

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013

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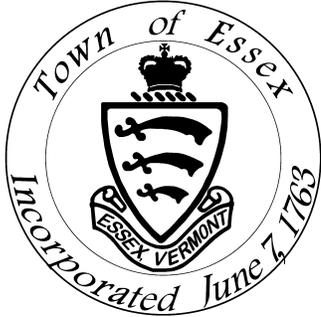
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**THIS PAGE REPLACES PAGE 1
OF YOUR 2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Town Meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the Essex Community Educational Center. Voting by Australian ballot will be held Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at the Essex Community Educational Center and the Essex Middle School, 58 Founders Road from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM.

DEDICATION



This year the Annual Report is dedicated to the Essex Selectboard and Essex Junction President and Board of Trustees for their bold step forward in approving the concept of a shared municipal manager. It is a pleasure to serve these community leaders.

Board of Selectmen

Linda K. Myers, Chair
David A. Rogerson, Vice Chair
R. Michael Plageman, Clerk
Brad M. Luck
Irene A. Wrenner

Board of Trustees

George A. Tyler, President
Daniel S. Kerin, Vice President
Andrew Brown
Elaine Sopchak
Lori A. Houghton

There is no substitute for excellence in community leadership.

Respectfully,

Patrick C. Scheidel
Town & Village Manager

TOWN OF ESSEX
Annual Town Meeting
March 3, 2014

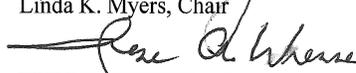
THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX IN THE COUNTY OF CHITTENDEN ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED AND WARNED TO MEET AT THE ESSEX COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL CENTER IN ESSEX JUNCTION, VERMONT ON MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2014 AT 7:30 PM TO TRANSACT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS AND TO ACT ON THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES.

- ARTICLE I. Shall the reports of the Officers be accepted?
- ARTICLE II. Shall the Town adopt a budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 as recommended by the Selectboard in the amount of \$11,389,119?
- ARTICLE III. Public to be heard.

WHEREUPON, AFTER DISPOSITION OF SAID BUSINESS, SAID MEETING SHALL BE ADJOURNED TO THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 4, 2014, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES TO BE VOTED ON BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT. THE POLLS FOR SAID BALLOT SHALL BE AT THE ESSEX COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL CENTER, ESSEX JUNCTION AND THE ESSEX MIDDLE SCHOOL, 58 FOUNDERS ROAD, ESSEX AND SHALL BE OPEN FROM 7:00 AM UNTIL 7:00 PM AT WHICH TIME THEY SHALL BE CLOSED.

- ARTICLE IV. Election of the following:
 Moderator, 1 vacancy (1-year term)
 Selectboard, 2 vacancies (3-year terms)
- ARTICLE V. Shall the Town of Essex adopt the proposed amendments to the 2011 Town Plan?

Dated at Essex, Vermont, this 27th day of January 2014 by the Essex Town Selectboard.

 Linda K. Myers, Chair	 David A. Rogerson, Vice-Chair	 R. Michael Plageman, Clerk
 Irene A. Wrenner	 Brad M. Luck	

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request to the Town Offices, 878-1341, to assure that the Annual Town Meeting is accessible to all individuals regardless of disability.

Proposed Amendments to the 2011 Essex Town Plan – “FAQs”

Q: What are the proposed amendments to the Essex Town Plan?

A: The Resource Preservation District – Industrial (RPD-I, a.k.a. “Saxon Hill”) zoning district and adjacent Kimo property would be combined to create the Saxon Hill zoning district. The new district would contain three sub-zones: Industrial (I1); Conservation/Recreation (O2); and Medium Density Residential (R2). The landowner will convey 300 acres of land (within the O2 zone) to the Town as part of the amendments. The existing Town Plan prohibits residential uses in the RPD-I district.

The RPD-I district and Kimo property are located in the southeast quadrant of Essex, and primarily accessed by River Road (Route 117), Allen Martin Drive, and Sand Hill Road, respectively. Under current zoning, the 751-acre RPD-I district consists of industrial land and conservation land. Industrial development is limited to 40 percent of the property. The RPD-I district includes 90 acres of open recreation land leased to the Town by the Essex Junction School District. The 76 acres of the Kimo property are currently zoned for industrial development.

COMBINED ACREAGES OF RPD-I, KIMO, AND SCHOOL PROPERTY

	Current	Proposed	Change (+/-)
Industrial (I1)	377	262	-115
Open Space (conservation & recreation)	451	503	+52
Residential (R2)	0	63	+63
TOTAL ACREAGE	828	828	

Q: Why is the Town proposing to amend the Town Plan?

A: In 2011, the Planning Commission denied an application by the landowner to extract nearly 700,000 cubic yards of sand from the conservation portion of the RPD-I district. The landowner appealed that decision to the Environmental Division of Vermont Superior Court. Following an unsuccessful court-ordered mediation attempt, the Town and landowner convened a “working group” to discuss options to resolve the legal dispute – and other long-standing issues, such as access – outside of court. The proposed changes require that the 2011 Town Plan be amended. After numerous public meetings and hearings by the Planning Commission and Selectboard, the proposed changes are now before the voters on the Town Meeting (March 4, 2014) ballot. Voters will determine, via Australian ballot, whether or not to approve the proposed changes.

Q: What is the nature of the 300-acres that would be conveyed to the Town?

A: More than half of the Saxon Hill area has been managed as a pine plantation since the mid-1900s. The 300-acres include mature plantation forest and 40 acres of reclaimed land (following a prior sand extraction operation) covered with 10- to 20-year-old white pine and red pine. A diverse understory and various tree species are present. The terrain varies but generally includes flat and moderately sloped areas as well as ravines. A trail network crosses the flatter areas and the ravines. Ponds and a quartet of small Class II wetlands (as designated by the State) are also on the acreage.

Q: How would the proposed Town Plan changes affect public access to the trails in the Saxon Hill area?

A: If the amendments are approved, Essex residents will be able to develop a management plan that addresses trail use on and access to the 300 acres to be conveyed to the Town. Currently, the public has access to the 90-acre school parcel and a small network of trails surveyed in 1978. Whether the public has

access to additional land and trails is a question that would need to be answered if the proposed Town Plan amendments **are not** approved.

Q: How many homes could be built in the proposed residential zoning district?

A: The proposed residential zoning district is within the Town’s sewer core. Sewer capacity in the proposed Medium Density Residential (R2) district could support as many as 115 single-family homes or 164 condominiums, or some combination thereof.

Q: Could the schools accommodate new students from the residential development?

A: Yes. The Town has a Residential Phasing Policy that only allows 20 homes to be built in a subdivision in any given year. The school superintendents have indicated that the new homes will not negatively impact the schools if constructed in accordance with the phasing policy.

Q: What roads may be constructed under the different scenarios?

A: Under the existing plan for the RPD-I district, an industrial road may eventually bisect the property and connect the industrial areas located on the northern and southern parts of the property.

Under the proposed changes, a road system will be needed to improve access and connectivity. Current zoning regulations require two access points once a residential development exceeds 50 homes. Possibilities range from a limited-access road for emergency vehicles (which doubles as a walking/biking trail) to a paved road built in accordance with the Town’s road specifications and generally open for motorized travel.

In either scenario, private developers will be responsible for the cost and construction of any roads. The Town would be responsible for maintenance, following acceptance of any roads.

Q: How would the changes affect the Town’s property tax revenue?

A: The Town assessor estimated that if the land is developed industrially under current zoning regulations, property tax revenues could increase by \$717,565. Under the proposed changes, industrial and residential development could increase property tax revenues by an estimated \$1,029,647. Both numbers are based upon assumptions utilizing available information. Any new revenue may be offset by expenses, such as road and trail maintenance, that have yet to be determined.

Q: How much would it cost to maintain the 300-acres conveyed to the Town?

A: The costs associated with the 300-acres would be determined as the Town and residents develop a management plan governing use of and access to the land. The acreage has been used for passive recreation (hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, etc.) and is home to an existing trail network.

Q: Do the proposed Town Plan amendments change the buffer requirements in the district?

A: No. The 200-foot buffer between industrial and residential properties would remain in place, as would the 100-foot buffer along Allen Martin Drive and Sand Hill Road.

Q: What will happen if the proposed Town Plan amendments are approved by the voters?

A: If the proposed Town Plan amendments **are** approved, the zoning regulations will be revised and implemented through a public process with the Planning Commission and Selectboard to create the industrial, conservation/recreation, and residential subzones. Work will commence on what Essex residents envision for access to and use of the conveyed 300-acres. Developers will be able to propose industrial and residential developments subject to Planning Commission review under the Town’s land use regulations and residential phasing policy

Q: What will happen if the proposed Town Plan amendments are not approved by the voters?

A: If the proposed Town Plan amendments **are not** approved, it is anticipated that litigation over the denied sand extraction operation will resume in the Environmental Division of Vermont Superior Court. If the Planning Commission decision is upheld, sand extraction will not occur and the current zoning will remain in place unless amended by the Planning Commission. If the landowner prevails, nearly 700,000 cubic yards of sand will be extracted for use on- and off-site. Industrial development will continue to be reviewed by the Planning Commission according to the Town's land use regulations. Residential uses will continue to be prohibited in the RPD-I district. The 300-acres will remain privately owned.

For more information, visit the Town's website at www.essex.org. Look under the section, "All Notices/News" or search for "Saxon Hill." The website includes maps of existing and proposed zoning districts, a detailed timeline of the process, comments submitted by residents, Town committees, board members, and staff. Community Development staff can be reached at 878-1343 to answer questions.

SELECTBOARD
Linda K. Myers, Chair

It has been an eventful year for the Town of Essex.

The Selectboard and members of the two Police Facility Committees broke out the ceremonial shovels and hard hats in November to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new police facility on Maple Street. The project has pressed ever forward since those initial scoops of soil, through ice storms, snow, and one stubborn polar vortex driving temperatures below zero. Despite all of that, the project is scheduled to be completed – and the Essex Police moved in – by late August/early September.

Spring 2014 marks the end of the first year of the shared municipal manager experiment between the Town and Village. The shared manager, the first in more than 40 years, is one sign of the closer and more collaborative relationship between the Town and Village.

The two-year Heart and Soul community planning grant wraps up this February. A large number of Essex residents were engaged throughout those two years to identify six key values: thoughtful growth, local economy, education, safety, community connections, and health and recreation. The challenge now is finding the best ways to integrate and implement those values. The effort of the many volunteers involved in the grant is greatly appreciated.

The “Circ Alternative Task Force,” formed by Governor Peter Shumlin following his announcement that the Circumferential Highway would not be constructed as envisioned, finalized its project recommendations to the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Legislature. The projects are spread throughout the four “Circ Communities” (Essex, Essex Junction, Colchester, and Williston). Projects in Essex range from the installation of “smarter” traffic signals at key intersections, to new road construction in the form of the Crescent Connector in downtown Essex Junction, to reconfiguration of Susie Wilson Road intersections with Route 15 and Kellogg Road.

Proposed amendments to the 2011 Town Plan, related to the Resource Preservation District-Industrial (RPD-I, a.k.a. “Saxon Hill”) and the abutting Kimo property, will be before voters on March 4. A “FAQ” document is included in this annual report, describing the proposed changes. A number of resources related to the proposed changes are available on the Town’s website as well (www.essex.org).

As most of you know, I have chosen to step down from the Selectboard after almost 13 years on the job. It has been an honor and a privilege serving the people of Essex over the years. Your generosity in supporting me, but more importantly your generosity in supporting the Town of Essex, will live in my memory forever. Thank you.

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

MODERATOR

Steve McQueen..... Expires 2014

**SELECTBOARD
(3-Year Terms)**

Linda K. Myers, Chair Expires 2014
David A. Rogerson, Vice Chair Expires 2014
Brad M. Luck Expires 2015
R. Michael Plageman, Clerk Expires 2015
Irene A. Wrenner Expires 2015

**CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONER
(3-Year Term)**

Aaron Martin..... Expires 2016

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
(2-Year Terms)**

Jennifer Ashe*, 11 Juniper Ridge Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 876-7232
Deborah Billado, 20 Maple Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 879-4225
Robert Chaffee*, 7 Walnut Lane, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-4813
Diane Clemens*, 15 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-3536
Linda Costello, 5 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-5481
Bernard Couture, 9 Redwood Terrace, Essex Junction, VT 05452 879-7332
Paul Dame, 26 Pearl Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 318-7544
Debbie Evans*, 53 Greenfield Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-4317
Dawn Hill-Fleury*, 108 Center Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-7622
Kathy Hunt*, 38 Prospect Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-8406
Peter Hunt*, 38 Prospect Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-8406
Tim Jerman*, 5 Sycamore Lane, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-2972
Steve McQueen*, 11 Saybrook Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 879-5357
Linda K. Myers*, 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-3514
Linda Waite-Simpson*, 76 Beech Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 872-0499

*Performs marriages and civil union ceremonies

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

**CEMETERY COMMISSION
(3-Year Terms)**

Frances Kinghorn.....	Expires 2014
Gary Tomlinson	Expires 2014
Jody Landon.....	Expires 2015
Vacant	Expires 2015
Sam Kinghorn	Expires 2016

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
(3-Year Terms)**

Peter Hess, Chair.....	Expires 2014
Vacancy	Expires 2014
Chuck Vile	Expires 2014
Brian Cote	Expires 2015
Vacancy	Expires 2016

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(3-Year Terms)**

Elizabeth Poulin	Expires 2013
Greg Morgan, Chair.....	Expires 2015
Jerry Firkey	Expires 2015
Robin Lane.....	Expires 2016
Barbara Higgins	Expires 2016

**ENERGY COMMITTEE
(3-Year Terms)**

Thomas Tailer	Expires 2014
J.C. McCann.....	Expires 2014
Roger Gamache.....	Expires 2015
Vacant	Expires 2015
Dennis Bouldin	Expires 2015
Vacant	Expires 2015
Reed Parker.....	Expires 2016
Irene A. Wrenner, Ex Officio.....	No Expiration

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
(3-Year Terms)**

Janet Bowker.....	Expires 2014
Scott Moore, Secretary.....	Expires 2015
Kerry Jung.....	Expires 2016
Sue Ann Kurek.....	Expires 2016
Deborah Evans	Expires 2016
Janet Watts, Treasurer.....	Expires 2016
Bonnie Doble, Chair	Expires 2016

**MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE
(3-Year Terms)**

Richard Somerset, Chair	Expires 2014
Irene Wrenner	Expires 2014
Paul Dame	Expires 2015
Jan Ellis-Clements	Expires 2015
Robert Grandchamp	Expires 2015
Patrick Scheidel	Expires 2016
Karen L.W. Hammer.....	Expires 2016

**PLANNING COMMISSION
(4-Year Terms)**

Ned Daly	Expires 2014
Johnathan Schumacher, Clerk.....	Expires 2014
Joshua Knox.....	Expires 2014
Vacancy	Expires 2014
Tom Furland.....	Expires 2015
Dustin R. Brusco.....	Expires 2016
David P. Raphael	Expires 2016

**TOWN HEALTH OFFICER
(3-Year Terms)**

Jerry Firkey, Health Officer.....	Expires 2016
Sharon Kelley, Deputy Health Officer.....	Expires 2016

**TOWN SERVICE OFFICER
(Annual Appointment)**

Vacancy	Expires 2016
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**TRAILS COMMITTEE
(3-Year Terms)**

Mark Paulsen	Expires 2014
Kevin Macy.....	Expires 2015
Ruth LeBlanc	Expires 2015
Sean Folley	Expires 2016
Vacancy	Expires 2016

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
(3-Year Terms)**

Hubert Norton, Chair	Expires 2014
Mitch Lefevre.....	Expires 2014
Katherine Sonnick.....	Expires 2015
Pam Schirner.....	Expires 2016
Chris Daniele	Expires 2016

OTHER APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Champlain Water District Alternate	Vacancy
Channel 17/Town Meeting Television Representative	Vacancy
Channel 17/Town Meeting Television Alternate Representative	Vacancy
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC)	Jeffrey B. Carr
CCRPC 1 st Alternate	Irene A. Wrenner
CCRPC 2 nd Alternate.....	Max G. Levy
CCRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)	Dennis Lutz
CCRPC Transportation Advisory Committee Alternate.....	Jeffrey B. Carr
CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)	Dana Hanley
CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee Alternate.....	Mark Marsh
Chittenden Solid Waste District Representative	Alan Nye
Chittenden Solid Waste District Alternate.....	Max G. Levy
Chittenden County Transportation Authority Representatives	Dan Maxon & Marti Powers-Keyes
Essex Rescue Community Advisory Board	Ben Gilliam
Fire Warden	Charles J. Cole
Grand Juror	Jerry Firkey
Town Tree Warden & Forester	Charlie Vile
Tri-Town Sewer Committee	Dennis Lutz & Jeff Carr
Winooski Valley Park District	Tom Malinowski

If you are interested in filling a vacancy on a Board or Committee, please call the Town Manager's Office at 878-1341 or email manager@essex.org.

APPOINTED FULL-TIME STAFF

ASSESSOR

Randy Viens, Assessor
Terri Sabens, Clerk

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Dana Hanley, Director
Greg Duggan, Planner
Sharon Kelley, Zoning Administrator
Shannon Lunderville, GIS Coordinator
Jennifer Rock, Secretary/Payroll Clerk

FINANCE

Douglas Fisher, Finance Director
Shirley FitzGerald, Water/Sewer Clerk
Carolyn Gauthier, Bookkeeper

LIBRARY

Ann Paietta, Library Director
Caitlin Corless, Assistant Librarian
Kevin Moore, Assistant Librarian

PARKS & RECREATION

Ally Vile, Director
Josh Gauthier, Program Coordinator
Samantha Crocker, Asst. Program Coordinator
Andrea Leo, Secretary
Ken Booker, Parks Maintenance Foreman

POLICE

Bradley LaRose, Chief
Bob LaGrow, Support Services
Kenneth Beaulieu, Lieutenant
Rick Garey, Lieutenant
Robin Hollwedel, Lieutenant
Robert Kissinger, Lieutenant
George Murtie, Lieutenant
Doug Babcock, Sergeant
Robert Estes, Sergeant
Christina Ashley, Corporal
John Dunn, Corporal
Robert Hall, Corporal
Morgan Lawton, Corporal
Todd McCabe, Corporal
Kurt Miglinas, Corporal
Diana Miranowicz, Corporal
Ed Piro, Corporal
Michael Wootton, Corporal

POLICE (Cont'd)

Michael Chistolini, Patrol Officer
Paul Courtois, Patrol Officer
Stephen Dunning, Patrol Officer
Andrew Graham, Patrol Officer
Damir Karadza, Patrol Officer
David Kitchen, Patrol Officer
Christopher May, Patrol Officer
Michael Roberto, Patrol Officer
John Rutenberg, Patrol Officer
Nicholas Van Winkle, Patrol Officer
Karen Hulbert, Dispatcher
Raymond LaCroix, Dispatcher
Adam Gamelin, Dispatcher
Peggy McCabe, Dispatcher
Angela Bellizzi, Records Clerk
Michelle Hodgson, BCI Secretary

TOWN CLERK

Cheryl Moomey, Clerk/Treasurer
Mary Melnick, Assistant Clerk

TOWN MANAGER

Patrick C. Scheidel, Town Manager
Trevor Lashua, Assistant Town Manager
Rick Garey, MIS Director
Ann Myers, Personnel Asst./Benefits/Sec.

PUBLIC WORKS

Dennis Lutz, Town Engineer/PW Director
Aaron Martin, Asst. Eng./Utilities Director
Ann Costandi, Stormwater Coordinator
Chris Stoddard, Secretary
Loren Ward, PW Superintendent
Jerry Lesage, Mechanic
Eric Barkyoub, Highway Maintenance
Peter Daigle, Highway Maintenance
Robert Miller, Highway Maintenance
Thomas Kabusk, Highway Maintenance
Dan Roberge, Highway Maintenance
Brian Roy, Highway Maintenance
Joseph Tourville, Highway Maintenance
Vacant, Highway Maintenance
Robert Whitten, Water & Sewer Foreman
Ernest Oakes, Water & Sewer
Vacant, Water & Sewer

TOWN INFORMATION

The Town of Essex is governed by the Council-Manager form of government. It has a five member nonpartisan Selectboard which is elected at large and is responsible for determining Town policy. The Chief Executive Officer is the Town Manager who is appointed by the Selectboard and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Town. All residents, whether they live inside or outside the Village of Essex Junction, are residents of the Town and have the right to participate in Town activities, including the election of Town officials. There are several committees appointed by the Selectboard and all residents are encouraged to apply. Appointments are effective July 1, although vacancies sometimes occur during the year. **If you are interested in serving on a Town Committee, please write a letter of interest to: Town Manager, 81 Main Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 or call 878-1341.** You may also fax us at 878-1353, e-mail us at manager@essex.org or use our Web page www.essex.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 3, 2014 Town Meeting – 7:30 PM
 March 4, 2014 – Voting by Australian Ballot..... Polls Open – 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
 March 17, 2014 2nd half of property taxes due
 April 1, 2014 Dog licenses due
 September 15, 2014 1st half of property taxes due
 March 16, 2015 2nd half of property taxes due

GENERAL INFORMATION

Population 19,765
 Registered Voters 15,294
 Total Area 36 square miles
 Date of Charter June 7, 1763
 2013 Grand List \$23,992,962

	Residential	Non-Residential
Town General Tax Rate	.3620	.3620
Education Rate	1.4009	1.4225
Town Capital	.0200	.0200
Town Highway	.0800	.0800
Local Agreement Rate	.0015	.0015
Total Town Tax Rate	1.8644	1.886

MEETINGS

Selectboard..... 1st and 3rd Monday (and as required) – 7:30 PM
 Planning Commission 2nd and 4th Thursday – 6:30 PM
 Zoning Board of Adjustment 1st Thursday – 6:00 PM
 Conservation Committee 2nd Tuesday – 7:00 PM
 Trails Committee 2nd Tuesday – 7:00 PM
 Economic Development Commission..... 3rd Thursday – Noon
 Library Board of Trustees As required
 Energy Committee 1st and 3rd Tuesday—6:30 PM

All meetings are held at Town Hall, 81 Main Street, unless otherwise specified.

Please check website for time and location.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

7:30 AM to 4:30 PM
 Monday through Friday

STATE INFORMATION

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

U.S. Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D)

Washington Office: 437 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-4502(202) 224-4242

Burlington Office: Court House Plaza, 199 Main Street, Burlington, VT 05401(802) 863-2525

U.S. Senator Bernard Sanders (I)

Washington Office: 332 Dirksen Building, Washington, DC 20510.....(202) 224-5141

Vermont Address: 1 Church Street, Burlington, VT 05401(802) 862-0697

Congressman Peter Welch (D)

Washington Office: 1404 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20510(202) 225-4115

Burlington Office: 30 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 350, Burlington, VT 05401(888) 605-7270

(802) 652-2450

VERMONT STATE GOVERNMENT

Governor Peter Shumlin (D)

109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05609(802) 828-3333

Lieutenant Governor Phil Scott (R)

115 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-5401(802) 828-2226

Secretary of State Jim Condos (D)

128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633(802) 828-2363

SENATORS

Tim Ashe (D/P), 45 Lakeview Terrace, Burlington, VT 05401(802) 318-0903

Philip Baruth (D), 87 Curtis Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401(802) 503-5266

Michael Sirotkin (D), 80 Bartlett Bay Road, South Burlington, VT 05401(802) 860-6428

Virginia Lyons (D), 241 White Birch Lane, Williston, VT 05495(802) 863-6129

Diane Snelling (R), 304 Piette Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461(802) 482-4382

David Zuckerman (P), 2083 Gilman Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461(802) 482-2109

REPRESENTATIVES

Debbie Evans (D) (District 8-1), 53 Greenfield Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452(802) 878-4317

Martha Heath (D), (District 8-3) 342 Rollin Irish Rd.,

RR 1, Box 1383, Westford, VT 05494(802) 893-1291

Tim Jerman (D) (District 8-2), 5 Sycamore Lane, Essex Junction, VT 05452.....(802) 878-2972

Linda K. Myers (R) (District 8-1), 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452(802) 878-3514

Linda Waite-Simpson (D) (District 8-2), 76 Beech Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452.....(802) 872-0499

VOTING DISTRICT DESCRIPTIONS

To determine your voting district, use the following list as a guide.

DISTRICT 8-1

Linda Myers and Debbie Evans – Representatives

All of the Town (excluding Districts 8-2 and 8-3)

DISTRICT 8-2

Tim Jerman and Linda Waite-Simpson – Representatives

All of the Village of Essex Junction

DISTRICT 8-3

Martha Heath – Representative

All roads north of the following boundaries:

Jericho Road – North side (250-258)

Weed Road – North side (Even numbers)

Brown's River Road/Route 128 – North side (Even numbers, 2-130, then all numbers)

Towers Road – North side (Odd numbers)

Towers Road Extension – (All numbers)

Old Stage Road – West side (Even numbers 14-140 and then all numbers)

Lost Nation Road – North side (odd numbers)

POLL LOCATIONS

For Town-wide issues, the polling place for District 8-2 voters is the Essex Community Educational Center.

The polling place for Districts 8-1 and 8-3 is the Essex Middle School located on Founders Road.

Note: Due to the 2012 redistricting, a portion of Village voters who are in Census Block 1023 (173-261 Pearl Street) have been moved to Town District "8-1 Village" for state and federal elections only. These voters will vote at the Essex Middle School during state and federal elections. There will be a separate checklist at the Essex Middle School for these voters. For local elections, these voters will vote with the Village at the High School as they have in the past.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL

Randy Viens, Assessor

HOMESTEAD DECLARATION REMINDER

You are required to file a Homestead Declaration each and every year for the property you own and reside in, whether or not you qualify for a property tax adjustment.

Use - Form HS-122 found in the Vermont Income Tax booklet or on the State of Vermont website: www.vermont.gov.

There are no date extensions for Homestead Declarations. Filing an extension for income tax does not apply to a Homestead Declaration.

The mission of the Department of Real Estate Appraisal is to provide a legal and fair basis for the taxation of real property as required by the Essex Charter and Vermont Statutes and to furnish to others, access and explanations of the information gathered by the department in the course of its required duties. Due to the nature and ramifications of property assessment, public relations are a very important aspect of this office. Open communication is essential in order to give the public the awareness and understanding of our duties and responsibilities. In addition, the office administers Farm and Open Land tax stabilization contracts, the State Land Use Program and provides statistical reports to other departments and governmental units as well as assisting the tax department in performing the annual equalization process. We also receive from the tax department, virtually year-round, weekly download information for the administration of the Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment claims.

If you are in the process of either buying or selling a property and would like to see what other similar properties are selling for, you are welcome to come to the Assessor's office and view our sales binders anytime during our business hours.

We remind you that if you have any questions or would like to review your property record card for accuracy, you are welcome to visit our office at 81 Main St. between 7:30am and 4:30pm.

The 2013 State Equalization reports have been received. These reports, based on sales ratios (assessed values divided by selling prices), indicates an overall ratio for property in the Town School District of 100.96% and a ratio of 100.82% in the Essex Junction School District.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
K. Dana Hanley, Community Development Director

Highlights of the Community Development Department's efforts and initiatives in 2013 include the following:

Bylaw Amendments – A set of amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Bylaws was put on hold temporarily. When reactivated, the amendments update several administrative provisions and incorporate more substantive changes, including conservation design subdivision regulations, revised telecommunications' provisions, performance standards for commercial projects, and changes to the RPD-I zoning district.

Stormwater Management – Stormwater mapping issues related to the sewer service core remained ongoing. Future regulatory changes will be required pursuant to federal rules.

Transportation – Staff stayed current with important transportation issues such as alternatives to the Circumferential Highway. Much of this centered on improved connectivity in the Susie Wilson corridor, the VT 289/2A intersection and the Colchester/Essex Network study. Work began on the Town and Village Bike/Pedestrian plan in collaboration with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission.

Saxon Hill/RPD-I District Initiative – Staff and the Planning Commission prepared Town Plan changes affecting the RPD-I District. The changes, if approved at Town Meeting in March 2014, will result in the creation of an approximately 300-acre public park and enable limited residential uses.

Customer Service – The staff provided the public with reliable and efficient customer service throughout 2013. There were no staffing changes. The town's web site was re-vamped.

Heart & Soul Project – The Community Development staff continued to work with Village residents and the Orton Family Foundation on the two-year \$100,000 planning initiative which involves identifying core values and a vision for the entire community.

Development and Permitting – Development review was considerably more active than in recent years. The notable applications are listed below and a summary of zoning and subdivision activity is provided in the chart.

- Skateland, 6A Susie Wilson Road – Site Plan approval for two buildings: a 15,050 sq. ft. indoor rock climbing facility and a 58,500 sq. ft. roller skating and go-kart facility;
- A&C Realty, LLC, 12 Gardenside Lane – Preliminary Plan approval for a mixed-use development consisting of 48 one-bedroom units and a 16,500 sq. ft. commercial building;
- The Miller Realty Group, 30 & 42 Allen Martin Drive - Site Plan approval for demolition of an existing building and construction of three buildings for warehouse and manufacturing uses. Two buildings will be 180,000 sq. ft. and one will be 60,000 sq. ft.;
- Black Bay Ventures, LLC/Autumn Harp, 16 Thompson Drive – Site Plan approval for construction of a 57,600 warehouse facility;
- Reinhart Food Service, LLC, 32 Thompson Drive – Site Plan approval for a 137,361 sq. ft. food distribution facility.

Community Development Services Report

Community Development Services Report							
Discretionary Review Activity	Calendar Year						
	2012			2013			
Zoning Board of Adjustment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (4) Conditional Use/Amendment • (2) Variance • (1) Unspecified Use • (0) Sign Waiver • (0) Appeal Zoning Administrator's Decision 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (6) Conditional Use/Amendment • (2) Variance • (0) Unspecified Use • (0) Sign Waiver • (2) Appeal Zoning Administrator's Decision 			
Planning Commission	<p><i>Subdivision.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) Conceptual • (5) Sketch Plan/Preliminary • (5) Final Plan/Amendment • (1) Boundary Adjustment • (13) Consent Agenda • (1) Reconsideration <p><i>Project Review.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) Site Plan • (9) Site Plan Amendment • (19) Workshops/Site Visit 			<p><i>Subdivision.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (3) Conceptual • (3) Sketch Plan/Preliminary • (5) Final Plan/Amendment • (2) Boundary Adjustment • (13) Consent Agenda • (0) Reconsideration <p><i>Project Review.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (7) Site Plan • (10) Site Plan Amendment • (13) Workshops/Site Visit 			
Total Discretionary Activity	43			65			
Zoning Permit Applications Received		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Accessory Apartment/Apartments	2	4	6	3	3	2	
Condo/Townhouse	4	6	2	12	62	9	
Congregate Housing	0	1	0	1	1	0	
Home Occupation	3	1	1	3	1	1	
Miscellaneous & Use Permits	7	22	19	12	14	15	
New Commercial/Industrial Building (add/alt)	25	18	27	40	28	36	
Residential (add/alt)	72	69	62	63	80	73	
Residential Garage	6	6	13	10	9	11	
Residential Storage Building	14	17	16	11	13	11	
Sign Permit	14	12	19	14	19	11	
Single-Family Home	7	5	8	10	13	7	
Swimming Pool	3	4	7	2	4	2	
Rebuild Dwelling	1	1	1	2	1	2	
Renewal of Permit	3	2	2	2	0	2	
Septic	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
Subtotal, Permits Issued	161	168	183	188	247	182	
Permits Denied	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Applications Withdrawn/Voided	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Total Zoning Permit Activity	162	168	184	188	247	182	

*Effective July 1, 2007, Septic Permits issued by State of Vermont.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Peter Hess (Chairman), Brian Cote, Niels Giddins, Ben Suratt, Chuck Vile

The mission of the Essex Conservation Committee is to inventory and study the natural, historic, educational, cultural, scientific, architectural, or archaeological resources of the Town in which the public has an interest. The Committee also advises the Selectboard and Planning Commission on matters relating to the public understanding of local natural resources and conservation needs, development applications and acquisition of lands involving the above resources.

In 2013, the Conservation Committee said goodbye to two long-serving members, weighed in on multiple community-wide projects, and explored ways to support conservation efforts throughout the Town.

Accomplishments include:

- Ongoing joint reviews of development proposals with the Essex Trails Committee
- Providing written and verbal input on the proposal to rezone the Saxon Hill area
- Involvement in the community planning efforts of Heart & Soul of Essex
- Continued information gathering about how to establish an Essex Town Land Trust, Conservation Fund, or both

The Conservation Committee often invites guests to monthly meetings to generate discussion and guide work on various projects. The following individuals and groups made presentations at Conservation Committee meetings in 2013:

- Essex Planning Commissioners Dustin Brusco, Tom Furland, Mark Marsh, Dan Maxon, and David Raphael
 - Multiple discussions about the Saxon Hill rezoning proposal
- Allen Karnatz, Vermont Land Trust
 - Presentation of Whitcomb Farm conservation project
- Chittenden County Forester Keith Thompson and Burlington Arborist Warren Spinner
 - Planning for invasive insects

Goals for 2014:

- Plan for and educate the public about the impacts of invasive species
- Participate in developing a park management plan for the Saxon Hill area, if necessary
- Continue to explore the concept of an Essex Land Trust and/or Conservation Fund by gaining public support and action
- Continue relationships with community organizations that have similar future goals and targeted accomplishments
- Find two citizens to fill the open seats on the Conservation Committee

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Commission Members:	Jerry Firkey, Barbara Higgins, Robin Lane Greg Morgan (Chair) and Betty Poulin
Commission Advisors:	Trevor Lashua, Assistant Town Manager; Greg Duggan, Town Planner; Robin Pearce, Essex Junction Planning Director; and Curt Carter, Vice-President, Greater Burlington Industrial Corp. (GBIC)
Ex-Officio:	Michael Plageman, Selectboard Member, Town of Essex Lori Houghton, Trustee, Village of Essex Junction

This year the EDC has sought to adopt new ways to include both Town and Village perspectives, just as the two entities have explored ways to consolidate services. The addition of a Town and Village elected officials as **ex-officio members** and the enhanced participation of planners from both entities has significantly broadened the EDC's reach.

- **Land Positioned for Commercial & Industrial Development:** In 2013 two **proposed** developments, when coupled with existing available commercial space, have positioned Essex as Vermont's major source of land available for commercial and industrial development in Vermont. Essex is sitting on land that can accommodate the development of over 1.5 million square feet of space. The Essex Junction Planning Commission approved IBM's proposed master plan to establish the **Champlain Valley Innovation & Technology Park**, up to 300,000 square feet of light industrial and professional office space off Maple Street. Actual development depends on interest from prospective occupants.
- At the end of legislative session the State of Vermont sold Building 617 at **30 Allen Martin Drive**, a former IBM chip testing facility structure located on 50 acres, to Williston-based REM Development. REM proposes to replace the existing structure with 3 buildings totaling 420,000 square feet to be phased in over 10 years. The Essex Planning Commission and ACT 250 approvals were in place by the end of 2013. Neighbors from adjacent Maplelawn Drive participated actively at every stage of the permitting process.
- **Saxon Hill Industrial Park** in the RPD-I District has multiple lots available for development.

Business News – Additions, Subtractions and the Top Employers:

- **Huber+Suhner:** In October, the Swiss owners of Huber+Suhner announced the company plans to move operations to North Carolina and New Jersey by mid-2014. More than 60 jobs will be lost to Essex and to Vermont when the move is complete.
- At year's end the **United States Department of Homeland Security (USCIS)** is completing construction on an annex at its River Road location. Space for up to 300 additional employees is being created.
- **Reinhardt Food Services** is the nation's largest food wholesaler. The company is moving its Vermont operations to Thompson Drive by building a new facility to consolidate its two existing facilities.
- **Citizen Cider:** Two years ago, three entrepreneurs started making an "all-Vermont" hard cider in the Essex part of Fort Ethan Allen. To promote their product, a tasting room followed. The EDC wants to thank Essex Town's planning staff for their concerted efforts to assist Citizen Cider through the Town's permit process which would have established basic health and safety conditions on the site. Late in 2013 the Citizen Cider team announced plans to relocate to Pine Street in Burlington. The EDC expects this remarkable business to make major contributions to the Vermont economy.

- **Top Employers in Essex - 2013:** Essex-based companies with more than 60 employees include: IBM Microelectronics (~3,800); Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (800); US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) (700); Autumn Harp (248); Revision Military (170); FoodScience of Vermont (155); The Essex Resort & Spa (100); Catamount Color (85); Vermont Systems (85); Harmony Information Systems (80) (added this year); Flex-a-Seal (78); and Huber+Suhner (63).

Re-visioning Fort Ethan Allen: As a result of the process that resulted in the departure of Citizen Cider, the EDC plans to lay the groundwork for a “re-visioning” of Fort Ethan Allen. This initiative will involve working with residents of the Fort who have expressed interest and with Colchester, which also governs part of the Fort. Any land-use changes will involve revisions to the Town Plan and require support and approval from both the Essex Planning Commission and Selectboard.

Exploring Support for Start-Ups / Entrepreneurs: Vermont has an active network, led by the VT Office of Creative Economy, cultivating a culture that supports entrepreneurs – Vermonters willing to take the risk of starting their own businesses and creating jobs. The EDC is exploring ways for Essex to become more involved with this effort. In June the EDC co-hosted a *VT Tech Meetup* with FreshTracks Capital and Start-Up Vermont at Citizen Cider, with many enthusiastic Essex residents joining entrepreneurs from the region. In the future, the EDC will explore additional ways to create a local culture that supports business startups, including some of the following:

- Create a Co-Working Space/coffee shop, a version of a concept identified by Heart & Soul – Essex’s value setting process. To succeed this effort will need to be led by local entrepreneurs and free-lancing technology experts;
- Build a Maker Space, a place where innovators can learn to use the latest technology; and
- Create a community technology education program (for example, a coding class).

New Faces and Positive Energy at the EDC: This year Robin Lane was appointed to the EDC by the Selectboard. She brings a unique set of skills and experience, having served as the CEO of a Vermont technology company and having taught technology at Champlain College. She now leads the Essex Technology Center’s efforts to link its curriculum to the needs of area businesses. Also, Selectman Mike Plageman and Trustee Lori Houghton participated regularly, building EDC communication with both governing boards.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Reed Parker, Chair

The Energy Committee (EC) provides leadership and outreach in the areas of conservation, efficiency and conversion to renewable sources of energy. In raising awareness among town staff and volunteers, as well as residents and business owners, members aim to show how energy and money can be saved by revising policy, changing habits, and upgrading infrastructure.

The talents and interests of our members vary. No one attends every meeting or event, but those who venture forth bring back data and experiences that benefit our committee and town as a whole. We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Genie Christiansen for chairing the EC these past several years. Genie's leadership will have a lasting, positive effect on our town's energy conservation efforts. Below are perspectives from two of our newest members.

Reed Parker joined the committee in April, having attended meetings in prior months:

In February, I attended a "2013 Home Energy Challenge" meeting held by Efficiency Vermont, where I met other Vermonters who were eager to save money through energy conservation. This sparked my interest in joining the EC, to find solutions for Essex residents as we all cope with rising costs of energy.

I look forward to EC meetings, which provide us a forum for sharing information and formulating plans to ultimately help the town, and its residents, save money.

Since joining the EC, I've had the opportunity not only to participate in monthly planning meetings but to also attend a variety of events ranging from an overview on heat-pump systems to the annual Vermont Energy & Climate Action Conference (VECAN) in Fairlee, VT, which brought together hundreds of Vermonters who face the same energy challenges we do.

I believe EC can provide Essex residents with information, guidance and actionable plans, which will help any interested person or business, save through conservation. This is not a short-term goal but one that need continual work and input from citizens across out town.

Dennis Bouldin officially joined the committee in Dec. 2012, after months of active participation:

As a scientist, the evidence I've seen strongly indicates our current reliance on fossil fuels for well-being and comfort cannot be sustained in the long run without serious and possibly catastrophic consequences for our descendants.

To quote Lucy from a recent Peanuts comic strip, "Now that I know that, what am I supposed to do?" I've wondered the same thing, as an individual and as a member of our community.

By joining the EC, I have learned much from and been inspired by knowledgeable and energetic neighbors, many of whom have been addressing these issues for much longer than I have. Attending meetings of our local committee, attempting outreach at the Town and Village Annual Meetings, and participating in various activities at a regional and statewide level, I've found that the issues are complex, that there are no easy answers and that energy concerns must compete with the more immediate concerns that most people have. Even a relatively homogeneous state like Vermont has significant variations that challenge energy strategists. But I have been heartened to find that there are many Vermonters who share my concern, manifested in energy committees in over 100 towns and numerous other local and statewide private organizations and government agencies. The state of Vermont has adopted what at first consideration appears to be the impossible goal of 90% renewable energy use by the year 2050. But I've heard many stories of individuals and groups which are showing that, with commitment and focus, progress can be made.

As an individual trying to sort out all of the players, one of my first contributions has been to create an on-line Household Energy Resources Page to help Essex residents navigate this array of resources. This page may be accessed from the Local Government/Boards and Committees/Energy Committee link at www.essex.org and will be kept up-to-date to the best of my ability.

ESSEX COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Eva C. Clough, Co-President

Tim Jerman, Co-President

2013 was an exciting year for the Essex Community Historical Society (ECHS). Several Board members participated in the 250th Anniversary of the Essex Town Charter. Essex was chartered on June 7, 1763 by New Hampshire Royal Governor Benning Wentworth.

The anniversary celebration kicked off at Town Meeting with a re-enactment of the first Essex Town Meeting, which was held in 1786 in a house off what is now the River Road (117). Committee members were joined by members of the Selectboard and Village Trustees. The event was filmed by Channel 17 and can be seen on their website. Other events included a float in the Memorial Day Parade, a Village cemetery tour, a booth at the annual block party, a county-wide celebration of all the “250” towns at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington, and an exhibit at the Champlain Valley Fair.

At the Harriet Powell Museum, the windows received a make-over in 2013 with new pleated shades to help insulate the building and protect the collection. Several groups were hosted at the museum, including local student groups with tours by Laurie Jordan, the “Red Hat” Ladies, the Westford and Colchester Historical Societies, and many individuals. One of the highlights of the year was a visit from founder Harriet Powell’s granddaughter, who had a wonderful time, hosted by Co-President Eva Clough. The Board visited Colchester’s restored old schoolhouse, and plans to interact more in the future with other local historical societies. As part of the Vermont Historical Society’s 175th birthday, two bricks honoring Harriet Powell, Ron Clapp, and Dr. L.C. Butler were purchased for permanent display at the Barre History Center.

ECHS also launched an effort to raise funds to return the historic water tower at Fort Ethan Allen to functional use so that the stairway is safe for climbing and the exterior is preserved. Grant opportunities are being researched by a sub-committee of the Board. Another sub-committee was established to review by-laws, and yet another to review the museum collection with an eye toward more temporary exhibits to increase visitor traffic.

The museum received many donations during the year, including Essex documents, yearbooks, and papers. The museum was also able to salvage an arch from the unique porch of the now-demolished Molloy-Delano house which stood at Butler’s Corner for almost 200 years.

ECHS also hosted presentations at the Brownell Library. Tim Jerman presented photographs taken circa 1900 by Essex Junction photographer W.C. Sawyer, and Ann Gray hosted a presentation about the Civil War to commemorate the 150th anniversary of that conflict. More will be done in 2014 to remember the Essex soldiers who died at the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864. Also, the ECHS’s Annual Meeting was highlighted by Gerry Fox’s talk on the life and times of Susie Wilson, of Susie Wilson Road fame. ECHS also collaborated with Essex Heart and Soul and Railroad Avenue Recess to produce three local history walks which can be self-guided; they are available at both libraries.

ECHS would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to keep the museum open all summer, and to the Board members who put in many hours to help preserve our town history. We also want to thank the town residents, staff (particularly Trevor Lashua), and the Selectboard for continued support. We hope everyone will make a point of visiting the museum next to the Essex Free Library during visiting hours on Thursdays and Sundays in 2014.

ESSEX FIRE DEPARTMENT
Charles J. Cole, I, Fire Chief

The 42 volunteer men and women of the Essex Fire Department answered a total of 886 calls for service during this past year. The following is a breakdown of our responses.

TYPE	FY11	FY12	FY13	TYPE	FY11	FY12	FY13
Car Accidents	77	99	93	Chimney Fires	6	4	5
Fire Alarms	87	82	95	Vehicle Fires	4	8	4
Medical Response	329	431	411	Power Lines Down	3	5	7
Brush Fires	5	6	10	Search and Rescue	1	0	0
Hazardous Materials	8	22	22	Electrical Fires	9	2	1
Structure Fires	26	37	34	Standbys	9	7	7
CO Calls	23	34	38	All Other Calls	108	28	148
Smoke in Building	14	11	11	TOTAL	709	776	886

In addition to responding to the calls listed above, our members collectively attended over 2,400 hours of training throughout the year, while maintaining a separate full time profession and family. Our members are volunteers who get paid an hourly rate only if they are available and respond to a call.

We wish to acknowledge our brothers and sisters of the Essex Junction Fire Department and our surrounding mutual aid partners for all their dedication and support throughout the year. It is important to note that the cumulative efforts of the Essex and Essex Junction Fire Departments, having no full time staff, are a significant cost savings to the taxpayers despite having an active call volume that exceeds other small communities who do have full time staff. I also wish to acknowledge Town Manager Pat Scheidel and the Selectboard for their guidance and support.

Your current Essex Fire Department Members are:

Fire Chief Charles Cole

Deputy Chief Phil Noyes, Jr.
Captain Timothy Francis
Lieutenant Austin Whitaker
 FF Dave Sheeran
 FF Yearim Plantillas
 FF Adam LeBlanc
 FF Dan Mullin
 FF Andy Cole
 FF Pat Kernan
 FF/EMT Matt Larock
 FF Mike Sweeney
 FF/EMT Christy Henry, RN
Honorary Chief Larry Ransom

Asst. Chief Michael DePaul
Captain Corey Noyes
Lieutenant Matthew Cohen
 FF Ryan Carroll
 FF John Jacob
 FF Justin Cole
 FF Hayley Leo
 FF Kendra Loati
 EMT Jenna Carroll
 FF Kenny King
 FF Dave Fay
 Cadet Nick Henry
Fire Chaplain Jason Ziter

Asst. Chief Curtis Pollard
Lieutenant Dan Hill, Jr.
Safety Officer Tom Richards
 FF/EMT Jason Lawton
 FF/EMT Sherb Lang
 EMT George Henry, RN
 FF Matt Veilleux
 EMT Jared Bomba
 Admin. Barb Forsythe
 Admin. Stacey Walker
 Cadet Cody Aker
 Cadet Peter Henry
Honorary Chief Al Foice

If you have any questions related to the Fire Department, please feel free to contact me at essexfirechief@essexfire.com or by leaving a message at 802.878.5308 ext. 1004.

On behalf of the men and women of the Essex Fire Department, we thank you for your continued support.

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY
Ann Paightta, Head Librarian

*“The only thing that you absolutely have to know is
the location of the library.”*

--Albert Einstein

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Year	Number of Titles Owned	Total Circulation	Number Of Patrons	ILLs* Loaned to Others	ILLs* Borrowed from Others
2013	32,190	90,583	8,629	1,930	260
2002	27,997	101,657	9,480	1,037	232
1992	15,146	64,980	6,285	13	18

**ILL is short for Inter-Library Loan. “From Others” indicates titles requested for Essex patrons from other libraries. “To Others” are titles loaned to other libraries for use by their patrons.*

Contact the library any time at essexfreelibrary@essex.org or by phone at 879-0313.

HOURS OPEN:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9 to 5 Tuesday and Thursday: 9 to 8 Saturday: 9 to 2

The library follows the Town of Essex holiday schedule except for limited service on these special occasions:

1. Friday and Saturday of the first weekend in June for the Library Trustees and Friends “**Book, Bake and Plant Sale.**”
2. Saturday of the first weekend of November for the Friends of the Library’s “**Cozy Nook Craft Fair.**”

Proceeds from these two fundraisers generously enable the library to offer a number of programs and amenities that are not in the operating budget. A hearty thanks to those community members who support the library so generously and creatively!

STAFF EVENTS:

Lara Keenan resigned her position in the summer to become the Director at Pierson Library in Shelburne. In the fall, Kevin Moore joined the staff replacing Lara. He is contributing to the library’s reputation of providing excellent service to our patrons. The final library staff departure of the year was the retirement of Sherry Somerset in January. Sherry’s career at the library began in the days of the “little white library,” now the Public Works offices, where she volunteered to check books in and to shelve them onto the tightly packed book shelves and boxes on the floor. After the move to the renovated facility, Sherry became a regular employee and was instrumental in using technology at home to create posters, bookmarks and signs even before the library had a single computer (or printer) of its own. Always on the forefront of emerging technology, Sherry began the library’s audio and video collections – first as cassettes and videos – and then as DVDs and discs. She was the library’s attention to detail person and wanted to present a tidy facility to the public. She loved keeping the copper “conscience box” polished! In mid-2010, Sherry began her fight against cancer and was unable to return to work. She was greatly missed, especially for her laughter, which would brighten everyone’s day. Known for her love of flower and gardens, Sherry died in May of this year just as spring and her own lovingly tended garden came into bloom.

WEB ACCESS: Take a look at the various on-line programs that the library offers. Your library card is more than ever a “cultural credit card.” Links can be found on the library web page for the following:

- 1. The Library Catalog** can be viewed at home by searching “Essex Free Library” and clicking on the Online Catalog link in the upper right hand corner. The library is now part of VOKAL – a group of 46 Vermont libraries accessing Koha – online open source catalog. Patrons are now able to renew their own items, place holds, or see what library owns a title. Friendly reminders of near due materials, hold notices, and overdue notices are also able to be emailed.
- 2. VOL – Vermont OnLine** is a partnership with other Vermont libraries and the Vermont Department of Libraries. It provides access to a variety of Gale databases, including InfoTrac, magazine and newspaper articles, health, job search, language classes and wellness sites. You will find the link on the library’s web page under “related links.” Call the library for the password, as it does change periodically.
- 3. “Listen Up Vermont”** provides access to downloadable audio and e-books through “Listen Up Vermont” through the Green Mountain Library Consortium and Overdrive. The link to this site is also on the library’s web page. 1,126 Essex patrons checked out 3,398 titles in audio and e-reader format during 2013.
- 4. The MANGO Language program** allows you to set up language classes in 23 different languages. The program is very easy to use and children who love spending time online can hone their second language skills. Essex residents are the biggest user in the state of this service.
- 5. Universal Class** refers over 500 instructor-led online courses. What are you eager to learn?
- 6. The Library’s Facebook** page keeps patrons up-to-date on programs, book suggestions and information.

LIBRARY SERVICES:

- 1. Materials Available** – The library circulates books, periodicals, audio book and musical CDs, DVDs, puzzles and children’s book/CD kits and DVDs. The Library Trustees add new sets each year to the Teaching Company lectures on CD and DVD.
- 2. Phone Services** – We will continue to offer phone services for those that wish to call. We are a phone call away to renew books, place holds, initiate Inter-Library (ILL) searches, register for programs and ask reference questions. Always call if you are concerned about an overdue or bill notice you may have received. Attention will be given each morning to messages left after hours.
- 3. HOMECARD Privileges** – With your library card, Essex residents have access to all Chittenden County libraries (with the exception of the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington). The updating of EFL cards began in January. Current cards are purple and will be valid until 12/14/2013.
- 4. Copier/Fax/Scanner** – A new copier/printer is available for public use with a fee of 10 cents per page/25 cents for color copy. In addition to copying/printing, patrons are now able to fax or scan their documents as well.
- 5. Meeting Space** – Small, not-for-profit groups of up to 12 people may use the activity room when there are no library programs scheduled. Please call to reserve the space in advance. Students wishing to study as a group are also welcome to use this space when available.
- 6. Inter-Library Loan** – The library is happy to try to locate, for patrons, titles that are not in the collection. Libraries throughout the state cooperate by sharing their holdings.

7. Tax Forms – The library has State tax forms and a variety of Federal tax forms for the public beginning in early January. There is also a binder for copies of obscure forms and includes Federal forms that can be reproduced.

8. Internet Access – Patrons may access the Internet from five public workstations located on all three floors. Printing services are available from these workstations.

9. Tech-Tips – Patrons may request individual help sessions to learn about email and Internet searching. Please speak to a librarian to set up a convenient time.

10. Museum Passes –The library has passes for the ECHO Aquarium and Science Center, the State Parks Pass, Vermont Historical Site, the Birds of Vermont Museum, Shelburne Museum (new this year), Vermont History Museum (also new this year) and Shelburne Farms. These passes, available on a “first-come first-served” basis, allow Essex residents to enjoy these popular museums either free or at wonderful savings.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

Adult Programs:

Vermont Author Visits: Jo Knowles and S.S. Taylor, both young adult authors, spoke at the library during the year. We also had a special visit from “Agatha Christie.”

Book Discussion Groups are invited to make use of the multiple copy sets available at the library. Sets may be checked out both to groups or individuals. The Library Trustees support the book discussion groups both in this community and throughout the state by purchasing up to six new sets each year. An updated set list can be found on the library’s web site.

The Noontime Discussion series meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. The literary theme for 2012-13 was Paris, France. Most memorable titles included *The Paris Wife* and a memoir of Julia Child. These lively discussions last about one hour and new faces are welcome to join at any point in the series or drop in on the discussion of a favorite title. A limited number of copies are available at the desk.

Children’s Programs:

Story times for toddlers and pre-schoolers are held throughout the school year. Also the library offers storytimes for PJ storytimes on 2nd Tuesday evenings and Musical Storytimes on the 3rd Fridays at 10:30 with Caitlin. In addition, a Nancy Fancy Party, Little House on the Prairie birthday celebration, and a few other programs were held on Saturdays throughout the year.

The Summer Reading Program offers an array of programs and reading incentives designed to keep vacationing students visiting the library regularly. In 2013, readers participated in the theme “Treasure Your World: Dig into Reading.” 236 children read 1,684 books, a pirate themed party started the summer off and summer ended, as always, with magical Marko and his no-fail trick of launching a playing card to the ceiling of the Main Reading room.

In addition, family friendly films have been shown in the evening. The library offered several creative writing workshops for kids. Caitlin has taken on these new workshops with great enthusiasm.

ESSEX RESCUE
Dan Manz, Executive Director

Essex Rescue, Inc. is a private not-for-profit Paramedic-level ambulance service that works in partnership with many other organizations including the Essex and Essex Junction Fire Departments and Essex Police Department to meet the emergency needs of Essex and Essex Junction. We are not affiliated with any town government.

Essex Rescue is pleased to continue providing emergency medical services to all areas of Essex and Essex Junction as well as the town of Underhill, southern Westford and northern Jericho. For the year ending June 30, 2013, Essex Rescue responded to 1,748 requests for 9-1-1 emergency service. Of these calls, 1,322 were in Essex or Essex Junction. The listing below shows the type of calls Essex Rescue responded to in Essex and Essex Junction during the period 7/1/2012 through 6/30/2013.

Emergency Medical Call Summary Essex Junction & Essex Town – FYE2013	
Type of Call	Number
No Transport	316
Other Medical Problem (Abdominal Pain, Diabetes, etc.)	357
Other Response Type (Medical Alarm, Fire, etc.)	215
Traumatic Injury	188
Altered Level of Consciousness	111
Cardiac Compromise	104
No Apparent Illness/Injury	96
Stroke/Seizure/Neurological	95
Respiratory Distress	79
Substance Abuse/Behavioral Emergency	62
Cardiac Arrest	16
Total Patient Transports	1007

Providing high-quality emergency medical care in the out-of-hospital setting is both challenging and expensive. Essex Rescue, Inc. provides high-quality, affordable service 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. We use state-of-the-art vehicles and equipment and have some of the most highly trained Paramedic-level crews in Vermont. We work in conjunction with Fletcher Allen Health Care to deliver fast and effective service to time-sensitive emergencies such as heart attacks, strokes and serious traumatic injuries as well as to less time-sensitive but still significant emergencies. Our crews are well prepared to handle life-threatening emergencies; however, the majority of our patients do not need our most sophisticated clinical interventions. Much of what we do for less acute cases is to stabilize the patient, help relieve pain, provide early notification to the hospital and assist people with access to the hospital-based care they need.

Essex Rescue, Inc. is able to consistently provide high volume, high-quality service by using a combination of many different supports, financial and otherwise. The most important support we have comes from our 60 uncompensated volunteer members who contribute thousands of hours of time annually to staff our ambulances. Our biggest form of financial support comes from billing for the patient services we provide. We work hard to recover prospectively paid insurance revenues in an effort to minimize the need for tax subsidies from our communities. We are also fortunate to have a broad level of participation in our subscription program that brings us important revenue and benefits participants by limiting their out of pocket costs for

Essex Rescue's services. As a subscriber, you can pay a \$50 annual fee and then pay nothing else out of pocket for deductible or co-pay expenses. Subscription letters are sent out every November or you can subscribe online at the www.essexrescue.org. Many people and organizations in the community are also very generous in making grants or donations throughout the year or in memory of loved ones at a time of death.

Nearly 24% of our emergency calls do not result in the transport of a patient to the hospital. In these cases, we are not able to bill health insurers for the cost of the emergency response. The towns we cover have been generous for many years in providing an annual donation to Essex Rescue, Inc., which helps us to be available around the clock, when and where your community members need us and to partially cover those costs of response.

Essex Rescue is always recruiting new volunteers. We invite you to visit our website at www.essexrescue.org or call us at 802-878-4859 ext. 4 to speak with Colleen Nesto about membership. Our primary station is at 1 Educational Drive in Essex Junction, near the Essex High School and our administrative offices are routinely open from 8:00 to 4:30 weekdays if you have questions or would like to see our facility.

HEALTH OFFICER
Jerry L. Firkey, Health Officer
Kenneth Stratton, Deputy Health Officer

The Health Officers' mission is to make citizens aware of potential health hazards and to respond to public complaints or requests for assistance in correcting any health violations and/or hazards that exist.

One of the most common complaints is the presence of mold and mildew in rental housing, which is caused by dampness, most common to basements and bathrooms. Tenants can take simple clean-up measures. Preventative measures, such as better ventilation and dehumidifiers should be employed to reduce the potential for mold and mildew to grow.

Landlords and tenants have a resource available to them called **Vermont Tenants, Inc.** Vermont Tenants has produced a handbook describing the responsibilities related to rental housing. You can contact their office by calling 864-0099.

Regular inspections and water testing of the Town and Village swimming pools, as well as the Indian Brook Reservoir swimming area, take place during the swimming season. Regarding Indian Brook Reservoir, the public must always pick up after their animals, including horses. These measures will help to keep the Reservoir safe for swimming and the grounds sanitary for hikers.

All dogs, cats and ferrets are required to have a rabies shot on a regular basis. Also, dogs must be licensed annually with the Town Clerk (April 1 deadline).

Animal bites continue to be reported and investigated by the Health Officer and Essex Police, and, if applicable, he/she must ensure the animal is properly quarantined, registered with the Town and have proof the animal is current with a rabies vaccination. The **rabies virus** is still quite seriously active among the wild animal kingdom. Remember to stay away from wild animals and report any strange activity to the Police Department. For more information about rabies, call the **Rabies Hotline** at 1-800-472-2437.

The West Nile Virus inflicted from mosquitoes is still active in Vermont and requires us to continue to educate the public. Lyme Disease inflicted by tick bites can cause serious illness. See the Vermont Health Department website listed below for more information.

During the past year, Kenneth Stratton, the Town's long-time Deputy Health Officer, retired from service. We extend a big thank you for his excellent work and dedication. Ken, have a great retirement. Sharon Kelley, the Town's Zoning Administrator, has been appointed by the Commissioner of Health to fill the vacant position. We are confident she will do a great job.

Be aware that bed bugs do exist in Chittenden County and a few cases have been reported in Essex. Any questions regarding bed bugs can be directed to your Health Officer by calling 878-1343.

If anyone has any questions regarding health issues of any kind, or if you have any complaints, questions, or need assistance, please call the following numbers: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays - Community Development Office at 878-1343. Nights, weekends and holidays - Police Department at 878-8331.

Questions regarding items such as asbestos, mold/mildew, Lyme and other diseases and lead paint may be addressed to the State of Vermont Department of Health. You can contact them by calling 863-7200 or accessing their website at www.healthyvermonters.info/.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Allyson Vile, Director

Department Mission

Advance Parks and Recreation Efforts that Enhance the Quality of Life for the Community of Essex

The Parks and Recreation Department continues to serve the **Community** of Essex through **People** (staff, volunteers), **Parks** (Sand Hill Pool, Indian Brook and neighborhood parks) and **Programs** (senior vans, after-school, adult, and special events). In recent years we have strived to increase our **Publicity** as a way to connect; whether it is a sign outside the building with program reminders, or by quick and informative posts on social media and the website.

To carry out our department's mission as we promote connecting the public to a healthier community, we are proud to be one of the largest seasonal employers in Essex. Each summer we employ nearly 60 high school and college students within our pool, parks and recreation programs.

Parks

The Parks and Recreation Department continues its endeavor to protect the public investment in parks and recreation facilities. The goal of the efforts in the parks is to protect and preserve natural resources and to provide neighborhood parks and facilities that are safe, clean and green.

Improvements to the parks in FYE13 included:

- Turf maintenance on athletic fields;
- Implemented Playground Inspection program with VLCT;
- Developed Operation & Maintenance Plan for Indian Brook Dam;
- Replaced fence at Saxon Hollow Park;
- Reconstructed 1,000 ft. of trail at Indian Brook; and
- Constructed a handicap accessible bathroom facility at Sand Hill Park attached to the pool building.

Scheduled or completed improvements to the parks for FYE14 include:

- Continue compliance with ADA regulations on paths at parks;
- Reconstructed 1,000 ft. of trail at Indian Brook, including a new bridge;
- Turf maintenance on athletic fields;
- Compete MOU between EPR, ETSD and ETLT organizations regarding field needs;
- Install larger culverts to lower parking lot at Indian Brook, along with ETRD to include a dry hydrant
- Begin removal of hazardous trees at Fort Ethan Allen; and
- Install reflectors along trails at Indian Brook Reservoir and portions of Mathieu Town Forest.

Proposed increases to the FYE15 Parks portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing an increased level of service in regards to recycling, supervision of park maintenance and users, as well as added lavatory services to a popular neighborhood park.

Recreation

Recreation programs are developed to provide the community opportunities to meet their needs. Through our diverse programs, we continue to educate residents on the benefits of physical activity, provide the 55+ community with low-cost active and social opportunities, help people build healthy lifestyles and offer programs that provide youth with positive ways to fill their free time.

Accomplishments in FYE13 include:

- Implemented recommendations from Recreational Needs Assessment;
- Extended summer camp care options for children.

Program goals for FYE14 include:

- Increase program registration through internet to 65%;
- Update the Subsidy Allocation Policy to reflect local needs;
- Update website model to a more current and user-friendly style;
- Continue implementation of recommendations from Recreation Needs Assessment;
- Increase variety in our Extended School Program offerings as Goal #1 in the Needs Assessment; and
- Increase connections with local businesses and organizations for program sponsorship and involvement.

Proposed increases to the FYE15 Recreation portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing enhanced levels of service with a new Senior Activities Coordinator part-time position.

Pool

Programs offered at the pool provide opportunities to develop lifelong skills, personal development and health, wellness and employment opportunities for young adults in a safe, fun environment.

Accomplishments and/or Improvements to the pool in FYE13 included:

- Constructed a handicap accessible bathroom facility at Sand Hill Park attached to the pool building;
- Repair pool pump and motor;
- Implemented additional swim lessons classes to accommodate family and individual lifestyles.

Scheduled or completed improvements for FYE14 include:

- Replace strainer and repair broken pipe;
- Install a Point of Sale system for increased inventory control.

Proposed increases to the FYE15 Pool portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing the same or enhanced levels of service.

Senior Vans

The senior vans provide an essential service to the senior community of Essex. The vans allow seniors convenient accessibility for healthcare, wellness and recreation needs. The department hires, trains and schedules the drivers.

Accomplishments and/or improvements in FYE13 included:

- Distributed work load between drivers to alleviate busy schedules and appointments;
- Hired additional driver while maintaining budgeted hours.

Scheduled or completed improvements for FYE14 include:

- Conduct defensive driver training with VLCT.

Proposed increases to the FYE15 senior van portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing the same exceptional level of service.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Bradley J. LaRose
Chief of Police

In late November 2013 construction began on the new police facility. Construction is due to be completed in late August with occupancy occurring in early September. The new facility will create added operational expenses, primarily in maintenance and utilities. However, eliminating the cost of rented space to house the detective unit will offset much of the additional operation expenses.

Previously, the cost of janitorial services was based on maintaining 4,000 square feet whereas the new facility is 18,000 square feet. The increase in utilities is based on projected costs as outlined in the 2011 Energy Modeling report submitted in planning for the new facility, and permitted water/wastewater usage.

The approved FYE13 and FYE14 police budgets each reduced the purchase schedule for replacement vehicles by one marked vehicle. The FYE15 increase in vehicle purchases is due to reinstating a purchase schedule of two new marked vehicles and one unmarked vehicle per year.

Although the purchase of one marked vehicle was budgeted in FYE13, three marked vehicles were purchased. One of the additional purchases was made to replace a cruiser lost in a collision. This purchase was made, in part, with insurance funds. The second additional purchase was made to allow for a reduced purchase schedule in FYE14. The decision to exceed the FYE13 vehicle purchase was made when planning the FYE14 budget and at a time when it was apparent that the FYE13 overall budget would support the additional purchase.

The increase in Small Tools and Equipment is due to the retrofitting of vehicles. In 2011, the department began to purchase Ford Explorers when the Ford Crown Victoria was no longer available. Transitioning from a sedan to a SUV has required the purchasing of some hardware to transfer existing equipment.

Individuals addicted to opiates continue to propel the majority of the illicit drug enterprise in Vermont and surrounding states. The department continues to dedicate significant resources to apprehend those who perpetuate an epidemic that conflicts with the values of our community. An informed citizenry that works to protect their neighbors and supports law enforcement by reporting suspicious behavior is imperative to our safety and crime prevention efforts.

Our Community Justice Center (CJC) has continued to flourish this past year. The CJC is supported by 20 community volunteers who, along with part-time staff, work a system of restorative and alternative justice in our community. The CJC is grant funded through the Vermont Department of Corrections (DOC). In the past year, our CJC staff has been requested by DOC to assist several neighboring communities in the development of their reparative justice programs. Our CJC staff is honored to be viewed as a model, but more importantly, they are thrilled to share their successes with our neighboring communities. Building a strong, broad-based network of alternatives is vital to a comprehensive system of justice.

The School Public Safety Committee meets monthly during most of the school year to discuss safety in our schools. A wide range of topics are discussed with a focus on up-to-date safety programs, policies and procedures. In addition, this past year, the department has participated in many school emergency drills and has worked with school staff to evaluate methods of assisting each other and maintain a “best practices” approach to safety.

Statistical crime data for our community can be obtained at CrimeReports.com. The department subscribes to this service as a means of providing crime mapping to the community. The information depicted on area maps stems from data entered into the incident reporting system used by the department. Although the transfer of information into CrimeReports is not in real time, the system is designed to reflect activity in a timely manner.

I wish to conclude by offering gratitude to the community for the abundance of support the department continues to receive. Safety is a core value of our community and the department is committed to its mission – one that requires a strong community partnership. Our new facility will not only provide the needed space for public safety operations, it will also provide the accommodations for public forums. In a few months, our community will have a facility that will reflect pride and the essential value we place on safety for decades to come.

FYE 2013 Statistics
REPORTED CRIME ACTIVITY - PERIOD 07/01/12-06/30/13

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
HOMICIDE	0	1	2	0	0
ROBBERIES	0	1	2	3	4
BURGLARIES	99	56	51	71	73
ASSAULTS	61	69	53	73	84
SEX OFFENSES	22	24	12	24	21
DRUG OFFENSES	169	101	124	140	1113
LARCENIES	460	432	508	607	470
VANDALISM	243	230	233	199	162
STOLEN VEHICLES	11	4	6	8	17
SUICIDES/ATTEMPTS	6	6	10	11	9
MISSING PERSONS	37	39	50	29	34
BAD CHECKS/FRAUD	84	66	77	69	91
D.U.I.	30	17	33	32	38
COURT CASES	571	366	324	325	334
ACCIDENTS	522	613	731	635	710

There were 5,605 tickets written for traffic and parking violations, of these 938 were Vermont Traffic Citations.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Dennis E. Lutz, P.E.
Town Engineer/Public Works Director

For the second time in three years, significant storm events caused major flooding which damaged or destroyed sections of roads and other public and private infrastructure in the community. The first event occurred during the Memorial Day weekend, causing \$324,188 in damage primarily on Weed, Sleepy Hollow, Essex Highlands, Osgood Hill and Catella Roads. Also impacted were a number of trails. The damaged qualified for FEMA funding under a multi-community disaster declaration and therefore the majority of the out-of-pocket costs were reimbursed to the Town. A second storm occurred in late June and early July, which also qualified for disaster coverage by FEMA. The impact of this storm was less severe than the May storm, although another \$28,016 was needed to repair infrastructure. The pattern of damage over the past two years from the high intensity/short duration rainfall has been localized with only certain areas of the Town affected. In general, the highest impact has been on the northeast quadrant of the community where there is increasing elevation and the land consists of foothills leading to the western side of the Green Mountains. As part of the road restoration, larger culverts have been installed and stone fill has been placed in selected ditches and outfalls. It is hoped that some of this mitigation will lessen the damage from future rainfall events.

A consequence of the flooding was the impact on normal departmental operations. Many routine activities such as road striping, street sweeping and general response to customer requests were delayed while the road repairs were made. In addition, obtaining FEMA funds is a time-consuming process requiring extensive preparation of support documentation and justification. Projects previously scheduled were postponed or dropped so that the work effort could be directed to the areas impacted by the storms.

In addition to the flood repairs, the Department was able to complete a number of projects as proposed in the Capital and Operating Budgets. Following is a summary of the projects that were completed as well as the projects that are still at some level of development.

HIGHWAY

Town Projects completed during the past year include asphalt overlay of a portion of Jackson Heights, pavement removal and overlay of Hagan Drive, cold-planing and overlay of portions of Cabot Drive and Chelsea Road, asphalt overlay of portions of Skyline Drive and all of Deer Crossing Lane; right-turn lane signal changes off Essex Way onto VT15; installation of a new traffic signal at the intersection of Sand Hill Road and VT117 through Town planning and construction cost coverage through VTRANS; receipt of two grant awards and approval to start design and right-of-way acquisition for a ten-foot wide paved path along VT2A from Old Colchester Road to Pinecrest Drive; area improvements on a number of gravel town highways; maintenance and winter plowing on 23.16 miles of gravel road and 51.99 miles of paved roads with nine permanent highway employees, up to three temporary employees and one mechanic; continued savings through low salt use application for winter operations.

Work in Progress: Progress has been made on qualifying a number of projects for potential VTRANS funding as Circumferential Highway Alternative projects; in Phase 1 of the Circ-related work, the VT2A/VT289 Interchange project is in final design with construction expected in late 2014; in the Circ-related Phase 2 projects, the VT15/Sand Hill Road intersection and the multi-use 10-foot wide, paved path along VT15 from Susie Wilson Road to Winooski final designs are being initiated with construction for 2018; in the Phase 3 projects, scoping studies have been approved by the Selectboard for the VT117 North Williston Road intersection, North Williston Road flood mitigation, Susie Wilson and Kellogg Road corridor improvements and a concrete sidewalk along a portion of VT15, east of Butler's Corners, all planned for construction in 2021; a comprehensive street light study was completed and forwarded to

Efficiency Vermont and GMP for input on the economics of conversion to LED lights; finalization of revised Public Works Specifications is underway with adoption planned for 2014.

STORM-WATER

Projects completed include compliance with year nine requirements of the current community-wide NPDES Phase II Storm-water Permit; filing and acceptance by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources of a new Town Stormwater Management Plan and a Notification of Intent under a revised and newly issued NPDES Phase 2 MS4 Stormwater Permit to the Town; formation of a Joint Village-Town Stormwater Coordinating Committee to deal initially with the permit issues regarding the responsibility for expired stormwater permits in the two communities and stream flow monitoring; award of a grant from VTRANS in the amount of \$64,000 with a \$16,000 local match to assist the Town and Village in developing a Flow Restoration Plan required under the permit for Sunderland and Indian Brooks; 100% check of all stormwater pipe catch-basins and outfalls in the Town; repair of deteriorated stormwater piping and catch-basins at various locations; renewing ten-year stormwater permits for non-impaired waterway discharges; cleaning of all catch-basins with more than 12 inches of material in the sump; street sweeping of all paved roads twice per year; active participation in regional storm-water education and public participation programs.

Work in Progress: Assessing and meeting the compliance requirements of the new NPDES Phase 2 MS4 Permit and working closely with the Village on joint storm-water planning and implementation requirements and other MS4 communities on regional stormwater issues.

WATER and SEWER

Projects completed include continuation of a comprehensive customer meter replacement program with over 1,150 meters installed (35% complete) since starting the program in 2009; initiation of a study to investigate alternatives to increase water pressure in the west end of the Town; signing of an inter-local agreement with CWD and other communities for increasing water storage in the west end of Town; water main flushing of 60 miles of waterline and 478 hydrants, cleaning/maintenance of 41 miles of sewer/force mains and 14 pump stations throughout the Town with a water/sewer field crew of four employees.

Work in Progress: Continued effort on identification and correction of problem water meters; study of alternative rate structures for future water and sewer billings; continuing input on the Village Wastewater Treatment Facility \$15 million refurbishment project.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Projects completed include input/assistance on the new Police Station.

Work in Progress includes initiation of an architectural and engineering evaluation of the building at 81 Main Street for use as expanded Town offices when the building is vacated in late 2014 by the Police Department.

“Our mission in Public Works is to continue providing responsive service, to address community infrastructure needs and to protect the public health and safety of the Community.”

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER
Cheryl Moomey, Town Clerk and Treasurer

The following is a summary of revenue for the Town Clerk’s Office:

Hunting and Fishing Licenses.....	\$154
Marriage Licenses.....	\$1,376
Animal Licenses.....	\$8,881
Liquor and Tobacco Licenses.....	\$3,690
Recording and Land Records.....	\$206,717
Vault Time.....	\$3,718
Sale of Certified Copies.....	\$5,706
Green Mountain Passes.....	\$250
Department of Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals.....	\$1,410
Printing & Duplication Services.....	\$16,359

The Clerk’s Office recorded 29 volumes of Land Records and 638 Vermont Property Transfer returns for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Vital records recorded in the Town of Essex from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013:

Births: 211 Marriages: 165 Deaths: 99

The Annual Town Meeting and election was held on March 4 & 5, 2013.

- Article I: The reports of the Officers were accepted.
- Article II: The budget was adopted for FYE 2014 in the amended amount of \$10,704,286.
- Article III: The following officers were elected by Australian ballot:
 - Moderator: (One-Year Term) Steve McQueen
 - Selectboard: (2 Three-Year Terms) R. Michael Plageman
 - Irene A. Wrenner

Services available at the Town Clerk’s Office:

Maintain Cemetery Records	Dog Licenses
Collect Property Taxes	Marriage Licenses
Collect Water & Sewer Payments	Notary Public Service
Fish & Wildlife Licenses*	Register to Vote
Liquor Licenses	Vote by Absentee
Green Mountain Passports	Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals
Genealogy Research	Maintain Vital Records for Town/Village
Record Land Records for Town/Village	

*We are now an official on-line Point of Sale (POS) vendor for most VT Fish and Game Licenses. See our website for more information www.essex.org and click on Town Departments and then Town Clerk.

Note: Due to the 2012 redistricting, a portion of Village voters who are in Census Block 1023 (173-261 Pearl Street) have been moved to Town District “8-1 Village” for state and federal elections only. These voters will vote at the Essex Middle School during state and federal elections. There will be a separate checklist at the Essex Middle School for these voters. For local elections, these voters will vote with the Village at the High School as they have in the past.

TOWN MANAGER

Patrick C. Scheidel

*“If you do not change directions, you
may end up where you are heading.”*

---Lao Tzu

The proposed FYE 2015 budget is submitted to you with the financial resources necessary to meet the expected demand for municipal services and absorb the increase in debt service for the new police facility. The growth in the Grand List has averaged 1% over the past three years: 0.86%, 1.64% and 0.76%. More attention in economic development has been undertaken by our motivated Economic Development Commission. It must continue in order to achieve a more diversified tax base. From the last assessment year to the current one, the Grand List value rose .076% to \$23.99 million. It is expected that the Grand List growth for FYE 2015 will be approximately 0.5%. This lethargic growth trend may remain the same so more help with economic development initiatives is necessary.

Budget

The proposed FYE 2015 budget is a responsible budget. A current effort to consolidate service delivery systems has begun. Since July, the concept of a shared manager for the Town and Village municipal administration has commenced. Thus far, it has been successful. While the initial few months have been devoted to “learning curve activities” some consolidated initiatives have been discussed, planned or implemented. For example, a joint stormwater committee has been appointed and begun work managing Town and Village stormwater permit activity. One tax bill is expected for the upcoming fiscal year and hopefully the development of one collection process. The proposed budget calls for a part-time Senior Center Coordinator for organizing diverse programs for the two senior center groups which are discussing becoming one group. Town and Village municipalities will share the costs for this 20 hour per week position. A combined employee IT Committee is discussing a consolidated approach to more efficiently deliver IT services. The timing of this work will coincide with the hiring of the IT Technician approved in the current budget.

Few discretionary expenditures are listed. One notable proposed expense is that associated with a new part time Senior Center position. The Town and the Village will each share 50% of this cost. Once again the budget reacts to external decisions originating from federal and state government through unfunded mandates or declining revenues. One consistent example is compliance with stormwater regulations, which requires a FYE 2015 expenditure of \$264,407 or a 14.1% increase.

The proposed FYE 2015 budget increase is \$684,833 or 6.4% over the current year. Salaries are budgeted at 3.5%, including premium pay such as longevity and steps. With the new position of IT Technician and part time Senior Center Coordinator, salaries in total are up 3.84% over the current year. Benefits increased 3.78% which includes cost of the new full time IT position. Cost of living is projected to fluctuate between 2 and 3 percent next year. Usual operating cost increases in gasoline and road materials are expected and budgeted accordingly. Benefit increases from last year show health insurance as the major driver. The Selectboard-approved high deductible insurance option for employees has helped control costs. The Town and its employees continue to benefit from this option.

For FYE 2015, the largest single budget increase is debt service which has risen 92% over the current year. The police facility debt is \$345,000 principle and \$229,487 in interest for a total of \$574,487, an increase of \$412,922 over the current year. It must be noted that although the debt service increase for the police facility totals approximately \$413,000, because prior debt issues will have been paid down, the net impact on the budget is \$292,714. Without the increase in debt service necessitated by the new police facility, the budget increase would be \$392,119 or 3.66%.

Each year the leading budgetary items of concern are salaries and benefits. These personnel service cost centers combine for approximately 2/3 of the budget. In fact, over the past three fiscal years, the budgeted percent of salary and benefits versus operating expenses were as follows:

	FYE 12	FYE 13	FYE 14
Salaries & Benefits	67.07%	66.96%	66.34%
Operating	32.93%	33.04%	33.66%

For FYE 2015, the proposed budget shows 64.7% for salary and benefits and 35.3% for operating costs.

Transfers

The proposed FYE 2015 budget includes \$324,607 in transfer expenses. Included in the transfers to capital is a new line item for firefighting equipment in the amount of \$16,307.

Revenue

Revenues are projected realistically. Non-tax revenues are not expected to increase significantly. There is a new line item for shared Manager services which offsets a decrease in our COPS grant revenue. Interest revenue is down as a result of declining interest rates.

It is recommended that fund balance not be used to adjust the tax rate. With the slowly improving economy, Town financial resources will remain strained. Maintaining a healthy fund balance will minimize the negative impacts of the expected level of delinquencies and allow for creating necessary reserves.

Although, it has been our practice to use tax sales as a last resort while exploring every avenue possible to allow residents to remain in possession of their residential and business property, the Town will continue collections this year. A small fund balance would force us to become even more aggressive in tax collections (via tax sales). Balancing our financial position with taxpayer sensitivity will be our guide in tax collection.

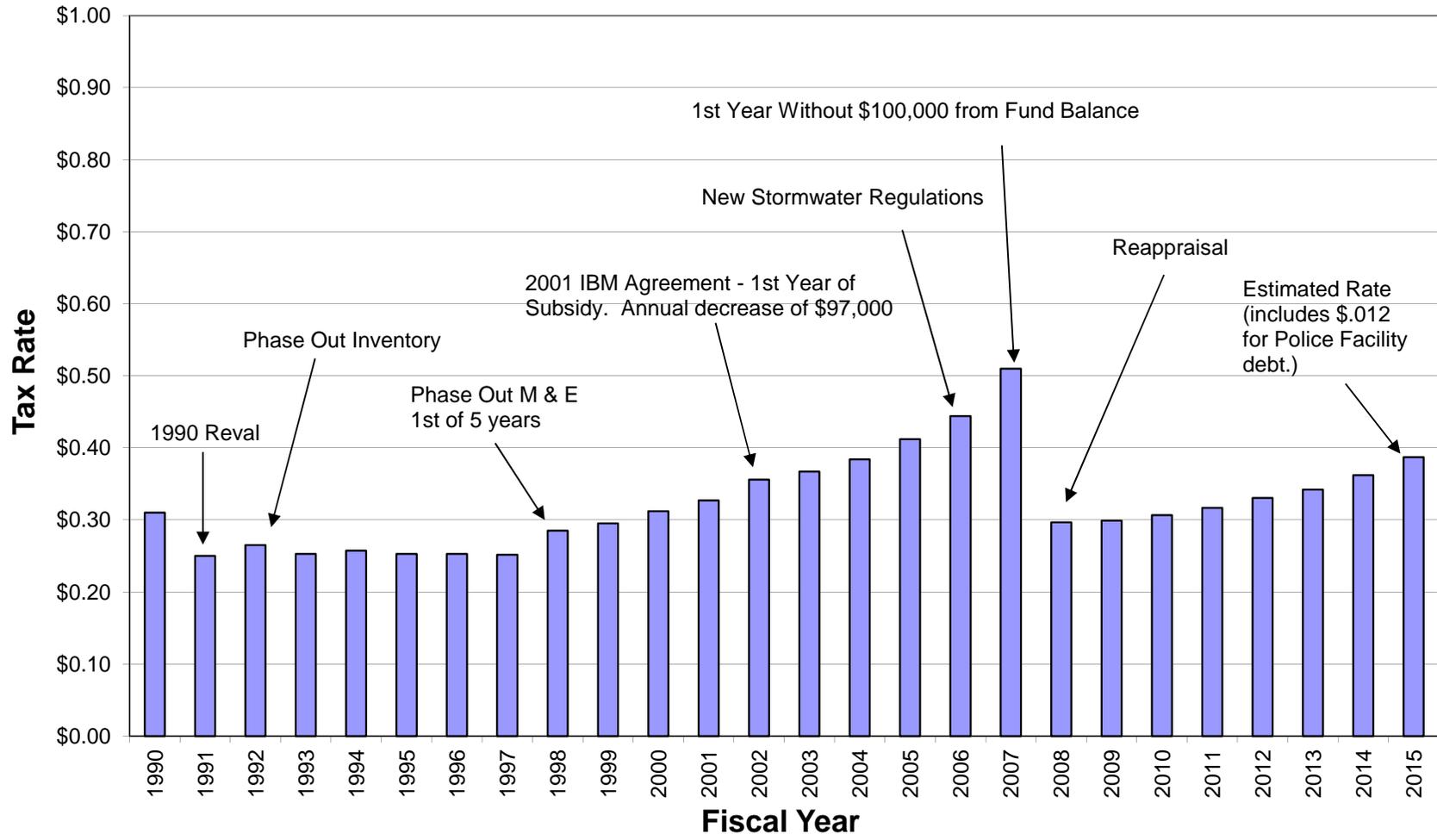
Capital

The capital budget for FYE 2015 will be comprehensively discussed in January. Preventing the deterioration of infrastructure such as roads, buildings and parks has been and continues to be one of our primary capital goals. Planning for equipment and vehicle replacement over time has been another central purpose of the capital plan and budget. The funds for meeting all capital projects come from various sources such as grants, impact fees and a designated two cent tax rate. Demand always exceeds our ability to pay; consequently, the annual capital spending addresses the “worst first” in terms of approved project expenditures. The serious weather patterns causing water-damaged infrastructure results in revisiting the discussion of another penny for capital expenditures.

Conclusion

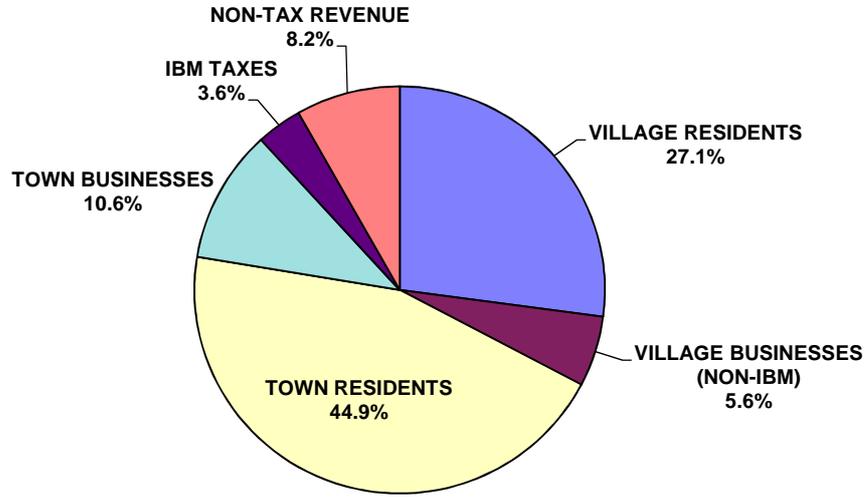
The Manager request column shows what is needed to operate normally. Due to the challenge to submit a lean budget yet balance the effective management of each department, a greater increase in operating funds are proposed in the FYE 2015 budget. Funding for the Farm and Open Land contracts and the veterans’ exemptions requires the local agreement rate of \$.0015. The fact that a penny generates approximately \$240,000 on the new grand list, the proposed budget calls for approximately \$.0251 increase on the tax rate, assuming 0.5% grant list growth.

Town of Essex General Tax Rate



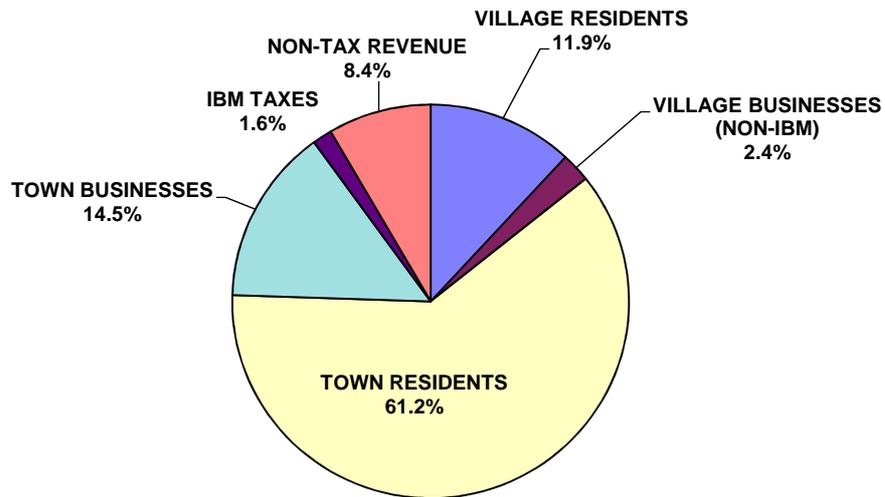
PROJECTED REVENUE SOURCES FYE 2015

TOTAL REVENUES



VILLAGE TAXPAYERS = 32.7% TOWN TAXPAYERS = 55.5% IBM = 3.6%

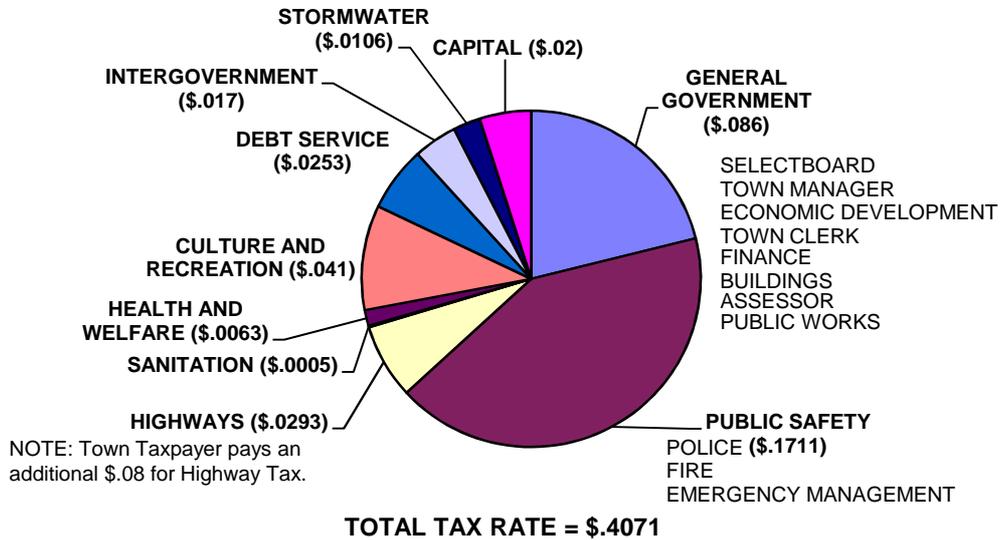
HIGHWAY REVENUES



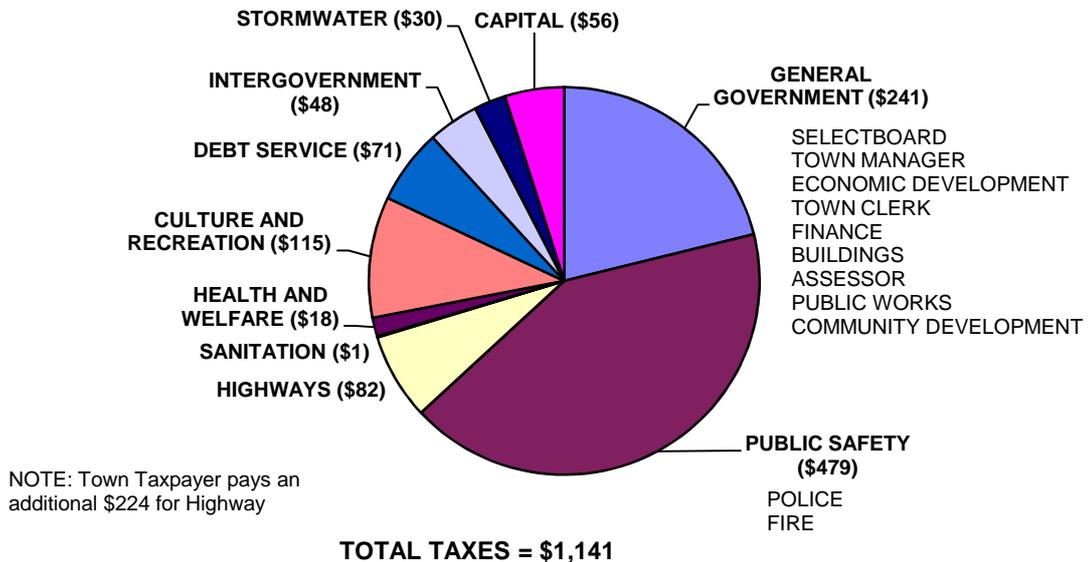
VILLAGE TAXPAYERS = 14.3% TOWN TAXPAYERS = 75.7% IBM = 1.6%

PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

ESTIMATED TAX RATES BY CATEGORY



ESTIMATED TAXES ON \$280,000 HOME



TOWN OF ESSEX CAPITAL BUDGET AND PROGRAM
FYE 2015 - 2019

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	FYE 6/15	FYE 6/16	FYE 6/17	FYE 6/18	FYE 6/19	POST FYE 6/19
BUILDINGS							
NEW TOWN OFFICES	\$5,300,000	\$642,000					\$4,938,000
TOWN CLERK VAULT EXPANSION	\$524,205	\$524,205					\$0
HIGHWAY GARAGE / TREEW FARM IMPROVEMENTS	\$393,000	\$12,000	** \$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$333,000
LIBRARY DEFERRED MAINTENANCE & EXPANSION	\$106,000	\$6,000	**				\$100,000
MEMORIAL HALL RENOVATIONS / ADDITION	\$331,000	\$15,852					\$315,148
RECREATION PROGRAM SPACE FEASIBILITY STUDY	\$30,000	\$0				\$30,000	\$0
ENERGY RETROFIT OF EXISTING BUILDINGS	\$58,061	\$3,000	**				\$55,061
HISTORIC WATER TOWER	\$60,000	\$0					\$60,000
SUB-TOTAL BUILDINGS	\$6,802,266	\$1,203,057	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$42,000	\$5,801,209
HIGHWAYS							
HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$1,256,600	\$205,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$251,600
GRAVEL ROADS	\$218,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$98,000
ALLEN MARTIN PARKWAY	\$3,900,000	\$0					\$3,900,000
GENTES ROAD BRIDGE	\$212,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$53,000		\$0
SUB-TOTAL HIGHWAYS	\$5,586,600	\$282,000	\$277,000	\$277,000	\$277,000	\$224,000	\$4,249,600
WATERLINES							
PINECREST DR TO VILLAGE RT 2A	\$171,000	\$0					\$171,000
DOUGLAS TO WILLOUGHBY	\$220,000	\$0					\$220,000
SAND HILL ROAD PRESSURE REDUCTION	\$220,000	\$0					\$220,000
SUB-TOTAL WATERLINES	\$611,000	\$0					\$611,000
SEWERS							
PAINESVILLE AREA	\$1,262,000	\$0					\$1,262,000
CEMETERY RD	\$70,000	\$0					\$70,000
SUB-TOTAL SEWERS	\$1,332,000	\$0					\$1,332,000
HEAVY EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES							
HIGHWAY - EQUIPMENT/VEHICLES	\$2,100,000	\$250,600	\$0	\$167,000	\$229,100	\$190,300	\$1,263,000
FIRE - EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES	\$2,050,000	\$100,000	** \$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$1,550,000
PARKS - EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES	\$235,647	\$4,487	\$44,413	\$56,878	\$13,185	\$0	\$116,684
SENIOR BUS	\$70,000	\$10,000	** \$70,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
SUB-TOTAL EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES	\$4,455,647	\$365,087	\$214,413	\$333,878	\$352,285	\$300,300	\$2,929,684
PARK FACILITIES							
PARK ASSETS REPLACEMENT	\$345,630	\$75,000	\$30,710	\$36,053	\$7,057	\$9,939	\$186,871
MILFOIL MITIGATION AT INDIAN BROOK	\$66,000	\$13,000	** \$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$1,000
INDIAN BROOK DAM REPAIRS	\$181,000	\$13,000	** \$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$108,000
SUB-TOTAL PARKS	\$592,630	\$101,000	\$58,710	\$64,053	\$35,057	\$37,939	\$295,871
PATHS & WALKS							
ROUTE 15 - CIRC TO MINI-GOLF COURSE	\$19,700	\$0					\$19,700
ROUTE 2A - FROM OLD COLCHESTER ROAD & PINECREST	\$245,000	\$245,000					\$0
GENERAL PATHS AND WALKS	\$300,000	\$6,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$209,000
SUB-TOTAL PATHS & WALKS	\$564,700	\$251,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$228,700
STORMWATER							
STATE PERMITS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS	\$380,000	\$65,000	** \$80,000	\$80,000	\$75,000		\$80,000
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT							
DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT	\$156,505	\$25,000	** \$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$31,505
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$20,481,348	\$2,292,144	\$682,123	\$811,931	\$801,342	\$654,239	\$15,559,569
FUNDING SOURCES							
VEHICLE / EQUIPMENT FUND		\$260,965					
OPERATING FUNDS		\$60,000					
GRANTS STATE / FEDERAL / OTHER		\$193,600					
LONG-TERM BORROWINGS		\$0					
PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED CAPITAL FUNDS*		\$1,269,579					
UNDESIGNATED CAPITAL FUNDS		\$508,000					
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		\$2,292,144					

* Previously Committed Funds include contributions from developers in prior years
** Amounts for these projects include funds to be designated for future expenditures

NOTE: The FYE2015-2019 Capital Budget was adopted by the Selectboard on February 3, 2014.

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET SUMMARY FOR FYE 2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015
REVENUES - SUMMARY					
PROPERTY TAXES	\$9,209,478	\$9,557,383	\$9,751,585	\$9,759,285	\$10,405,368
LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$50,200	\$58,546	\$49,200	\$49,200	\$56,200
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$299,700	\$393,642	\$301,700	\$301,700	\$249,200
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$484,405	\$502,169	\$419,800	\$473,600	\$491,350
FINES	\$122,000	\$115,067	\$122,000	\$122,000	\$115,000
MISCELLANEOUS	\$59,001	\$77,303	\$60,001	\$60,001	\$72,001
RECREATION PROGRAM REVENUE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$10,224,784	\$10,704,110	\$10,704,286	\$10,765,786	\$11,389,119
FUND BALANCE INCREASE (DECREASE)	\$0	\$619,850	\$0	(\$78,522)	\$0
TOTAL REVENUE	\$10,224,784	\$10,084,260	\$10,704,286	\$10,844,308	\$11,389,119
EXPENDITURES - SUMMARY					
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
SELECTBOARD	\$58,246	\$53,551	\$54,398	\$53,315	\$54,444
TOWN MANAGER	\$421,186	\$414,697	\$473,358	\$473,158	\$526,457
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$13,895	\$12,920	\$13,725	\$13,725	\$13,725
ELECTIONS	\$20,000	\$17,540	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$20,000
FINANCE	\$493,351	\$457,295	\$502,483	\$479,333	\$497,473
TAX COLLECTION	\$5,350	\$5,055	\$5,450	\$5,130	\$5,550
LEGAL SERVICES	\$55,000	\$41,203	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
TOWN CLERK	\$213,469	\$221,711	\$213,553	\$243,388	\$225,773
BUILDINGS AND PLANT	\$324,720	\$372,244	\$339,325	\$340,745	\$346,375
R/E APPRAISAL	\$198,512	\$204,345	\$209,375	\$208,850	\$222,576
PUBLIC WORKS	\$105,103	\$107,194	\$108,939	\$106,979	\$106,888
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$395,216	\$353,034	\$400,165	\$400,165	\$426,609
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$2,304,048	\$2,260,789	\$2,386,771	\$2,390,788	\$2,500,870
PUBLIC SAFETY					
POLICE	\$3,632,143	\$3,455,229	\$3,770,664	\$3,782,331	\$3,888,800
FIRE	\$306,913	\$306,655	\$386,978	\$404,978	\$398,645
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$42,838	\$40,393	\$45,581	\$45,581	\$48,145
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$3,981,894	\$3,802,277	\$4,203,223	\$4,232,890	\$4,335,590
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS	\$1,802,867	\$1,945,374	\$1,869,015	\$1,992,123	\$1,953,569
STORMWATER	\$223,021	\$186,803	\$231,632	\$223,632	\$264,407
SANITATION	\$12,500	\$8,132	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500
HEALTH AND WELFARE	\$148,351	\$143,326	\$169,740	\$158,633	\$166,126
CULTURE AND RECREATION					
RECREATION - ADMIN	\$291,814	\$219,879	\$301,927	\$301,927	\$299,021
PARKS	\$192,632	\$193,850	\$212,486	\$213,371	\$237,444
POOLS	\$93,800	\$100,047	\$106,187	\$105,769	\$110,498
SENIOR BUS	\$62,858	\$63,227	\$64,612	\$64,612	\$66,318
LIBRARIES	\$379,740	\$417,284	\$381,917	\$381,917	\$385,291
CONSERVATION	\$16,700	\$22,038	\$20,350	\$21,300	\$22,960
TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION	\$1,037,544	\$1,016,325	\$1,087,479	\$1,088,896	\$1,121,532
DEBT SERVICE	\$315,811	\$321,038	\$318,186	\$319,106	\$610,900
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$398,748	\$400,196	\$425,740	\$425,740	\$423,625
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$10,224,784	\$10,084,260	\$10,704,286	\$10,844,308	\$11,389,119

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
REVENUES - DETAIL						
PROPERTY TAXES						
1	GENERAL TAX REVENUE	\$8,162,478	\$8,488,257	\$8,682,585	\$8,682,585	\$9,323,368
2	HIGHWAY TAX REVENUE	\$1,047,000	\$1,069,126	\$1,069,000	\$1,076,700	\$1,082,000
	TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$9,209,478	\$9,557,383	\$9,751,585	\$9,759,285	\$10,405,368
LICENSES AND PERMITS						
3	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	\$4,000	\$3,690	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
4	BUILDING STRUCTURES	\$34,000	\$42,785	\$34,000	\$34,000	\$40,000
5	HUNTING AND FISHING	\$500	\$154	\$500	\$500	\$500
6	MARRIAGE LICENSES	\$1,500	\$1,376	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
7	ANIMAL LICENSES	\$8,000	\$8,881	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
8	GREEN MTN PASSPORT	\$200	\$250	\$200	\$200	\$200
9	DMV REGISTRATIONS	\$2,000	\$1,410	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
	TOTAL LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$50,200	\$58,546	\$49,200	\$49,200	\$56,200
INTERGOVERNMENTAL						
10	STATE AID TO HIGHWAYS	\$136,000	\$142,627	\$136,000	\$136,000	\$143,000
11	RAILROAD TAX	\$1,900	\$1,743	\$1,900	\$1,900	\$1,900
12	PILOT REVENUE	\$26,000	\$28,053	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$28,000
13	CURRENT USE / HOLD HARMLESS	\$21,000	\$23,322	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$23,000
14	INTERLIBRARY LOAN GRANT	\$0	\$1,574	\$0	\$0	\$0
15	FEMA GRANT - FLOOD	\$0	\$122,922	\$0	\$0	\$0
16	C-O-P-S GRANT	\$74,300	\$30,441	\$74,300	\$74,300	\$10,600
17	ACT 60 REVENUE	\$7,700	\$7,732	\$7,700	\$7,700	\$7,700
18	ACT 68 REVENUE	\$32,800	\$35,228	\$32,800	\$32,800	\$35,000
	TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$299,700	\$393,642	\$301,700	\$301,700	\$249,200
CHARGES FOR SERVICES						
25	IBM PAYMENT FOR SVCS - GENERAL	\$82,195	\$82,195	\$0	\$0	\$0
26	IBM PAYMENT FOR SVCS - HIGHWAY	\$4,860	\$4,860	\$0	\$0	\$0
27	PILOT - TAX AGREEMENTS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000
28	MANAGEMENT SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,800	\$56,000
29	USE OF VAULT	\$3,000	\$3,718	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,500
30	RECORDING OF LEGAL DOCS	\$175,000	\$206,717	\$185,000	\$185,000	\$190,000
31	ZONING HEARING FEES	\$1,500	\$850	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,500
32	SUBDIVISION FILING FEES	\$6,000	\$7,845	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$7,500
33	ZONING ORDINANCE PAMPHS	\$100	\$31	\$100	\$100	\$100
34	C.O. INSPECTIONS	\$6,500	\$5,999	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$6,000
35	PRINTING / DUPLICATION SVCS	\$12,500	\$16,358	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$15,000
36	SALE PUBLIC WORKS SPECS	\$1,000	\$1,165	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
37	SALE OF MAPS	\$250	\$257	\$250	\$250	\$300
38	SALE OF CERTIFIED COPY	\$6,000	\$5,706	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
39	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEE	\$500	\$811	\$500	\$500	\$500
40	STORMWATER DEBT ASSESSMENT	\$24,700	\$24,437	\$24,450	\$24,450	\$24,450
41	SPECIAL POLICE SERVICES	\$70,000	\$63,102	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$65,000
42	ANIMAL CONTROL / SHELTER	\$1,500	\$1,555	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
43	SWIMMING POOL FEES	\$47,300	\$45,181	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$59,500
44	FACILITY RENTAL / USE FEES	\$8,500	\$7,242	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
45	INDIAN BROOK FEES	\$33,000	\$24,140	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,000
	TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$484,405	\$502,169	\$419,800	\$473,600	\$491,350

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
FINES						
50	PENALTIES ON TAXES	\$50,000	\$53,361	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$55,000
51	INTEREST ON TAXES	\$72,000	\$61,706	\$72,000	\$72,000	\$60,000
	TOTAL FINES	\$122,000	\$115,067	\$122,000	\$122,000	\$115,000
MISCELLANEOUS						
60	INTEREST ON DEPOSITS	\$20,000	\$7,548	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$17,000
61	RENTS AND ROYALTIES	\$1,001	\$2,186	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001
62	RECORDS PRESERVATION	\$18,000	\$50,035	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000
63	SALE OF ASSETS	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
64	NOT CLASSIFIED	\$15,000	\$17,534	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$25,000
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$59,001	\$77,303	\$60,001	\$60,001	\$72,001
	TOTAL	\$10,224,784	\$10,704,110	\$10,704,286	\$10,765,786	\$11,389,119
	FUND BALANCE INCREASE (USE)	\$0	\$619,850	\$0	(\$78,522)	\$0
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$10,224,784	\$10,084,260	\$10,704,286	\$10,844,308	\$11,389,119

EXPENDITURES - DETAIL

SELECTBOARD						
100	SELECTBOARD SALARIES	\$5,414	\$4,061	\$5,414	\$4,331	\$5,414
101	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$17,500	\$11,100	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
102	SECRETARY	\$5,180	\$6,560	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
103	PRINTING/BINDING ORDNS	\$9,500	\$9,369	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,750
104	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS / VLCT	\$20,652	\$21,103	\$21,484	\$21,484	\$21,280
105	250 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION	\$0	\$1,358	\$0	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL SELECT BOARD	\$58,246	\$53,551	\$54,398	\$53,315	\$54,444
TOWN MANAGER						
110	SALARIES	\$272,006	\$276,877	\$302,342	\$302,342	\$335,024
111	BENEFITS	\$140,215	\$127,461	\$156,351	\$156,351	\$176,118
112	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
113	ADVERTISING	\$2,250	\$5,350	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
114	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$1,000	\$1,270	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
115	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$4,465	\$3,292	\$5,465	\$5,465	\$5,465
116	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$650	\$273	\$650	\$650	\$650
117	TRAVEL	\$450	\$44	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,650
118	SUPPLIES	\$150	\$130	\$150	\$150	\$150
	TOTAL TOWN MANAGER	\$421,186	\$414,697	\$473,358	\$473,158	\$526,457
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT						
130	ADVERTISING	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
131	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$3,275	\$3,275	\$3,275
132	G.B.I.C.	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
133	CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	\$3,395	\$3,420	\$3,450	\$3,450	\$3,450
	TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$13,895	\$12,920	\$13,725	\$13,725	\$13,725

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015
ELECTIONS					
141 ELECTIONS / TOWN MEETINGS	\$20,000	\$17,540	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$20,000
TOTAL ELECTIONS	\$20,000	\$17,540	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$20,000
FINANCE					
150 SALARIES	\$106,422	\$105,649	\$110,108	\$110,108	\$113,133
151 BENEFITS	\$51,579	\$53,716	\$56,250	\$56,250	\$60,890
152 AUDIT	\$20,000	\$19,265	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
153 REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$20,000	\$24,663	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000
154 INSURANCE	\$258,500	\$220,547	\$259,500	\$238,000	\$246,500
155 DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,050	\$969	\$1,225	\$1,225	\$1,350
156 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$0	\$294	\$3,600	\$1,800	\$3,600
157 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$35,000	\$31,418	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
158 TRAVEL	\$300	\$86	\$300	\$250	\$250
159 GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$500	\$688	\$500	\$700	\$750
TOTAL FINANCE	\$493,351	\$457,295	\$502,483	\$479,333	\$497,473
TAX COLLECTION					
165 PRINTING AND BINDING	\$2,750	\$2,347	\$2,750	\$2,346	\$2,750
166 POSTAGE	\$2,600	\$2,708	\$2,700	\$2,784	\$2,800
TOTAL TAX COLLECTION	\$5,350	\$5,055	\$5,450	\$5,130	\$5,550
LEGAL SERVICES					
167 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$55,000	\$41,203	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
TOTAL LEGAL SERVICES	\$55,000	\$41,203	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
TOWN CLERK					
170 SALARIES	\$140,118	\$121,265	\$137,895	\$137,895	\$147,057
171 BENEFITS	\$53,551	\$57,252	\$55,858	\$55,858	\$59,016
172 REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200
173 DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$200	\$98	\$200	\$35	\$100
174 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$16,400	\$37,558	\$16,400	\$46,400	\$16,400
175 GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$3,000	\$5,538	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
TOTAL TOWN CLERK	\$213,469	\$221,711	\$213,553	\$243,388	\$225,773
BUILDINGS AND PLANT					
180 WATER/SEWER	\$1,820	\$2,070	\$2,170	\$2,170	\$2,335
181 R & M SERVICES	\$24,190	\$69,261	\$28,800	\$28,800	\$28,800
182 R & M SUPPLIES	\$4,800	\$6,317	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$4,800
183 TELEPHONE	\$14,400	\$10,864	\$14,875	\$14,875	\$15,200
184 POSTAGE	\$18,000	\$14,920	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$17,500
185 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$7,050	\$7,446	\$7,900	\$7,900	\$8,190
186 GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$27,200	\$26,818	\$27,200	\$27,200	\$27,000
187 ELECTRICITY	\$26,140	\$26,072	\$25,400	\$26,400	\$28,150
188 HEATING	\$8,425	\$8,894	\$8,700	\$8,900	\$10,400
189 GASOLINE	\$180,000	\$188,099	\$189,500	\$189,500	\$192,000
190 MACHINERY	\$10,695	\$9,810	\$10,280	\$10,000	\$10,000
191 MEMORIAL HALL REPAIRS	\$2,000	\$1,673	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
TOTAL BUILDINGS & PLANT	\$324,720	\$372,244	\$339,325	\$340,745	\$346,375

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL						
200	SALARIES	\$122,435	\$123,540	\$126,671	\$126,671	\$132,049
201	BENEFITS	\$73,002	\$79,010	\$79,539	\$79,539	\$87,742
202	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$1,130	\$98	\$1,130	\$630	\$630
203	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$600	\$565	\$600	\$600	\$600
204	ADVERTISING	\$100	\$178	\$140	\$185	\$200
205	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,045	\$906	\$1,095	\$1,095	\$1,225
206	TRAVEL	\$100	\$48	\$100	\$100	\$100
207	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$30	\$30
	TOTAL R/E APPRAISAL	\$198,512	\$204,345	\$209,375	\$208,850	\$222,576
PUBLIC WORKS						
210	SALARIES	\$61,856	\$67,045	\$64,020	\$64,000	\$66,256
211	BENEFITS	\$31,597	\$29,714	\$33,049	\$31,049	\$28,762
212	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$50	\$100	\$50	\$50	\$50
213	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$750	\$0	\$700	\$700	\$500
214	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$750	\$1,025	\$750	\$750	\$750
215	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$3,300	\$2,907	\$3,260	\$3,300	\$3,330
216	TRAVEL	\$1,730	\$1,390	\$1,480	\$1,500	\$1,480
217	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$300	\$214	\$300	\$300	\$300
218	MACHINERY	\$4,200	\$4,484	\$4,760	\$4,760	\$4,890
219	FURNITURE & FIXTURES	\$500	\$266	\$500	\$500	\$500
220	OTHER OBJECTS	\$70	\$49	\$70	\$70	\$70
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$105,103	\$107,194	\$108,939	\$106,979	\$106,888
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT						
230	SALARIES	\$231,275	\$212,831	\$234,994	\$234,994	\$243,241
231	BENEFITS	\$148,611	\$123,366	\$142,406	\$142,406	\$152,303
232	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$860	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$8,000
233	TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$45	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
234	R & M SERVICES	\$6,010	\$4,923	\$5,580	\$5,580	\$5,650
235	ADVERTISING	\$3,000	\$4,927	\$4,200	\$4,200	\$5,000
236	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$800	\$222	\$200	\$200	\$200
237	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$2,175	\$2,309	\$4,035	\$4,035	\$3,450
238	TRAVEL	\$550	\$631	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,400
239	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$350	\$565	\$850	\$850	\$1,765
240	MACHINERY	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$3,600
	TOTAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$395,216	\$353,034	\$400,165	\$400,165	\$426,609
POLICE						
250	SALARIES	\$2,267,668	\$2,126,303	\$2,324,777	\$2,324,777	\$2,394,416
251	BENEFITS	\$1,082,648	\$983,987	\$1,155,630	\$1,155,630	\$1,168,744
252	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$13,500	\$14,610	\$13,500	\$14,000	\$16,275
253	ADVERTISING	\$1,000	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
254	TELEPHONE	\$29,000	\$22,371	\$29,000	\$28,000	\$28,000
255	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$4,000	\$4,344	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600
256	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$2,500	\$1,912	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$3,500
257	RENTALS	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
POLICE (CONTINUED)						
258	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$17,000	\$35,616	\$22,800	\$36,000	\$38,000
259	UNIFORMS	\$31,000	\$35,889	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000
260	REGISTRATIONS, FEES & LIC	\$150	\$95	\$125	\$125	\$365
261	TRAVEL	\$10,500	\$4,904	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
262	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$5,000	\$6,538	\$8,000	\$8,500	\$12,500
263	CRIME PREVENTION	\$5,000	\$4,830	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
264	POLICE TRAINING	\$11,000	\$10,315	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
265	POLICE COMMUNICATIONS	\$17,500	\$20,864	\$20,000	\$19,000	\$19,000
266	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$3,000	\$5,912	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$4,000
267	R & M SERVICES - BLDGS	\$5,500	\$5,072	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$15,000
268	UTILITIES	\$5,400	\$5,665	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$15,900
269	R & M SVCES - VEH & EQUIP	\$17,000	\$21,320	\$18,000	\$19,000	\$19,000
270	R & M SUPPLIES-VEH & EQUIP	\$13,000	\$12,626	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
271	RENT	\$45,777	\$45,000	\$46,232	\$45,000	\$7,500
272	BUYING & MAINT VEHICLES	\$44,000	\$86,056	\$44,000	\$42,699	\$75,000
	TOTAL POLICE	\$3,632,143	\$3,455,229	\$3,770,664	\$3,782,331	\$3,888,800
FIRE						
280	SALARIES	\$123,320	\$128,281	\$123,320	\$123,320	\$128,581
281	BENEFITS	\$9,434	\$27,006	\$9,434	\$27,434	\$28,837
282	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$895	\$120	\$1,740	\$1,740	\$1,740
283	COMMUNICATIONS	\$3,200	\$3,211	\$3,700	\$3,700	\$3,700
284	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$2,410	\$3,528	\$5,560	\$5,560	\$5,560
285	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$7,250	\$9,795	\$7,250	\$7,250	\$9,250
286	UNIFORMS	\$16,685	\$26,665	\$19,880	\$19,880	\$19,080
287	MACHINERY	\$10,750	\$5,602	\$10,750	\$10,750	\$7,390
288	FIRE PREVENTION	\$4,000	\$384	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
289	FIRE TRAINING	\$2,625	\$2,450	\$4,450	\$4,450	\$4,950
290	TRAINING / MEDICAL	\$1,000	\$157	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
291	FIRE COMMUNICATIONS	\$24,829	\$8,878	\$24,629	\$24,629	\$25,100
292	R & M SERVICES	\$26,250	\$18,617	\$26,250	\$26,250	\$26,250
293	R & M SUPPLIES	\$550	\$435	\$850	\$850	\$850
294	R & M SERVICES - BUILDINGS	\$2,250	\$2,788	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$3,750
295	R & M SUPPLIES - BUILDINGS	\$1,665	\$0	\$1,665	\$1,665	\$2,050
296	WATER / GAS	\$7,500	\$7,045	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
297	BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$1,000	\$1,315	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
298	BUILDINGS - OTHER PURCH SVCES	\$950	\$378	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750
299	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL - VEHICLES	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$100,000
300	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL - EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$16,307
	TOTAL FIRE	\$306,913	\$306,655	\$386,978	\$404,978	\$398,645
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT						
310	SALARIES	\$28,295	\$28,439	\$29,258	\$29,258	\$29,706
311	BENEFITS	\$14,393	\$11,954	\$16,173	\$16,173	\$18,289
312	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$150	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$150
	TOTAL EMERGENCY MGMT	\$42,838	\$40,393	\$45,581	\$45,581	\$48,145

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS						
320	SALARIES	\$586,554	\$519,918	\$594,000	\$594,000	\$610,124
321	BENEFITS	\$329,354	\$314,237	\$344,400	\$340,000	\$356,230
322	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$3,200	\$7,721	\$3,200	\$6,000	\$4,800
323	R & M SVCES - VEHICLES	\$24,500	\$28,344	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$28,000
324	R & M SUPPLIES - VEHICLES	\$52,000	\$52,709	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000
325	R & M SVCES - BUILDINGS	\$5,200	\$9,469	\$8,900	\$8,900	\$8,400
326	R & M SUPPLIES - BUILDINGS	\$2,400	\$3,218	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,500
327	RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT	\$650	\$378	\$650	\$650	\$650
328	COMMUNICATIONS	\$3,645	\$8,922	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$5,290
329	ADVERTISING	\$900	\$1,703	\$1,100	\$1,300	\$1,400
330	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,500	\$1,876	\$1,500	\$1,650	\$1,650
331	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$13,500	\$12,340	\$13,200	\$13,200	\$13,800
332	TRAVEL	\$1,200	\$628	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
333	TAXES / LICENSES / REGISTNS	\$275	\$54	\$275	\$275	\$275
334	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$1,800	\$3,176	\$1,800	\$2,500	\$2,300
335	UNIFORMS	\$9,500	\$6,688	\$9,200	\$9,200	\$9,200
336	OP SUPPLIES - BLDGS	\$7,700	\$6,659	\$7,350	\$7,700	\$7,250
337	OP SUPPLIES - VEHICLES	\$3,900	\$4,657	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500
338	ELECTRICITY	\$11,000	\$10,793	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,400
339	NATURAL GAS	\$7,100	\$6,108	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$7,200
340	MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	\$3,000	\$10,290	\$5,800	\$5,800	\$9,400
341	VEHICLES TRANSFER TO CAPITAL	\$145,000	\$145,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$160,000
342	FLOOD EXPENSE	\$0	\$122,922	\$0	\$110,628	\$0
343	SUMMER CONST - RENTALS	\$7,100	\$6,579	\$9,850	\$7,500	\$8,300
344	SUMMER CONST - PURCH SVCES	\$168,656	\$149,418	\$191,780	\$191,780	\$192,000
345	SUMMER CONST - SUPPLIES	\$46,170	\$86,181	\$51,890	\$51,890	\$61,000
346	TRAFFIC CNTRL - PURCH SVCES	\$10,650	\$9,618	\$10,300	\$10,300	\$10,500
347	TRAFFIC CNTRL - SUPPLIES	\$7,900	\$16,904	\$10,870	\$7,900	\$11,000
348	SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS	\$11,000	\$11,039	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$20,000
349	WINTER MAINT - PURCH SVCES	\$6,100	\$3,350	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
350	WINTER MAINT - SUPPLIES	\$176,198	\$173,709	\$167,810	\$167,810	\$164,900
351	BRIDGES AND VIADUCTS	\$2,300	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
352	STORM DRAINS - PURCH SVCES	\$32,475	\$79,606	\$35,000	\$45,000	\$48,300
353	STORM DRAINS - SUPPLIES	\$18,940	\$16,252	\$17,240	\$17,240	\$18,000
354	ELECTRICITY - STREET LIGHTS	\$101,500	\$114,908	\$108,000	\$116,000	\$116,000
	TOTAL HIGHWAYS & STREET	\$1,802,867	\$1,945,374	\$1,869,015	\$1,992,123	\$1,953,569
STORMWATER						
360	SALARIES	\$98,534	\$90,181	\$100,464	\$100,464	\$105,713
361	BENEFITS	\$51,587	\$43,138	\$54,368	\$54,368	\$55,694
362	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$15,000	\$635	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$12,500
363	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	\$20,000	\$25,575	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000
364	CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES	\$5,000	\$374	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
365	ADVERTISING	\$8,500	\$7,831	\$7,800	\$8,000	\$14,800
366	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$10,700	\$3,816	\$10,200	\$5,000	\$5,700
367	TRAVEL	\$800	\$1,022	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
368	TAXES / LICENSES / REGISTNS	\$5,100	\$6,431	\$5,800	\$5,800	\$15,000
369	VEHICLES TRANSFER TO CAPITAL	\$7,800	\$7,800	\$9,700	\$9,700	\$9,700
	TOTAL STORMWATER	\$223,021	\$186,803	\$231,632	\$223,632	\$264,407

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015
SANITATION					
375	LANDFILL MONITORING	\$12,500	\$8,132	\$12,500	\$12,500
	TOTAL SANITATION	\$12,500	\$8,132	\$12,500	\$12,500
HEALTH AND WELFARE					
PUBLIC HEALTH					
380	PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER	\$9,749	\$9,774	\$10,090	\$10,443
381	DOG CONTROL	\$25,804	\$19,353	\$26,707	\$27,642
382	ANIMAL CONTROL / SHELTER	\$2,000	\$2,105	\$17,500	\$2,500
WELFARE AND OTHER					
383	HUMAN SERVICE GRANTS	\$101,648	\$102,125	\$106,293	\$113,891
384	DONATION ESSEX RESCUE	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$7,700
385	CEMETERIES - PURCH SVCES	\$2,450	\$3,315	\$2,450	\$2,450
386	E.C. HISTORICAL MUSEUM	\$1,500	\$1,454	\$1,500	\$1,500
	TOTAL HEALTH AND WELFARE	\$148,351	\$143,326	\$169,740	\$166,126
RECREATION ADMINISTRATION					
390	SALARIES	\$160,705	\$127,239	\$166,290	\$178,112
391	BENEFITS	\$107,334	\$77,475	\$116,087	\$106,619
392	PROFESSIONAL SVCES	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	\$2,240
393	COMMUNICATIONS	\$800	\$402	\$950	\$950
394	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$2,500	\$863	\$2,500	\$2,500
395	TRAVEL	\$1,100	\$0	\$1,100	\$1,100
396	MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION	\$11,000	\$10,000	\$11,000	\$7,500
397	FOOTBALL - ESSEX LEAGUE	\$900	\$900	\$0	\$0
398	LITTLE LEAGUE/SOFTBALL	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
399	BABE RUTH LEAGUE	\$475	\$0	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL RECREATION ADMIN	\$291,814	\$219,879	\$301,927	\$299,021
PARKS					
410	SALARIES	\$88,768	\$85,663	\$93,542	\$106,740
411	BENEFITS	\$39,357	\$39,897	\$41,588	\$45,447
412	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$6,000	\$12,230	\$7,800	\$10,800
413	R & M SUPPLIES	\$13,239	\$14,217	\$13,239	\$13,300
414	COMMUNICATIONS	\$700	\$769	\$650	\$700
415	ADVERTISING	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$425
416	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$300	\$45	\$500	\$300
417	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$13,390	\$12,627	\$13,765	\$18,330
418	TRAVEL	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100
419	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$4,326	\$2,727	\$4,850	\$4,850
420	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$500	\$570	\$500	\$500
421	UNIFORMS	\$1,452	\$881	\$1,452	\$1,452
422	UTILITIES	\$3,300	\$3,224	\$3,300	\$3,500
423	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$31,000	\$31,000
	TOTAL PARKS	\$192,632	\$193,850	\$212,486	\$237,444

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
SWIMMING POOLS						
430	SALARIES	\$62,099	\$64,767	\$69,333	\$66,746	\$69,274
431	BENEFITS	\$4,751	\$4,955	\$5,304	\$5,304	\$5,299
432	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVGES	\$1,500	\$3,505	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,000
433	R & M SUPPLIES	\$750	\$1,763	\$750	\$750	\$750
434	COMMUNICATIONS	\$700	\$1,036	\$700	\$700	\$700
435	ADVERTISING	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$425
436	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,700	\$1,858	\$1,500	\$1,600	\$1,700
437	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$700	\$305	\$1,000	\$955	\$1,250
438	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$6,000	\$8,028	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$11,000
439	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$3,000	\$1,099	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
440	UNIFORMS	\$1,400	\$460	\$1,400	\$1,000	\$1,400
441	UTILITIES	\$10,000	\$12,271	\$10,000	\$12,714	\$12,700
442	MACHINERY	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
	TOTAL POOLS	\$93,800	\$100,047	\$106,187	\$105,769	\$110,498
SENIOR CITIZEN BUS						
450	SALARIES	\$45,431	\$44,053	\$47,015	\$47,015	\$48,391
451	BENEFITS	\$3,477	\$3,370	\$3,597	\$3,597	\$3,702
452	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVGES	\$8,000	\$10,258	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
453	COMMUNICATIONS	\$900	\$883	\$900	\$900	\$900
454	ADVERTISING	\$150	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$425
455	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$800	\$525	\$800	\$800	\$800
456	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$100	\$138	\$100	\$100	\$100
457	VEHICLES AND EQUIP TRANS TO CAP	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
	TOTAL SENIOR BUS	\$62,858	\$63,227	\$64,612	\$64,612	\$66,318
LIBRARIES						
ESSEX FREE LIBRARY						
460	SALARIES	\$202,495	\$257,992	\$203,618	\$203,618	\$201,418
461	BENEFITS	\$102,823	\$87,816	\$98,640	\$98,640	\$104,527
462	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVGES	\$18,487	\$15,870	\$21,115	\$21,115	\$20,460
463	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$730	\$770	\$780	\$780	\$780
464	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$2,155	\$2,973	\$2,173	\$2,173	\$2,840
465	TRAVEL	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250	\$250
466	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$4,500	\$4,478	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$4,700
467	ELECTRICITY	\$5,000	\$5,423	\$4,750	\$4,750	\$4,056
468	NATURAL GAS	\$2,300	\$2,438	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300
469	BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$25,000	\$24,253	\$26,691	\$26,691	\$27,510
470	IMPROV OTHER THAN BUILD	\$500	\$0	\$850	\$850	\$900
471	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	\$500	\$271	\$550	\$550	\$550
	TOTAL ESSEX FREE LIBRARY	\$364,740	\$402,284	\$366,917	\$366,917	\$370,291
BROWNELL LIBRARY						
472	CONTRIBUTION	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	TOTAL BROWNELL LIBRARY	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	TOTAL LIBRARIES	\$379,740	\$417,284	\$381,917	\$381,917	\$385,291

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	PROPOSED FYE2015	
CONSERVATION						
480	TREE CARE	\$16,500	\$19,607	\$19,300	\$19,300	\$20,960
481	TRANSFER TO W/S - AGRICULTURE	\$200	\$2,431	\$1,050	\$2,000	\$2,000
	TOTAL CONSERVATION	\$16,700	\$22,038	\$20,350	\$21,300	\$22,960
DEBT SERVICE						
PRINCIPAL						
490	FIRE TRUCK - PUMPER	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0
491	ARRA - STORMWATER LOAN	\$32,980	\$32,980	\$33,640	\$33,640	\$34,313
492	POLICE FACILITY BOND	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$345,000
INTEREST						
493	FIRE TRUCK - PUMPER	\$5,306	\$5,291	\$2,653	\$2,653	\$0
494	ARRA - STORMWATER LOAN	\$3,433	\$3,433	\$2,773	\$2,773	\$2,100
495	POLICE FACILITY BOND	\$0	\$0	\$161,565	\$193,036	\$229,487
496	TRANSFER TO CAP RESERVE FUND	\$204,092	\$209,334	\$47,555	\$17,004	\$0
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$315,811	\$321,038	\$318,186	\$319,106	\$610,900
INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSE						
500	COUNTY TAX	\$101,751	\$103,199	\$100,779	\$100,779	\$108,733
501	CCTA	\$226,037	\$226,037	\$254,181	\$254,181	\$243,230
502	WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DIST	\$48,000	\$48,000	\$48,000	\$48,000	\$48,000
503	C.C.R.P.C.	\$22,960	\$22,960	\$22,780	\$22,780	\$23,662
	TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$398,748	\$400,196	\$425,740	\$425,740	\$423,625
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$10,224,784	\$10,084,260	\$10,704,286	\$10,844,308	\$11,389,119

The firm of Kittell, Branagan and Sargent was engaged to audit the financial statements of the Town of Essex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. Copies of the audit report, for which they gave an unqualified opinion, are on file at the Town office and can be obtained on the Town website at www.essex.org.

The budget and actual columns for FYE 2013 above are contained, in summary, in the audit report as a supplementary schedule. The schedule is reconciled with results of operations according to GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). The differences are due mainly to grant and other restricted revenues and expenditures that are not budgetted.

A complete picture of the Town's financial condition and results of operations can only be obtained by reading the whole audit report and the accompanying footnotes and schedules.

RECREATION PROGRAM BUDGET FYE 2015

	BUDGET FYE2013	ACTUAL FYE2013	BUDGET FYE2014	ESTIMATED FYE2014	BUDGET FYE2015
REVENUES - DETAIL					
CHARGES FOR SERVICES					
RECREATION PROGRAM FEES	\$329,500	\$338,978	\$373,000	\$373,000	\$404,500
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	\$29,000	\$29,754	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$34,400
HERSHEY TRACK	\$0	\$2,444	\$0	\$0	\$0
MISCELLANEOUS	\$0	\$106	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$358,500	\$371,282	\$406,000	\$406,000	\$438,900
TOTAL REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES - DETAIL					
RECREATION PROGRAMS					
SALARIES	\$70,689	\$75,123	\$80,930	\$80,930	\$112,555
BENEFITS	\$5,408	\$7,483	\$7,772	\$7,772	\$10,057
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$4,846	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,927
COMMUNICATIONS	\$700	\$32	\$600	\$600	\$700
POSTAGE	\$0	\$4,242	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$4,300
ADVERTISING	\$700	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$450
PRINTING AND BINDING	\$10,700	\$10,796	\$11,425	\$11,425	\$11,000
DUES/SUBSCRIPTIONS/MEETINGS	\$0	\$885	\$150	\$150	\$900
OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$200,000	\$212,220	\$240,500	\$240,500	\$245,000
TRAVEL	\$0	\$58	\$200	\$200	\$200
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$12,200	\$4,991	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,200
FOOTBALL - ESSEX LEAGUE	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$900	\$900
LITTLE LEAGUE / SOFTBALL	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
BABE RUTH LEAGUE	\$0	\$0	\$475	\$475	\$475
HERSHEY TRACK	\$0	\$2,346	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER PROGRAMS	\$0	\$673	\$0	\$750	\$750
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	\$25,500	\$23,978	\$27,700	\$27,700	\$30,000
TOTAL RECREATION PROGRAMS	\$325,897	\$347,673	\$390,252	\$391,002	\$435,414
NET REVENUE (LOSS)	\$32,603	\$23,609	\$15,748	\$14,998	\$3,486

NOTE: THE FYE 2015 BUDGET WAS ADOPTED BY THE SELECTBOARD ON JANUARY 27, 2014.

TRAILS COMMITTEE

In September 2000, the Selectboard created the Town Trails Committee as an advisory body to advance the development and maintenance of trails throughout the Town. Our charter tasks us to “assist the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment by providing advisory evaluations pertaining to trails, sidewalks and greenways for applications made to the Commission or Board based on the proposed trail maps in the Town Plan.” In carrying out this duty, the Committee is incrementally building and formalizing a network of trails throughout the Town that provide and promote safe, non-motorized connections for recreational and transportation options. The Committee advocates for public benefits of non-motorized trails in concert with the rights and prerogatives of property owners.

A major portion of our work is devoted to reviewing proposed development projects looking for opportunities to build and connect trails in the Town. Working closely with the Conservation Committee, we reviewed many projects and captured some easements and rights-of-way that could lead to future trails. Members of the Trails Committee routinely attend and testify at Planning Commission meetings where development proposals have potential or existing trail elements.

In 2013 the Essex Trails Committee joined with other similar committees and advocates for two Chittenden Area Trails’ Committees’ meetings. Useful information on trail funding options and resources were discussed. Semi-annual meetings will continue in 2014 with a goal to map and identify trails across and between municipalities. Representatives of the Regional Planning Commission, Waitsfield Trails group, Fellowship of the Wheel and Local Motion also attended Trails Committee meetings in 2013.

In 2013, the Trails Committee participated in the Heart and Soul community project and prepared an exhibit for their public event at Essex High School in September. The Trails Committee performed site inspections at Saxon Hill and a new trail donation off the end of Tanglewood Drive. Several trail related Eagle Scout projects were completed in 2013 adding bridges, trail improvements and signage in various locations. The Committee wishes to thank scouts Adam Yandow, Glade Taylor, Thomas Wilson and Jacob Bovee for their excellent work on these projects that will be used and appreciated for years.

The Trails Committee is currently made up of Mark Paulson, Chair; Ruth LeBlanc, Kevin Macy and Sean Folley. After six years of faithful service to the Committee, Hobart Heath stepped down in June 2013. We thank him for his commitment and passion for trails in Essex. We do have one opening, and if you are interested, please contact the Town and come to our meetings. Town Parks & Recreation Director, Ally Vile, assists the Trails Committee extensively and Josh Gauthier, Program Coordinator, now serves as our staff liaison. The Trails Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices located at 81 Main Street, Essex Junction.

CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT
Jim Fay, CWD General Manager

Champlain Water District (CWD) is a regional municipal organization chartered by the Vermont Legislature in 1971, presently supplying drinking water and fire protection to the following (12) municipal water systems: South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, Essex, Essex Junction, Village of Jericho, Winooski, Milton, Colchester Fire District #1, Colchester Fire District #3, Colchester Town, and the Malletts Bay Water Company since 1973. This past year CWD celebrated our 40th anniversary of supplying drinking water to our Chittenden County service area. We hope our customers enjoyed reading the anniversary brochure that the District sent out summarizing CWD's past accomplishments, present activities, and future plans for maintaining a reliable supply of safe drinking water to our served 70,000 consumers. Over the past year CWD has steadily continued its efforts toward completion of its Twenty-Year Master Plan reported by Dufresne & Associates in September 2002.

This past fiscal year CWD's accomplishments are as follows:

- Continued to manage a long term asset management contract with Utility Services Company Inc. for on-going inspection, maintenance, and rehabilitation of (14) of CWD's welded steel water storage tanks.
- Completed the interior and exterior rehabilitation and recoating of three water storage tanks in Essex and Colchester.
- Completed construction of Phase II of CWD's High Service Water Transmission Cross Tie Project thus adding a redundant critical loop to CWD's County water supply piping network, placing this new 24' diameter water line in service on November 29, 2012.
- Completed the construction of a new metering vault in Williston within the County served water transmission system and also completed the design for the relocation of a meter vault on the Colchester/Winooski boundary.
- As part of our ongoing annual capital program, a deep bed multimedia filter was rebuilt, along with interior pipe reconditioning and catwalk replacements at the water treatment facility.
- Completed installation of a redundant air blower system at the treatment plant site.
- Continued CWD's replacement program for supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) units that bring in critical county wide information to the treatment control facility, as well as upgrading specific process control technology for redundancy and reliability reasons.
- Continued investment with Efficiency Vermont to optimize daily energy usage and reduce overall annual electrical costs.
- Continued to serve as the Vermont Training Center for the New England Water Works Association hosting five separate training sessions in fiscal year 2012-2013.
- Coordinated the purchase and installation of a long term asset management database system.
- Continued enhancement of emergency response planning via training and collaboration with Vermont Emergency Management and the Department of Homeland Security.
- Continued the documentation process toward executing infrastructure ownership Memoranda of Understanding with all served municipal water systems.

CWD's commitment to providing safe drinking water is exemplified again this year by celebrating the fourteenth consecutive year of continuing to attain the Excellence in Water Treatment Award under the Partnership for Safe Water Program. At this time there are only eleven water treatment facilities in the United States that have attained this level of water treatment optimization, which signifies continuous performance protective of public health. CWD has maintained this level of excellence through successful submission of a comprehensive annual report that is reviewed for water quality test results, as well as demonstration and documentation of the operational tenacity toward continued quality improvement as

required by the Partnership for Safe Water Program. CWD was the first water supplier in the U.S. to attain this level of excellence in May of 1999. The Partnership for Safe Water membership collectively serves a combined population of 85 million people, or nearly two-thirds of the U.S. citizens served by surface water.

We thank our employees and elected officials for their effort, support, and dedication in allowing CWD to be proactively managed and operated to supply a drinking water product protective of public health. As always, we welcome groups of any size to tour our facility. Please call 864-7454 to arrange a tour, or if you have questions, or need further information on Champlain Water District.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Charlie Baker, Executive Director

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is a 29-member board consisting of one delegate from each of the County's 19 municipalities; four at-large members representing the interests of agriculture, environmental conservation, business, housing/socio-economic; and representatives from the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Burlington International Airport (BIA) and a rail representative. The CCRPC appreciates the opportunity to work with its municipal members to plan appropriately for the region's future to protect the special quality of life that is shared throughout Chittenden County.

The CCRPC is a cooperative regional forum for the development of policies, plans and programs that address regional planning issues and opportunities in Chittenden County. The CCRPC serves as the region's federally designated metropolitan planning organization and is responsible to all citizens of the region to ensure the implementation of the best transportation plan for Chittenden County. The CCRPC also provides technical and planning assistance to its member municipalities and VTrans.

The FY14 CCRPC Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will invest more than \$4 million in regional land use, transportation, emergency management, energy, water quality, natural resource, economic development, governance, education and outreach planning and technical assistance. The program leverages \$240,000 in municipal dues and local match contributions of \$80,000 to invest \$3.7 million in planning and technical resources in preparing for future projects in Chittenden County—a 10:1 return on investment.

The CCRPC serves its 19 member municipalities by working on both regional and municipal level projects. The next pages are divided into two sections: Regional activities and Town of Essex activities.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **ECOS Project** – With support from all Chittenden County municipalities, state agencies and 40 other partner organizations, the CCRPC adopted the ECOS Plan in July 2013 as the combined Regional Plan, Transportation Plan, and Economic Development Plan for Chittenden County (ecosproject.com). This includes the user-friendly ECOS Map Viewer (<http://maps.ccrpcvt.org/ChittendenCountyVT/>).
- **Emergency Management** – CCRPC assists all municipalities with updating basic emergency operations plans (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/em/>) and staffs Local Emergency Planning Committee 1 (LEPC 1) which consists of representatives from businesses, local government, emergency response organizations and citizen groups of Chittenden County municipalities (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/em/lepc/>).
- **Regional Climate Action Planning** – CCRPC completed the Climate Action Evaluation Matrix, the Emissions Inventory and incorporated transportation-related data and recommendations. A final plan is expected to be released in early 2014.
- CCRPC hosted a **Regional Energy Forum** in FY13 for municipal energy committees (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/energy/>).
- **Transportation Improvement Program** – The Federal Fiscal Year TIP for 2014 through 2017 was adopted by the CCRPC in July 2013 (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/tip>). The TIP is a prioritized, multi-year list of transportation projects in Chittenden County. To receive federal funds, each transportation project, program or operation must be authorized through the TIP. The FY14-FY17 TIP includes more than \$181 million in federal dollars for transportation projects within the county.

- **CIRC Highway Alternatives Task Force** – Upon Governor Shumlin’s announcement that the Circumferential Highway—as originally conceived—would not be built, the CCRPC has been leading the CIRC Highway Alternatives Task Force (<http://www.circtaskforce.org/>). CCRPC staff, VTrans and the “CIRC Communities” (Colchester, Essex, Essex Junction, and Williston) are working on a series of projects and planning activities which will aid in meeting the original Purpose and Need of the CIRC Highway Project, which broadly stated are mobility, congestion, transportation demand, safety, livability, and economic development.
- **Transportation Demand Management** – The CCRPC, along with regional and state partners, launched **Go! Chittenden County**, a one-stop-shop for information and advice about our region’s transportation resources (www.gochittendencounty.org). The CCRPC participated in the 10th annual **Way to Go! Commuter Challenge** (www.waytogovt.org) the week of May 13-17 to encourage alternative transportation (non-single occupant vehicle travel) and demonstrate the environmental and financial benefits. Work also began on updating the regional **Intelligent Transportation System Plan** which describes how to best use telecommunications and computing technology to boost the efficiency of roadway, transit and emergency and maintenance vehicle response systems, and provide timely information on travel options.
- **Diversity & Equity Training** – CCRPC staff participated in “We All Belong,” a program of the City of Burlington’s Community & Economic Development Office, to help us create a more inclusive workplace and to more effectively serve Chittenden County’s ever diversifying community. Our Americorps Vista staff developed and hosted “Leadership for People of Color,” a leadership development program designed to prepare participants to become more actively involved in the decisions that impact our community.
- **Regional Technical Assistance** – Includes GIS mapping, model municipal plans, bylaw and ordinance revisions, Act 250 application reviews, grant administration, build-out analyses, orthoimagery acquisition, and improving the VT Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory Tool (<http://www.vtculverts.org/>). We also provide Transportation Technical Assistance, Scoping, and Corridor Study programs to help individual communities address their transportation issues. Regionally significant projects in FY2013 included: the Railyard Enterprise Project and North Avenue Corridor Study (Burlington); I-89 Exit 17 (Colchester); Exit 12/Grid Streets and VT 2A/Industrial Avenue to James Brown Drive (Williston); VT 116 Corridor Study (Hinesburg) and Park & Ride Planning in Williston, Essex, Jericho, Underhill and Colchester.
- Completed the **Chittenden County Truck Freight Network Analysis** which examined current and emerging truck movement patterns and problems across the county and developed a plan for phased improvements to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods, management and operations into the future.
- Completed an **Electric Vehicle Charging Station Planning Analysis** to determine the most appropriate locations for future EV charging facilities.
- **Education & Training** – The CCRPC continued hosting meetings and online webinars open to municipalities and regional partners covering topics such as Trenching & Excavation Safety Training, Confined Spaces Training, Complete Streets presentations, Town Road & Bridge Standards, ICS/EOC Interface course, ICS 300 course, federal Transportation Alternatives program, Planning Ethics and Law Review, Experimentation for Advancing Best Practices, and Economic Benefits of Walkable and Bike Friendly Communities.

TOWN OF ESSEX ACTIVITIES

In FY2013, the CCRPC provided the following general assistance to Essex:

- Provided ongoing staff support to the Chittenden County Stream Team (ccstreamteam.org) and Chittenden County Regional Stormwater Education Program (<http://www.smartwaterways.org>) to facilitate multi-municipal cooperation to comply with EPA stormwater permit requirements for Public Participation and Involvement.

- Provided support for the Home Energy Challenge through regional forums and specific outreach and communication related to Efficiency Vermont’s recommendations for implementing door to door campaigns, phone a-thons, and Button-Up Day of Action.

The CCRPC provided the following transportation assistance to Essex:

Technical Assistance

- Essex/Essex Junction Bike/Pedestrian Plan – Project underway
- Traffic Counts
 - Intersections: <http://www.ccrpc.us/data/traffic>
 - Roadways (AADT): <http://www.ccrpc.us/data/traffic>

CIRC Alternatives Planning Related Activities

- Colchester Essex Transportation Network Study (CENTS)(Colchester/Essex)(CIRC Alt Planning Study)
- North Williston Road Flood Plain Elevation Scoping (Essex/Williston) (CIRC Alt Planning Study)
- VT 15 Commuter Park & Ride Scoping (Essex to Jeffersonville)(CIRC Alt Planning Study)
- VT 15 Multi-Use Path Scoping (Essex Junction, Essex, Colchester)(CIRC Alt Phase II Implementation Project)
- VT 2A/289 Alignment Analysis Phase II (CIRC Alt Phase I Implementation Project)
- Williston Essex Network Transportation Study (WENTS)(Williston/Essex/Essex Junction)(CIRC Alt Planning Study)

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP – projects included in the State’s Four Year Construction Program)

- VT 15 Multiuse Path
 - \$2 million for path along VT 15 from Lime Kiln Road to Susie Wilson Road (CIRC Alt Phase II project)
- VT2A/VT289 Intersection
 - \$1.5 million project for traffic signal upgrades and geometric improvements (CIRC Alt Phase I & II)
- VT 15/Sand Hill Road
 - \$1 million for installation of a signal (CIRC Alt Phase II Implementation Project)
- VT 117 Paving
 - \$4.1 million for paving VT 117 east of 5-Corners nearly 7 miles to US 2

Sidewalk and Bicycle/Pedestrian Grants

- Path along VT RT 2A between Pinecrest and Old Colchester Road – 2013 (\$100,000 Sidewalk and \$85,000 Bicycle/Pedestrian)

For further information about the CCRPC please visit <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/> or contact CCRPC Executive Director, Charlie Baker, cbaker@ccrpevt.org, 802-846-4490 x23.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Bill Waterson, General Manager

Throughout FYE2013, the Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) continued to provide valuable public transportation services to Burlington and the greater Burlington area. Transportation services included local fixed-route bus service; inter-regional commuter service; supermarket and school tripper shuttles; and contracted ADA paratransit service for individuals who are unable to ride fixed-route service.

In FYE13, a 13-member Board of Commissioners governed CCTA with two Commissioners representing Burlington and one Commissioner from Essex, Hinesburg, Milton, Shelburne, South Burlington, Winooski, Williston, Washington County, Franklin County, Lamoille County and Grand Isle County.

The annual FYE2013 operating expenses for CCTA's urban service area were \$14,679,385. The revenue sources to meet those expenses are:

- 50% Federal Funds
- 17% Local Funds
- 16% Passenger Fares
- 2% Miscellaneous Revenue
- 15% State Funds

Ridership:

CCTA provided 2,685,288 fixed route trips in FYE2013. CCTA Commuter routes performed well in FYE13, ridership on the Milton Commuter increased by 14%; ridership on the Montpelier LINK Express increased by 15%; and ridership on the St. Albans LINK Express increased by 10% over FYE12.

In response to increasing ridership on the LINK Express routes, CCTA was able to add a new fleet of commuter buses. The seven 45-foot Motor Coach Industry (MCI) buses are the largest in CCTA's fleet, offering 57 seats and the capacity for four bicycles. In late 2011, with the support of the Vermont Congressional delegation, CCTA was successful in securing a \$3,360,000 grant from the FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities Livability Initiative to purchase the new buses. In addition to a 46% increase in passenger capacity and a 100% increase in bicycle capacity, the new buses offer improved WiFi service, power outlets at every seat, and passenger controlled vents and lights. A launch event to introduce the new buses was held at CCTA on November 16, 2012.

Operational Improvements:

In FYE2013, CCTA continued our commitment to safety. The Operations Department and CCTA drivers completed trainings in the following categories: Mobility Securement, Security Awareness, Winter Driving, and Customer Service. All of CCTA's trainings are designed to provide a safe and pleasant passenger experience. Drivers also received training on the operations of new coach style buses added to our fleet in FYE2013.

Improved Passenger Amenities:

The Downtown Burlington Station project progressed in FYE2013. CCTA received FTA approval on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as FTA approval on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The design of the station advanced to 30% complete.

In FYE2013, CCTA added shelters in Hinesburg, on Pine Street in Burlington, and at Community College of Vermont's Winooski campus. As part of the Circ Alternatives project, CCTA installed six of fourteen shelters in FYE2013.

CCTA continued work on transit signal priority, completing an inventory of all traffic signals in CCTA's service area to ensure that each traffic signal responds appropriately to the Transit Signal Priority emitters on CCTA buses.

Environmental Commitment

As part of CCTA's ongoing commitment to the environment, the Maintenance Department performed an annual fleet tire survey. The goal of the survey was to assess the tread pattern on bus tires to control wear and tear and to improve fuel mileage per gallon.

The Maintenance Department began installing mini-hybrid systems in some of the current fleet. A mini-hybrid system increases fuel economy, lowers vehicle emissions, lowers maintenance costs, increases horsepower, and reduces the risk of hydraulic fires. In FYE2013, CCTA saved nearly 8,000 gallons of fuel with only 12 of 70 buses equipped with mini-hybrid systems. In coming years, CCTA will be working to install mini-hybrid systems on more buses.

July of 2013 marked CCTA's 40th anniversary! We have been happy to provide public transportation to Chittenden County, and we look forward to providing transportation services long into the future.

Contact CCTA for Route and Schedule information:

By phone: 802-864-CCTA (864-2282)

By email: info@cctaride.org

Or visit us online: www.cctaride.org

CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
Thomas Moreau, General Manager

ADMINISTRATION

CSWD owns and oversees 10 solid waste or recycling facilities in Chittenden County for its 18 member municipalities. A Board of Commissioners, who sets policy and oversees financial matters, governs CSWD. One Commissioner is appointed by each member community.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OFFICERS include: Chair Paul Stabler of South Burlington; Vice Chair Bert Lindholm of Jericho, and Secretary/Treasurer Michelle DaVia of Westford. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS include Paul Stabler of South Burlington, Michelle Davia of Westford, Alan Nye of Essex, Bert Lindholm of Jericho, and Steve Goodkind of Burlington. CSWD GENERAL MANAGER is Thomas Moreau.

FINANCES

The unaudited FY13 General Fund expenditures were \$8.37 million and the revenues were \$8.40 million. This represents a \$74,000 increase in expenditures (0.9%) and a \$1.17 million (12.2%) decrease in revenues from the FY12 General Fund operating results. The increase in expenditures is primarily associated with (1) higher processing costs at the Materials Recovery Facility (\$140,000) contractually tied to higher tipping fee rates in effect for most of FY13, and (2) costs related to the effects of persistent herbicides in Green Mountain Compost (GMC) products. These higher costs were partially offset by expense reductions in several programs, most notably the Biosolids Program and operating costs of GMC. The decrease in revenues compared to the prior year is primarily because (1) sales of recyclables at the MRF produced \$800,000 less during FY13 due to decreased market prices for these materials; (2) sales of materials at GMC were suspended during FY13 while inventories of new product were rebuilt; and (3) Solid Waste Management Fee revenue was down \$200,000, as quantities of materials sent to the landfill and subject to the fee decreased by approximately 9,000 tons.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/CHANGES

In FY13, CSWD's major initiatives were: 1) to treat our customers that had purchased herbicide-impacted compost fairly and promptly, determine the agent and the source that caused the impact with compost, and establish both chemical and biological testing protocols to avoid future problems; 2) to finish the report that weighs the advantages and disadvantages of municipal contracts for trash collection in Chittenden County and hold public information meetings with most of our member communities; 3) to assist in the passage of a paint product stewardship bill by the Vermont Legislature that will facilitate the recycling of unused paint throughout the state; 4) to begin recycling programs for sheetrock and plastic film, 5) to begin work on a consultant study evaluating residential curbside collection of organics in terms of economic and environmental impacts for various scenarios; 6) to issue a bid proposal for an equipment upgrade at our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and to begin negotiations on the operations contract (despite much lower market values for recycled commodities, we were able to keep from charging a tip fee at our MRF); and 7) due to a significant decrease in trash volumes subject to our solid waste management fee and to the unexpected expenses in our compost program, CSWD chose to raise the solid waste management fee after 4 years instead of the desired 5 years effective in FY14.

ONGOING OPERATIONS

DROP-OFF CENTERS located in Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Milton, Williston, Richmond, and Hinesburg are available to District members who prefer to self-haul their trash and recyclables. Drop-Off Centers collected 3,128 tons of recyclables, a decrease of 3.3% from FY12, and 6,319 tons of household trash during FY13, a 4% decrease from FY12.

The **MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY** in Williston is owned by CSWD and privately operated by Casella Waste Management. In FY13, 39,895 tons of recyclables were collected, sorted, baled, and shipped to markets. This represents a 1.23% decrease from the previous year. The average sale price for materials was \$95.62 per ton, which is a 24.43% decrease over last year's average.

The **ENVIRONMENTAL DEPOT** and the **ROVER** are CSWD's hazardous waste collection facilities for residents and businesses. In FY13, 9,290 households and 733 businesses brought in 631,621 pounds of waste that were collected and processed at these facilities. This included 73,610 pounds (7,361 gallons) of latex paint re-blended and sold as "Local Color", 8,927 pounds of leftover products given away through the "Hazbin" reuse program, and 35,750 pounds (3,575 gallons) of oil-based and latex paint processed for recycling in Canada and Illinois.

FY13 was a difficult year for CSWD's new **COMPOST** facility. Following the discovery of trace amounts of persistent herbicides in compost at the end of June, 2012, staff spent the majority of the next 12 months launching a massive customer service response to address more than 500 affected gardens while simultaneously delving into testing and research about persistent herbicides and their regulation. Sales of all compost products were halted for over a year, tougher regulations were demanded on a state and federal basis and improvements have been made in both areas. Horse manure was identified as the main source of the herbicides and it is no longer accepted at the compost facility. Better lab testing methods have been promised by the chemical manufacturers while staff has begun to carry out extensive growth trials to ensure product quality moving forward. Compost inputs have increased and sales are expected to resume in FY14.

CSWD brokered 13,544 wet tons of BIOSOLIDS for our member communities in FY13, which is 6.3% less material than last year. Most of the biosolids generated from the Essex Junction WWTF were land applied to local farms rather than landfilled. The City of South Burlington completed construction of a new anaerobic digester system that will yield a class "A" product that should be substantially cheaper to use. CSWD assisted South Burlington with the permitting process and is actively negotiating an amended contract to benefit South Burlington.

MARKETING – Recognizing that we need to revamp and maintain our website and redouble our social media efforts, we hired Veronika Travis as a part-time Web and Marketing Specialist. Still, the boots-on-the-ground approach offers wonderful opportunities to have face-to-face conversations with the constituents we serve. To this end, we held Customer Appreciation Days at each of our Drop-Off Centers. They were warmly received, with great enthusiasm for drop-off composting. To leverage that interest into action, we began running a Compost Challenge in April 2013, where participants get free pails, buckets, and a punch card. At every 5th visit, they receive a small prize (seed balls, salad seed packets, recycled pencils, crocus bulbs, etc.). The more they visit with compost, the better their chances of winning the grand prize when the contest ends in December. We received a \$5,000 matching grant from the Curbside Value Partnership to study ways of increasing diversion at the curb. The study begins in September 2013 and runs through February 2014. We have met with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to align our efforts in communicating imperatives of Act 148, the universal waste reduction law, which goes into effect July 1, 2014.

A variety of **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** and tools are available to assist residents, schools, municipalities, organizations, and businesses to reduce and properly manage their wastes. The CSWD Hotline (872-8111); Website: (www.cswd.net); e-newsletter; presentations; technical assistance; displays; workshops; facility tours; informational brochures; recycling bins and compost collectors (9,400 distributed); signage; discount compost bins; special event container loans; and grants are part of this positive community outreach.

Approximately 10,000 employees, students, volunteers, and clients were impacted by the **BUSINESS OUTREACH PROGRAM** and over 5,700 students through the **SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAM**.

Through the **COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM**, CSWD coordinated or participated in community events attended by several thousand people, awarded \$10,000 in Community Waste Reduction Grants, and provided direct education to over 600 multi-unit residences.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT efforts, which have dual goals of reducing the amount of waste generated and landfilled along with making programs more convenient and cost-effective, focused on recycling and composting incentives and collection (over \$17,500 awarded in recycling and compost container grants), construction and demolition debris recycling, and markets for recyclables.

CSWD provides funding and staff time to support **GREEN UP DAY** efforts in Chittenden County. In May, 36.5 tons of litter, 2,227 tires, and 3 cubic yards of scrap metal were collected. CSWD also contributed \$4,050 to Green Up Vermont on behalf of its member municipalities. The fall and spring **APPLIANCE** and **TIRE ROUND UPS** brought in 1,344 major appliances and 9,396 tires at no charge from 3,173 households saving them over \$40,000 in fees. The **COMMUNITY CLEAN UP FUND** helps members keep their communities clean and litter free throughout the year. \$4,700 were expended by CSWD's member municipalities.

**CHITTENDEN UNIT FOR
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
Kristine Bickford, Executive Director**

The Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations (CUSI) is multi-agency task force dedicated to providing criminal response to reports of sexual assaults, serious child abuse and child fatalities. For over 20 years, the primary focus has been to protect and support all children, adults and families. CUSI defined what is now known as a true multi-disciplinary team (MDT) method to investigating crimes of this nature. The MDT is the heart of CUSI and is composed of eight police detectives, a unit director, victim advocate, in-house investigator with the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and a dedicated prosecutor from the Chittenden County State's Attorney's Office. We work jointly with mental health providers, medical providers and Department of Corrections. In addition, CUSI houses and supports the Chittenden County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC).

The CAC, working in tandem with CUSI is a 501c3 nonprofit entity offering a range of services to children and families affected by these crimes. The primary goal of CAC is to ensure that children are not further traumatized by the interventions system designed to protect them. This program has many benefits, with an approach that allows for faster follow-up to child abuse reports, more efficient medical mental health referrals, fewer child interviews, more successful prosecutions, and consistent support for child victims and their families.

CUSI and CAC investigate these crimes in Chittenden County which consists of a population of approximately 158,000. On the average CUSI investigates 250 cases a year, nearly 65% of those cases involve child victims. In recent years we have noticed an increase in the complexity of cases given the large increase in computer usage and other devices.

The types of cases include: sexual assaults, lewd and lascivious conduct, serious child abuse, child deaths, sex offender registry violations and child pornography.

CUSI works closely with the statewide Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), Hopeworks, and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program at the medical center, including the Childsafe Clinic. We continue to work with other collaborative partners throughout the county and our state as well.

In addition, CUSI provides trainings and other resources to area departments. Ongoing efforts include prevention education and outreach to citizens of Chittenden County. During the period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 the agency accepted 76 adult cases and 154 juvenile cases.

WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DISTRICT
Yumiko Jakobicic, Executive Director

The Winooski Valley Park District's mission is to plan, acquire, and manage lands and waters within the boundaries of its member municipalities for purposes of conservation, preservation of natural areas, establishment of parks, and resource-based education and recreation. The WVPD's system of natural areas offers over 13 miles of shoreline and 25 miles of trails throughout the Winooski River Valley. In Essex, this includes Essex Overlook and Woodside Park. The Town of Essex has been a supporting member for 41 years. WVPD's office is located at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington and Tom Malinowski is the Essex representative. Please visit www.wvpd.org to view trail maps and learn more about WVPD's parks.

Here are few highlights from the year:

- **Park Acquisitions and Improvements:** The WVPD is happy to report that it acquired two new parks this year: The Muddy Brook Wetland Reserve in South Burlington and Williston, and the Wolcott Family Natural Area in Colchester. The WVPD is currently planning the trail systems for both parks and looks forward to welcoming visitors soon. In addition, many improvements were made to the WVPD's other parks. A new bridge was installed on the Riverwalk Trail, a culvert was replaced at Macrae Farm Park, puncheon was replaced at Colchester Pond, a railing was installed at Donohue Sea Caves, and over 200 trees were planted in riparian buffer zones at the Ethan Allen Homestead and Mayes Landing.
- **Environmental Education:** The WVPD's educator met with 1,426 children and 381 adults (including people from all of the WVPD's member towns) hosted numerous new events including a Woodside Wildlife Walk, a Full Moon Hike at Macrae Farm Park, an Invasive Species 101 Workshop, and several snowshoe hikes. The WVPD's "Halloween at the Homestead" attracted 70 visitors in its second year! The WVPD also had 297 students at Conservation Field Day and a record number of workshops available.
- **Financial Sustainability:** The WVPD staff worked hard to bring in additional funding to help keep costs low for member towns. This year, the WVPD received the following grants: \$15,000 from the Vermont Recreation Trails Program to replace the bridge at Riverwalk; a grant to put bike racks at Colchester Pond and Macrae Farm; a grant from the Department of Environmental Conservation to hire a greeter at Colchester Pond; \$500 grant from IBM to purchase educational supplies; and a grant from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to cover 50% of the costs for updating the alarm system in the education center. The WVPD staff also increased their advertising efforts to the picnic shelter and exceeded their rental revenue goals for the year.
- **Activities for Residents and Tourists:** The WVPD's 18 regional parks offer nature trails, scenic overlooks, picnic facilities, cross-country skiing trails, canoe and kayak launches, fishing access, and public garden plots. Sign-in sheets located at the WVPD's parks have shown that visitors came from all over the member towns and even from across the country. The Ethan Allen Homestead Museum – one of the WVPD's partner organizations – provided tours of Ethan and Fanny Allen's 1787 restored farmhouse to 4,209 children and adults.
- **Programs Offered by Others at WVPD Parks:** The WVPD provides a fantastic location for local groups to offer outdoor programs. Many school groups, summer camps, and scouts visit the WVPD's parks as part of their curriculum. The Burlington Area Community Gardens and the Colchester Land Trust offer community gardens at two of the WVPD's parks. The Vermont

Community Garden Network and New Farms for New Americans lead educational gardening programs at the WVPD's Ethan Allen Homestead. The WVPD was also happy to host part of the Muck It Up adventure race at Macrae Farm Park in cooperation with the Colchester Parks and Recreation Department, and part of the Amazing Parks Challenge in cooperation with the Essex Parks and Recreation.

Children need natural areas to stay in touch with the local landscapes that sustain them. In turn, natural areas need management that assure people and wildlife can peacefully coexist. The WVPD offers 18 natural areas embedded within the most developed county in Vermont. Each year Essex's support makes it possible for thousands of Vermonters and tourists to explore our ecologically diverse system of natural areas.

**TOWN OF ESSEX
TOWN MEETING
March 4, 2013**

SELECTBOARD: Linda Myers, Chair; Max Levy, Irene Wrenner, Dave Rogerson, Brad Luck.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Patrick Scheidel, Town Manager; Trevor Lashua, Assistant Town Manager; Cheryl Moomey, Town Clerk; Brad LaRose, Police Chief; Dennis Lutz, Town Engineer/Public Works Director; Ann Paietta, Library Director; Allison Vile, Parks and Recreation Director; Doug Fisher, Finance Director; Bill Ellis, Town Attorney; Charles Cole, Fire Chief; Dana Hanley, Community Development Director.

MODERATOR: Steve McQueen

Mr. McQueen introduced himself as Town Moderator at 7:30 p.m. He introduced a presentation by the Essex Community Historical Society (ECHS) in celebration of the 250th birthday of Essex. The presentation was an reenactment of the first Town Meeting in Essex on March 22, 1786. At the end of the presentation, Ms. Myers stated that she hoped the public enjoyed the presentation of Essex' first Town Meeting and that it sparked interest in the history of the Town. For more information, Ms. Myers asked the public to visit the ECHS or the local libraries.

Mr. McQueen called attention to the State Representatives present: Linda Waite-Simpson, Tim Jerman, Deb Evans and Linda Myers and the Village Trustees present: George Tyler, Dan Kerin, Lori Houghton, Andrew Brown and Elaine Sopchak. Mr. McQueen noted that Martha Heath, a State Representative, was not present as she was attending the Westford Town Meeting.

Next, Mr. McQueen pointed out the location of Senator Bill Doyle's 2013 Town Meeting Day Survey.

At 7:57 p.m., Mr. McQueen called the 2013 Essex Town Meeting to order. He led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Mr. McQueen asked the public to join him in a moment of silence for those who had given the ultimate sacrifice for the community, whether serving in the Armed Forces of the United States or serving the community as police officers, firefighters or rescue workers.

Next, Mr. McQueen explained the Robert's Rules of Order governing the Essex Town Meeting. The public had no questions regarding the rules.

PAULA DUKE MOVED AND ALAN NYE SECONDED A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES BY REQUIRING A MAJORITY VOTE TO AUTHORIZE A PAPER BALLOT FOR THIS MEETING.

Mr. McQueen explained that the motion on the floor was to suspend the rules and require a 2/3 majority vote of the body before requesting a paper ballot. There were no questions on the motion.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of the motion please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay."

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen introduced the Essex Selectboard (SB) Chair, Linda Myers, who in turn introduced those

people sitting at the head table. Ms. Myers introduced the Town department heads and Mr. Bill Ellis, the Town Attorney. Ms. Myers pointed out Ms. Susan Overfield, who recently retired as Library Director, and the community thanked her with applause.

Ms. Myers stated that when Mr. Mark Berry left the Town last year as the Parks and Recreation Director (PRD), the Town knew that there would be big shoes to fill. The Town's new PRD, who was just named to this position, is not big, but she will ably fill those shoes. The public gave a warm welcome to Ms. Allyson Vile, the former Recreation Program Coordinator, to her new job as the Essex PRD.

ARTICLE I: SHALL THE REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS BE ACCEPTED?

RICHARD ALLEN MOVED AND SHELDON BLOCK SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ARTICLE 1.

There was no discussion on the motion.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of approving Article 1 please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE II: SHALL THE TOWN ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,629,286?

PAULA DUKE MOVED AND DIANE CLEMENS SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ARTICLE II.

Ms. Myers read the following:

"The SB is presenting to you tonight a Fiscal Year 2014 budget that we again feel is a responsible document that attempts to take into consideration the fiscal problems of our residents in Essex and the financial needs of our Town municipal government. Early in January, we were presented with a budget from our Town Manager that called for a 6.2 percent increase in our operating expenses. "Way too high," we said. Our Town Manager told us that for the past several years Town budgets had cut too far in the Town's ability to provide expected services to the members of our community, and his budget presentation was an attempt to rectify those cuts. "Way too high," we still said. And so, as we do every year, we went over the budget requests of our Town Manager and department heads with a fine toothed comb. Our goal was a budget increase of three percent. But when we got to 3.96 percent, there was just nowhere else to go without laying off employees from a staff that is already stretched to its fullest. After much discussion and soul searching, we feel this budget is as balanced as we can make it, without cutting staff and services that would affect how the Town of Essex serves the residents of this community.

This General Fund budget of \$10,629,286 is a \$404,502 increase over last year's budget, a 3.96% increase. If approved tonight as warned, it will mean an increase in the municipal tax rate of 1.76 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation of your home. An average home in Essex is valued at \$280,000, and the tax increase will be approximately \$48 for the year, or \$4 per month. These projections are based on an increase in the grand list of .5%. If the grand list is greater, the amount per home could be less.

Of the \$404,502 increase, \$255,000 is for salaries and benefits, which is 63 percent of the increase, and 67 percent of the total budget. Municipal government, at its core, is people serving people, and we have some of the finest people in local government serving this community. The remainder of the budget increase is \$150,000, the additional money we considered necessary to fund the needs of the Town for the

coming year. This \$150,000 includes a \$37,000 cost for vehicles and capital transfers, a \$28,000 increase in our paratransit assessment by CCTA, and \$26,000 in repairs and maintenance to our vehicles and facilities. We had to increase line items for gasoline, information technology, summer highway construction, and street lights. And we have reached the end of the IBM agreement, which means \$87,000 in lost revenue in the coming fiscal year. We do plan to add one new position to our staff, that of an Information Technology (IT) technician. I am sure you all know that technology is expanding at an unbelievable rate, and we currently have three people on staff who, in addition to their regular jobs, are handling all the technology needs of the Town. But, in an effort to ease into the costs of a new position, we will not hire the new technician until the middle of the fiscal year to phase in the position's cost over the current and next fiscal year.

In comparing our proposed budget to those of the six largest towns in Chittenden County, we are asking for the third lowest budget increase this year.

The SB, in a unanimous vote, approved this budget, and we ask that you concur.”

MATTHEW REED MOVED AND MARGARET REED SECONDED A MOTION TO AMEND ARTICLE II BY INCREASING THE AMOUNT BY \$15,000.

Mr. Matthew Reed asked for the increase to be specifically for the Essex Dog Park.

If approved, the new total of the budget would be \$10,644,286.

Mr. George Dunbar asked for some education on this issue.

Ms. Jen McKenzie, who was a member of the Essex Dog Park Committee (EDPC) for the last three years, stated that this park represents five years of work from the EDPC in study with both the Town and the Village. The EDPC has a license agreement right now with the State of Vermont to build a dog park at 111 West Street behind the community gardens. The EDPC has raised about 60% of the funds needed to build the park, and the amendment is a one time municipal contribution to break ground on the park this spring.

Mr. John Workman explained that he was a newcomer to the EDPC, but was impressed with all the work that was done by the EDPC over the last five years. The State has worked out the land, Essex Junction Recreation and Parks has worked out an in-kind donation for maintenance of the dog park and the EDPC has worked diligently to raise half the money needed to make the park a reality. He stated that dog owners in the community realize the importance of having a dog park because the closest dog park right now is in Burlington. Dog owners that work in a neighborhood can only walk their dogs. A dog park is needed for dogs to enjoy and play with other dogs. He stated that 62% of Americans have dog ownership, and if you are one of those people, you will really see the benefits of a having a dog park. He asked the SB what the impact would be on an average Town taxpayer with a \$15,000 dollar increase on the budget. Ms. Myers replied that adding \$15,000 to the budget is a 15 cent a month increase in the tax bill for the average taxpayer of a home assessed at \$280,000. Mr. Workman commented that 15 cents was about the cost of a dog biscuit. He added that with the State giving what it is giving, the Village giving what it is giving, the EDPC working so hard and a dog park as something included in the master plan for what to do for the Essex community, for the Town to put up \$15,000, in his opinion, is the right thing to do.

Ms. Margaret Reed, a member of the EDPC, stated that she presented at the SB meeting a week ago about this issue, and the EDPC was asked by the SB to attend Town Meeting to make a motion for this issue. In doing research, Ms. Reed found that both the Town and Village have dog parks as part of their master plans, and she added that the dog park was not low on their list, but way up on their list. Ms. Reed stated that she did not own a dog, but had “granddogs,” and she needs a place to bring them on the weekends.

Ms. Robin Owens, a member of the EDPC, also an employee of a local community pet grooming salon,

said that the salon has people coming from all over Chittenden County and even from New York. Discussions about dog parks occur, and she has been telling people about what the EDPC is doing in Essex. She stated that dogs are highly prized family members right now and if people come to the community to use the dog park, they are going to spend money. She thought a dog park was a great added value and resource when selling their homes and showing potential buyers what they have here in Essex and what they are doing to grow the community.

Mr. John Fitz Gerald noted that in the Town Report, there is \$8,000 collected from dog licenses, which he felt was also in the Village budget. He suggested that money be given to the dog park. Ms. Myers explained that the \$8,000 was for the entire Town of Essex and that the amount collected for dog licenses has declined in the last few years. The dog license fee pays for the license, the paperwork and the requirements for the license. While she appreciates Mr. Fitz Gerald's comment, Ms. Myers did not see how the Town could put that money towards the cost of the dog park.

RONALD GAUTHIER MOVED AND CHARLES KEELER SECONDED A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION.

Mr. McQueen stated that calling the question means that they will cease debate on the question and that the vote requires 2/3 majority and is non-debatable.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of calling the question please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of the amendment to Article II to increase the budget by \$15,000, please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen asked if anyone would like to speak to Article II as amended in the amount of \$10,644,286.

Mr. Andrew Brown had a question related to the IT technician that is part of the proposed budget. He was curious in the conversations about the need for this position, which is shared amongst every organization and municipality, including the Town, Village and school districts. He asked whether there were any conversations with the school districts about possibly working with the Town to provide the service at a potentially less expensive cost instead of hiring someone outright for the year to come.

Ms. Myers referred to the Town Manager who was very familiar with this issue. Mr. Scheidel replied that there wasn't any conversation on his part with the school district. He stated that the Town's need is peculiar to the Town. For example, a good part of this person's activity would bring them in contact with the police department, and the Town needs to have security as a key component to the job. Additionally, looking at the expected savings through the efficiencies brought to us by the technology was also one of the key areas. The position was also a financial decision as well because it would start half way through the year, which added about \$22,000 to salaries and \$500 in benefits.

Mr. Brown said that instead of adopting the budget as warned, he suggested reducing it by the IT position amount so that these conversations can happen instead of assuming that the security of the school districts does not meet the Town's needs. He was in favor of properly assessing this issue to make sure that the Town does not add a position, which may be more difficult to get rid of than to add. Mr. Scheidel clarified for Mr. Brown that the cost for the IT technician for FYE 2013 to FYE 2014 would be a total of \$27,400.

ANDREW BROWN MOVED AND ROBERT BATES SECONDED A MOTION TO REDUCE THE BUDGET BY \$27,400.

Ms. Jan Abbott stated that, as someone who formerly worked in all five school districts, while she respects Mr. Brown's request, she would suspect that the superintendents would laugh at the idea. She stated that IT people in the school districts go crazy because there is never enough IT help. In her opinion, if the Town Manager called them, they would just laugh.

Ms. Myers added that while the SB did not specifically talk to the school districts, and there are several school districts involved in this community, the members discussed the issue amongst themselves. The SB very carefully determined that because the IT technician is taking the job of three people in three different departments, the members were very leery of trying to borrow or hire an employee from some other government entity to help out in Town business. Police business and finance needs to be secure, so she hoped that the public would defeat this motion.

Mr. John Sonnicks, an IT by profession, stated that he has been doing IT work for a long time and was also somebody who likes to watch government spending very closely. He was surprised that the Town Manager was going to find somebody to work for that amount of money and felt that it was a reasonable request. Currently, Mr. Sonnicks explained that he was working on a couple of security issues, and he stated that you couldn't pull somebody who works in a different physical facility and expect them to do a professional job. He believed that the Town absolutely needs one IT person and probably two. He preferred to see the Town do it with one person and would wholeheartedly support this kind of expenditure.

Mr. Sam Hooker, an IT security engineer at the University of Vermont, agreed with Mr. Sonnicks. Mr. Hooker explained that ten years ago, he was the St. Albans Bellows Falls Academy IT Director and to be asked to do anything outside of the school duties would have been laughable. He hoped that the Town IT would be treated with just as much diligence as the police and finance security. He agreed that the salary was low, and he hoped that the Town could find someone for the position.

Mr. Jerry Fox commented that if the voters vote in favor of this reduction, they would be putting this position off for another year, not another six months, which should be taken into consideration when voting.

Mr. Brown clarified that his concern was more about whether the avenues have been explored and the Town relying on assumptions. With regards to needing IT in one building, he believed that there were a significant number of businesses in the community, both in Essex and beyond, which provide IT consulting services outside to external customers from an external business. Therefore, the idea that one needs to be in the same confines of the building isn't always 100% true. He believed that the Town was making this decision on assumptions and not on facts, and he was asking for more time to assess this issue.

Ms. Myers added that while she agrees that much technology can be outside of a building, three different Town departments need the expertise of an IT technician who, she thought, required time in the building going from department to department and whose expertise should be available when needed. She asked the public to defeat this amendment.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of the amendment to Article II to reduce the budget by \$27,400, please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

THE MOTION FAILED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen asked if anyone would like to speak to Article II as amended in the amount of

\$10,644,286.

GEORGE DUNBAR MOVED AND BILL BICKFORD SECONDED A MOTION TO AMEND ARTICLE II BY INCREASING THE AMOUNT BY \$60,000.

Mr. Dunbar requested that \$10,000 of the \$60,000 be provided to the Essex Memorial Day parade and \$50,000 of the \$60,000 be provided to help pay for the fire truck that is being purchased by the Village Trustees. He added that this \$1 million piece of equipment spends 60% of its time outside the Village of Essex Junction to support the Town, outside the Village, and right now the Village is paying about 80% of the bill. He thought that it was more appropriate for the greater community of Essex to help pay for this asset and not just 8,000 residents of the Village of Essex Junction.

Mr. Carl Wermer was in favor of the motion. He thought that it was stated clearly that the fire truck benefits both the Town and the Village and the community equally and that the costs would be divided most efficiently if it was part of the Town budget as well.

Mr. Moshe Braner objected to this amendment because it is mixing two different unrelated items into the same amendment. He urged the community to reject this amendment as stated and suggested resubmitting two separate amendments, one for the parade and one for the fire truck.

Mr. McQueen wanted to make it clear that the motion is to increase the budget by \$60,000. The maker of the motion made a recommendation, but the vote is on whether to increase the budget by \$60,000, not specific earmarks. He added that there was the option of dividing the motion if that is acceptable to the person who made the motion and the person who seconded the motion. Mr. Dunbar indicated to Mr. McQueen that he wanted to proceed with his original motion.

Mr. Ed Von Sitas thanked the residents for giving money towards this issue last year. He stated that everything goes up, and this year the cost for the Memorial Day Parade would be about \$18,000. He stated that the \$10,000 would go to a lot of things and that eight people were killing themselves putting the parade together and would appreciate the vote for that extra money.

Mr. Robert Bates was curious why the Memorial Parade Committee waited until this evening to make this request. He asked, why wasn't the request made to the SB during its budget creation process earlier in the year like any other request? He stated that he has nothing against fire engines or parades, but he was curious about the process.

Ms. Myers explained that she didn't know why the request didn't come to the SB sooner. The Town already has \$50,000 in the budget for the fire truck, and this request would be an additional \$50,000. When the Town and Village first discussed this issue, it was determined that the Town would contribute \$200,000 towards the cost of the fire truck. Last year, Mr. Dunbar made a motion to add \$50,000, and it was approved. No request came to the SB during its deliberations for either the \$50,000 for the fire truck or the \$10,000 for the parade, which has an annual contribution of \$1,000 already in the budget. Mr. Dunbar was asking for an additional \$10,000 for the parade, which was his right.

Mr. Bates added that he thought that the process leaves something to be desired. He wished that the Trustees or Mr. Dunbar had approached the SB at a time when it was building the budget so that the voters who get these reports could see that the SB has considered this issue and could see the SB's recommendations prior to this evening. He asked how long does this go on? He was not opposed, but wanted some clarification.

Mr. Dunbar explained that there was a previous discussion that occurred on this issue, and the result of that discussion was a Town contribution of \$200,000 and a memorandum of understanding. He thought that for a community of 18,000 residents, with 8,000 residents paying \$800,000 for a million dollar purchase and the other 9,000 residents only paying \$200,000, there was a little lack of equity since 60%

of the calls occurred outside the Village of Essex Junction. He stated that the process was there, and Town Meeting was another process to get what he views as equity in the situation. He commented that, last year, there was a question about his motion so he wanted to make it clear this year that this request would increase the memorandum of understanding contribution of the Town of Essex from the original \$200,000 to \$300,000 of the \$1 million piece of equipment.

Mr. McQueen clarified that the motion on the floor is to increase Article II as amended by \$60,000, which was strictly the dollar amount that would be allocated. How those funds are allocated is the responsibility of the SB.

Ms. Myers wanted everyone to understand that the Moderator has explained that the motion is to increase the budget by a specific dollar amount. However, she also wanted the voters to understand that the SB has heard what has been said, and if the voters vote in favor of this amendment, the SB would be run out of Town if it didn't apply the money for what was desired.

Mr. Luck responded to Mr. Bate's question, "when does it stop?" Mr. Luck stated that it stops when the community has one conversation about its fire departments and fire apparatus, and when the residents start to see that, they won't see these kinds of motions at Town Meeting.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of the amendment to Article II to increase the budget by \$60,000, please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

ROBERT BATES STATED DIVISION.

Mr. McQueen asked those in favor to stand and remain standing while the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) made a count. Next, he asked those opposed to stand and remain standing while the BCA made a count.

Mr. McQueen reported the results being 116 in favor of the motion to amend Article II and 109 being opposed. **THE MOTION PASSED.**

Mr. McQueen asked if anyone would like to speak to Article II as amended in the amount of \$10,704,286.

MOSHE BRANER MOVED AND STEVEN DUNNING SECONDED A MOTION TO REDUCE THE BUDGET BY \$10,000.

Mr. Braner commented that this request was specifically the money towards the parade, not the fire truck.

Mr. Tim Jerman stated that he was a member of the Memorial Day Parade Committee (MDPC) for many years and it is one event that is unlike any other in the State of Vermont. He recalled when Mr. Marvin Campbell used to go door-to-door to collect money for the parade and raised an incredible amount of money. However, there aren't many Marvin Campbells left. He stated that this parade is to honor the memory of those who died serving this community and is a premier State event. He urged the body not to approve this motion.

Mr. Ed Daudelin was the Commander of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, and he was also a member of the MDPC for the last three or four years. This parade honors everyone who has served in uniform. It honors everyone who is a police officer, a firefighter and an Emergency Medical Technician. These people serve our community, and they deserve to be recognized, and this parade does it. It's a community event that is put on by the community because of the dollars that we bring in, and those dollars are hard earned. They canvas the community for every dime that they can find. He urged the voters not to vote out this \$10,000 because it is sorely needed. If you want to vote it out, there is a darn good chance that the

parade may not be able to be put on in the future.

Mr. Mike Plageman suggested that the voters defeat this motion because he couldn't think of a better way to help celebrate Essex' 250th birthday than with a good parade.

Mr. Ralph Guillette was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam War. He stated that if the voters vote in favor of this \$10,000 reduction, they should be ashamed of themselves. He stated that when you see a veteran, you need to thank them.

Ms. Kathy Reese has been on the MDPC for about six years, and one of things that people don't realize is that it costs money to put on the parade. All of the marching bands charge money, and the MDPC has to pay money for the caisson. The committee that serves this parade are all volunteers, and they donate many hours of their own time, and money from their own pocketbooks, for the expenses for the parade.

LEO COUTURE MOVED AND GEORGE HENRY SECONDED A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of calling the question please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of the amendment to Article II to reduce the budget by \$10,000, please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay".

THE MOTION FAILED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen asked if anyone would like to speak to Article II as amended in the amount of \$10,704,286.

Mr. Dick Boera, with regards to page 45 and Elections, assumed that the line item increased in FYE 2013 due to the presidential election, but he also assumed that it would go down to the normal level for FYE 2014 and asked for an explanation. Ms. Myers referred to Mr. Scheidel. Mr. Scheidel explained that Mr. Boera's assumption was correct that the line item for Elections should go down in a non-presidential election. However, this year the Town anticipated a potential legal need that requires a Special Town Meeting, which was why there was budgeted money in that line item. Mr. Boera asked what kind of trouble the Town anticipates. Mr. Scheidel stated that there were negotiations going on right now regarding the Saxon Hill Industrial Area with various people in the Town and representing Saxon Hill – the conclusion of which might result in a need for a Special Town Meeting and a vote to determine the outcome.

Mr. McQueen asked if there was any further discussion on Article II as amended in the amount of \$10,704, 286. There was no further discussion on the motion.

Mr. McQueen asked, "all those in favor of Article II as amended please signify by saying aye, all those opposed by saying nay."

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McQueen announced that the SB members are available for a question/answer time on items from the public. This question/answer time was not on the warning, and no action can be taken. He then announced the winner of the 250th anniversary logo contest, who was Ms. Emily Doubleday, a 17-year old student at the Center For Technology.

Mr. Bates asked the Moderator for a clarification. He explained that he submitted a request to the SB prior to the approval of the warning to include an article on this evening's meeting, which he asked to be entitled Other Business. The SB discussed his request and Mr. Bates received written communication from two SB members that his request could not be an item, but that there would be a time called Public To Be Heard as part of the meeting, but not after the meeting has adjourned. He wondered what happened. He felt that to have a time for citizens to be able to raise questions and concerns was a traditional Vermont Town Meeting. It doesn't happen after the meeting has adjourned, it happens during the meeting. He had what he thought was a written promise that a Public To Be Heard would be part of the agenda. He had been curious when it did not appear on the written warning even though it was not a time to introduce binding resolutions. However, he had not asked for that, so he needed some clarification, before moving forward to Article III, as to what has happened.

Mr. McQueen stated that the warning that is before the voters is the warning that guides Town Meeting and guides his actions as Moderator. The warning does not include anything beyond Article I, II and III. If the voters would like to stay and ask questions of the SB, the microphone is available, and the public is invited to stay afterwards. However, for right now, the article before the voters is Article III.

Mr. Bates would like to hear from the SB about his question. Mr. McQueen stated that it would be out of order at this point, but if Mr. Bates wants to stay afterwards and ask the SB why it chose to produce or submit the warning, he could do so. Mr. Bates stated that he thought that the SB's action was out of order. Mr. McQueen stated that, at Town Meeting, the Town conducts itself based upon the warning, Robert's Rules of Order and the Statute. He entertained a motion for Article III to adjourn until 7:00 a.m. tomorrow to conduct elections.

AT 9:03 P.M., ALAN NYE MOVED AND SHELDON BLOCK SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL 7:00 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 5, 2013.

There was no discussion on the motion.

Mr. McQueen asked "all those in favor of the motion please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay."

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Respectfully submitted,

Saramichelle Stultz
Recording Secretary

Approved this 18th day of March 2013.
(See minutes of this date for corrections, if any).

Irene Wrenner, Clerk, Selectboard
(THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE NEXT SELECTBOARD MEETING)

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire (Outside Village)	911	878-4300 (Administrative)
(Inside Village)	911	878-3315 (Administrative)
Police	911	878-8331 (Administrative)
Ambulance	911	878-4859 (Administrative)

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF TOWN SERVICES

<u>For Information Regarding</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Number</u>
Bicycle Registration	Police Department	878-1333
Birth & Death Certificates	Town Clerk	879-0413
Building & Zoning Permits	Zoning Administrator	878-1343
Burning Permits	Police Department	878-1333
Chittenden Central School District	Superintendent	878-1370
Detectives	Police Department	879-4923
Dog Complaints	Police Department	878-1333
Elections (Town & General)	Town Clerk	879-0413
Essex Town School District	Superintendent	878-8168
Health Complaints	Community Development	878-1343
Library	Essex Free Library	879-0313
Licenses (Hunting, Fishing, Marriage, Dog)	Town Clerk	879-0413
Planning & Subdivisions	Community Development	878-1343
Public Works/Streets	Public Works	878-1344
Town Parks & Recreation	Parks & Recreation	878-1342
Recycling/Drop Off Center	Chittenden Solid Waste District	872-8100
Senior Center Bus	Senior Center	878-6940
Swimming	Parks & Recreation	878-1342
Tax Maps/Assessments	Assessor/Real Estate Appraisal	878-1345
Tax Collections	Finance	878-1359
Town of Essex	Town Manager	878-1341
Village of Essex Junction	Village Manager	878-6944
Village Parks & Recreation	Park & Recreation	878-1375
Voting Registration	Town Clerk	879-0413
Water/Sewer Services	Public Works	878-1344
E-Mail Address		<u>Manager@essex.org</u>
Web Site		<u>www.essex.org</u>