14
5 th GRADE	12
6 th GRADE	11
7 th GRADE	8
8 th GRADE	15

<u>PRINCIPAL</u>	Anita Gagner
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</u>	Sara Morse LeBlanc
<u>TEACHERS</u>	
50% <i>Preschool</i>	Karla Graham
<i>Kindergarten</i>	Lorelei Willis
<i>Grades 1 & 2</i>	Keri Willey
<i>Grade 1 & 2</i>	Samantha Santaw-Wright
<i>Grades 3 & 4</i>	Judith Ide
<i>Grades 5</i>	Leanne Barnard
<i>Grades 6-8 Humanities</i>	Michael Brooks
<i>Grades 3, 6 & 8 Math</i>	Bonita Deslandes
<i>Grades 6-8 Science</i>	Zarah Savoie
<i>Literacy Interventionist</i>	Jennifer Blay
<i>Grade 7 Math & Math Interventionist</i>	Daniel Griffith
<i>Music (40%), Tech & Curric. Integ.(60%)</i>	Michael Oquendo
<i>Art (20%)</i>	Hosanna McAllister
<i>Physical Education (40%)</i>	Travis Terrell
<i>Special Educator</i>	Darah Zurit
<i>Special Educator</i>	Gretchen Irwin
<i>Speech/Lang. Pathologist (30%)</i>	Kathy Hill
<i>Classroom Teacher (25%)</i>	Suzanne Hastings
<u>School Guidance Counselor (50%)</u>	Inga Hoag
<u>School Based Clinician (20%)</u>	Jamie Cousineau
<u>Home School Co-ordinator (10%)</u>	Megan Valley
<u>NURSE (30%)</u>	Sharon Robitille
<u>PARAEDUCATORS</u>	
<i>SpEd./Classroom Assist./Library Assist.</i>	Robin Messier
<i>SpEd. / SLPA Assistant</i>	Melanie Richardson
<i>SpEd. / Classroom Assistant</i>	Gail Sicotte
<i>SpEd. / Classroom Assistant</i>	Shannon Mead
<i>SpEd. / Classroom Assistant</i>	Sonja Blodgett
<i>SpEd. / Classroom Assistant</i>	Anne Cota
<i>SpEd. / Classroom Assistant</i>	Jill Legacy
<u>LUNCH PROGRAM</u>	
<i>Manager/Cook</i>	Debra Merrill
<i>Cook</i>	Lisa Geoffroy
<u>CUSTODIAN</u>	
<i>General</i>	Gilles Bathalon
<i>General</i>	Kelly Bathalon
<u>BUS DRIVERS</u>	
	Nanette Bonneau
	Joanne Bathalon
	Gerry Nick
<u>COACHES</u>	
<i>Soccer & Track</i>	Zarah Savoie
<i>Boys' Basketball</i>	Keenan Warner
<i>Girls' Basketball</i>	Kyle Warner

LOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FY2018 Anticipated Budget

DESCRIPTION	Adopted Budget	Reported Period	Adopted Budget	Anticipated Budget
	FY2016	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018
LOCAL REVENUES				
Other Transp. Fees	\$0.00	(\$1,899.75)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment Earnings - Interest	(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,178.03)	(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,000.00)
Interest-TAN	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc. Other Local Revenue	(\$500.00)	(\$263.56)	(\$500.00)	(\$500.00)
Fund Balance as Revenue	(\$30,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$39,000.00)	(\$69,316.00)
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES	(\$31,500.00)	(\$3,341.34)	(\$40,500.00)	(\$70,816.00)
SUBGRANT REVENUES				
Medicaid Sub Grant	(\$10,000.00)	(\$24,869.96)	(\$10,000.00)	(\$10,000.00)
Title IIA NCSU Funds	\$0.00	(\$8,573.66)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subgrants for Schoolwide Programs	(\$65,077.64)	(\$104,734.00)	(\$104,734.00)	(\$104,734.00)
TOTAL SUBGRANT REVENUES	(\$75,077.64)	(\$138,177.62)	(\$114,734.00)	(\$114,734.00)
STATE REVENUES				
Education Spending Grant	(\$1,294,248.07)	(\$1,294,248.00)	(\$1,327,051.00)	(\$1,395,361.00)
Small Schools Grant	(\$109,302.00)	(\$110,248.00)	(\$109,395.00)	(\$109,395.00)
State Aid for Transportation	(\$29,662.00)	(\$29,343.00)	(\$33,693.00)	(\$33,693.00)
VSAC Grant	(\$9,500.00)	(\$7,200.00)	(\$6,500.00)	(\$6,500.00)
Special Ed. - Mainstream Block Grant	(\$39,053.00)	(\$39,053.00)	(\$38,138.00)	\$0.00
Special Ed. Reimbursements Intensive	(\$153,439.00)	(\$153,555.00)	(\$197,465.00)	(\$96,594.00)
Special Ed. - EEE	(\$12,717.00)	(\$12,717.00)	(\$12,834.00)	\$0.00
State Placed Student SpEd Reimbursement	\$0.00	(\$36,564.92)	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL STATE REVENUES	(\$1,647,921.07)	(\$1,682,928.92)	(\$1,725,076.00)	(\$1,641,543.00)
TOTAL REVENUES	(\$1,754,498.71)	(\$1,824,447.88)	(\$1,880,310.00)	(\$1,827,093.00)
DIRECT INSTRUCTION				
Salary - Elementary Teachers	\$435,500.00	\$461,250.35	\$473,880.00	\$473,880.00
Salary-VSAC	\$8,000.00	\$6,870.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
Salary - Elementary Para	\$23,783.00	\$17,906.29	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
Substitutes Pay - Elementary	\$6,000.00	\$12,255.54	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Health Ins - Elementary	\$108,339.00	\$115,111.11	\$130,000.00	\$130,000.00
FICA - Elementary	\$35,594.15	\$35,773.75	\$37,630.00	\$37,630.00
FICA-VSAC	\$612.00	\$518.30	\$498.00	\$498.00
Life Insurance - Elementary	\$360.00	\$296.46	\$396.00	\$396.00
Municipal Retirement	\$951.32	\$716.29	\$720.00	\$720.00
Workers Comp-Elementary	\$2,755.00	\$2,722.96	\$2,951.00	\$2,951.00
Unemployment - Elementary	\$2,670.00	\$2,084.76	\$4,080.00	\$4,080.00
Tuition - Elementary	\$18,180.00	\$3,505.00	\$18,180.00	\$18,180.00
Dental Ins - Elementary	\$3,226.00	\$3,332.75	\$3,456.00	\$3,456.00
Long Term Disability - Elementary	\$1,330.00	\$1,256.34	\$1,469.00	\$1,469.00
Purchased & Technical Services - Element	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Prch Prop Svcs - Elementary-Copier	\$2,450.00	\$1,214.13	\$2,450.00	\$2,450.00
Tuition	\$8,550.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel - Elementary	\$500.00	\$220.80	\$500.00	\$500.00

Supplies - Elementary	\$6,000.00	\$11,555.41	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Supplies-Paper	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Books/Periodicals - Elementary	\$14,000.00	\$8,082.69	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Books/Periodicals-Medicaid Funded	\$0.00	\$6,608.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
Books/Periodicals-Math	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Manipulatives - Elementary	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Computer Software - Elementary	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment - Elementary	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Furniture	\$2,000.00	\$3,636.99	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Dues/Fees - Elementary	\$2,000.00	\$2,530.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Misc.	\$400.00	\$24.75	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc.-VSAC	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Student Activities	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Salaries	\$2,000.00	\$1,450.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
FICA	\$150.00	\$109.32	\$150.00	\$150.00
Workers Compensation	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Unemployment	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Referees	\$500.00	\$60.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Supplies	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$850.00
Equipment	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Dues/Fees-Tournaments	\$150.00	\$98.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Trophies/Banquet	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
TOTAL DIRECT INSTRUCTION	\$697,865.47	\$702,790.49	\$741,875.00	\$741,875.00
PRE-K				
Salary - Pre K Teacher	\$22,500.00	\$19,000.00	\$19,700.00	\$19,700.00
Salary - Pre K Para	\$10,188.00	\$2,417.32	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Health Ins - Pre K	\$13,185.00	\$9,116.55	\$10,595.00	\$10,595.00
FICA - Pre K	\$2,500.63	\$1,599.63	\$1,737.00	\$1,737.00
Life Insurance - Pre K	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$33.00	\$33.00
VSTRS-OPEB Payment	\$0.00	\$548.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pre K Municipal Retirement	\$407.52	\$96.65	\$120.00	\$120.00
Workers Comp - Pre K	\$177.00	\$106.12	\$136.00	\$136.00
Unemployment - Pre K	\$275.00	\$164.56	\$326.00	\$326.00
Tuition - Pre K	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
Dental Ins - Pre K	\$0.00	\$192.00	\$192.00	\$192.00
Long Term Disability - Pre K	\$80.00	\$39.07	\$61.00	\$61.00
Supplies - Pre K	\$400.00	\$216.31	\$400.00	\$400.00
Books/Periodicals - Pre K	\$0.00	\$252.55	\$0.00	\$0.00
Computer Software - Pre K	\$0.00	\$142.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
Furniture-Pre K	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
TOTAL PRE-K	\$50,728.15	\$33,891.61	\$37,300.00	\$37,300.00
SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS				
Salary - Schoolwide Teacher	\$43,600.00	\$66,102.35	\$68,365.00	\$68,365.00
Health Ins - Schoolwide	\$9,374.00	\$27,128.36	\$26,230.00	\$26,230.00
FICA - Schoolwide	\$3,335.40	\$4,806.47	\$5,230.00	\$5,230.00
Life Insurance - Schoolwide	\$36.00	\$44.04	\$50.00	\$50.00
VSTRS Pension Payment	\$0.00	\$8,589.20	\$0.00	\$0.00
Workers Comp - Schoolwide	\$246.00	\$371.12	\$411.00	\$411.00
Unemployment - Schoolwide	\$180.00	\$267.40	\$443.00	\$443.00
Tuition - Schoolwide	\$1,800.00	\$195.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
Dental Ins - Schoolwide	\$192.00	\$180.48	\$768.00	\$768.00
Long Term Disability - Schoolwide	\$126.00	\$170.03	\$212.00	\$212.00
Purchased & Technical Services Schoolwide	\$0.00	\$14,455.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies - Schoolwide	\$295.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Books/Periodicals - Schoolwide	\$295.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

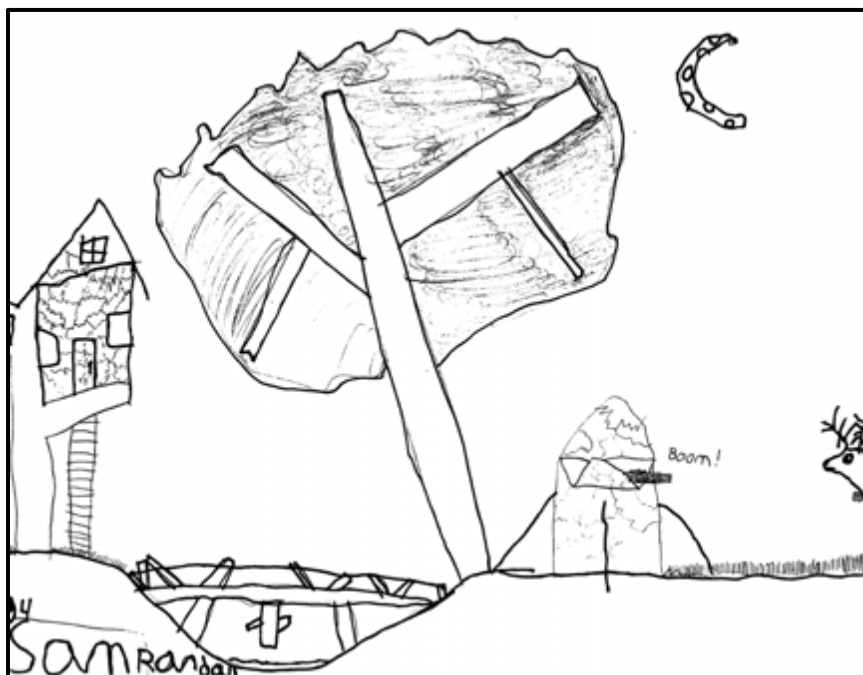
Dues/Fees - Schoolwide	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
VSTRS OPEB Payment	\$5,598.24	\$0.00	\$9,520.00	\$9,520.00
TOTAL SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS	\$65,077.64	\$122,379.45	\$113,929.00	\$113,929.00
TITLE IIA				
Salary - Title IIA Teacher Quality	\$0.00	\$1,896.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FICA - Title IIA Teacher Quality	\$0.00	\$139.18	\$0.00	\$0.00
VSTRS Pension Payment	\$0.00	\$141.70	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dental Ins - Title IIA Teacher Quality	\$0.00	\$0.74	\$0.00	\$0.00
Purchased & Technical Services Title IIA	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dues/Fees - Title IIA Teacher Quality	\$0.00	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL TITLE IIA	\$0.00	\$8,827.62	\$0.00	\$0.00
SPECIAL PROGRAMS				
Salary - Teacher	\$102,600.00	\$105,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Summer Tutoring Wages	\$0.00	\$672.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salary - Para	\$98,555.00	\$97,185.89	\$96,700.00	\$96,700.00
Substitutes Pay	\$2,000.00	\$1,213.96	\$0.00	\$0.00
Health Ins	\$54,140.00	\$44,440.61	\$59,390.00	\$59,390.00
FICA	\$15,541.36	\$14,747.51	\$7,398.00	\$7,398.00
Life Insurance	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Municipal Retirement	\$3,942.20	\$3,887.60	\$3,868.00	\$3,868.00
Workers Comp	\$1,113.00	\$1,108.38	\$683.00	\$683.00
Unemployment	\$539.00	\$1,316.36	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00
Contract Services-NCSU	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$248,237.00	\$125,845.00
Tuition	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dental Ins	\$768.00	\$704.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Long Term Disability	\$287.28	\$289.88	\$0.00	\$0.00
Purchased & Technical Services	\$0.00	\$8,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuition-SPS	\$0.00	\$33,403.92	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Supplies	\$500.00	\$157.94	\$500.00	\$500.00
Books/Periodicals	\$500.00	\$29.59	\$500.00	\$500.00
Computer Software	\$0.00	\$99.95	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Dues/Fees	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
TOTAL SPECIAL PROGRAMS	\$285,195.84	\$312,817.59	\$420,226.00	\$297,834.00
EEE				
EEE Local	\$30,252.00	\$30,589.73	\$30,897.00	\$20,700.00
EEE State/Federal	\$12,717.00	\$12,717.00	\$12,834.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EEE	\$42,969.00	\$43,306.73	\$43,731.00	\$20,700.00
AFTER SCHOOL/SUMMER PROGRAM				
Camp Encore	\$15,500.00	\$15,500.00	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
Supplies-ASP/Summer Prog	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL AFTER SCHOOL/SUMMER	\$15,500.00	\$16,000.00	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
GUIDANCE				
Salary - Teacher Guidance	\$21,100.00	\$21,800.00	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00
Health Ins	\$9,374.00	\$9,496.88	\$10,115.00	\$10,115.00
FICA	\$1,614.15	\$1,366.37	\$1,722.00	\$1,722.00
Life Insurance	\$36.00	\$15.00	\$33.00	\$33.00
Workers Comp	\$116.00	\$122.35	\$135.00	\$135.00
Unemployment	\$179.00	\$164.56	\$272.00	\$272.00
Tuition	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
Dental Ins	\$192.00	\$192.00	\$192.00	\$192.00

Long Term Disability	\$61.00	\$59.72	\$70.00	\$70.00
Books/Periodicals	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Dues/Fees	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL GUIDANCE	\$33,872.15	\$33,366.88	\$36,439.00	\$36,439.00
HEALTH SERVICES				
Salary - Teacher	\$0.00	\$10,248.00	\$11,088.00	\$11,088.00
FICA	\$0.00	\$784.00	\$850.00	\$850.00
Life Insurance	\$0.00	\$22.50	\$33.00	\$33.00
VSTRS-OPEB Payment	\$0.00	\$1,097.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Workers Comp	\$0.00	\$59.42	\$67.00	\$67.00
Unemployment	\$0.00	\$164.56	\$272.00	\$272.00
Tuition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$540.00	\$540.00
Long Term Disability	\$0.00	\$21.51	\$35.00	\$35.00
Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$954.50	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Computer Software	\$0.00	\$70.48	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contract Services - NCSU	\$18,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Purchased Property Services	\$0.00	\$64.87	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES	\$19,500.00	\$13,486.84	\$13,885.00	\$13,885.00
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES				
Testing Services	\$1,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Contract Services	\$5,000.00	\$900.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Contract Services - NKHS	\$22,300.00	\$1,999.54	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Contract Services - Behavior Specialist	\$5,750.00	\$6,456.45	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Contract Services-NKHS SpEd eligible	\$0.00	\$8,787.46	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	\$34,550.00	\$24,143.45	\$28,000.00	\$13,000.00
SPEECH/AUDIOLOGY SERVICES				
Testing Services	\$500.00	\$7,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contract Services	\$0.00	\$8,596.29	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contract Services - SLP	\$23,000.00	\$22,741.21	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies-Speech	\$500.00	\$368.46	\$500.00	\$500.00
TOTAL SPEECH/AUDIOLOGY SVCS	\$24,000.00	\$38,955.96	\$500.00	\$500.00
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY				
Contract Services	\$7,154.00	\$8,499.64	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	\$7,154.00	\$8,499.64	\$0.00	\$0.00
PHYSICAL THERAPY				
Purchased & Technical Services	\$2,500.00	\$1,101.68	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PHYSICAL THERAPY	\$2,500.00	\$1,101.68	\$0.00	\$0.00
SUPPORT SERVICES				
Home School Coordinator Salary	\$0.00	\$3,204.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FICA	\$0.00	\$245.11	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	\$0.00	\$3,449.11	\$0.00	\$0.00
LIBRARY				
Salary - Para	\$10,188.00	\$6,812.98	\$9,015.00	\$9,015.00
Health Ins	\$3,811.00	\$2,619.66	\$4,545.00	\$4,545.00
FICA	\$779.38	\$471.03	\$690.00	\$690.00
Municipal Retirement	\$329.00	\$272.49	\$361.00	\$361.00
Workers Comp	\$54.00	\$0.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
Unemployment	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$110.00
Contract Service Library Media Specialist	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,400.00
Supplies	\$500.00	\$594.19	\$500.00	\$500.00

Books\Periodicals	\$1,500.00	\$1,362.65	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Computer Software	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$254.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dues\Fees	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
TOTAL LIBRARY	\$17,256.38	\$12,887.00	\$16,826.00	\$39,226.00
TECHNOLOGY				
Salary - Teacher	\$22,400.00	\$22,799.90	\$23,640.00	\$23,640.00
Health Ins	\$4,269.00	\$4,324.87	\$4,607.00	\$4,607.00
FICA	\$1,713.60	\$1,686.55	\$1,809.00	\$1,809.00
Life Insurance	\$36.00	\$18.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Workers Comp	\$120.00	\$127.34	\$142.00	\$142.00
Unemployment	\$110.00	\$98.72	\$163.00	\$163.00
Tuition	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Dental Ins	\$230.00	\$209.68	\$231.00	\$231.00
Long Term Disability	\$64.00	\$62.24	\$74.00	\$74.00
Purchased & Technical Services	\$15,000.00	\$5,384.76	\$6,800.00	\$6,800.00
Contract Services-SIS	\$1,250.00	\$2,175.62	\$1,250.00	\$1,855.00
Learning Mgmt Software, Eplus Main Agree	\$3,000.00	\$860.36	\$735.00	\$775.00
Purchased Property Services-Internet	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Travel	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$1,661.92	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Computer Software	\$1,500.00	\$662.54	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Equipment	\$2,000.00	\$1,908.20	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Dues\Fees	\$0.00	\$103.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY	\$55,667.60	\$42,083.70	\$47,126.00	\$47,771.00
PATH EXPENSE				
PATH Stipend	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FICA-PATH	\$0.00	\$45.89	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel-PATH	\$0.00	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PATH EXPENSE	\$0.00	\$780.89	\$0.00	\$0.00
ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD				
Salaries - Board	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
FICA	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Legal	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Liability Insurance	\$4,085.00	\$3,938.33	\$6,750.00	\$6,750.00
Advertising	\$500.00	\$2,390.04	\$500.00	\$500.00
Dues	\$1,000.00	\$874.41	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Other Board Expenses	\$300.00	\$410.40	\$300.00	\$300.00
Contingency for Wage & Benefit Increases	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$78,500.00
Contingency for Support Staff Increases	\$3,502.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD	\$35,657.00	\$7,613.18	\$9,820.00	\$88,320.00
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT				
NCSU Assessment	\$40,833.00	\$38,705.00	\$43,004.00	\$45,793.00
TOTAL OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT	\$40,833.00	\$38,705.00	\$43,004.00	\$45,793.00
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL				
Salary - Principal	\$73,869.00	\$73,869.00	\$76,085.00	\$76,085.00
Salary - Assistant Principal	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Salary - Clerical	\$20,662.50	\$24,095.82	\$20,550.00	\$20,550.00
FICA	\$7,384.66	\$7,650.91	\$7,546.00	\$7,546.00
Life Insurance	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$132.00	\$132.00
Municipal Retirement	\$804.00	\$963.82	\$822.00	\$822.00
Workers Comp	\$545.00	\$544.03	\$594.00	\$594.00

Unemployment	\$358.00	\$329.08	\$545.00	\$545.00
Tuition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Long Term Disability	\$207.00	\$206.37	\$235.00	\$235.00
Purchased & Technical Services	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Purchased Property Services	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Postage	\$850.00	\$624.45	\$850.00	\$850.00
Travel	\$750.00	\$830.77	\$750.00	\$750.00
Supplies	\$2,250.00	\$2,329.33	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Equipment	\$1,500.00	\$963.01	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Dues/Fees	\$600.00	\$517.50	\$600.00	\$600.00
Misc	\$50.00	\$137.98	\$50.00	\$50.00
TOTAL OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL	\$113,550.16	\$115,182.07	\$115,359.00	\$115,359.00
FISCAL SERVICES				
Town Office	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Contracted Service	\$18,000.00	\$18,400.00	\$18,400.00	\$18,400.00
Interest Current Loans	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL FISCAL SERVICES	\$20,000.00	\$20,400.00	\$20,400.00	\$20,400.00
AUDIT SERVICES				
Audit Services	\$5,750.00	\$5,150.00	\$5,750.00	\$4,650.00
TOTAL AUDIT SERVICES	\$5,750.00	\$5,150.00	\$5,750.00	\$4,650.00
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE				
Salaries	\$14,829.00	\$11,526.42	\$14,830.00	\$14,830.00
Salaries-Summer	\$2,600.00	\$1,335.75	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
Health Ins	\$0.00	\$19.62	\$0.00	\$0.00
FICA	\$1,333.32	\$983.54	\$1,333.00	\$1,333.00
Municipal Retirement	\$571.00	\$21.55	\$0.00	\$0.00
Workers Comp	\$760.00	\$691.51	\$745.00	\$745.00
Unemployment	\$179.00	\$164.56	\$272.00	\$272.00
Contracted Serv	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Septic Services	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Water Testing	\$2,000.00	\$3,801.20	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
Rubbish Services	\$2,500.00	\$2,939.99	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Property Ins.	\$2,860.00	\$2,325.46	\$2,860.00	\$2,860.00
Telephone	\$2,000.00	\$1,021.05	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Supplies	\$5,000.00	\$437.48	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Electricity	\$12,000.00	\$10,202.81	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Propane	\$3,000.00	\$963.38	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Heating Oil	\$16,000.00	\$10,440.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
Non-Instructional Equip.	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00
Wide Area Network Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,222.00
TOTAL OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE	\$66,682.32	\$47,174.32	\$66,890.00	\$71,112.00
CARE/UPKEEP-BUILDINGS				
Contracted Services	\$10,000.00	\$2,684.12	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Repairs & Maint	\$3,000.00	\$15,081.25	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$6,539.67	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Equipment	\$600.00	\$680.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
TOTAL CARE/UPKEEP-BUILDING	\$15,600.00	\$24,985.04	\$15,600.00	\$15,600.00
CARE/UPKEEP-GROUNDS				
Contracted Services	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Snow Removal	\$3,400.00	\$1,050.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00
Lawn Care	\$2,250.00	\$4,699.28	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00
Supplies	\$1,250.00	\$1,291.84	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00

Equipment Playground	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
TOTAL-CARE/UPKEEP-GROUNDS	\$8,400.00	\$7,041.12	\$8,400.00	\$8,400.00
CARE/UPKEEP-EQUIPMENT				
Purchased Property Services	\$100.00	\$2,008.18	\$100.00	\$100.00
Supplies	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
CARE/UPKEEP-EQUIPMENT	\$400.00	\$2,008.18	\$400.00	\$400.00
TRANSPORTATION				
Contract Services	\$72,000.00	\$69,543.76	\$72,000.00	\$0.00
Contract 504 Service	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$0.00
Transportation-Summer	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
Transportation Services - NCSU	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80,850.00
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	\$75,100.00	\$69,543.76	\$75,100.00	\$75,100.00
SPECIAL ED TRANSPORTATION				
Special Ed Transportation Para Wages	\$0.00	\$854.05	\$0.00	\$0.00
BCBS	\$0.00	\$355.94	\$0.00	\$0.00
SpEd Trans FICA	\$0.00	\$58.43	\$0.00	\$0.00
Municipal Retirement	\$0.00	\$34.08	\$0.00	\$0.00
SpEd Trans Mileage Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$4,230.94	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL SPEC ED TRANSPORTATION	\$0.00	\$5,533.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
EXTRA CURRIC. TRANSPORTATION				
Field Trips	\$3,000.00	\$6,747.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
Transportation-VSAC	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Athletic Transp.	\$1,750.00	\$2,751.00	\$1,750.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXTRA CURRIC. TRANSP	\$5,250.00	\$9,498.00	\$6,250.00	\$6,250.00
DEBT SERVICES				
Long Term Debt - interest	\$440.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Long Term Debt - principal	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00
Fund Transfers	0.00	38,240.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL DEBT SERVICES	\$15,440.00	\$53,240.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,754,498.71	\$1,824,842.75	\$1,880,310.00	\$1,827,093.00
NET BALANCE-GENERAL FUND	\$0.00	\$394.87	\$0.00	\$0.00



Sam Randall - Grade 4

Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2017 Report 16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)

School: Lowell Graded School
S.U.: North Country S.U.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports":
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2016 School Level Data

Cohort Description: K - 8, enrollment < 200
(33 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)
16 out of 33

School level data		Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu / Tchr Ratio	Stu / Admin Ratio	Tchr / Admin Ratio
Smaller →	Orwell Village School	K - 8	110	11.10	1.00	9.91	110.00	11.10
	Tunbridge Central School	PK - 8	114	11.20	1.00	10.18	114.00	11.20
	Orleans Elementary School	PK - 8	115	10.40	1.00	11.06	115.00	10.40
	Lowell Graded School	PK - 8	115	13.70	1.00	8.39	115.00	13.70
	Millers Run School USD #37	PK - 8	116	9.51	1.00	12.20	116.00	9.51
	Lunenburg/Gilman Schools	PK - 8	120	10.85	1.00	11.06	120.00	10.85
← Larger	Charleston Elementary School	PK - 8	122	13.80	1.00	8.84	122.00	13.80
Averaged SCHOOL cohort data			119.00	11.34	0.99	10.49	120.46	11.48

School District: Lowell
LEA ID: T114

Special education expenditures vary substantially from district to district and year to year. Therefore, they have been excluded from these figures.

The portion of current expenditures made by supervisory unions on behalf of districts varies greatly. These data include district assessments to SUs. Including assessments to SUs makes districts more comparable to each other.

FY2015 School District Data

Cohort Description: K - 8 school district, FY2013 FTE < 200
(34 school districts in cohort)

School district data (local, union, or joint district)		Grades offered in School District	Student FTE enrolled in school district	Current expenditures per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs	Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest) 14 out of 34
Smaller →	Coventry	PK-8	108.46	\$14,089	Current expenditures are an effort to calculate an amount per FTE spent by a district on students enrolled in that district. This figure excludes tuitions and assessments paid to other providers, construction and equipment costs, debt service, adult education, and community service.
	Orwell	K-8	109.28	\$13,824	
	Orleans ID	PK-8	112.59	\$13,159	
← Larger	Lowell	PK-8	116.55	\$11,391	
	Stratford	PK-8	124.24	\$13,325	
	South Hero	PK-8	124.56	\$10,448	
	Glover	PK-8	129.29	\$13,083	
Averaged SCHOOL DISTRICT cohort data			117.56	\$13,967	

FY2017 School District Data

LEA ID School District		Grades offered in School District	School district tax rate			Total municipal tax rate, K-12, consisting of prorated member district rates		
			SchlDist Equalized Pupils	SchlDist Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	SchlDist Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	MUN Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	MUN Common Level of Appraisal	MUN Actual Homestead Ed tax rate
Smaller →	T017 Benson	PK-8	92.54	14,209.96	1.4848	1.4371	92.20%	1.5587
	T147 Orleans ID	PK-8	99.50	12,795.95	1.3190	1.3742	103.59%	1.3236
	T034 Brownington	PK-8	107.27	11,676.50	1.2036	1.2958	109.81%	1.1830
	T114 Lowell	PK-8	113.65	11,676.65	1.2037	1.2852	99.96%	1.2852
	T194 Stamford	K-8	114.88	11,286.42	1.1634	1.1634	109.06%	1.0634
	T044 Charleston	PK-8	115.24	11,766.00	1.2129	1.2737	93.58%	1.3611
← Larger	T080 Glover	PK-8	122.46	14,451.36	1.4897	1.4924	105.57%	1.4138

The Legislature has required the Agency of Education to provide this information per the following statute:

16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2) The school, at least annually, reports student performance results to community members in a format selected by the school board. . . . The school report shall include:

(K) data provided by the commissioner which enable a comparison with other schools, or school districts if school level data are not available, for cost-effectiveness. The commissioner shall establish which data are to be included pursuant to this subdivision and, notwithstanding that the other elements of the report are to be presented in a format selected by the school board, shall develop a common format to be used by each school in presenting the data to community members. The commissioner shall provide the most recent data available to each school no later than October 1 of each year. Data to be presented may include student-to-teacher ratio, administrator-to-student ratio, administrator-to-teacher ratio, and cost per pupil.

WARNING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the North Country Union High School District, consisting of the Town School Districts of Brighton, Charleston, Derby, Holland, Jay, Lowell, Morgan, Newport Center, Troy, Westfield, and City of Newport, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the North Country Career Center Assembly Room (Room 380), in Newport, Vermont, on **Monday, February 27, 2017**, at 6:30 o'clock in the evening, to act upon the following business, to wit:

- ARTICLE I: To elect, by ballot, the following officers for the district: a moderator, a clerk, and a treasurer, each to serve for one year.
- ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the reports of the district officers.
- ARTICLE III: To decide what salaries shall be paid to officers and directors of the district.
- ARTICLE IV: North Country Union High School and North Country Career Center: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$14,392,463, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$14,824 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 6.10% higher than spending for the current year.
- ARTICLE V: North Country Union Junior High School: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$4,841,517, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$14,997 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.33% higher than spending for the current year.
- ARTICLE VI: Shall the North Country Union High School District authorize the Board of School Directors to place \$280,000 of undesignated FY2016 fund balance from the general fund operations in the Capital Improvement Reserve fund?
- ARTICLE VII: Shall the North Country Union High School District authorize the Board of School Directors to place \$110,000 of undesignated FY2016 fund balance from the general fund operations in the Technology Reserve fund?

Voting on the aforementioned Articles IV, VI, and VII will be by Australian ballot at each regular polling place in each member town and city of the North Country Union High School District on **Tuesday, March 7, 2017**. Voting on the aforementioned Article V will be by Australian ballot at each regular polling place in the towns of Derby, Holland, Jay, Morgan, and City of Newport on **Tuesday, March 7, 2017**. The polls shall be opened and closed according to law and as set by the Board of Civil Authority of each town or city within the union District, and said respective Boards of Civil Authority shall be responsible for determining the eligibility of persons to vote and the supervision of the election, and the presiding officer shall direct the manner in which the vote and ballots on the appropriation questions are counted in each respective town and city. The municipal clerks of the member towns and city shall certify the tallies to the Board of School Directors and shall transmit the certified tallies to the North Country Union High School District Clerk.

**WARNING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH COUNTRY
UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)**

DISCUSSION AND DEBATE ON THE APPROPRIATIONS SHALL BE CONDUCTED AT THE ASSEMBLED NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017** AT 6:30 P.M., AT THE NORTH COUNTRY CAREER CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM (ROOM 380) IN NEWPORT, VERMONT. THE ASSEMBLED MEETING SHALL ALSO CONSTITUTE THE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING REQUIRED BY 17 V.S.A. §2680(G).

ARTICLE VIII: To see when, by date and time, the North Country Union High School District shall hold its Annual District Meeting for 2018 and the time it shall hold special district meetings under the provisions of 16 VSA 706j (a) (5), 706p, 17 VSA 2643 and 17 VSA 2655 including any special meetings held subsequent to the Annual District Meeting for 2017.

ARTICLE IX: To do any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

ARTICLE X: To adjourn.

Dated at Newport, Vermont, this 17th day of January, 2017.

Rose Mary Mayhew
David G. [Signature]
[Signature]
Peter Moskovits
Garth Young
Richard M. [Signature]
Michael Carter
[Signature]

[Signature]
George Swanson
Marguerite [Signature]

NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Received and recorded this 17th day of January, 2017

[Signature]
Clerk, N.C.U.H.S. District

OFFICIAL BALLOT
NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MARCH 7, 2017

ARTICLE IV

North Country Union High School and North Country Career Center: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$14,392,463, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$14,824 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 6.10% higher than spending for the current year.

IF IN FAVOR, make a cross (X) in this square

☐

IF OPPOSED, make a cross (X) in this square

☐

ARTICLE VI

Shall the North Country Union High School District authorize the Board of School Directors to place \$280,000 of undesignated FY2016 fund balance from the general fund operations in the Capital Improvement Reserve fund?

IF IN FAVOR, make a cross (X) in this square

☐

IF OPPOSED, make a cross (X) in this square

☐

ARTICLE VII

Shall the North Country Union High School District authorize the Board of School Directors to place \$110,000 of undesignated FY2016 fund balance from the general fund operations in the Technology Reserve fund?

IF IN FAVOR, make a cross (X) in this square

☐

IF OPPOSED, make a cross (X) in this square

☐

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

Dear North Country School-Community:

For many decades a majestic elm tree stood just a couple of hundred yards from Holland School on School Road. I recall during my time as principal of Holland School the tree's decline and eventual demise to Dutch elm disease, which wiped out many elm trees in our country much earlier. Today, the sustainability of our forests is still subject to outside threat of invasive insects and disease. There are many coordinated efforts to turn back these threats to our forests and the livelihood of so many people who depend on our natural resources. Similarly, I believe there are forces that threaten the democratic principles and practices important to the sustainability of our communities.

Vermont's Act 46 of 2015 is considered the most significant education law in 100 years. The goals of the law are to address equity, quality, efficiency, transparency and educational costs. Goals we have always sought to advance in each of our schools and together as a supervisory union. The legislation encourages the consideration of centralized governance, and elimination of local school boards, to achieve these goals. The State is providing incentives to encourage supervisory unions to become "unified union districts," thus transferring the authority for making all decisions regarding schools to a single centralized board with proportional representation. Given the size of our supervisory union, a centralized model will minimize public participation and potentially the commitment to invest in our community-schools, with one large budget for all schools collectively.

This year we were expected to centralize transportation to comply with the law. However, we were able to demonstrate that our current approach to transportation is efficient and effective. Centralizing transportation would have cost us more than \$350,00 annually. Now, we must have all costs for transportation pass through the supervisory union in order to demonstrate compliance. Certainly, this is not a more efficient or effective approach.

NCSU schools did accomplish centralization of special education this current year in accordance with statutory requirements. The cost for special education services (with exception of local para-educators) is now assessed to schools based on equalized pupils. In FY18 the State will issue the approximate 56% special education reimbursement directly to the supervisory union. Local budgets for FY18 will reflect only the final assessed cost for special education and thus show a substantial reduction in the bottom line from FY17. We are adjusting to the centralization of special education and in some ways finding benefits to our collaborative efforts. We are not, however, seeing any reduction in costs.

During the budget process this year, school boards continued to face tough choices in sustaining programs and services while considering the financial limitations of our communities. A number of schools' FY18 budgets were impacted by the need to comply with Vermont Education Quality Standards and add certified library-media specialist. Schools with declining enrollments face the greatest challenge with the loss of revenue associated with fewer students. There is no question that we will need to continue to identify ways to collaborate in sharing resources in order to ensure both efficiency and equity. Regardless of governance, our collective focus must remain on student learning and providing the programs, services and resources to ensure high quality learning opportunities. I am confident NCSU shares a culture of continuous improvement and has established the right approach with our Commitments and Design for Learning

There are still scattered elm trees in Holland, and other parts of our supervisory union, that persist despite the challenges. We celebrate the existence of these hearty outliers that stand strong in the face of adversity. Likewise, we must stand strong to the threat of our democratic principles. To that end, we are hosting a series of conversations across NCSU to inform people of Act 46 and to get your input. We encourage communities to discuss the law and our options at your annual meeting under, "other business to be conducted." Your direct engagement with our schools is essential to the sustainability of our schools and our democracy.

We appreciate the continued support of our community members and our shared commitment to the development of *character, competence, creativity* and sense of *community*.

John A. Castle, NCSU Superintendent of Schools

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

...committed to the development of Character, Competence, Creativity and Community

DESIGN FOR LEARNING 2015 – 2018

GOAL: All schools will provide a curriculum that advances outcomes as articulated in the NCSU Commitments.

Objectives:

1. Each school will deliver a comprehensive curriculum to achieve proficiency based on current standards.
 2. Each school will establish curricula to ensure instructional access tailored to individual needs and interests.
 3. Each school will ensure curricula that include the visual and performing arts.
 4. Each school will establish curricula related to transferable skills.
-

GOAL: All schools will provide learning opportunities and utilize instructional practices in accordance with NCSU Commitments.

Objectives:

1. Each school will utilize the NCSU Instructional Framework.
 2. Each school will incorporate project/problem-based learning.
 3. Each school will ensure access to a comprehensive continuum of supports for all learners.
 4. Each school will establish a more customized approach to learning and support multiple pathways.
-

GOAL: All schools will utilize effective assessment, grading practices, feedback and use of data.

Objectives:

1. Each school will implement current best practices for assessment and reporting of student learning outcomes.
 2. Each school will update a comprehensive assessment plan including the use of electronic portfolios.
 3. Each school will develop practices of student goal setting, self-assessment and student-led conferences.
 4. Each school will use qualitative data to guide reflection around the review of programs and practices.
-

GOAL: All schools will create a positive learning environment.

Objectives:

1. Each school will implement research-based practices that advance positive behaviors.
2. Each school will develop strategies to address character development.
3. Each school will promote authentic student voice and leadership.
4. Each school will increase parent and community engagement.





NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

...committed to the development of Character, Competence, Creativity and Community

LEARNING BELIEFS

Learning takes place in a culture that fosters...

Growth Mindset ❖ Curiosity ❖ Perseverance ❖ Relevance
Mutual Respect ❖ Feedback & Reflection ❖ Instructional Access
Equity ❖ Diversity ❖ Personal Responsibility ❖ Shared Leadership
Individual & Collective Accomplishments ❖ Community Partnerships

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Learners participate in experiences that/to...

Support Personal Pathways ❖ Include Problem-Based Projects
Are Academically Rigorous ❖ Make Inter-Disciplinary Connections
Contain Experiential Discovery ❖ Utilize Transferable Skills
Encourage Student Voice ❖ Incorporate Technology
Involve Physical Activity ❖ Create & Perform ❖ Engage the Community
Occur In the Natural World ❖ Happen Anywhere & Any Time

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learners succeed by becoming...

Caring, Kind & Grateful ❖ Confident & Self-Directed ❖ Honest & Fair
Independent Thinkers ❖ Innovative Problem Solvers
Academically Accomplished ❖ Effective Communicators & Collaborators
Technologically Skilled ❖ Globally Aware ❖
Contributing Citizens ❖ Respectful of Our Environment
Physically, Emotionally & Socially Healthy
Appreciative Of & Skilled In the Visual & Performing Arts

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL
FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016 UNAUDITED

	General Fund 2016
Revenues	
Program Revenues:	
Charges for services	\$ 344,150
Operating grants and contributions	8,250,652
General Revenues:	
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	1,099,837
Miscellaneous	26,993
Total revenues	<u>9,721,632</u>
Expenses	
General administration	1,133,351
Student support services	1,758,618
Early education programs	225,863
Transpiration and maintenance	194,169
Program expenses	6,099,474
On-behalf payments	484,356
Total Expenses	<u>9,895,831</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(174,199)</u>
Fund balance - beginning	<u>1,359,713</u>
Fund balance - ending	<u>\$ 1,185,514</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

FY2018 BOARD APPROVED ASSESSMENT BUDGET

	FY2017 Board Approved Budget	FY2018 Board Approved Budget
Account Number / Description	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	7/1/17-6/30/18
ASSESSMENT REVENUE		
INTEREST		
INTEREST INCOME-CASH ACCOUNT	(\$2,000)	(\$2,000)
INTEREST INCOME-MONEY MARKET	(\$2,000)	(\$2,000)
INTEREST REVENUE	(\$4,000)	(\$4,000)
ASSESSMENTS	(\$1,131,650)	(\$1,176,782)
TOTAL 1931 TOWN ASSESSMENT	(\$1,131,650)	(\$1,176,782)
1990 MISC OTHER LOCAL REVENUE		
FUND BALANCE AS REVENUE	(\$25,000)	(\$30,000)
INDIRECT COSTS REVENUE	(\$40,000)	(\$40,000)
MISC REVENUE	\$0	\$0
TOTAL 1990 MISC OTHER LOCAL REVENUE	(\$65,000)	(\$70,000)
TOTAL ASSESSMENT REVENUE	(\$1,200,650)	(\$1,250,782)
ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES		
2110 ATTENDANCE SERVICE		
SALARY ATTENDANCE OFFICER	\$1,000	\$200
F.I.C.A.	\$75	\$15
W COMP	\$5	\$1
TRAVEL	\$75	\$40
TOTAL 2110 ATTENDANCE SERVICE	\$1,155	\$256
2210 Improvement of Instruction Services		
SP PROJECTS P SERV	\$8,000	\$8,000
SP PROJECTS PRINCIPAL MENTORING	\$0	\$0
SP PROJECTS SUPPLIES	\$3,000	\$2,000
SPEC.PROJ.-FOOD	\$3,500	\$5,000
SPEC.PROJ.-SOFTWARE	\$0	\$0
TOTAL 2210 Improvement of Instruction Services	\$14,500	\$15,000
2212 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT		
DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM SALARY	\$42,523	\$43,798
WAGES CURRICULUM ADMIN ASST	\$15,875	\$16,371
BCBS	\$17,763	\$14,031
FICA	\$4,467	\$4,603
LIFE INSURANCE	\$75	\$75
MUN. RETIREMENT	\$873	\$900
WORKERS COMP	\$270	\$270
UNEMPLOYMENT	\$40	\$40
TUITION	\$770	\$770
DENTAL	\$360	\$330
LTD	\$170	\$175
TRAINING	\$750	\$750
TRAVEL	\$645	\$645

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

FY2018 BOARD APPROVED ASSESSMENT BUDGET

Account Number / Description	FY2017 Board Approved Budget	FY2018 Board Approved Budget
	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	7/1/17-6/30/18
SUPPLIES	\$600	\$600
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	\$500	\$500
CONF & DUES	\$900	\$900
TOTAL 2212 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	\$86,581	\$84,758
2230 TECHNOLOGY		
DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY	\$65,118	\$67,073
NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR	\$10,454	\$26,000
SUPPORT TECH WAGES	\$7,380	\$7,601
BCBS	\$11,500	\$7,500
FICA	\$6,346	\$7,701
LIFE INSURANCE	\$168	\$168
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	\$3,649	\$3,689
WORKERS COMP	\$400	\$400
UNEMPLOYMENT	\$262	\$262
TUITION	\$1,800	\$1,800
DENTAL	\$395	\$384
LTD	\$255	\$194
TRAVEL	\$3,000	\$3,000
ROOMS & MEALS	\$400	\$400
SUPPLIES	\$500	\$500
SOFTWARE	\$3,500	\$3,500
EQUIPMENT	\$5,500	\$5,500
DUES & FEES	\$1,500	\$1,500
TOTAL 2230 TECHNOLOGY	\$122,127	\$137,172
2231 TECHNOLOGY PURCHASED SERVICES		
PURCHASED TECH SERVICE CONTRACT	\$66,000	\$52,879
TOTAL 2231 TECHNOLOGY PURCHASED SERVICES	\$66,000	\$52,879
2300 Support Services - General Admin		
ANNUITY	\$0	\$0
SUP'T SALARY	\$120,822	\$124,447
SECRETARY WAGES (2)	\$69,451	\$71,613
BCBS	\$54,987	\$54,972
FICA	\$14,412	\$14,630
LIFE INSURANCE	\$190	\$190
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	\$3,820	\$3,939
WORK COMP	\$1,050	\$1,050
UNEMPLOYMENT	\$330	\$500
DENTAL	\$1,068	\$1,033
LTD	\$533	\$569
AUDIT NCSU	\$12,200	\$12,200
LODGING & MEALS	\$1,500	\$1,500
TRAVEL	\$3,000	\$3,000
VSA DUES	\$4,500	\$4,500
PROF DEVELOPMENT-SECRETARY	\$200	\$200

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

FY2018 BOARD APPROVED ASSESSMENT BUDGET

	FY2017 Board Approved Budget	FY2018 Board Approved Budget
Account Number / Description	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	7/1/17-6/30/18
PROF DEVELOPMENT	\$1,600	\$1,600
TOTAL 2300 Support Services - General Admin	\$289,663	\$295,943
2320 MISC ADMIN COSTS		
HEALTH CARE ASSESSMENT	\$2,000	\$2,000
LEGAL MISC TOWNS	\$250	\$250
MAINTANCE CONTRACT ADS	\$7,000	\$10,000
STORAGE PURCHASE SERVICE	\$700	\$700
LEGAL SERVICES	\$2,000	\$3,000
STIPEND TREASURER'S	\$1,050	\$1,050
PURCHASE SERVICE	\$600	\$600
EQUIP MAINT	\$2,000	\$2,000
PHONE EQUIP MAINT	\$2,800	\$4,500
MACHINE LEASES & RENTALS	\$10,800	\$12,000
CONSOLIDATED INSURANCE	\$5,000	\$5,000
TELEPHONE	\$7,000	\$5,500
POSTAGE	\$10,000	\$12,500
INTERNET	\$1,000	\$1,000
MISC TOWNS ADVERTISING	\$400	\$400
ADVERTISING	\$2,000	\$3,500
MISC FOOD MEETINGS	\$2,200	\$8,000
MISC TOWN INVOICES	\$500	\$500
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$8,000	\$9,000
BOOKS	\$1,000	\$1,000
EQUIPMENT	\$2,000	\$1,000
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	\$2,000	\$2,000
PHONE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT	\$2,000	\$2,000
FURNITURE	\$2,500	\$2,500
MISCELLANEOUS DUES/FEES	\$500	\$500
TOTAL 2320 MISC ADMIN COSTS	\$75,300	\$90,500
2323 PERSONNEL		
PERSONNEL WAGES	\$71,976	\$80,845
PERSONNEL BCBS	\$19,830	\$24,280
PERSONNEL FICA	\$5,506	\$6,184
PERSONNEL LIFE INS	\$45	\$45
PERSONNEL RETIREMENT	\$3,739	\$4,446
PERSONNEL WORKERS COMP	\$350	\$350
PERSONNEL UNEMPLOYMENT	\$200	\$475
PERSONNEL TUITION	\$3,450	\$3,450
PERSONNEL DENTAL	\$707	\$704
PERSONNEL LTD	\$190	\$235
PURCHASED SERVICE PERSONNEL	\$500	\$500
PERSONNEL TRAVEL	\$100	\$100
PERSONNEL CONF/DUES	\$550	\$550
TOTAL 2323 PERSONNEL	\$107,143	\$122,164

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

FY2018 BOARD APPROVED ASSESSMENT BUDGET

	FY2017 Board Approved Budget	FY2018 Board Approved Budget
Account Number / Description	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	7/1/17-6/30/18
2520 BUSINESS OFFICE		
SALARY DIRECTOR BUSINESS	\$67,050	\$70,863
WAGES FINANCE ASSISTANTS	\$56,348	\$71,144
WAGES BUSINESS ADM ASST	\$25,664	\$26,473
WAGES COURIER	\$1,600	\$1,600
SALARY STAFF ACCOUNTANT	\$42,025	\$41,662
BCBS BUSINESS OFFICE	\$53,274	\$49,402
FICA BUSINESS OFFICE	\$14,618	\$16,076
LIFE INS BUSINESS OFFICE	\$123	\$123
RETIREMENT BUSINESS OFFICE	\$11,913	\$12,798
WORKERS COMP BUSINESS OFFICE	\$950	\$950
UNEMPLOYMENT BUSINESS OFFICE	\$675	\$675
TUITION BUSINESS OFFICE	\$3,500	\$3,500
DENTAL BUSINESS OFFICE	\$1,100	\$1,293
LTD DIRECTOR BUSINESS	\$561	\$571
PURCHASE SERVICE BUSINESS OFFICE	\$4,000	\$0
TRAVEL BUSINESS OFFICE	\$5,000	\$5,000
ROOMS & MEALS BUSINESS OFFICE	\$400	\$400
DUES & FEES BUSINESS OFFICE	\$1,400	\$1,400
PROF DEV BUSINESS OFFICE	\$500	\$500
TOTAL 2520 BUSINESS OFFICE	\$290,701	\$304,430
2600 OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT		
WAGES CUSTODIAN	\$2,380	\$2,380
OPERATION AND MAINT PURCHASE SERV	\$3,200	\$2,400
CUSTODIAN-P.SERV	\$8,500	\$9,500
RUBBISH REMOVAL	\$1,800	\$1,800
STORAGE RENTAL SPACE	\$800	\$800
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	\$2,800	\$2,800
TOTAL 2600 OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT	\$19,480	\$19,580
2640 OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT		
RENT	\$128,000	\$128,000
TOTAL 2640 OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT	\$128,000	\$128,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,200,650	\$1,250,782

Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2017 Report **16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)**

School: North Country UHS #22A
 S.U.: North Country S.U.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports":
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2016 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Senior high school (27 schools in cohort)		Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest) 9 out of 27						
School level data		Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu / Tchr Ratio	Stu / Admin Ratio	Tchr / Admin Ratio
Smaller → ← Larger	Spaulding UHS #41	9 - 12	718	84.07	4.00	11.21	179.50	16.02
	Colchester High School	9 - 12	727	59.80	3.00	12.16	242.33	19.93
	Brattleboro UHS #6	9 - 12	787	47.00	4.00	16.74	196.75	11.75
	North Country UHS #22A	9 - 12	796	69.00	5.00	11.54	159.20	13.80
	Mt Mansfield USD #17	9 - 12	815	52.70	2.00	15.46	407.50	26.35
	Rutland High School	9 - 12	854	69.26	4.00	12.33	213.50	17.32
	So Burlington High School	9 - 12	901	72.24	3.00	12.47	300.33	24.08
	Averaged SCHOOL cohort data		628.15	53.36	2.83	11.77	222.08	18.87

School District: North Country Sr UHSD #22
 LEA ID: U022B

Special education expenditures vary substantially from district to district and year to year. Therefore, they have been excluded from these figures.

The portion of current expenditures made by supervisory unions on behalf of districts varies greatly. These data include district assessments to SUs. Including assessments to SUs makes districts more comparable to each other.

FY2015 School District Data

Cohort Description: Senior high school district (23 school districts in cohort)		Grades offered in School District	Student FTE enrolled in school district	Current expenditures per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs	Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest) 10 out of 23
School district data (local, union, or joint district)					
Smaller →	Woodstock UHSD #4	7-12	484.81	\$17,978	Current expenditures are an effort to calculate an amount per FTE spent by a district on students enrolled in that district. This figure excludes tuitions and assessments paid to other providers, construction and equipment costs, debt service, adult education, and community service.
	Spaulding HSUD #41	9-12	620.02	\$15,581	
	Harwood UHSD #19	7-12	632.09	\$17,057	
	North Country Sr UHSD #22	9-12	634.16	\$18,260	
← Larger	Mount Abraham UHSD #28	7-12	664.41	\$15,798	
	Lamoille UHSD #18	7-12	664.69	\$14,706	
	Missisquoi Valley UHSD #7	7-12	733.34	\$14,837	
Averaged SCHOOL DISTRICT cohort data			587.09	\$15,793	

FY2017 School District Data

		School district tax rate				Total municipal tax rate, K-12, consisting of prorated member district rates		
		SchlDist	SchlDist	SchlDist		MUN	MUN	MUN
		Grades offered in School District	Equalized Pupils	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Common Level of Appraisal	Actual Homestead Ed tax rate
LEA ID School District					Use these tax rates to compare towns rates.	These tax rates are not comparable due to CLAs.		
Smaller →	U032 U-32 High School (UHSD #	7-12	755.33	16,320.09	1.6823	-	-	-
	U041 Spaulding HSUD #41	9-12	788.96	12,891.73	1.3289	-	-	-
	U018 Lamoille UHSD #18	7-12	825.39	14,972.93	1.5434	-	-	-
	U022B North Country Sr UHSD #	9-12	853.83	13,972.28	1.4403	-	-	-
← Larger	U007 Missisquoi Valley UHSD #	7-12	880.32	13,625.47	1.4045	-	-	-
	U003 Middlebury UHSD #3	7-12	963.73	17,648.27	1.8192	-	-	-
	U006 Brattleboro UHSD #6	7-12	1,117.17	17,349.15	1.7884	-	-	-

The Legislature has required the Agency of Education to provide this information per the following statute:

16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2) The school, at least annually, reports student performance results to community members in a format selected by the school board. . . . The school report shall include:

(K) data provided by the commissioner which enable a comparison with other schools, or school districts if school level data are not available, for cost-effectiveness. The commissioner shall establish which data are to be included pursuant to this subdivision and, notwithstanding that the other elements of the report are to be presented in a format selected by the school board, shall develop a common format to be used by each school in presenting the data to community members. The commissioner shall provide the most recent data available to each school no later than October 1 of each year. Data to be presented may include student-to-teacher ratio, administrator-to-student ratio, administrator-to-teacher ratio, and cost per pupil.

Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2017 Report
16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)

School: North Country Union Jr High #22B
S.U.: North Country S.U.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports":
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2016 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Middle school
(25 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)
15 out of 25

School level data		Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu / Tch Ratio	Stu / Admin Ratio	Tchr / Admin Ratio
Smaller → ← Larger	Peoples Academy Middle School	5 - 8	259	23.40	1.00	11.07	259.00	23.40
	Middlebury Union Middle School #3	7 - 8	259	27.40	2.00	9.45	129.50	13.70
	Crossett Brook Middle UES #45	5 - 8	263	29.30	2.00	8.98	131.50	14.65
	North Country Union Jr High #22B	7 - 8	270	32.50	2.00	8.31	135.00	16.25
	Riverside Middle School	6 - 8	291	28.00	2.00	11.19	145.50	13.00
← Larger	Brattleboro Area Middle School #6	7 - 8	299	29.00	2.00	10.31	149.50	14.50
	Hartford Mem Middle School	6 - 8	312	34.75	2.00	8.98	156.00	17.38
Averaged SCHOOL cohort data			308.68	28.25	1.75	10.93	176.03	16.11

School District: North Country Jr UHSD #22
LEA ID: U022A

Special education expenditures vary substantially from district to district and year to year. Therefore, they have been excluded from these figures.

The portion of current expenditures made by supervisory unions on behalf of districts varies greatly. These data include district assessments to SUs. Including assessments to SUs makes districts more comparable to each other.

FY2015 School District Data

Cohort Description: Junior high school district
(1 school districts in cohort)

School district data (local, union, or joint district)		Grades offered in School District	Student FTE enrolled in school district	Current expenditures per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs	Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest) 1 out of 1
Smaller → ← Larger					Current expenditures are an effort to calculate an amount per FTE spent by a district on students enrolled in that district. This figure excludes tuitions and assessments paid to other providers, construction and equipment costs, debt service, adult education, and community service.
	North Country Jr UHSD #22	7-8	250.58	\$16,681	
Averaged SCHOOL DISTRICT cohort data			250.58	\$16,681	

FY2017 School District Data

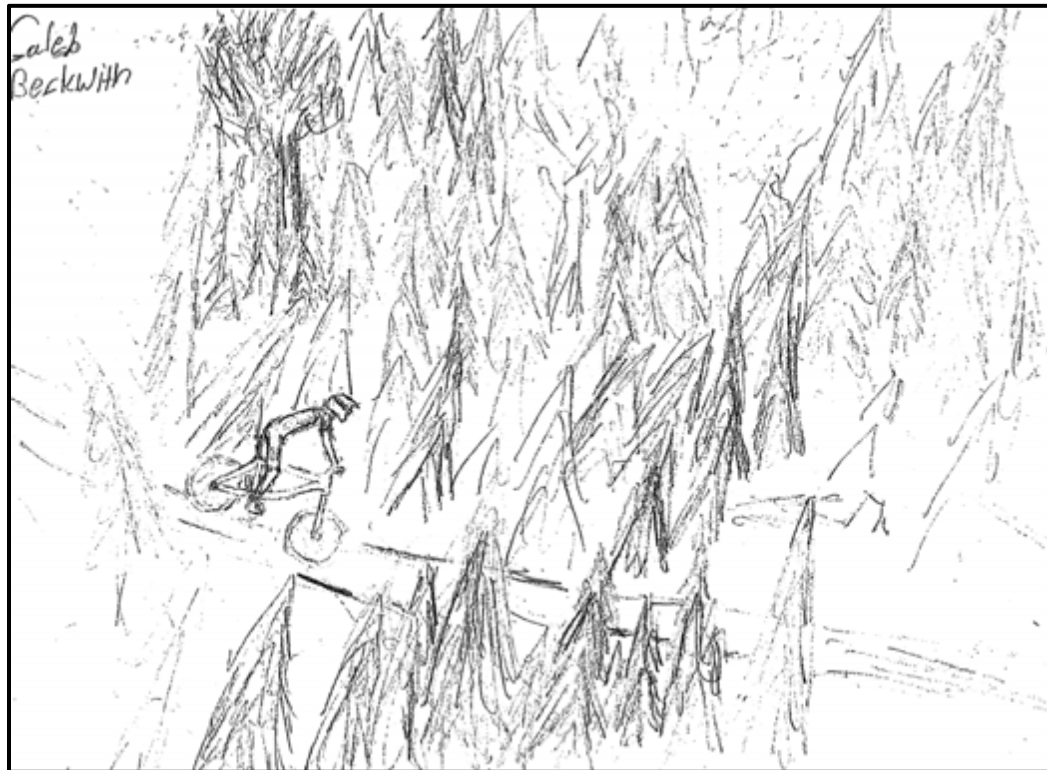
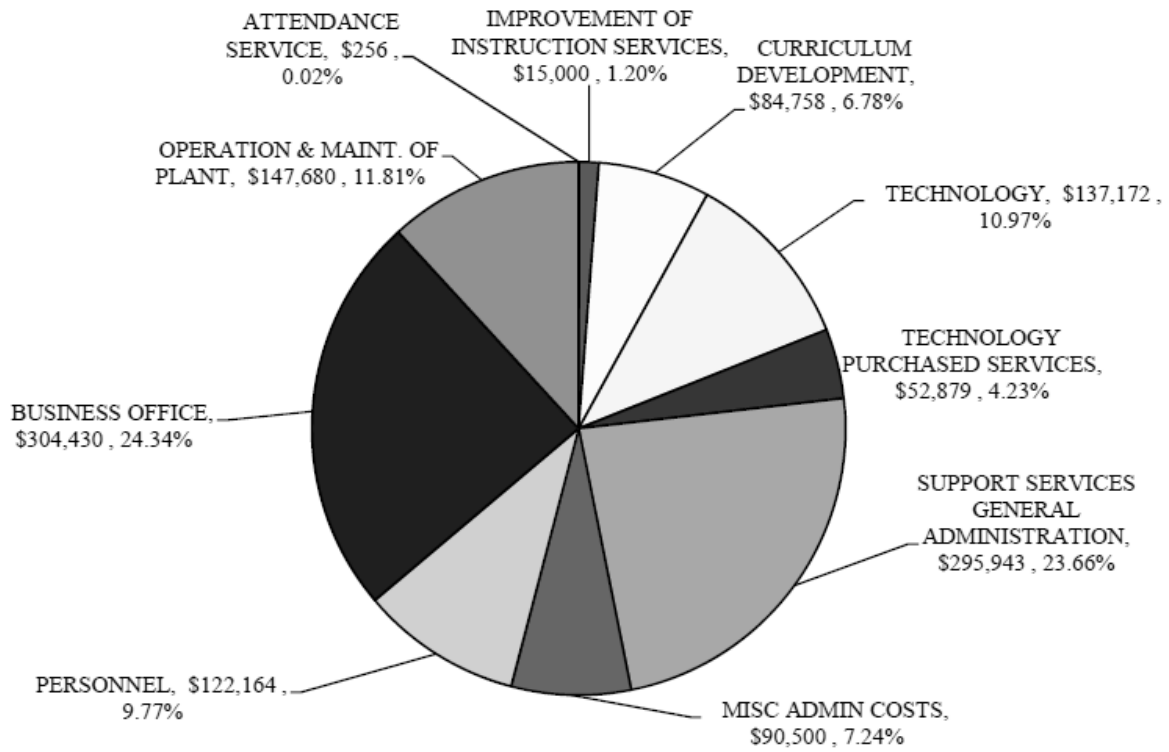
LEA ID School District		Grades offered in School District	School district tax rate			Total municipal tax rate, K-12, consisting of prorated member district rates		
			SchlDist Equalized Pupils	SchlDist Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	SchlDist Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	MUN Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	MUN Common Level of Appraisal	MUN Actual Homestead Ed tax rate
					Use these tax rates to compare towns rates.			These tax rates are not comparable due to CLAs.
Smaller → ← Larger	U022A	North Country Jr UHSD #	7-8	258.97	14,374.99	1.4818	-	-

The Legislature has required the Agency of Education to provide this information per the following statute:

16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2) The school, at least annually, reports student performance results to community members in a format selected by the school board. . . . The school report shall include:

(K) data provided by the commissioner which enable a comparison with other schools, or school districts if school level data are not available, for cost-effectiveness. The commissioner shall establish which data are to be included pursuant to this subdivision and, notwithstanding that the other elements of the report are to be presented in a format selected by the school board, shall develop a common format to be used by each school in presenting the data to community members. The commissioner shall provide the most recent data available to each school no later than October 1 of each year. Data to be presented may include student-to-teacher ratio, administrator-to-student ratio, administrator-to-teacher ratio, and cost per pupil.

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION FY2018 BUDGET



Caleb Beckwith – Grade 8

ACT 46

VERMONT'S 2015 EDUCATION GOVERNANCE LAW

Goals of the law:

- **Equity:** Provide substantial equity of educational opportunities statewide;
- **Quality:** Lead students to achieve or exceed the State's Education Quality Standards;
- **Efficiency:** Maximize operational efficiencies through increased flexibility to manage, share and transfer resources;
- **Transparency:** Promote transparency and accountability; and
- **Cost:** Deliver at a cost that parents, voters and taxpayers value.

*There are provisions in the law that address closure of schools, small schools grants, funding, and expectations for centralized special education and transportation.

For more information go to:

VT Agency of Education -
education.vermont.gov

NCSU

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

The school boards of North Country Supervisory Union are considering our region's options under Act 46. Act 46 has been called the most significant change in Vermont education law in 100 years.

Possible changes under the law include:

- ♦ eliminating local school boards and creating one regional board; and
- ♦ voting by ballot on a combined budget for all schools.

Your school board wants your input:

1. What are your suggestions or concerns regarding the goals of Act 46?

2. What other goals do you feel are important to your school-community?

3. How can we efficiently, effectively and equitably provide quality learning opportunities and outcomes for our children?

4. What are the most important issues or values you would like school boards to keep in mind?

Watch for upcoming school-community conversations in your town!

If your group or organization would like to host a conversation to learn more about Act 46, contact the Superintendent's office at 334-5847, ext. 2025.

SUPERVISORY UNION OPTION

Composed of multiple member districts, each with its separate school board, in which:

1. member districts are collectively responsible for all pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students.
2. the supervisory union maximizes efficiencies through economies of scale and the flexible management, transfer and sharing of nonfinancial resources.
3. the supervisory union has the smallest number of member school districts practicable;
4. the combined average daily membership of all member districts is not less than 1,100.

UNIFIED UNION DISTRICT OPTION

A single school district with one school board, that:

1. is responsible for the education of all resident pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students;
2. is its own supervisory district;
3. has a minimum average daily membership of 900;
4. is organized and operates according to one of the four most common governance structures: (pre-k to 12/ pre-k to 8/ pre-k to 6/ Tuitions all students).

* Unified Union Districts have proportional representation from each town, determined in articles of agreement.

* The State provides grants and tax incentives for unified union districts that are established by July 1, 2017.



Haidee Bathalon - Grade 5

SERVICE REPORTS



Michael Randall – Grade 2



Tristan Blay – Grade 3

2017 AMERICAN RED CROSS REPORT, LOWELL, VERMONT

New Hampshire and Vermont Region

The American Red Cross of New Hampshire and Vermont is on call to help our community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. A local Red Cross volunteer is often the first "neighbor on the scene" after a disaster strikes offering a hot cup of coffee, a warm blanket and a glimmer of hope to those in need. Supported primarily by volunteers, the Red Cross provides emergency support for victims of fire, flood and other disasters as well as instruction in health, safety and aquatics courses. Whether we are helping one family recover from a devastating home fire, providing emergency shelter and supplies to hundreds of families after a major disaster, or food and water for first responders, we have historically been a vital part of the local community.

2016 was especially busy across our region and the Red Cross provided vital services to our community.

- Responded to 256 disasters/emergencies in our region, supporting 502 families and 1218 individuals. While Lowell did not experience any disasters this year, we responded to 8 incidents and served 24 individuals and 8 families in Orleans County as a whole.
- Collected 95,154 pints of blood and blood products from 52,370 people at over 2900 drives. 1 of these drives were in Lowell and collected 31 pints of life-saving blood.
- Empowered more than 1,200 trained volunteers to assist their neighbors during times of need, 2 of these volunteers call Lowell home and 16 throughout Orleans County.
- Trained 32,724 people in our various health and safety courses, including 29 courses in Orleans County where 168 people were taught lifesaving skills.
- Installed almost 1829 free smoke detectors in homes and worked with families to create fire-evacuation plans, 42 of which were installed in Orleans County.
- We connected 628 military members with their families and loved ones with the help of our Service to the Armed Forces department, including 7 Orleans County residents who are currently serving.
- We are proud to have an efficiency rating of 91%, meaning .91 cents of every dollar goes directly to support the programs and services provided by the American Red Cross.

Since the Red Cross is not a government agency, we rely on individuals, businesses and local communities to support our efforts in helping to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. Toward that end, we are asking each community for a donation to support our work. We would greatly appreciate your support in the amount of \$500.00 for the next year. Your partnership will help ensure that the American Red Cross has the resources to support communities throughout Vermont and New Hampshire when they need it most.

If you or someone you know experiences a fire, flood or other disaster and needs assistance, please call (802) 660-9130 option 1, anytime 24/7.

Sincerely,

Emily Poirier
Executive Coordinator

Green Mountain Farm-to-School, Inc.

115 2nd Street
Newport, VT 05855
(802) 334-2044

www.GreenMountainFarmtoSchool.org

Green Mountain Farm-to-School, Inc. is requesting to an appropriation in the amount of \$250.00 from the town of Lowell to support the Lowell School Garden Program.

Green Mountain Farm-to-School (GMFTS) is a non-profit organization providing fresh, local food and nutrition education to over 10,000 students at schools across northern Vermont.

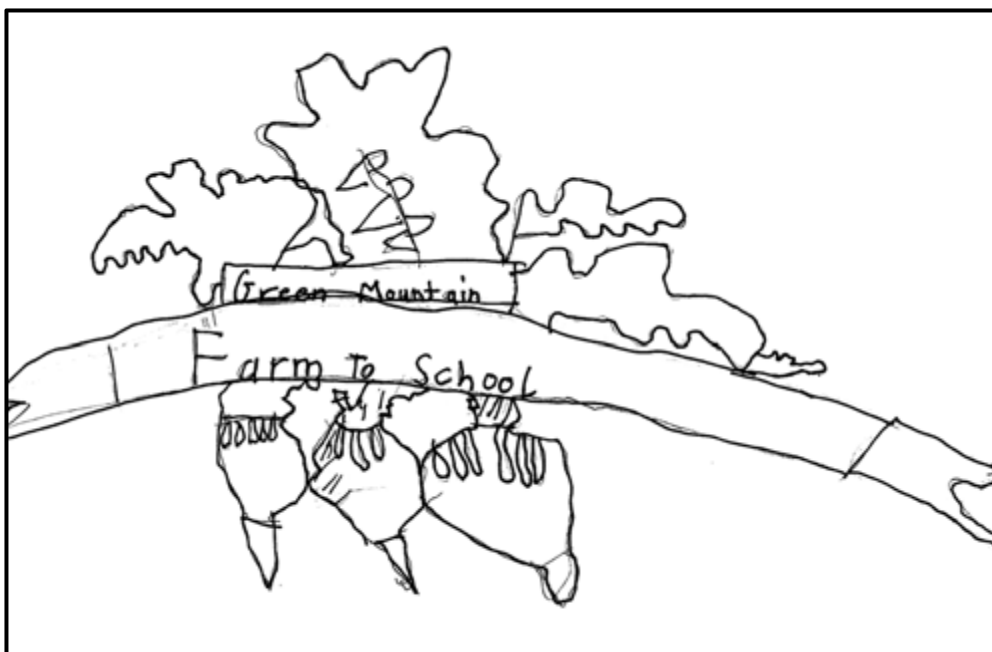
GMFTS coordinates student and community involvement in the Lowell School Garden. Over the last year, every student at the school has been involved in planting and harvesting the garden. Students started seeds for the garden at the school and the entire school participated in a spring Garden Dedication Ceremony. In addition, students participated in GMFTS' year-round cooking and gardening after-school program, Sprouts. All of the produce from the garden was served to students in the school cafeteria. GMFTS also coordinated community volunteers who helped maintain the garden over the summer.

With the town's help, we can continue to provide the School Garden Program at the Lowell School, producing fresh food for the cafeteria and giving students the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy food choices. Funding from the school and the 21st Century After-School Program covers a portion of GMFTS' staff time and materials to lead Farm-to-School activities in-class workshop, taste tests, and farm field trips. This funding does not fully cover the cost of the program and the balance comes from grants, towns, individuals, and businesses. These funds from the town pay for supplies including tools, seeds, equipment, and staff time to deliver our school garden program.

We are deeply grateful for the support from Lowell in the past. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

James Hafferman
Executive Director



Abby Geoffroy – Grade 2



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

Dear Select Board/Town Clerk:

October 2016

Please consider Green Up Vermont's request for your community's financial support. We respectfully ask you to include the appropriate amount from the guide below in your budget for next year. This guide remains the same as in previous years:

For towns under 1,000 population \$ 50
For towns over 1,000 and under 2000 . . . \$100
For towns over 2,000 and under 3000 . . . \$150
For towns over 3,000 and under 4000 . . . \$200
For towns over 4,000 population \$300

Sincerely,
Melinda Vicux
President, Green Up Vermont

PLEASE NOTIFY US IF YOU REQUIRE A SECOND REQUEST LETTER FOR FUNDS DISTRIBUTION.

Town report information for Green Up Day, May 7, 2016

(This is available for download at www.greenupvermont.org under "About Us.")

Green Up Day marked its 46th Anniversary, with over 22,000 volunteers participating! Green Up Vermont, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, continues to proudly carry on this tradition of Green Up Day. **Green Up Vermont is not a State Agency.** Seventy-five percent of Green Up Vermont's budget comes from corporate and individual donations. People can now choose to donate to Green Up Vermont by entering a gift amount on Line 29 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form. As a result, Green Up Vermont has been able to significantly increase the percentage of individual giving, thus making Green Up Day more stable for the long-term.

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

Support from cities and towns continues to be an essential part of our operating budget. It enables us to cover seventeen percent the budget. All town residents benefit from clean roadsides! Funds help pay for supplies, including over 50,000 Green Up trash bags, promotion, education, and the services of two part-time employees. Sixth grader Blake Clark says "I think we should keep this tradition going forever and ever!" Please help make sure Green Up Day never goes away.

Mark your calendar: May 6, 2017 Green Up Day, 47 years of tradition!

**Join with people in your community to clean up for Green Up Day,
Always the first Saturday in May.**



HAZEN'S NOTCH ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 478
MONTGOMERY CENTER VERMONT 05471

December 27, 2016

Town of Lowell
2170 Vt Route 100
Lowell VT 05847

Dear Friends:

We are writing to ask the voters of the Town of Lowell to approve a request for a contribution of \$450 to the Hazen's Notch Association Campership Fund in 2017, our 24th year providing programs for area families.

Each summer 125 children ages 6 to 14 attend 1-week camp sessions at the Hazen's Notch Association on the Hazen's Notch Road in Montgomery. Last year the HNA Campership Fund raised \$4,330 enabling 18 children from 7 towns to receive financial assistance from the HNA Campership Fund.

The past fourteen years the voters of Lowell at Town Meeting have approved a request for a contribution to the Hazen's Notch Association Campership Fund.

If voters approve this request for a \$450 contribution, school administrators in the Lowell School may then recommend one or more students from Lowell who wish to attend the HNA Summer Camp to receive partial or full financial assistance towards the camp fee. Camp fees are \$225 for the Day Camp and \$450 for the Overnight Camp.

On behalf of the families served by the campership fund, thank you for your continued support of the Hazen's Notch Association's Campership Fund.

Yours truly,

Rolf Anderson

Rolf Anderson
President
Hazen's Notch
Association



Jay Area Food Shelf

Sincere thanks to the voters of each town for the voted appropriation at Town Meeting 2016. A very special thanks to everyone who donated time, food, and money to the food shelf. With all the continued support & generosity from area community members, the food shelf can continue to serve many people in the area when they need a little help.

For information, whether you qualify for the food shelf program, or the USDA Commodities, please visit the food shelf site in the Jay Municipal Building, on Thursday during operation hours of 9 am to 12:00 pm.

For individuals who wish to make a donation of money, you can do so by sending a check to Jay Area Food Shelf, c/o Jay Town Clerk's Office, 1036 VT RTE 242, Jay, VT 05859.

Thanks to all who helped make the program a success. Berry Creek Farm for the 2016 season in kind donation.

REVENUE:

Appropriations:

Jay	\$	250
Westfield		500
Troy		250
Lowell		250

EXPENSES:

Food Bank	\$	3395
Grocery Store		1693
Gas		164

Donations:

Orleans Country Board of Realtors	1696
Friend Class Reunion	100
Newport Rotary Club	112
Jay Focus Group	1700
American Legion-Auxiliary Post 28	200
Individual Donations	1888
Friends of Mark Higley	150
Ben & Jerry's	<u>1000</u>

Total	\$8,096
Beginning Balance	7653
Receipts	8096
Expenses	<u>(5253)</u>
Ending Balance	\$10,496

Total	\$5,252.55
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JAY PEAK POST NO. 28, INC.

North Troy, Vermont 05859-9701

(802) 988-2861

(802) 988-9645

January 12, 2017

To the voters of Lowell,

On behalf of Jay Peak Post No. 28 members (Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion), I wish to thank you for your continued support of the American Legion. The appropriated funds provide the means for the Post to purchase flags and markers for placement near a veteran's headstone in neighboring cemeteries. We also rely on these funds to replace the American and Service flags that fly at the Post's flag park, support our Memorial Day observance, and defray operational costs. This year Post No. 28 is requesting \$200.00 (no increase from previous years).

In appreciation,

Commander

Jay Peak Post No. 28

Missisquoi Valley Ambulance Service 2017

	BUDGET	
	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Revenues		
Billing	\$262,103.85	\$275,000.00
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$25.00
Appropriations	\$90,038.00	\$105,631.00
Other - SALE OF TRAILER	\$500.00	
Total Revenues	\$352,641.85	\$380,656.00
Gross Profit	\$352,141.85	\$380,656.00
Expenses		
Advertising Expense	\$285.09	\$200.00
Public Relations	\$53.14	\$250.00
Billing Services	\$18,871.94	\$20,000.00
Purchases		
Medical Supplies	\$13,381.19	\$10,000.00
Diesel	\$6,588.26	\$8,000.00
Equipment	\$718.37	\$5,000.00
Squad Supplies	\$319.34	\$500.00
Ambulance Loan-2009	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ambulance Loan-2013	\$33,228.00	\$33,228.00
Ambulance Repair & Maintenance	\$5,278.88	\$5,000.00
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	\$1,755.29	\$1,000.00
Building Repair & Maintenance	\$6,000.00	\$1,500.00
Training Expense	\$3,391.08	\$4,000.00
Nurse/Intercept Expense	\$4,180.00	\$4,000.00
Bank Charges	\$82.00	\$250.00
Workers comp Audet	\$6,434.00	\$0.00
Dues/Subscriptions Expense	\$374.45	\$400.00
Insurance Expense	\$29,479.62	\$35,000.00
Insurance Overpayment	\$1,018.51	\$2,500.00
IRS - TAX OLD	\$8,818.25	\$5,000.00
Payroll Professional Expense	\$1,541.87	\$1,800.00
Licenses Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00
Payroll Tax Expense	\$51,462.70	\$65,000.00
Office Expense	\$2,129.80	\$3,000.00
Office Supplies Expense	\$2,687.78	\$1,500.00
Communications Expense/Radio	\$480.00	\$1,000.00
Phone Expense/Internet/Cable	\$3,059.41	\$3,000.00
Meals & Entertainment Expense	\$22.93	\$1,000.00
Postage Expense	\$101.28	\$250.00
Ambulance Bay Expense	\$2,455.18	\$3,000.00
Heating Expense	\$2,447.33	\$3,500.00
Electrical Service Expense	\$1,696.16	\$2,000.00
Garbage Disposal Expense	\$112.60	\$350.00
Sewer Expense	\$160.73	\$350.00
Wages Expense	\$143,816.99	\$175,000.00
Total Expense	\$352,432.17	\$396,578.00
Net Income	(\$290.32)	(\$15,922.00)



The Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging is a private, 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation whose mission is to support residents 60-plus, caregivers, and adults living with disabilities maintain an active, nutritionally balanced and financially secure lifestyle as they grow older. Our staff works closely with seniors to design a personal care plan that will best to meet their individual needs. Our range of options includes Medicare/Medicaid health insurance counseling, food-and-fuel assistance, in-home services, wellness programs, falls-prevention training, and volunteer opportunities. There is no charge for our programs and services.

During the past year your support allowed us to provide assistance to 30 residents of Lowell, as well as more than 6,000 seniors from across the Northeast Kingdom, and to implement a broad variety of important programs for older adults and their families. These programs include Meals-on-Wheels, supportive services to help seniors continue to live at home, health insurance counseling, transportation for medical and other appointments, legal services and help for family caregivers.

Thank you for your support over the years and for your help in letting people know about the services we provide. Please give your careful consideration to our request this year, and let us know if we can be of assistance to you or someone you know.

Sincerely,

Meg Burmeister
Executive Director



NEKCA
Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc.

Orleans County Court Diversion

71 Seymour Lane
Newport, VT 05855
Ph: 802-334-8224

January 13, 2017

TO: Karen Clinger, Town Clerk, Town of Lowell
RE: Appropriations for 2017 Meeting

The Orleans County Court Diversion Program asks that you include the enclosed request in your Town Warning for 2017.

Court Diversion is a community response to juvenile and adult offenders. A Review Board comprised of community residents reviews cases after the offender has met certain program criteria. The Review Board designs a contract which specifies the conditions of the offender's participation. If the offender satisfactorily completes the contract, the State's Attorney dismisses the charges. The contract typically includes an apology and restitution to the victim, community service and other remedial, educational, or corrective services. Approximately 87% of those referred to Court Diversion successfully complete their contracts. In addition, Diversion is cost effective; it takes far less money to process a case through Diversion than through Court, and the Diversion process is controlled by community people with vested interest in making sure there are not repeat offenses.

Six (6) Lowell residents completed fifty (50) hours of community service and paid fines owed to the State of Vermont in the amount of \$798.00.

Your support at Town Meeting is vital to the continuation of the program.

Sincerely,

Stephanie R. Bowen, MS, HS-BCP

Stephanie R. Bowen, MS, HS-BCP
Diversion Director

181 Crawford Road - Derby
PO Box 724 Newport VT 05855
Phone 802-334-6744 Fax 802-334-7455
Toll free 800-696-4979

2225 Portland Street
PO Box 368 St. Johnsbury VT 05819
Phone 802-748-3181 Fax 802-748-0704
Toll free 800-649-0118

www.nkhs.org



NORTHEAST
KINGDOM
HUMAN
SERVICES

Serving the NEK
since 1960

Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. (NKHS)

Annual Fiscal Year Summary: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

The mission of NKHS is to enrich communities and enhance the ability of individuals and families to improve their lives.

In our 2016 fiscal year, our Emergency Services Team provided 24 hour, 7 days a week (24/7) crisis intervention care to 353 individuals. Our client satisfaction survey showed 67% of respondents felt they received the crisis help they needed to make a difference in their lives. When unexpected tragic events occurred, our Specialty Team responded to support individuals and families in schools and communities with how to deal with sudden grief and loss. We thank the **Town of Lowell** voters for your **\$923.00** appropriation support last year toward our emergency/crisis services to residents in need in the NEK.

NKHS served **39** individuals last year from the **Town of Lowell** out of a total of **3472** individuals who utilized our programs in your community, homes, schools, our offices, and through emergency services. We could not do this without our 500 dedicated employees, 1 of these from the Town of Lowell. As a 501(c)(3) private not-for-profit organization, our volunteer Board of Directors and Program Standing Committees provided oversight to support the agency's belief that human services should be cost effective, available to all no matter their age or ability to pay, and responsive to the needs of our local communities.

Please visit our website at www.nkhs.org for more information about our agency and services. NKHS bases our appropriation request on \$1.05 per person in your community according to the 2010 census, the same amount as last year. We greatly appreciate your interest, your help in letting people know about the services we provide, and your financial support.

Sincerely,

D. W. Bouchard
Executive Director

Nancy Warner
President, Board of Directors

We're all about being human.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.

55 Seymour Lane, Suite 11
Newport, VT 05855

1-844-GO NEKLS(466-3557) / toll free
(802) 334-6532 / phone
(802) 334-6555 / fax

info@neklsvt.org
www.NEKLSVT.org



November 29, 2016

Town of Lowell
2170 VT RTE 100
Lowell VT 05847

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc. (NEKLS) has served the residents of Orleans, Essex, and Caledonia counties for almost 50 years by providing free services through five Community Learning Centers, a mobile computer lab, and various on-site and in-home educational programs. The residents of these counties that have utilized NEKLS services have worked on and received a high school diploma or GED, gained job skills, prepared for college courses, received family and child support services of various kinds and much more. NEKLS has also provided prevention programming aimed at reducing underage alcohol and tobacco use.

State and federal budget challenges continue to impact funding of community nonprofits such as NEKLS. Town appropriations are vital in keeping services free for the hundreds of community members we work with each year, helping to make their goals a reality. Funding helps to maintain high quality services as they are and to introduce new instructional options as well. NEKLS is requesting a town appropriation of \$200 to help support programs that we deliver in your area.

Enclosed is our NEKLS appropriations flyer to include in your town report; it is a detailed summary of our services for taxpayers' information.

We hope you will continue to support NEKLS as we look forward to another year of being an important partner in your community. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Tarryk
Executive Director

Enclosure: NEKLS Appropriations Flyer

Our mission is to inspire and empower learners, birth and beyond.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services Nearly 50 Years of Service

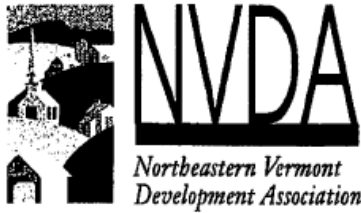
NEKLS began with one woman, Eva Warner, teaching area residents to read at their kitchen table.
It is *so much more* almost 50 years later.

It is our mission to inspire and empower learners, birth and beyond.

- **The High School Completion Program (HSCP)** collaborates with local schools to provide a path to a high school diploma for anyone 16 or older. Program participants may have left school or may still be enrolled in their partnering high school. **In FY 2016, NEKLS in collaboration with partnering high schools, awarded 60 high school diplomas** in the tri-county region.
- **The General Educational Development Program (GED)** leads to a high school diploma equivalency. **In FY 2016, NEKLS awarded 35 GED's** in the tri-county region.
- **Adult Education and Literacy Programs** served 350 students for more than 9,396 hours in **FY 2016 in the tri-county region**. In addition to HSCP and GED services, our teachers provided math, reading and writing skill development, job skills development, computer literacy and support in their transition to work or college.
- NEKLS teaches English as a second or other language (**English Speaking Other Languages**) to students from around the world who have come to settle in our beautiful Northeast Kingdom. **In FY 2016, NEKLS served 21 ESOL students in the tri-county region**.
- NEKLS Community Learning Centers offer **group and individual computer training**. In addition to computer classes, an average of **46 community members a month** access email, search the web, perform job searches, complete online job applications, or apply for unemployment benefits at the **five Community Learning Centers in the tri-county region**.
- **Children's Integrated Services (CIS)** is Vermont's comprehensive approach to provide child development and family support services. In **FY 2016, Northeast Kingdom Learning Services Early Intervention and Family Support Specialists received 247 referrals to EI and Family Support services**.
- **The Tutorial Program** provides one-on-one and group instruction to K-12 students at any number of locations including area libraries and town halls. **In FY 2016, NEKLS served 87 K-12 students in the tri-county region**.
- NEKLS also provides **prevention programming** aimed at reducing underage alcohol and tobacco use. **In FY 2016, NEKLS provided prevention education to students at North Country Union High School, Lake Region Union High School, North Country Union Junior High School and several of the elementary schools in the tri-county region**.

NEKLS has a staff of 75 dedicated professionals committed to serving the needs of the Northeast Kingdom. Please contact us at 1-844-GO NEKLS (466-3557) if you or someone you know has need of our services or at info@neklsvt.org

Thank you for your generous support!



Request for 2017 Town Dues

Greetings:

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) is now making its annual Request for Town Dues. In past years, we have used the term “appropriations” rather than “dues”, but “dues” more accurately reflects the Town’s status as a member community of NVDA, which your Town has been since 1950. We greatly appreciate your continued support.

Town of Lowell

Amount Requested: \$659.00

Possible funding methods**:

1. As a line item in the operating budget
2. As an article on the warning

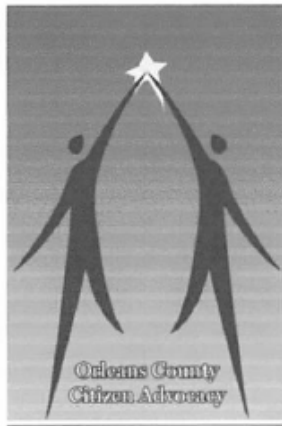
Example:

“Shall the town vote to appropriate a sum of money not to exceed \$659.00 to the Northeastern Vermont Development Association, for planning, development, promoting and publicizing the resources of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties with other towns in the three counties?”

****Many of NVDA’s member Towns are also members of the Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) and have those dues included as a line item in the Town budget, rather than as an article in the Town report. Please consider including the Town’s membership with NVDA as a line item as well.**

PO Box 630 36 Eastern Avenue, Suite 1 St. Johnsbury, Vermont 05819-0630 802 748-5181 Fax: 802 748-1223

The regional planning and development commission serving The Northeast Kingdom: Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties
NVDA is an equal opportunity lender, provider and employer



Orleans County Citizen Advocacy
P. O. Box 781
Derby, VT 05829

To build and support one-to-one long term, independent relationships between unpaid community members and individuals with developmental disabilities so that all are heard, respected, included and empowered.

November 22, 2016

Dear Town Voters of Lowell,

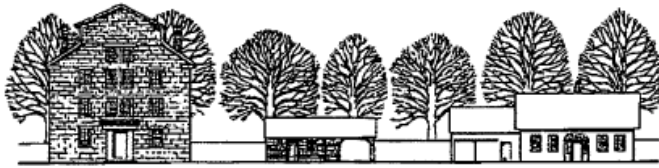
Orleans County Citizen Advocacy (O.C.C.A.) was founded in 1988 to promote friendships between individuals with developmental disabilities and community volunteers. Through one-to-one matches, O.C.C.A. helps advocates and partners build relationships where each person is respected, included, heard and empowered.

O.C.C.A. aims to ensure that persons with disabilities are valued and accepted. Orleans County Citizen Advocacy supports enduring, positive connections that enhance strong, vibrant, diverse communities.

Since its inception, O.C.C.A. has initiated and supported over 100 matches without any federal, state or United Way funding. All Citizen Advocacy activities are funded through town appropriations and all appropriations remain in Orleans County and directly impact and benefit our neighbors.

We thank all Lowell voters for your past support of Citizen Advocacy. Your help, once again, is respectfully requested. It is absolutely essential to the continuation of this vital program which has served members of the Northeast Kingdom for nearly three decades.

Presently, Orleans County Citizen Advocacy supports 24 matches; additionally, we have several matches in the making. During the past year, O.C.C.A. organized seasonal group activities that enabled partners and advocates to meet prospective new members and all current board members; we encouraged connections that helped to alleviate the isolation of developmentally disabled individuals in our community. Whenever possible, events supported local businesses and offered social opportunities within Orleans County. Activities included a bowling bash at Waterfront Lanes, movie outings at City Cinema, Spa Day at NCUHS Career Center, a Santa's Village visit, and local Apple Picking.



ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
OLD STONE HOUSE MUSEUM
109 Old Stone House Rd.
Brownington, VT 05860
(802)754-2022 www.oldstonehousemuseum.org

Lowell Select Board
2170 VT Rte. 100
Lowell, VT 05847

December 27, 2016

Dear Select Board Members:

Last summer, with the help of 23 teams of oxen, the Orleans County Historical Society moved the first secondary school in the county back to the exact site where it was built in 1823. The Orleans County Grammar School served children from every town in the county, who came for 12 week terms to further their education beyond what was taught in the town one-room schools. Alexander Twilight, who became headmaster in 1829, built the Old Stone House as a dormitory for the out of town students. Since 1925 the Old Stone House has been the county historical museum, with an eclectic collection of artifacts that tell the story of early life in Orleans County.

With the move of the Orleans County Grammar School, our neighborhood in Brownington, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is back the way it was during the time of Alexander Twilight. We now preserve seven historic buildings, all constructed between 1823 and 1836, which are fine examples of early Vermont architecture.

We hold events here that celebrate the rich cultural heritage of our area, including the annual Collectors' Fair, the Antique Engine Show, Old Stone House Day, Time Travelers' Day Camp, Heritage Craft Workshops for adults, as well as lectures, concerts and traditional craft circles.

Over 1200 schoolchildren from Orleans County will participate this year in educational programs sponsored by the Historical Society, including on-site events such as Spring Field Day and Fall Harvest Day and off-site events like the Northeast Kingdom History Fair..

We write grants and ask for donations to support special projects and programs, but the challenge to meet day-to-day operating expenses continues. Support from Orleans County towns is needed to keep the museum going, and also to demonstrate to donors that we have widespread local support. We ask that you include the following article in your Town Meeting warning:

To see if the Lowell (05847) will appropriate the sum of \$375 for the Orleans County Historical Society to assist in maintaining the Old Stone House Museum and its Educational Program, and direct the selectmen to assess a tax sufficient to meet the same.

Attached is a message to enclose in your town report, if space allows. Thank you for considering the Historical Society's request. We appreciate your past support. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peggy Day Gibson, Museum Director

SERVICE REPORT FY 2016

ORLEANS ESSEX V.N.A. and HOSPICE, INC.

Orleans Essex Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) and Hospice, Inc. provides professional quality home health services to the residents of the 24 communities in Orleans and northern Essex counties. We serve the elderly, homebound and chronically ill through the VNA and homemaker programs and the terminally ill through our Hospice program. Special programs include a variety of clinics available to the public. As the only not-for-profit agency serving the area, our services are available to anyone in need regardless of their ability to pay and all clients are charged the same fee for the same service. We are locally controlled by a volunteer Board of Directors representing the towns we serve. We adhere to strict regulations, which prohibit the practice of charging more to a client who can afford services to compensate for those who cannot. All revenue, by law, goes back into the Agency to provide, maintain, and improve services and programs.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES:

Total Agency Visits FY 2016	43,306
Total Visits FY 2016 - Town of Lowell.....	625

During Fiscal Year 2016, home based services were provided to 29 individuals in Lowell for a total of 625 multi-disciplinary visits. 6 residents received services through Agency-sponsored wellness programs.

Appropriation Request for 2017\$3,500.00

Members of your community are in need of services daily and they receive them from the dedicated staff of the Orleans Essex VNA and Hospice, seven days a week, 24-hours a day. The funds your community appropriates to our Agency allow us to continue providing much needed care to individuals without third party insurance and those unable to pay, and provide special programs open to all community members. The Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice is supported by donations, service fees, and the generosity of communities who realize that in order to continue providing high quality home health services to their family members, friends, and neighbors, appropriations are desperately needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Lyne B. Limoges, MSN, RN
Executive Director



Dear Town of Lowell

The Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter, Inc. is requesting that you include the following request in your 2017 Town Warning.

Shall the voters of the town of Lowell vote to appropriate the sum of \$500 to assist the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter with its commitments to rescuing, providing care to and finding homes for unwanted pets.

Thank you very much for your consideration

Sincerely

Betsy Hampton, Treasurer
PMFAS Board Member
December 2016



2016 REPORT TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE RESIDENTS OF LOWELL

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (PCAVT) was founded in 1976 and is today a statewide Vermont not for profit organization working to improve the welfare of children and families.

All PCAVT programs are free to residents of the State of Vermont and are designed to both prevent abuse and encourage intervention at the first opportunity when the risk of abuse is identified.

Our staff of 14 directly worked with almost 14,000 Vermont people in 2016, and impacted over 50,000 through our 8 prevention programs. Our direct work and collaboration with child-serving professionals in education, healthcare and childcare made these impacts possible. PCAVT employees also serve on many national, state-wide and community Prevention boards and councils advising and advocating for the strengthening of families and the protection of children.

In 2016, 12 residents of Lowell utilized 3 of our programs including:

- 1 adult and 1 child participated in our parenting education programs which are a parenting skills building, teaching empathy and child development curriculum or joined a parenting support group which reinforces positive parenting and quickly reduces the likelihood of child abuse.
- Approximately 10 parents of new babies born to Lowell residents received a copy of our parenting resource guide the Vermont Parents Home Companion, and received training and knowledge on Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) prevention through the PCAVT trained nursing staff at North Country Hospital or Copley Medical Center.

Our programs increase adult awareness and knowledge, deliver developmentally targeted instruction for children, are trauma-informed, and include victim *and* victimization prevention. Several PCAVT programs help youth identify those factors that put them at risk for being hurt and for hurting others, as well as developing protective factors and enhancing resilience. We greatly appreciate the support we received from the residents of the Lowell this past year. It is through the combined financial resources of Lowell and other communities, United Ways, businesses and individuals, the State of Vermont, and private foundations that it becomes possible to help so many each year!

For more information about our programs and events please visit www.PCAVT.ORG, or in Vermont call 1-800-CHILDREN (800-244-5373).

Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

1677 Industrial Parkway
Lyndonville, VT 05851
Phone: 802-748-8170, Fax 751-8349

Town of Lowell
Lowell Town Office
2170 VT Rte 100
Lowell, VT 05847

Date: October 18, 2016

Re: Town Appropriation

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. ("RCT") is requesting to be placed on the Town Warning for March 2017 for an appropriation in the amount of \$700.00. This is the same amount that was requested and appropriated last year.

RCT has been providing service in your community for over twenty five years and must reach out again for community support in order to maintain the quality of service that is needed for the members of our community.

RCT is a nonprofit corporation providing transportation to the elderly and disabled, Medicaid and general public through a van/bus and volunteer service.

RCT transports people to, adult-day service facilities, senior meal sites and necessary medical treatments such as, dialysis, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, physical therapy, special medical needs and other appointments. Last year RCT provided 229,570 rides.

RCT provided 24 Lowell residents with 1,349 trips travelling 36,433 miles at a cost of \$ 21,492.89.

We hope you will be able to assist us with this request and we look forward to continuing our service that is needed by the members in your community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Mary Grant

Mary Grant
Executive Director



Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
14 Crab Apple Ridge, Randolph, VT 05060
(802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

November 1, 2016

Re: **Request for FY18 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 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 18 years of the program, 1015 grants totaling \$2.2 million have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

Over the past three years, 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 in recent years, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. In 2014 we increased the maximum grant award amount from \$2,500 to \$4,000 per project, and made repair, replacement, relocation, and upgrades of existing rural water supply systems eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. In 2015 we began considering applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual budget of the Rural Fire Protection Program is \$190,000 per year, \$110,000 of which is awarded in grants to Vermont communities for construction costs. The remaining budget covers 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

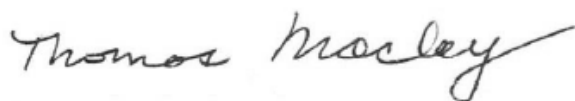
and Recreation. Unfortunately, these grants do not completely cover the costs of the program. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your 2018 town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. Since last year's appropriation request, we have received over \$9,000 in town appropriations from almost 100 towns, with contributions still coming in. We are deeply grateful for this ongoing support.

213 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 of the Rural Water Supply Grant Program, as well as an invoice and W-9 from VACD in case it is required. 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
George Cook, UVM Extension
Bill Barry, Berlin VFD
Tess Greaves, Vermont Forest Parks & Recreation
Jeremy McMullen, VT Enhanced 9-1-1
Jenny Nelson, Senator Bernie Sanders' Office
Mike Greenia, Vermont Division of Fire Safety
Christine Kaiser, Kaiser Farm, Stowe VT



Report of 2016 Activity for Lowell
Town Appropriation Request: \$600

Umbrella exists to ensure that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties offer safety, support and options for self-determination to women and families. To this end, we provide the following services:

The Advocacy Program is the essential safety net for people affected by intimate partner violence and sexual abuse. We meet the needs of victims in crisis while also offering preventative programming to local schools and youth groups with a focus on gender respect, consent, and healthy relationships. **In 2016 we:**

- supported 683 individuals with direct advocacy
- housed 16 adults and 16 children in our shelter for a total of 2,021 bed-nights, and
- reached 285+ adults and 1,100 youth with our prevention programming.

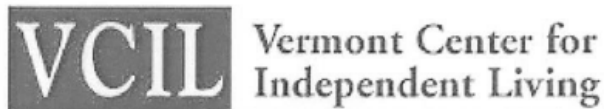
The Family Room is a supervised visitation and monitored exchange center offering child-centered support for parents seeking to establish or rebuild relationships with their children. **Last year we helped 110 children develop safe, healthy relationships with their non-residential parent.** Additional services such as parenting education, counseling and mediation can also be arranged in order to help families address their unique goals and needs.

Cornucopia is our newest program geared towards helping women-in-transition achieve economic self-sufficiency. This 17-week job-skills training program introduces women to the culinary arts as they prepare Meals-on-Wheels for Newport-area seniors. After completing the program women are assisted with securing employment with a local business, in a position that fits their individual strengths and interests. **This past year, Cornucopia trained 10 women in culinary arts while providing 33,000 nutritionally-balanced meals to homebound, Newport-area seniors and 2,000 meals at its weekly community meal site.**

Given that some of our services are provided anonymously, it can be difficult to provide precise usage figures for towns. **At least 4 Lowell households were served directly by Umbrella in 2016,** and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs at schools as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals. Community support is critical to sustaining our programming and discovering innovative new approaches to the work we do. We are deeply grateful for Lowell's support.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee A.K. Swain
Executive Director



People with disabilities working together for dignity, independence, and civil rights

January 5, 2017

Ms. Sandy Ladeau Town Clerk
Town of Lowell
2170 VT RTE. 100
Lowell, VT 05847

Dear Ms. Ladeau and voters:

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL), a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, respectfully requests funding from the Town of Lowell for our fiscal year 2017.

Annual support from over 140 cities and towns across the State helps VCIL assist Vermonters with disabilities achieve dignified and self-determined lives. VCIL works to serve individuals who can benefit from our direct services as well as to educate and inform members of the community about disability related issues and independent living. Direct services are available to residents of Lowell in a number of ways. Peer counselors work with residents in their homes; small grants for adaptive equipment; Meals on Wheels for people under the age of 60; Home Access modifications; individual and systems advocacy and programs for youth. Information, Referral and Assistance is available to all residents by calling VCIL's I-Line, at 1-800-639-1522 (Voice and TTY).

We are requesting \$90.00 from the Town of Lowell to help more people with disabilities in the coming year. Enclosed you will find a summary of VCIL's programs and services for the town and a copy of our FY'17 budget.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,


Sarah Launderville
Executive Director

Enclosures

11 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
802-229-0501, 800-639-1522 (voice & TTY), fax: 802-229-0503
email: info@vcil.org • website: www.vcil.org



VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED
HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired Report of Services for the Town of Lowell

More than 10,500 Vermont residents are blind or visually impaired. Since our state has an aging population, many of them are experiencing age-related vision loss. Visual impairments can make performing daily tasks, staying mobile, and enjoying leisure activities very difficult. Additionally, Vermont's rural nature makes it less likely for those with visual impairments to encounter those facing similar challenges, thus creating feelings of isolation and depression. We counter this trend by providing the tools, services, and support necessary to help blind and visually impaired Vermonters to be independent, confident, and productive.

During Fiscal Year 2016 VABVI served 1,578 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont, including 43 adult clients and 11 students from Orleans County.

Since 1926 our nonprofit organization has diligently pursued our mission of enabling Vermonters with vision problems, whether blindness or impairment, to achieve and maintain independence. We are the *only* private agency in Vermont to offer a complete range of services to visually impaired residents – and at no cost to the client.

Services include Rehabilitation (adapting daily living tasks to allow those with low vision to live independently); Orientation and Mobility (providing white cane and guide dog instruction, allowing individuals to navigate through their home and community independently); Assistive Technology (adaptive aids allow clients to successfully perform most activities they desire); Social Networking (improving social skills and providing a support network); and Statewide Transportation (volunteer drivers provide rides to medical appointments, grocery stores and for personal visits).

VABVI has offices in Berlin, Brattleboro, Rutland, and South Burlington. Contact us at (800) 639-5861 or general@vabvi.org. Learn more about us at www.vabvi.org or “like” us at www.facebook.com/vabvi.org for updates.

If you would prefer to receive this information by email, please contact Julia Connell, Development Coordinator, at jconnell@vabvi.org or (800) 639-5861 ext. 217.

Vermont TRAILS & GREENWAYS



Greetings!

On behalf of the Vermont Trails & Greenways Council, we hope this letter finds you closing out a great 2016 and anticipating a bountiful 2017. We respectfully request your support by including a renewal application with this letter. With every Town in Vermont handling their budget process differently, we hope this request arrives at an appropriate time. Being an organization with state-wide responsibility we are not able to petition each town, so we humbly ask that this small amount be included in your budget.

For over a decade, the Vermont Trails & Greenways Council has been your voice for recreation, trails and conservation issues throughout the state. Our membership is comprised of a wide variety of outdoor groups; organizations that work hard, both statewide and at the community level, to provide comprehensive public access to Vermont's recreation resources. Because the Council embraces a broad spectrum of user groups, we are often able to speak with one voice in our efforts to expand and protect public access to trail lands, acquire State and Federal trail dollars, and steward natural resources.

Your support will provide a voice for trail interests throughout Vermont. The Vermont Trails & Greenways Council is working to shape the future of recreation in Vermont, for all users. Together we represent: walkers and joggers, cross-country skiers, bicyclists, mountain bikers, hikers, equestrians, snowmobilers, mushers, off-road vehicle users, ATVers, paddlers, municipalities, community path organizations, local and regional planners, land trusts, conservation and recreation committees, guides, and private individuals.

The projects the Vermont Trails & Greenways Council plans to continue to work on include:

- ❖ Hosting quarterly meetings to keep you up-to-date on Vermont events, projects and policies and provide important networking opportunities to share and learn with people across the state,
- ❖ Connecting members through our biannual newsletter. Keeping you informed with trail updates as well as feature articles on issues affecting trails in Vermont.
- ❖ Advising the Vermont Department of Forests, Park and Recreation on revisions to the Vermont Trail System.
- ❖ Developing and distributing the Vermont Trails & Greenways Manual- a resource guide for creating and managing community trails projects.
- ❖ Providing guidance with the Vermont Recreation Trails Fund, an important funding source for trails projects.
- ❖ Advocating for trail users in the Vermont Legislature and with State and Federal Agencies to secure trail funding, ensure public access to trails, and protect trail lands, and
- ❖ Providing community assistance- members of the Council have decades of collective trail experience and can assist you in planning, funding and creating your next trail project.

Please complete the attached form for membership and feel free to contact us with your ideas. By working together we can arrive at solutions which will continue to improve our communities. For more information on how the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council directly supports outreach, education and advocacy work, please contact me at 802-477-5075

We hope you will become involved and help us shape the future of recreation in Vermont.

Sincerely,

Danny Hale, Chair

802-477-5075

14 Don Camp Dr • Barre, VT 05641

MINUTES OF THE LOWELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING 2016

The legal voters of the Town of Lowell, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Lowell Graded School on **TUESDAY MARCH 1, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** to act on the following articles of business:

Note: The Town of Lowell has a checklist of 585 eligible voters. The highest number of votes cast for Town Elections was registered at 207 votes. This represents a 35% participation in Town Meeting.

- The School District Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Moderator Alden Warner asked voters to take a moment to honor our American Flag and led voters in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Alden announced several upcoming events along with Amanda Carlson, Town Administrator.
- Alden reviewed some Roberts Rules of conduct to be adhered to throughout the meeting.
- Using unanimous consent Alden asked the Town to suspend the rules, and allow Amanda Carlson, a non-registered voter, be allowed to speak and answer questions when needed throughout the meeting. There were no objections, permission granted.
- Alden Warner announced the hours of the Australian ballot voting for North Country Supervisory Union Budget and the Presidential Primary Elections. Voters were then given time to cast their ballots for these two elections.

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING:

ARTICLE 1: *To ELECT **SCHOOL MODERATOR** for the ensuing year.*

- Alden Warner nominated; voice vote / carried.
- **ALDEN WARNER – ELECTED**

ARTICLE 2: *To ELECT an **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTOR** for a three year term*

- Gilles Bathalon nominated.
- There were no other nominations, so using unanimous consent from the voters, the moderator instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for Gilles Bathalon.
- **GILLES BATHALON - ELECTED**

ARTICLE 3: *To ELECT an **UNION SCHOOL DIRECTOR** for a three year term*

- George Swanson nominated.
- There were no other nominations, so using unanimous consent from the voters, the moderator instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for George Swanson.
- **GEORGE SWANSON - ELECTED**

ARTICLE 4: *Shall the voters of the **LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT** approve the school board to expend **\$1,880,310.00**, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year 2017. It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$11,676.65 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 2.62% higher than spending for the current year?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Request was made to hear from the School Board on reasons for increase.
- Steve Mason, School Board Chair explained that in past years they have only requested a 1% or less increase and with new Act 46 restrictions there were requirements the Lowell School had not yet met. The School is still below the State average of \$14,000 per student.
- Anita Gagner, School Principal was asked to answer questions on budget items and school spending. Moderator asked for unanimous consent to allow Anita to speak as a non-registered voter. No objections were made and Anita spoke to the concerns.
- Steve Mason continued to answer questions and explained how the Board creates the budget and the approval process.
- Motion made and seconded to call to question. Motion passed by voice vote.
- Motion made and seconded to level fund with last year's budget amount of \$1,754,498.71. Voice vote / defeated.
MOTION TO AMEND – DEFEATED.
- Main motion to accept proposed budget amount as written at \$1,880,310.00 carried by voice vote. **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 5: *Shall the voters of the **LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT** authorize the Board of School Directors to use **\$39,000.00** of the unallocated, unaudited general fund balance from the 2014-2015 school year, to **reduce taxes** in the 2016-2017 school budget?*

- Article moved and seconded; voice vote / carried.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 6: *Shall the voters of the **LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT** authorize the Board of School Directors to establish a **tax stabilization fund** and transfer **\$38,240.00** of unallocated, unaudited general fund balance from the 2014-2015 school year to said fund?*

- Article moved and seconded; voice vote / carried.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 7: *To transact any other non-binding business which may legally come before this meeting.*

- No other business brought before the voters.

ARTICLE 8: *To adjourn.*

- Motion made and seconded to adjourn School Meeting.

OUTCOME OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOTING FOR NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL:

Polls were open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE III: NCUHS BUDGET- TOTAL VOTES CAST: 234
IN FAVOR- 132 OPPOSED- 99 BLANK- 3
ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE V: NCUHS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RESERVE FUND
TOTAL VOTES CAST: 234
IN FAVOR- 139 OPPOSED- 87 BLANK- 8
ARTICLE PASSED

Attest:

MODERATOR: Alden Warner *Alden Warner*
SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR: Steve Mason *Steve Mason*

TOWN MEETING: Moderator call Annual Town meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

ARTICLE 1: *To ELECT TOWN MODERATOR for the ensuing year.*

- Alden Warner nominated; voice vote / carried.
- **ALDEN WARNER – ELECTED**

ARTICLE 2: *To HEAR and ACT upon reports of TOWN OFFICERS.*

- Moderator asked for any errors or omissions in the town reports.
- Comment was made that the voters were happy with the larger format Town Report.
- No other comments or questions were brought to the floor.
- Motion made and seconded to accept the Town Report as written; voice vote / carried.
- **TOWN REPORT ACCEPTED AS WRITTEN WITH NO NOTED CORRECTIONS**

ARTICLE 3: *Shall the voters of the Town of Lowell authorize the Town of Lowell Select Board to **APPOINT a COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES** pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2651d?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Richard Pion was asked to comment on the Select Boards decision to include article. Richard explained that the information for delinquent taxes were computer based and only required 2-3 hours per month so the Board felt this should be inclusive for the Town Treasurer and that appointing the position would allow the Select Board to include the duties in the hourly wages given to the Treasurer and the 8% penalty charged would go back to the Town.
- Motion carried by voice vote
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 4: *To ELECT the following OFFICERS required by law:*

a. SELECT PERSON 3 year term

- Alden Warner nominated.
- Jim Callahan nominated and declined.
- There were no additional nominations, so using unanimous consent from the voters, the moderator instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for Alden Warner.
- **ALDEN WARNER - ELECTED**

b. TOWN CLERK 3 year term

- Sandy LaDeau nominated.
- Carrie Holmes nominated.
- Candidates were asked to speak. Short speeches were given by each candidate.
- Moderator announced that voting would be by paper ballot.
- Total votes cast: 192 *Sandy LaDeau: 146 Carrie Holmes: 46*
- **SANDY LADEAU – ELECTED**

c. TOWN TREASURER 3 year term

- Sandy LaDeau nominated.
- Carrie Holmes nominated.
- Moderator announced that voting would be by paper ballot.
- Total votes cast: 159 Sandy LaDeau: 123 Carrie Holmes: 36
- **SANDY LADEAU – ELECTED**

d. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR 1 year term **Dependent upon outcome of Article 3 vote*

- Article 4 (d) passed over due to outcome of Article 3 allowing the Select Board to appoint the position of Delinquent Tax Collector.

e. ROAD COMMISSIONER 3 year term

- Reginald Pion nominated.
- Calvin Allen nominated.
- Candidates were asked to speak. Speeches were made and questions followed. Discussion and questions for both candidates ensued.
- Motion made and seconded to call to question. Motion carried by voice vote.
- Moderator announced that voting would be by paper ballot.
- When ballots were totaled, there was only a 3 vote margin between the two candidates. The results were not announced, and the moderator with unanimous support of the BCA, called for a revote because proper procedures had not been followed at the checklist.
- The Moderator announced there would be a re-vote, and all voters must properly register at the entrance checklist for verification.

First vote by paper ballot:

- Total votes cast: 207 Calvin Allen: 105 Reginald Pion: 102

Second Vote by paper ballot:

- Total votes case: 202 Calvin Allen: 103 Reginald Pion: 99
- **CALVIN ALLEN – ELECTED**

Motion made and seconded to take a 30 minute recess for lunch; voice vote / carried.

Moderator called the Annual Town Meeting back to order at 2:30 p.m.

f. LISTER 3 year term

- Mark Higley nominated.
- There were no other nominations, so using unanimous consent from the voters, the moderator instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for Mark Higley.
- **MARK HIGLEY - ELECTED**

g. AUDITOR 3 year term

- Gordon Spencer nominated.
- There were no other nominations, so using unanimous consent from the voters, the moderator instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for Gordon Spencer.
- **GORDON SPENCER - ELECTED**

- h. **1st CONSTABLE** 1 year term
 - Darren Pion nominated; voice vote / carried.
 - **DARREN PION - ELECTED**
- i. **2nd CONSTABLE** 1 year term
 - No nominations made.
- j. **TOWN AGENT** 1 year term
 - Andre Tetreault nominated; voice vote / carried.
 - **ANDRE TETREAULT - ELECTED**
- k. **GRAND JUROR** 1 year term
 - Andre Tetreault nominated; voice vote / carried.
 - **ANDRE TETREAULT – ELECTED**
- l. **LIBRARY TRUSTEE** 5 year term
 - Gail Sicotte nominated; voice vote / carried.
 - **GAIL SICOTTE – ELECTED**
- m. **LIBRARY TRUSTEE** 5 year term
 - Faye Starr nominated; voice vote / carried.
 - **FAYE STARR – ELECTED**

ARTICLE 5: *Shall the legal voters appropriate the sum of \$ 275,000.00 for **TOWN EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES** (Select Board's Account)?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Question was made as to the job description of the newly added Town Administrator position.
- Amanda Carlson, Town Administrator was allowed to speak and explained her function in the office.
- Motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 6: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 125,000.00 plus Vermont State Aid funding for **WINTER ROADS**?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 7: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 125,000.00 plus Vermont State Aid funding for **SUMMER ROADS**?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Motion carried by voice vote
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 8: *Shall the Town of Lowell elect to have the Newport City Police provide **DISPATCH SERVICES** for Lowell if they can provide this service for less than \$16,000 per year?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Alden Warner explained the situation with the dispatch services and referred voters to page 33 of the Town Report which included a more detailed description.
- Voters commented on the article that they thought setting a dollar amount, or making any decisions at this time was premature.

- Motion made and seconded to pass over this article; voice vote / carried.
- **ARTICLE DEFEATED**

ARTICLE 9: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 25,000.00 for the FIRE DEPARTMENT?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Fire Chief Calvin Allen was asked to explain the budget and expenditures of the Fire Department.
- Motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 10: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 6,000.00 for the COMMUNITY LIBRARY?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 11: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 3,000.00 for the LITTLE LEAGUE & T-BALL teams?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Jennifer Blay was asked to explain the increase and needs of the Little League Teams.
- Motion made and seconded to call to question. Motion carried by voice vote.
- Main motion carried by voice vote
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 12: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 4,000.00 for the building and maintenance of the Town BASEBALL DIAMONDS, including the building of a backstop, bleachers and field?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Jennifer Blay spoke about the needs of a second field as well as upgrading the existing field.
- Main motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 13: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 1,000.00 for the JR. HOOP BASKETBALL teams?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- Jill Legacy, Jr. Hoop Coach was asked to comment on budget and anticipated costs of the program.
- Motion made and seconded to call to question. Motion passed by voice vote.
- Main motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 14: *Shall the legal voters appropriate the sum of \$ 3,500.00 to the ORLEANS ESSEX VNA & HOSPICE, INC. for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Licensed Nurse's Aide, Homemaker, Personal Care Attendant, Hospice, and Maternal Child Health Programs, and other community health programs provided by the Agency?*

- Article moved and seconded; voice vote / carried
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 15: *Shall the legal voters appropriate the following sums:*

- v) \$ 500 to AMERICAN RED CROSS
- w) \$ 250 to GREEN MOUNTAIN FARM-to-SCHOOL, INC
- x) \$ 50 to GREEN UP VERMONT
- y) \$ 450 to HAZEN'S NOTCH ASSOC. CAMPERSHIP FUND
- z) \$ 250 to JAY AREA LOCAL FOOD SHELF

- aa) \$ 200 to JAY PEAK POST NO. 28, INC. - AMERICAN LEGION
- bb) \$ 200 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY ACTION, INC. – ORLEANS COUNTY COURT DIVERSION
- cc) \$ 300 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COUNCIL ON AGING
- dd) \$ 923 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICE, INC.
- ee) \$ 200 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES INC
- ff) \$ 659 to NORTHEASTERN VT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
- gg) \$ 500 to ORLEANS COUNTY CITIZEN ADVOCACY
- hh) \$ 300 to ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
- ii) \$ 500 to POPE MEMORIAL FRONTIER ANIMAL SHELTER
- jj) \$ 200 to PREVENT CHILD ABUSE- VERMONT
- kk) \$ 700 to RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION
- ll) \$ 825 to UMBRELLA
- mm) \$ 100 to VACD - VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION
- nn) \$ 200 to VT ASSOC for the BLIND and VISUALLY IMPAIRED
- oo) \$ 90 to VT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Total for above appropriations = \$7397.00

- Article moved and seconded.
- Article 15 (n) – Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter was questioned as to the services they provided. Residents spoke up about their experiences with the shelter.
- The Select Board was questioned as to the growing list of appropriations and if they were scrutinized. The Select Board responded that all appropriations were included as requested as they felt it was the voter's right to accept or reject and not the Boards decision.
- Motion made and seconded to call to question. Motion carried by voice vote.
- Main motion carried by voice vote.
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS WRITTEN**

ARTICLE 17: *To transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.*

- Mark Higley was asked to speak a few words about the activity in Montpelier.
- Mark explained some of the pending Bills currently in legislature and was questioned on his view of some of the issues.

ARTICLE 18: *TO ADJOURN*

- The motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Town Meeting; voice vote / carried.
- **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:27 P.M.**

OUTCOME OF PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY BALLOTING:

Polls were open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Total registered voters on checklist:	585
Total number of ballots cast:	254
Total number of Democratic Ballots counted:	139
Total number of Republican Ballots counted:	115

DEMOCRAT

HILLARY CLINTON	10
ROQUE "ROCKY" DE LA FUENTE	1
MARTIN J O'MALLEY	2
BERNIE SANDERS	124
TOTAL WRITE IN	0
TOTAL BLANK	2

REPUBLICAN

JEB BUSH	0
BEN CARSON	7
CHRIS CHRISTIE	2
TED CRUZ	9
CARLY FIORINA	0
JOHN R KASICH	20
RAND PAUL	1
MARCO RUBIO	19
RICK SANTORUM	1
DONALD TRUMP	55
TOTAL WRITE IN	1
TOTAL BLANK	0

Attest:

MODERATOR:	Alden Warner	<i>Alden Warner</i>
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:	Steve Mason	<i>Steve Mason</i>
PRESIDING OFFICER:	Sandy LaDeau	<i>Sandy LaDeau</i>

NOTES: