



Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2006

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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Town Meeting will be held on March 5, 2007 at 7:30 PM in the Essex Community Educational Center. Voting by Australian ballot will be held Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at the Essex Community Educational Center and the Essex Middle School, 58 Founders Road from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM.

**TOWN OF ESSEX
WARNING
Annual Town Meeting March 5, 2007**

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 5, 2007 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, 2007 to June 30, 2008 as recommended by the Selectboard in the amount of \$_____?
_____?

WHEREUPON, AFTER DISPOSITION OF SAID BUSINESS, SAID MEETING SHALL BE ADJOURNED TO THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 6, 2007, 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, AND SHALL BE OPEN FROM 7:00 AM UNTIL 7:00 PM AT WHICH TIME THEY SHALL BE CLOSED.

ARTICLE III Election of the following:
Moderator, 1 vacancy (1 year term)
Selectboard, 2 vacancies (3 year terms)

Dated at Essex, Vermont this 29th day of January, 2007 by the Essex Town Selectboard.

Thomas E. James, Chair

Jeffrey B. Carr, Vice Chair

Linda K. Myers, Clerk

Thomas Torti

Alan L. Nye

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



DEDICATION

This annual report is dedicated to

***Donald L. Hamlin
February 10, 1932 – May 12, 2006***

Management guru Peter Drucker wrote, “ Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right thing.” While running a successful business proves that Don was a fine manager; he was a superlative community leader.

After having graduated from the Naval Academy he served in the Marine Corps. In 1965 Don created the Donald L. Hamlin Consulting Engineers, Inc. in Vermont and in 1985 opened a branch office in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Don was active in his professional associations: the Vermont Society of Land Surveyors and the Vermont Society of Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers and a life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Don fervently believed in community service and lived his belief. He served as a charter member of the Essex Rotary Club and was president during the 1985-86 Rotary year. Don was also chair of the Village Planning Commission, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission and a member of the People to People Technical Exchange to China. He served 20 years as a member of the Champlain Valley Exposition Board of Directors and was president during the 1991-94 time span.

For many years Don served at the American Red Cross for New York and Vermont as a first aid instructor, he was a lifetime member of the National Ski Patrol serving 35 active years as a patroller at various ski areas throughout Pennsylvania, New York and Vermont. Don was the founder and charter member of the Essex Rescue Volunteer ambulance service and was crew captain from 1971-78. He was one of the first EMTs in Vermont and an EMT instructor.

From 1979-1988, Don was a member of the Essex Industrial Development Commission. He continued working to attract businesses to Essex through his involvement in the Essex Economic Development Commission from 1988-1994, serving as Chair in 1990 and 1991.

Thanks to Don’s leadership, Essex is a much more livable community than it otherwise would have been.

SELECTBOARD
Thomas E. James, Chair

The past year provided the Selectboard with many opportunities to make decisions that will impact the Town's future. The following identifies some of the significant actions taken within the year:

- **Planning Issues** – In April 2006, voters approved a new Town Plan as recommended by the Selectboard. Through adoption of the Plan, the Selectboard assured the continuation of a Residential Phasing Policy consistent with the rate of population growth that the Town has experienced over the past twenty years.

A new Regional Plan was adopted and the Selectboard influenced its final version through numerous written comments and representation of Selectboard concerns by the Town's appointed Commissioner. The Selectboard strove to attain consistency of the Regional Plan with the newly adopted Town Plan.

The Selectboard held a meeting with the Planning Commission to discuss a number of planning issues that was at the forefront for each body. The Selectboard and Planning Commission reviewed the Transit Oriented Design Master Plan for the Susie Wilson Road area. A slew of congregate housing proposals also caught the attention of both boards as each contemplated how such projects should be treated under the Town's residential phasing policy.

- **Transportation Issues** - The Selectboard approved and made a major contribution to the initiation of a Corridor Management Plan for Route 15 from the Essex/Jericho boundary through Winooski. This multi-jurisdictional and multi-stakeholder initiative will result in an action plan for addressing traffic flow, corridor aesthetics, vehicular and pedestrian safety, vehicular and pedestrian connections, and improving rail infrastructure.

The Selectboard continued to monitor and participate in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for segments A & B of the Circumferential Highway.

- **Public Works** – Following public hearings and after making revisions based on citizen input, the Selectboard adopted a Storm Water Ordinance to regulate storm water discharges from new development and redevelopment of existing sites, the elimination of illicit discharges and the control of erosion and sediment discharges. After surveying residents and holding a public information hearing, the Selectboard approved funding the design of three different phases of the Painsville Area Sewer Project. It is expected that designs will be completed within two years, at which time the Selectboard will decide whether or not to construct any or all phases of the project.

Upon the recommendation of the Cemetery Commission, the Selectboard approved funding for the construction of a Columbarium. This structure would be one of potentially four Columbariums. The Commission recommended construction of the unit as a way to increase the useful life of the Town Cemetery and to provide a less expensive alternative to a traditional burial.

- **Merger activity**--The Community vote on November 7, 2006 regarding merger resulted in a favorable result in both the Village only vote and the total Town (including the Village) vote. The charter before the voters was created by a process that was both thorough and lengthy. On April 12, 2005 the voters approved the Article: "Shall the Town of Essex Selectboard and the Village of Essex Junction Trustees be advised to prepare and approve a plan of merger between the Town of Essex and the Village of Essex Junction pursuant to a single charter?" The vote was 2,051 yes and 788 no. The elected officials appointed an Ad Hoc committee of 10 persons, 5 from the Village and 5 from the Town outside the Village. The ad hoc committee met from July 2005 to June 2006. On September 28, 2006, following four public input sessions, the Selectboard and Trustees agreed on a common charter and plan of merger. The vote on November 7 was followed, on December 6, by a petition signed by well over the 5% percent registered voters requesting a revote. The Selectboard, per State Statute accepted the petition and warned a vote for January 23, 2007 for the citizens to revote on the Charter. At the time of this writing we do not know the result of that vote.

The Selectboard members thank the citizens of Essex for the privilege to serve this great community. We recognize the strife and stress the community has endured as we, once again, all considered changing the structure of our Government. We believe that Essex will remain the great community it is now, and recognize the process sometimes causes difficult pressures. It is our belief the overall process has demonstrated the majority of us care deeply about Essex and we, the citizens, will make the proper decision for our collective future.

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

MODERATOR

Steve McQueen Expires 2007

SELECTBOARD

(3 Year Terms)

Thomas E. James, Chair Expires 2007
Jeffrey B. Carr, Vice Chair Expires 2008
Thomas W. Torti Expires 2007
Linda K. Myers, Clerk Expires 2008
Alan L. Nye Expires 2009

CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

(3 Year Term)

Bernard Lemieux Expires 2007

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

(2 Year Terms)

John L. Bartlett, 39 Mansfield Avenue, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-5288
Robert Chaffee*, 7 Walnut Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-4813
Diane Clemens, 15 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-3536
George Costello, 5 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-5481
Linda Costello, 5 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-5481
Bernard Couture, 9 Redwood Terrace, Essex Junction, VT 05452 879-7332
Debbie Evans*, 53 Greenfield Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-4317
Mary Gauthier*, 50 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-4093
Linda Gustafson*, 40 South Hill Drive, Essex Junction, VT 05452 879-2941
Dawn Hill-Fleury*, 108 Center Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-7622
Thomas E. James*, 370 Old Stage Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 879-1247
Tim Mack, 256 Jericho Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 899-2001
Linda K. Myers*, 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-3514
Robyn Myers*, 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 878-3514
Carla Boardman Smalling*, 6 Church Street, Essex Junction, VT 878-3652

*Performs marriages and civil union ceremonies

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

CEMETERY COMMISSION

(3 Year Terms)

Susan Pringle.....	Expires 2008
Gary Tomlinson.....	Expires 2008
Jody Landon.....	Expires 2009
Ron Weston.....	Expires 2009

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(3 Year Terms)

John Diego.....	Expires 2007
Suzanne Levine.....	Expires 2008
Benjamin Suratt.....	Expires 2008
Geoff Glaspie.....	Expires 2008
Robert Paroline.....	Expires 2009

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

(3 Year Terms)

Sheri Larsen.....	Expires 2007
Elizabeth Poulin.....	Expires 2007
Paula Duke, Vice Chair.....	Expires 2008
Greg Morgan, Chair.....	Expires 2009
Vacancy.....	Expires 2009

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(3 Year Terms)

Bonnie Doble.....	Expires 2007
Patricia Schmitz.....	Expires 2007
Elizabeth White.....	Expires 2007
Joe Casazza.....	Expires 2008
Janet Watts.....	Expires 2009
Deborah Evans, Chair.....	Expires 2009
Nancy Clark.....	Expires 2009

MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

(3 Year Terms)

Patrick Scheidel.....	Expires 2007
Irene Wrenner.....	Expires 2008
Vacancy.....	Expires 2008
Vacancy.....	Expires 2008
Vacancy.....	Expires 2008
Carole Ann Greig.....	Expires 2009
Jan Ellis-Clements.....	Expires 2009

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

(3 Year Terms)

Jim Provost, Vice Chair.....	Expires 2007
Paul Bruso.....	Expires 2008
Hubert Norton.....	Expires 2008
Dick Gilmond, Chair.....	Expires 2009
Hugh Sweeney.....	Expires 2009

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS (Continued)

**PLANNING COMMISSION
(4 Year Terms)**

Michael Plageman, Vice Chair	Expires 2007
Peter Lyon	Expires 2008
Jim Rose	Expires 2008
Dustin Brusco, Clerk	Expires 2009
David Rogerson, Chair	Expires 2010
Mark Marsh	Expires 2010

**TRAILS COMMITTEE
(3 Year Terms)**

Moshe Braner	Expires 2007
Owen Jenkins	Expires 2008
Ed Ziemer	Expires 2008
Dana Baron	Expires 2009
Stuart Smith	Expires 2009

OTHER APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Champlain Water District Alternate	Vacant
Channel 17/Town Television Representative	Marge Gaskins
Channel 17/Town Television Alternate Representative	Thomas E. James
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission	Todd Odit
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Alternate.....	Jeffrey B. Carr
Chittenden County Transportation Authority Representative	Vacant
Chittenden County Transportation Authority	Dan Maxon
2 nd Alternate.....	Alan Nye
Chittenden County Circumferential Highway District Representative.....	Peter Lyon
Chittenden County Circumferential Highway District Alternate	Robert McEwing
Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization Representative.....	Jeffrey B. Carr
Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization Alternate	Thomas W. Torti
2 nd Alternate.....Sheri Larson	3 rd Alternate..... Thomas E. James
CCMPO Technical Advisory Committee	Dennis Lutz
CCMPO Technical Advisory Committee Alternate	Jeffrey B. Carr
Chittenden Solid Waste District Representative.....	Alan Nye
Chittenden Solid Waste District Alternate.....	Lynn Whalen
Constable	Edward Von Sitas
Fire Warden.....	Larry Ransom
Grand Juror.....	Jerry Firkey
Health Officers	Jerry Firkey and Ken Stratton
Town Service Officer	Jerry Firkey
Town Tree Warden & Forester.....	Charles Vile
Winooski Valley Park District.....	Mark Berry
Revolving Loan Fund Loan Review Committee Representative	Thomas Crapo
Tri-Town Sewer Committee	John Bartlett & Dennis Lutz

APPOINTED FULL-TIME STAFF

ASSESSOR

Randy Viens, Assessor
Andrea Leo, Clerk

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Dana Farley, Director
Jerry Firkey, Zoning Administrator
Sharon Kelley, Secretary/Payroll Clerk
Katherine Bucke, Planner
Shannon Lunderville, GIS Coordinator

FINANCE

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

LIBRARY

Susan Overfield, Head Librarian
Anne Exler, Catalogue & Adult Programs
Sherry Somerset, Assistant Librarian
Peg Wygmans, Technical Services

PARKS & RECREATION

Mark Berry, Parks & Recreation Director
Allison Vile, Rec. Program Coordinator
Cherie McCabe, Secretary
Ken Booker, Parks Maintenance Foreman

POLICE

David Demag, Chief
Leo Nadeau, Deputy Chief
Bob LaGrow, Support Services
Kenneth Beaulieu, Lieutenant
Rick Garey, Lieutenant
Robin Hollwedel, Lieutenant
Bradley LaRose, Lieutenant
George Murtie, Lieutenant
Robert Estes, Sergeant
Derrick Kendrew, Sergeant
Jason Kenwood, Sergeant
Robert Kissinger, Sergeant
Todd McCabe, Corporal
Kurt Miglinas, Corporal
Ed Piro, Corporal
Christine Ashley, Patrol Officer
Doug Babcock, Patrol Officer

POLICE (Continued)

Linda Carey, Patrol Officer
Paul Courtois, Patrol Officer
Morgan Dayvie, Patrol Officer
John Dunn, Patrol Officer
Robert Hall, Patrol Officer
Nicholas Merritt, Patrol Officer
Diana Miranowitz, Patrol Officer
Genevieve Paul, Patrol Officer
John Ruttenberg, Patrol Officer
Jesse Sawyer, Patrol Officer
Michael Wootton, Patrol Officer
Howard Alden, Dispatcher
Karen Hulbert, Dispatcher
Peggy McCabe, Dispatcher
Nicole Yandow, Dispatcher
Sherry Shadroy, Records

TOWN MANAGER

Patrick C. Scheidel, Town Manager
Todd Odit, Assistant Town Manager
Rick Garey, MIS Director
Ann M. Cookson, Secretary/Personnel Asst.

TOWN CLERK

Cheryl Moomey, Clerk/Treasurer
Mary Melnick, Assistant Clerk
Lynn Romero, Assistant Clerk

PUBLIC WORKS

Dennis Lutz, Town Engineer/PW Director
Aaron Martin, Assistant Engineer
Chris Stoddard, Secretary
Jerry Lesage, Mechanic
Eric Barkyoub, Highway Maintenance
Peter Daigle, Highway Maintenance
Robert Miller, Highway Maintenance
John Price, Highway Maintenance
Dan Roberge, Highway Maintenance
Brian Roy, Highway Maintenance
Darcy Spence, Highway Maintenance
Joseph Tourville, Highway Maintenance
Loren Ward, Highway Maintenance
Robert Whitten, Water & Sewer Foreman
Thomas Martin, Water & Sewer
Ernest Oakes, Water & Sewer

TOWN INFORMATION

The Town of Essex is governed by the Town 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 5, 2007Town Meeting – 7:30 PM
 March 6, 2007 – Voting by Australian Ballot..... Polls Open – 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
 March 15, 20072nd half of property taxes due
 September 15, 2007 1st half of property taxes due
 March 15, 20082nd half of property taxes due
 April 2, 2007Dog licenses due

GENERAL INFORMATION

Population	18,933	
Registered Voters	14,722	
Total Area	36 square miles	
Date of Charter.....	June 7, 1763	
2006 Grand List	\$13,064,553	
	Residential	Non-Residential
Town General Tax Rate	.5097	.5097
Education Rate	2.3817	2.2904
Town Capital	.0200	.0200
Town Highway	.0800	.0800
Local Agreement Rate	.0048	.0048
Total Town Tax Rate	2.9962	2.9049

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 – 7:00 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

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: 433 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: SRC -2, U.S. Senate, 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 310, Burlington, VT 05401 (888) 605-7270

VERMONT STATE GOVERNMENT

Governor Jim Douglas (R)

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

Lieutenant Governor Brian Dubie (R)

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

SENATORS

Jim Condos (D), 150 Dorset St., PMB #307, South Burlington, VT 05403 (802) 238-3809
Virginia Lyons (D), 14 Elsom Parkway, South Burlington, VT 05403 (802) 863-6129
Hinda Miller (D), 84 DeForest Heights, Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 862-7008
Ed Flanagan (D), 131 Main Street, #702, Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 862-3203
Diane Snelling (R), 304 Piette Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461 (802) 482-4382
Douglas Racine (D), 909 West White Hill Road, Richmond, VT 05477 (802) 434-2011

REPRESENTATIVES

Debbie Evans (D) (District 6-1), 53 Greenfield Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 (802) 878-4317
Martha Heath (D), (District 6-3) 343 Rollin Irish Rd.,
RR 1, Box 1383, Westford, VT 05494 (802) 893-1291
Peter Hunt (D) (District 6-2), 38 Prospect Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 (802) 878-4806
Tim Jerman (D) (District 6-2), 41 South Hill Drive, Essex Junction, VT 05452 (802) 878-2972
Linda K. Myers (R) (District 6-1), 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 (802) 878-3514

VOTING DISTRICT DESCRIPTIONS

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

DISTRICT 6-1

Linda Myers and Debbie Evans – Representatives

All of the Town (excluding Districts 6-2 and 6-3)

DISTRICT 6-2

Peter Hunt and Tim Jerman – Representatives

All of the Village of Essex Junction

DISTRICT 6-3

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 6-2 voters is the Essex Community Educational Center.

The polling place for Districts 6-1 and 6-3 is the Essex Middle School located on Founders Road.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL

Randy Viens, Assessor

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.

Please remember, if you are a resident of Vermont and own your home and use it as your principle dwelling, you must declare your "Homestead" on Form HS-131 with the State by April 15. The State requires you to fill out this declaration every year.

REAPPRAISAL

The staff from the appraisal firm of Tyler Technologies Inc./CLT began the Town-wide Reappraisal in June of 2006. The inspectors, all employees of Tyler/CLT, carry and are able to present photo identification. A full inspection of properties including an exterior measurement and an interior inspection will be performed.

The Town of Essex Assessor's office will be working very closely with Cole Layer Trumble during the reappraisal process. Following State Statute, the reappraisal will bring all properties to their current market value as of April 1, 2007. The Assessor's office believes if the public is fully informed as to the reappraisal process and methodology it will help everyone understand how each property value is fairly arrived at. Our office is always open to questions or concerns and welcomes inquiries from taxpayers wishing to become better informed about property assessment.

Property owners are encouraged to come into our office to see what properties are currently selling for on an individual street or in a particular neighborhood. Staff will gladly assist anyone in researching sales of properties in Essex. This effort provides owners an indication of what level the real estate market is in a particular part of the Town or Village. Although the Assessor's office does not deal directly with the property taxes, it is important to know that when a reappraisal occurs, **both the education and municipal tax rates will decrease in the year in which the reappraisal is completed.** In Essex this adjustment will impact 2007-2008 tax rates.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about the Town-wide reappraisal or anything in general about property assessment, please call the Assessor's office at 878-1345.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Dana H. Farley, Community Development Director

This report summarizes the highlights of the Community Development Department's efforts and initiatives in 2006.

Town Plan – A two year planning process for the five-year update of the Town Plan culminated in approval by the voters on April 11, 2006. The process began with a citizen survey in 2004 to gauge general growth and development issues. Numerous work sessions and public hearings resulted in a document that expresses a vision for the community with regard to future growth, transportation, education, housing, government services, natural resource protection and economic development. The 2006 Town Plan is posted on the Town website (www.essex.org). In addition to local planning efforts, the 2006 Chittenden County Regional Plan was adopted in August.

Amendments to Zoning and Subdivision Bylaws – Following adoption of the Town Plan update, the process to amend the zoning and subdivision bylaws began. The process, which is expected to extend into early summer 2007, will amend the regulations to ensure conformance with the 2006 Town Plan and incorporate changes made to the enabling statute. Specific attention is being paid to revising the residential phasing policy. Notices of public workshops and hearings appear on the Town's website and in *The Essex Reporter*.

Transportation – The Susie Wilson Road Transit-Oriented Design (TOD) Master Plan was completed and presented to the Planning Commission. The Plan proposes an integrated land use and multi-modal transportation design scheme for the corridor. A comprehensive Route 15 Corridor Study began with consultants BFJ Planning and RSG, Inc. The goals for the study are to optimize traffic flow, including along the feeder routes, and to improve corridor aesthetics, vehicular safety, public transit services, and pedestrian/bicycle connections.

Customer Service - The staffing of the Community Development Department, while not always at a full complement, helped to improve the delivery of services as the year progressed. A full-time Director, Dana Farley, and a full-time Planner, Katherine Bucke, were hired to fill empty staff positions. Retired Zoning Administrator Jerry Firkey kindly filled in part-time. Staff and Planning Commissioners took advantage of several training opportunities to improve skills, including a series of five lectures in Essex and Williston, funded by the Department of Housing and Community Affairs, which covered topics such as new town center development, stormwater management, legal issues and affordable housing. As always, the Department could not function without the energy, sense of humor, and commitment of secretary Sharon Kelley.

Special Projects - Staff performed its typical duties of assisting developers and the public through the review process, as well as providing technical assistance to the Planning Commission, the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Conservation Committee. Staff also performed other tasks such as writing an open space plan grant application; interacting with regional planning functions and Act 250; developing Rules of Procedure for the Planning Commission; and revising the charters of the Conservation Committee and the Trails Committee.

GIS Coordinator Shannon Lunderville worked with the Department of Parks and Recreation to create the trails brochure and maps; created all the maps for the 2006 Town Plan; and started a riparian buffer project using new 3D Analyst software.

Development and Permitting – Development review and permitting activity remained steady, with an emphasis on residential congregate housing and miscellaneous commercial projects. Some of the notable approved projects are listed below and a summary of zoning and subdivision activity is provided in the chart on page 17.

- Got That Rental, 3,250 sq. ft. commercial building addition, 224 Colchester Road
- Town Meadow, LLC & Eurowest Properties, 48 unit congregate housing project, 9 Center Road
- Cornerstone Commons, 53 condominium units and 3, 945 sq. ft. of commercial space, 10 Kellogg Road
- LNP, Inc., 80 unit congregate housing project, 5 Pinecrest Drive
- Richard and Linda Mathieu, 1,500 sq. ft. addition to storage and service building, 183 Kellogg Road
- Lyon Family Assoc., 3 unit apartment complex, 59 Center Road

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Geoff Glaspie, Chair

The Conservation Committee's mission 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 local natural resources and conservation needs, development applications and acquisition of lands involving the above resources.

The Town of Essex continues to face a number of current and future conservation challenges:

- The Town continues to lose significant portions of its critical open space (including prime farmland, forest, scenic corridors, and wildlife habitats) through development;
- Has two major waterways on the State list of impaired waterways; and
- Is under constant pressure to develop economically but in a sustainable manner.

The Conservation Committee strives to identify opportunities to improve, protect, and preserve the natural resources of Essex through collaboration with the Town committees and staff, and ongoing activities in the community. In these efforts, the Committee endeavors to maintain the Town's natural heritage and exceptional quality of life.

The Conservation Committee's accomplishments covering the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 include:

- Successful submission, in collaboration with town staff, of an Open Lands study grant application. This grant will assist the Town in establishing a sustainable plan for open space management, including the re-inventory of open lands, and the development of strategies to ensure prime open space is stabilized and where possible, expanded.
- Re-evaluation of the Open Lands inventory to quantify the degree loss of these critical parcels to development, the results of which were, in part, the foundation for the Open Lands study grant.
- Ongoing review of new and re-development applications, with an emphasis on ensuring the strategic conservation elements of the Town Plan are considered.
- Streamlining and consolidation of development review through joint review of applications with the Trails Committee.
- Completion of draft riparian buffer ordinances in collaboration with staff and state-sponsored specialists.
- Ongoing collaboration with State ANR officials including stream walks to evaluate the state of our town's waterways and the potential impact of future development.
- Tree Planting (2 fir trees) at Essex Middle School.
- Collaborate with the Vermont Land Trust to identify town parcels for potential long-term conservation opportunities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Greg Morgan, Chair

During the past year, the Town Economic Development Commission was reluctant to initiate any long-term projects at a time when the future of the Town was unknown. In addition, staff for the Commission was kept very busy with Merger Task Force meetings and research. However, a number of economic development related activities did occur.

To start the year, the Commission met with Representatives Myers, Evans and Jerman to discuss the issue of affordable/workforce housing within town, as well as economic development tax credits made available by the State. As a result of the meeting, Essex's Vermont State Representatives had a better understanding of the need for affordable/workforce housing within Essex and the importance of adopting new State tax incentives. By the end of the legislative session, a new statewide economic development tax incentive program was adopted.

Throughout the legislative session, the Commission and staff reviewed proposed growth center legislation and communicated with legislators and other organizations to influence its final language.

On the regional level, Town staff and the Commission were involved in the drafting and adoption of the 2006 Regional Plan. Through that participation, staff was able to advocate for a balance of economic development and environmental policy in the region and consistency with the Town Plan.

The Town initiated a corridor planning process for Route 15 from Jericho to Burlington. The purpose of which is to provide a blueprint for future transportation and land-use decisions. Goals include optimizing traffic flow throughout the Route 15 Corridor and feeder routes, improving corridor aesthetics and improving corridor safety for vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Locally, the Community Development Department has been investigating the possibilities of Essex applying for the new State Growth Center designation for the Town Center area. Receiving such a designation would allow the Town to offer incentives to developers that the Town is currently unable to do, while at the same time, planning for preservation of open and rural areas. The Planning Commission held a conceptual design meeting with a national home improvement chain to discuss a potential proposal for a store on Susie Wilson Road.

Town staff met with business representatives considering relocation to Essex. Staff was able to provide detailed economic and demographic information to help the business determine the feasibility of relocating.

A separate business was awarded \$4 million in industrial revenue bond inducements by the Vermont Economic Development Authority to expand their current business with a new location in Essex. According to VEDA, the company expects to increase employment at the Essex facility over a three-year period.

ESSEX COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Clinton Russell, President

The year 2006 has been busy. Our Board of Directors and our general membership have been responsible for many wonderful projects and activities.

Noah Thompson, author of “A Pilot’s Story” provided us with an evening program. Noah talked about his book and his WWII experiences.

We celebrated Essex’s 243rd birthday this year. Essex was chartered on June 7, 1763. We hope this becomes an annual event.

We opened the Water Tower at Fort Ethan Allen this spring. In this four hour event, we had 183 individuals climb the 106 steps and hear its history.

Our spring and fall tag sales were successful. Many thanks to the people who donated items and others who stopped by and purchased them.

Our major research project this year was the Vermont Toy Farm, Inc. The Toy Farm which was located on Chapin Road manufactured dolls, toys and European style Christmas tree ornaments for east coast stores. This research provided us the material and artifacts to present at the Vermont Expo in Tunbridge, establish a display at our museum, be the major topic for our newsletter and be the program for our annual meeting. Several former employees were interviewed and participated in the presentation at the annual meeting.

In July, we participated in the “Block Party” that was sponsored by the Village of Essex Junction. A fun time was had by all.

In October we had a partnership with the Essex Art League. This project resulted in an art show and auction. Many fine pieces were created around the project title, “Capturing the Essex Landscape/Views We See Daily.” Sixty high school students also participated with art work, photographs and ceramic pieces.

A special thanks to the individuals who are restoring the 1805 School House. Also, thanks to our members who volunteered to have the museum open on Thursdays and Sundays from June until October for the community to enjoy.

The Historical Society honored one of its own. Lucille and Richard Allen received a life membership to the Society for their work within our organization (editors for the newsletter, published a book, and much more).

As you can see, the Historical Society doesn’t lack in energy or creativity. We are proud of our community and will work hard to record and reflect our past.

ESSEX FIRE DEPARTMENT
Howard Rice, Jr., Fire Chief

The past year has been an extremely busy one for the men and women of the Essex Fire Department. In Fiscal Year 2006 we responded to 831 calls for service, for an average of 2.3 emergency calls per day, and our current numbers project an excess of 900 calls in FY2007.

RESPONSES BY CALL TYPE

TYPE	FY04	FY05	FY06	TYPE	FY04	FY05	FY06
Car Accidents	101	122	108	Chimney Fires	3	3	5
Fire Alarms	58	96	111	Vehicle Fires	6	10	9
Medical Response	247	409	375	Power Lines Down	6	4	10
Brush Fires	34	28	28	Search and Rescue	3	2	3
Hazardous Materials	23	22	26	Electrical Fires	8	4	10
Structure Fires	20	26	28	Standbys	12	10	16
CO Calls	7	15	22	Other	62	72	65
Smoke in Building	8	12	15	TOTAL	598	835	831

Several accomplishments were attained in FYE 2006, below are a few of the highlights.

Emergency Medical Services: The Essex Fire Department provides Emergency First Response to all medical emergencies in the Town of Essex. By using our “neighborhood EMS” approach, where we place medical equipment in our members’ houses throughout the town, we are able to greatly enhance the response time of a trained EMS professional to calls for medical assistance. This “neighborhood EMS” approach continues to be successful in the third year of operation and continues to improve as more neighborhoods are equipped with First Responders. Currently, the Essex Fire Department has 26 EMT’s spread throughout our community. Since the program’s inception in November 2003, over 1,000 members of the Essex community have been treated by Essex Fire Department First Responders. We continue to experience calls each month where one of our EMT’s is on scene within 1 – 2 minutes of a 911 call for medical assistance.

Public Education / Fire Prevention Activities: The Essex Fire Department continues to participate in various community public safety activities, including visits to schools and daycare providers to discuss fire safety, hosting various groups at the fire station for tours and discussions, and through active participation in the Essex School / Public Safety Committee. This past year the department teamed up with Essex Parks and Recreation once again to combine our annual Open House in October with the annual Touch-a-Truck event. An estimated 200 visitors came to this event which was held at the fire station. The Open House coincides with National Fire Prevention Week and offers various fire prevention activities and displays for children and adults.

Training: Dynamic and state-of-the-art training continues to be a staple of the Essex Fire Department. We again hosted several advanced training opportunities for our members on site. In June the department hosted a course in firefighter safety and survival. This fast-paced intense course was taught by a Massachusetts company with instructors who serve on one of the FEMA technical rescue teams that saw duty in New Orleans last year and in New York City after 9/11. These instructors used their extensive training and experience to teach Essex firefighters advanced rescue and survival techniques aimed at keeping them from being trapped or to free a fellow firefighter who may become trapped in a building. In September the department hosted a National Fire Academy Strategy and Tactics course, and in August all members completed a federal and state mandate for National Incident Management System (NIMS)

training. In FYE 2006 members totaled over 4,000 hours of documented training. This total does not include the hours of extra training that our members spend on nights and weekends becoming proficient at their firefighting and EMS skills.

Membership: Being a Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Dispatcher, or Safety Officer requires countless hours of training. The Essex Fire Department is proud to boast a high number of individuals who have worked hard to obtain and maintain certification in fire and EMS. The current roster includes 22 members who have completed the VT Firefighter Level 1 Certification (140 hours), 13 members who have completed the VT Firefighter Level 2 Certification (140 hours) and 26 members who have attained VT EMT Certification (120 hours). This is all over and above the 2 hours of training we receive each Monday night. Ongoing training is necessary to keep us all up-to-date with new technology, techniques, and information.

The Essex Fire Department is made up of people like you. If interested in learning more about how you can be a member of the Essex Fire Department please stop by or check us out on the web at <http://www.EssexFire.com>.

2007 OFFICERS

Deputy Chief Al Foice
Captain/EMT Greg Conner
Lieutenant/EMT Colin Shea

Chief/EMT Howard Rice, Jr.
Asst Chief/EMT Charlie Cole
Lieutenant/EMT Sean Soper
Lieutenant Eric Lemire

Asst Chief Phil Noyes, Jr.
Lieutenant/EMT Dave Sheeran
Lieutenant/EMT Curtis Pollard

2007 MEMBERS

Firefighter Jess Baker
Firefighter/EMT Craig Butkus
Firefighter Matt Clow
Firefighter Matt Cohen
Firefighter/EMT Tuffer Depaul
Firefighter Norm Drolette
Dispatcher Cheryl Foice
Dispatcher/EMT Barb Forsyth
Firefighter/EMT Tim Francis
EMT Jess Gagne
Firefighter/EMT Tim Gauvin
Firefighter/EMT George Henry

Firefighter/EMT Dan Hill
Firefighter/EMT John Jacob
EMT Derrick Kendrew
Firefighter/EMT Kent Koptiuch
Firefighter/EMT Sherb Lang
Firefighter Sara Matthews
Firefighter Lewis Meier
Firefighter Corey Mercy
Safety Officer/EMT Lorrie Noyes
EMT Kurt Poulin
Safety Officer/EMT Larry Ransom
Firefighter Bill Reams

Safety Officer Tom Richards
Firefighter/EMT Sarah Rogers
Firefighter Clayton Snelling
Firefighter/EMT Brannon Soter
Firefighter Mike Sweeney
Firefighter Matt Veilleux
Firefighter Mike Veilleux
Dispatcher Sharon Veilleux
Firefighter Austin Whitaker
Firefighter/EMT Matt Windisch
Firefighter/EMT Jason Ziter

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY
Susan L. Overfield, Head Librarian

*“The miracle is not to walk on thin air or water,
but to walk on Earth.” Thich Nhat Hanh*

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS - Past 20 years, 10 years and current year:

	Number of Titles	Total Circulation	AV Titles	AV Circulation	ILLs* to Others	ILLs from Others
2006	31,806	128,310	4,193	33,968	1,599	300
1996	16,393	73,051	562	4,043	454	323
1986	6,288	16,132	196	2,853	0	1,853+

*ILL is short for Inter-Library Loan. **“From Others”** indicates titles requested which we do not own that were borrowed for Essex patrons from other libraries. **“To Others”** are titles loaned to other libraries for use by their patrons.

+The collection was frequently supplemented with titles borrowed from the Northwest Regional Library in Georgia before the library moved to its larger space in 1989.

Contact the library anytime at essexlib@essex.org or by phone at 879-0313.

HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 10:00 to 5:00

Tuesday and Thursday – 10:00 to 9:00

Saturday – 10:00 to 2:00

The library follows the Town holiday schedule with these exceptions:

Open on Bennington Battle Day and **Closed** the Saturdays of Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, Labor Day Weekend and Christmas. Any additional closings are posted in the building. Library service is also curtailed the first weekend of June for the annual “Book, Bake and Plant Sale” and the first weekend of November for the “Cozy Book” craft fair.

IMPROVEMENTS:

The final improvements and services funded with the generosity of the Freeman Family through the Vermont Public Library Foundation have been completed. They are:

1. Replacement of front entry door with lowered lights, which allow for easy sighting of our littlest patrons.
2. Tiling of front entryway.
3. Shelving in the Science Fiction/Fantasy and Young Adult collection on the mezzanine were expanded, offering much more open access.

VOL – VERMONT ON LINE

The Essex community continues to contribute to the funding of VOL (Vermont on Line) in partnership with many other public libraries as well as the Vermont Department of Libraries. Patrons may access a variety of Gale databases, which include InfoTrac magazine and newspaper articles and health and wellness sites. Many of the articles are full text and may be printed either at the library or on your home

printer. Be sure to pick up one of the colorful brochures, which fully describe the data bases at the library. Follow these steps to access the site at home:

1. From the Town of Essex website: www.essex.org
2. Select the Essex Free Library from the left-hand menu (4th from the bottom)
3. Find the VOL link under the library picture
4. Call the library for the current password as it can change.

HERITAGEQUEST – Online genealogy searching allows searching of family histories through census records, war era pension records, and 1.6 million genealogy and local history articles. This service can be accessed from home or through the library’s internet computers. At home, look for the link at the bottom of the library’s homepage using the process described above.

LIBRARY SERVICES

1. **Materials Available** – The library circulates books, periodicals, audio books (both as cassettes and CDs), musical CDs, videos, DVDs, puzzles and children’s book/tape/CD kits. The library also has a growing collection of foreign language materials for children and adults.
2. **Phone Services** – Save yourself a trip (and conserve gas) by calling the library anytime for book renewals, to initiate Inter-Library Loan searches, to register for programs and for quick reference questions. Please call if you have a question about an overdue bill or notice that you may have received. Messages can also be left after hours.
3. **HEMOCARD Privileges** – Essex residents have access to all Chittenden County libraries (with the exception of the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington) when they show their valid library card. Remember your blue cards expired at the end of 2006 and family patron records are being updated as you visit in the new year.
4. **Copier** – The copier is available for the public at a fee of 10 cents per copy.
5. **Meeting Space** – Upon request, 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. Special arrangements can be made for the use of the Main Reading Room. Students wishing to study as a group may also ask to use this space on a “first-come, first-served” basis.
6. **Inter-Library Loan** – The library is happy to locate titles for patrons that are not owned in this library’s collection. Libraries throughout the state cooperate to share their collections. Out-of-state requests are also facilitated; however, some out-of-state libraries charge fees for loans and the time between the initial request and arrival may be quite lengthy.
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 which includes reproducible Federal forms.
8. **Internet Access** – Patrons may access the Internet from four workstations in the library for one 30-minute session each day. Printing services are available from all workstations. Please remember to sign in at the main desk and observe the time that remains!
9. **Tech-Tips** – Patrons may request individual help sessions to learn to use email, the Internet or the two on-line links “Heritage Plus” and “Vermont Online.” Please schedule a mutually convenient time with one of the librarians.
10. **Echo Pass** – This pass is available on a “first-come, first-served” basis. It allows families to enjoy this popular museum on the waterfront at a wonderful savings.
11. **Test Proctoring** – Staff is available to provide test proctoring for distance learners. Please contact the library staff for the information your institution will require and to set up an appropriate time to take your exam(s).
12. **Notary Service** – There is usually a staff member in the building who can notarize your documents at no cost. Please be sure to bring your picture ID along.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

1. **Book Discussion groups** are invited to make use of the many sets available at the library. These multiple copy sets (there are over 150) may be checked out by either groups or individuals. The Library Trustees encourage these community groups throughout the state by purchasing six new sets each year. To view an updated set list, please go to the very end of the library's website on the Town of Essex Homepage. Suggestions for additional titles, which your book discussion group may have enjoyed or be interested in discussing, are always welcome!

2. **Children's Programs:**

Story-time for toddlers and preschoolers is held during six-week sessions throughout the school year. Daytime programs on Tuesdays and Thursdays are held in the Activity Room and are by pre-registration to keep the programs cozy and personal. Monday morning "Drop-In" Story-time programs are open to all without pre-registration.

3. **Summer Reading Program** offers an array of programs and reading incentives designed to keep vacationing students reading and visiting the library regularly. Nobody ever needs to be bored! Summer readers participated in the program "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Reads" as they meandered their way through books and added a star for each book read in the castle's night sky.

4. **Language Classes** this year focused on Spanish. There was a two week early morning session for children grades 1 to 4 and a four day session for preschoolers.

5. **Monthly Book discussions** are held at the library. Please watch the bulletin board for times and titles that may interest you. A modest number of copies are available for interested patrons.

6. **Voluntary simplicity programs** began in September. Two groups met every other week for eight weeks to explore our footprint on the world and focus on more mindful living. The Trustees of the library funded this program which is offered through the Vermont Earth Institute.

ESSEX RESCUE
Karen Danaher, President

Essex Rescue continues to be a leader in Emergency Medical Service and is committed to providing our community with excellent pre-hospital and out of hospital care. We maintain the highest standards of our profession; caring for our patients, their families and the community; and preventing illness and injury through public education.

Since 1971, Essex Rescue has been providing prompt and excellent medical response 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. In fiscal year 2006, Essex Rescue responded to a total of 1,413 calls. Each year our programs grow and gain strength to provide better service to you. Essex Rescue serves the communities of Essex, Essex Junction, Underhill, Jericho and Westford with pre-hospital advanced life support services. We have up to 65 volunteer and paid staff members, our volunteer members have contributed more than 40,000 hours of volunteer service in addition to the time they spent on education and community outreach.

This year we have become more involved with Public Safety, area emergency response groups, public education and community outreach programs. The need for more attention to public safety and a coordinated area wide emergency response was re-emphasized for us in August of this year with a multiple victim, multiple location shooting within our service area. As a result of this event we have become involved with local, state, and national groups to assist in the analysis and development of pre-planning, communication and triage techniques for these types of events.

Our rescue squad has received a grant to purchase and equip a trailer for use in Mass Casualty Incidents whenever it is requested to provide assistance and equipment during large scale events. Along with our Unit Four, a 2006 Mercury Mountaineer that we acquired last year, this trailer can respond to anywhere in our service area, local area, or State of Vermont.

Another significant event for us this year was the staging of one of our three ambulances in the Underhill Jericho Fire Station located on Route 15 in Underhill. The location of one of our ambulances in Underhill is assisting us in responding to multiple calls and is helping with coverage at the other end of our service area. We hope to build on this program in the future.

As part of our community outreach program, we are renewing our efforts to provide the File of Life to individuals in our service area. The File of Life is a tool to be used by you to record your medical history and medications. This information is then available for first responders, ambulance personnel and the hospital to assist in your treatment during a medical emergency. Please call us at 878-4859 to obtain a File of Life for yourself or a loved one. You can also call us for information on CPR training and school safety presentations.

We want to thank the Essex Rescue community for all the support we receive throughout the year. We especially want to thank our 60 wonderful volunteers for all that they do and the sacrifices they and their families make. In addition, the volunteers would like to thank our paid staff; we could not do what we do without them. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Essex Rescue please give us a call at 878-4859.

HEALTH OFFICERS
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 housing code complaints is the presence of mold and mildew, which is caused by dampness, most common to basements and bathrooms. Simple clean-up measures can be taken by the tenants. 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, were done during the swimming season. All testing came back normal. Regarding Indian Brook Reservoir, the public must always pick up after their animals, including horses. These measures will protect the Reservoir.

All dogs, cats and ferrets are required to have rabies shots on a regular basis. Dogs must also be licensed with the Town Clerk on an annual basis.

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 the rabies vaccination. The rabies virus is still quite active among the wild animal kingdom. Remember to stay away from wild animals. For information about rabies, call 1-800-472-2437.

Continue to take safeguards regarding the West Nile Virus, as it is active in Vermont.

According to statistics at this time, the Avian Flu has not arrived in the U.S. Your health officers have been attending training sessions on how to deal with the Avian Flu if it should become a reality in Vermont.

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.

The State of Vermont Department of Health is located at 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont and their website is www.healthyvermonters.info/.

MEMORIAL HALL
(1871 – Present)
Carole Ann Greig

Memorial Hall has served the community of Essex for 135 years. Organizations, town leaders and volunteers have helped this structure escape the fate that has become way too common place in today's society. In digging through years of old notes, I found this poem that I wrote when contemplating ways to save this building.

Return to the Vermont Common, looking forward all the way..
Use existing buildings, give residents a say...
Take a walking tour, include the "Boards and Staff."
Examine the locations, avoid the "local" wrath.
Prepare your facts and figures, use pictures, dream your dreams.
Hold meetings of information, until you have a team!
A group of caring folks, with honor, will and want
Restore, re-use good buildings, the backbones of Vermont.

Enjoy these random (not in any chronological order) notes and quotes from over the years:

1965-1985 Town leased the Hall to Essex Community Players for \$1.00 per year

Memorial Hall was built as the Essex Town Hall a few years before the plaque was added making it Memorial Hall.

In grateful remembrance of the brave soldiers of Essex who lost their lives in service of their country during the war for the preservation of the Union (1861-1865).

Alpha M. Austin, Truman W. Blood, Henry S. Bradley, Magna Campbell, Thomas Valeri, Harrison Cisco, Joshua I. Day, William J. DeMag, John Flemming, Hosea M. Gorton, Amos Greeley, Mortimer Lister, Ruel B. Mellen, Henry T. Moseley, James B. Nicholas, John B. Page, George W. Page, William Prior, Branscom Perrigo, George E. Parker, Alexander Renoul, James Ryan, Edward D. Sands, Oscar A. Scribner, Albert F. Sawyer, Rollin S. Sherman, Hannibal Tichout, Norman Woodworth, Albert Whitcomb, Warren B. Whitcomb, R & A Austin, Norman A. Baker

The voters of the Town of Essex in 1989 directed the Town to preserve and maintain Memorial Hall for the benefit of the community. The heating system was changed and windows and slate roof repaired.

Volunteers painted the lower interior of the Hall in "Vintage Wine" and "Vintage Violet", colors appropriate to the times. The small budget, through the Town, paid for the paint and professionals to paint the tin ceilings and high areas.

1986 – The people of Essex spoke out at the Annual Town Meeting. The Selectboard and Town Manager listened. They appointed a committee to study and provide specific information on the old buildings located at the Essex Common (corner of Rte. 128 and Rte. 15). This committee met weekly from July 1986 to February 1987. Members serving were: Nancy Abernathy, Kenneth Copeland, Roger Dodge, Carole Ann Greig (Chair), Robert Marcotte, James McIntyre, Alan Overton, Harriet Powell, Tyler Scott and David Stifler.

In the early 1900s, the Hall fell to disuse except for basketball games played. The ceiling was high, it was good. Years later, a group of boy scouts laid a new floor to improve the Hall. As schools began to have gymnasiums, this use ended.

I have a vague memory of Martin Powell, Sr. wielding a gavel, moderating a meeting, my first chance to vote in Essex.

McDonough Masonic Lodge #56 (1870s-1883) met upstairs (now an area unusable for safety reasons). For a short time, the Essex Center Chapter of the Grange met in this Masonic Room.

The tower on top of Memorial Hall was removed in 1954.

In the 1960s the Essex Players used the hall to put on a play. They soon took over the maintenance and general use of the building.

In the 1980s insurance concerns and building deterioration prompted a citizens' call for a bond vote to restore the Hall.

A \$4,000 grant from the State Division of Historic Preservation, with matching funds from the Town, was used to repair the windows.

Between 1986 and 2001, maintenance of the building and grounds has occurred as resources have allowed.

The Historical Society and concerned citizens have added value to this historic asset.

Kevin Kittell, George Clapp, Janet Powell, Dick Somerset, Harry Landon, Patrick Scheidel, Dennis Lutz, Mark Berry, Jan Ellis-Clements, Dawn Francis, the staff of Public Works, the staff of Parks and Recreation, Board of Directors (present and past), Essex Community Players and many other volunteers have been faithful supporters of this building.

Fiscal Report 2001 to date: Residential Renters:

Essex Community Players (plays, rehearsals, auditions, meetings) 124 reservations
Julie Baker-Alright (Art Classes) 16 reservations
Individuals (piano recitals, birthday celebrations, meetings) 18 reservations
Non-Residential Renters 1 birthday celebration
Parks and Recreation Programs 63 reservations
Jazzercise, Dance Lessons, Dog Training, Hunter Safety, Toy Library, and Camps

Removal of old seats and a gift (with a little help from Pat Scheidel) of new comfy seats from the Essex Cinema at Lang Farm.

There are times when our municipal government (our taxes) can not meet the needs of a community and we as citizens must take time to step up and volunteer to improve our community. The return that Memorial Hall has provided to us as it is used to meet our needs is incredible. The ongoing vision for Memorial Hall is to fill in the gaps of our lives with programs, learning, recreation, and live theater which has been such an integral part of its life for well over 40 years. I give thanks as this building continues to serve us.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Mark Berry, Director

The Essex Parks and Recreation Department continues to serve the community through people, parks and programs. Through our mission to *Advance Parks and Recreation Efforts That Enhance the Quality of Life for the Community of Essex* we help strengthen community image and create a sense of place.

RECREATION

The department continues working to accomplish the recommendations identified in the 2004 Recreation Needs Survey. Through our diversity of programs we continue to promote health and wellness, and exercise and fitness. Connecting with nature through outdoor programs or self-facilitated activities remain a priority.

Accomplishments:

- The achievements of an organization are the combined efforts of each individual. The Parks and Recreation Department continues to work with a number of volunteer boards that administer various organizations throughout Essex. Without the dedication and tireless effort of these volunteers, Essex would not have the quality of life available to its residents. Those organizations include but are not limited to Babe Ruth Baseball, Youth Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Little League Baseball and Softball, CHIPS, Essex PTO and Tree Farm Management Group.

Future Plans:

- Continue to offer a diversity of programs focusing on more family oriented programming
- Expand program opportunities to the over 55 age group.

PARKS

The Parks and Recreation Department continues its endeavor to protect the public investment in parks and recreation facilities. Our goal is to provide the highest quality park experience to the community through safe, clean and green parks. This past summer over 10,000 visits were recorded at Indian Brook. In addition, the parks department maintains eleven parks, 34 acres of athletic fields which hosted over 500 games, a 55 acre reservoir, 25 meter swimming pool, the Town Green, roadsides, and more than 1,000 acres of trails and open space.

Accomplishments:

- Worked with Boy Scouts on two different Eagle projects, including replacing a bridge along Shillingford Crossing and repairing sections of a trail in Saxon Hills;
- Printed a Recreation and Trails Guide for Essex;
- Continued replacing trees at Ethan Allen Park through a grant from the Department of Forest Parks and Recreation.

Future Plans:

- Build a new playground within Foster Road Park;
- Install safety lighting near park amenities at Pearl Street Park.

POOL

During the summer months, Sand Hill Pool operates seven days a week from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for open swim. During the weekday, the swim team trains from 6:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and public swim lessons are held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Accomplishments:

- Replaced lobby doors and windows.

Future Plans:

- Proposed renovations to the pool include replacing the kiddie pool with a spray park (a play area with fountains, sprinklers and other water attractions).

SENIOR VANS

The senior vans provide transportation, free of charge, within the Town and Village of Essex Junction to residents age 60 and over and to people with mobility limitations. Transportation is provided Sunday through Friday. Reservations are required one day ahead.

Accomplishments:

- For the fiscal year 2006, the senior vans transported 4,779 seniors;
- Replaced one of the two Senior Vans.

Future Plans:

- Replace the second Senior Van.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

David E. Demag, Chief

The Essex Police continue their commitment to believe in the dignity and worth of all people and to partner with the community in providing high quality police services. The Department's Mission Statement, which we strive to live by, can be found on our website www.epdvt.org.

This year we finalized the reorganization of the rank structure through the competitive process and promotion of two lieutenants and three sergeants. Institutions such as Roger Williams University and the FBI National Academy will prepare these officers with the necessary management training to build the department's future.

The department continues to seek grant opportunities to allow officers to provide services and resources to the community with minimal fiscal impact on the authorized police budget. This year funds were received from the Governor's Highway Safety Program, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, Law Enforcement Prevention Program, Federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program, Critical Infrastructure Protection Grant, State Homeland Security Planning Grant, and Equitable Sharing Funds.

Based on available resources it is difficult for any Chittenden County police agency to respond to and manage a major large-scale emergency event. Recognizing the need for partnerships, police agencies within the county developed and implemented a Chittenden County Mutual Aid Procedure. This written plan allows police to preplan and respond to large-scale emergencies in a rapid and organized manner.

Soon after it was implemented, our agency became the first to activate the county mutual aid procedure. The homicides and attempted homicides that occurred on August 24, 2006 presented the department with the challenge of dealing with one of the more serious incidents in Vermont law enforcement history. The uncertainty of the developing situation, the very nature of the incident, the fact that there were multiple crime scenes, the emotions of having a school involved, and the fact that the suspect was still at large, contributed to the magnitude of the response. In addition to a full response by our agency, more than 100 law enforcement officers from all jurisdictions responded to our community.

These resources, as well as the pre-planning and organization of the Essex School Public Safety Committee played a significant public safety role in the response and preparedness of managing this school emergency. This committee is comprised of representatives from Essex schools, fire, rescue, police, and relocation site representatives. They meet monthly to enhance the school emergency plans and a variety of school safety issues.

I wish to thank and commend all emergency response personnel as well as members of the School Public Safety Committee for their professionalism in dealing with this tragic event.

The crime statistics for this year are relatively even compared to previous years; however, crimes against persons decreased by 14%, crimes against property increased by 4%, and drug

investigations increased by 9%. It is not unusual for property and drug crime percentages to increase or decrease at a similar rate as drug usage is generally linked to property crimes.

Working with our youth continues to be a priority. The Department's Project Northland Program provides an opportunity for our officers to work closely with our schools in grades 6 through 8 in providing resistance to alcohol, drug abuse and negative peer pressure. This year our agency expanded our youth program by offering two week-long camps. The Summer Safety Camp for middle school students educates them about safe decision-making and substance free living as well as how to deal with emergency situations. The Police CSI Camp for middle school students provides a hands-on opportunity to learn about crime scene processing, evidence collection and techniques as well courtroom testimony and procedures.

The Police Department's website gives citizens the opportunity to stay abreast of current crime issues and statistics. The site also provides access to forms for citizen use, provides links to department personnel, history and other Town departments.

**REPORTED CRIME ACTIVITY
(July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006)**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	0
ROBBERIES	2	1	0	4	1
BURGLARIES	101	98	92	75	92
ASSAULTS	46	51	54	50	43
SEX OFFENSES	28	29	29	29	20
DRUG OFFENSES	67	129	81	77	84
LARCENIES	439	366	408	462	441
VANDALISM	317	239	197	158	230
STOLEN VEHICLES	4	7	9	12	10
SUICIDES / ATTEMPTS	6	11	6	5	5
MISSING PERSONS	52	63	54	31	43
BAD CHECKS / FRAUD	147	183	216	204	177
D.U.I	193	110	90	80	66
COURT CASES	748	543	569	620	626
ACCIDENTS	553	542	574	555	492

There were 3,160 tickets written for traffic and parking violations, of these 1,138 were Vermont Traffic Citations.

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

Success was achieved in maintaining and improving the infrastructure of the community during the past year despite continuing pressure from high materials and fuel prices, loss of key employees and increased customer requests for service. Two employees returned from overseas military duty partway through the year concurrent with another leaving for the same purpose. A number of temporary highway employees were hired and trained to maintain coverage on Town equipment. A new Assistant Town Engineer, Aaron Martin, a Town and Village resident, was hired to fill an existing engineering vacancy. Relatively mild winter conditions provided costs savings that helped offset higher road construction and fuel related costs; continued use of matching federal and state grant monies helped leverage the available local funds. The Department met its objective to provide quality, responsive service, address community infrastructure needs and protect the public health and safety.

HIGHWAY

Town Projects completed include construction of a new walkway along VT 15 from Sand Hill Road to the VT128 Intersection, reconstruction/beautification of the Town Common area in Essex Center and addition of a ten car park-and-ride lot, asphalt overlay of Weed Road from Naylor Road to VT 128, installation of new sidewalk on Pioneer Street, reconstruction of sections of Rustic Drive, Cypress and Woodlawn Drive, reconstruction of Douglas Road, asphalt overlay of sections of Ronald Court, Greenbriar Drive, Baker Street and Pinewood Drive, paving of the path between Thomas Lane and Irene Avenue on VT 128, reconstruction of the temporary path at Butlers Corners, reconstruction of curbs along Oakwood Lane in preparation for paving in 2007, crack-sealing and spot repairs on many Town roads, road maintenance and winter plowing on 23.16 miles of gravel and 51.01 miles of paved roads with 10 highway employees and one mechanic.

Work in Progress: Designs have been completed for a new traffic signal and lane widening at the Susie Wilson/David Drive/Marketplace intersection (construction is waiting for funding). The Susie Wilson Road project will also involve the completion of traffic signal interconnection within the corridor and other improvements to aid both through traffic and accessibility from adjacent properties. The VTRANS project involving the upgrade of traffic signals at the Four Corners intersection for full pedestrian service is in the contract bid process with construction scheduled for the summer of 2007. Designs are in progress for an improved intersection with traffic signals at the Sand Hill Road/ VT117 intersection (VTRANS project) with construction scheduled for 2008. A scoping study for installation of a traffic signal at VT15/Sand Hill Road is in the final stages of completion with the design stage expected to start in late 2007 or 2008. Design plans are in the final stages of completion for an 8-foot wide paved walkway along VT15 from Saybrook Road to Sunset Drive. This project is likely to go to construction during 2007 or 2008. With approval of the budget for FYE2008, the following roads are planned for paving/repaving: Button Drive, Oakwood Lane, Bluestem Road, Gardenside Lane, and sections of Alderbrook Road, Tanglewood Drive and Fern Hollow. If the Capital Plan is approved as submitted, work will also be done on sections of Essex Way, Linden Lane, Chapin Road and the traffic signal/road improvements on Susie Wilson Road at the David Drive/Marketplace intersection.

STORM-WATER

Projects completed include compliance with the third year requirements of the community-wide NPDES Phase II Storm-water Permit; implementation of the new comprehensive storm-water ordinance;

repair of deteriorated/damaged storm-water piping on Ewing Place, Windridge Road, Discovery Road, and other locations, 100% inventory of all culverts and 100% checks of all catch basins, correction of erosion problems on Fern Hollow, extensive catch basin cleaning, street sweeping on all roads at least twice during the year, active participation in the regional storm-water education program, coordination of storm water actions with the Town Conservation Commission, including the preparation of regulations pertaining to riparian corridor protection.

Work in Progress: Preliminary designs of storm-water offset facilities to enable new construction to occur in the impaired watersheds is underway as well as design of storm-water treatment systems for the Colbert and Kellogg Road stormwater piping systems. Resolution of permit issues in the impaired watersheds is being sought and increased emphasis is being directed towards identification of illicit discharges and Town-wide compliance under the new storm water ordinance adopted by the Town.

WATER AND SEWER

Projects completed include preparation of design plans for new sewers in portions of Pinecrest Drive, Pioneer Street, Ira Allen Drive, Susie Wilson Road and Blair Road and design plans for looping the Town waterline at the bottom of Sand Hill Road, increased system flushing due to the change in CWD chlorination and State requirements, installation of a new onsite generator at the Alder Lane pump station and completion of a pre-design study for upgrading the Alder Brook Pump Station to meet current standards.

Work in Progress: Design plans for the Alder Brook Pump Station upgrade will be initiated during 2007, inventory/studies are underway on addressing grease problems in the Town's wastewater piping system, final review of the Painesville sewer line plans is in progress with economic affordability analysis to follow, excess infiltration and inflow studies are being conducted as well as water loss studies.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Projects Completed include: Re-siding of the Town offices at 81 Main Street, exterior painting of buildings at the Highway complex and Memorial Hall, a new natural gas heating system for Powell Museum, installation of a dedicated fire alarm system for Memorial Hall, paving of the parking lot at the Library.

Work in Progress: Application in 2007 for a grant to improve facilities at Memorial Hall, completion of exterior building painting at the highway garage complex, improvement to area drainage at 81 Main Street.

SUMMARY

In addition to meeting daily operating challenges, the Public Works Department is committed to continually improving operations through longer-term efforts such as development of updated public works specifications, consolidation contingency planning for merger, and continuing evaluation of cost reduction practices.

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER
Cheryl Moomey, Town Clerk and Treasurer

The following is the Town Clerk's Office activity summary:

Fish and Wildlife Licenses

Total Collected..... \$5,461
 Remitted to Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department..... \$4,977

Marriage Licenses

Total Collected..... \$3,434
 Remitted to State Treasurer \$2,760

Dog Licenses

Total Collected..... \$11,979
 Remitted to State Treasurer \$4,572

Liquor and Tobacco Licenses \$3,610

Recording of Land Records \$172,399

Vault Time \$3,613

Copies and Certified Copies..... \$18,468

Green Mountain Passes 98

Department of Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals..... 2,575

The Clerk's Office recorded 36 volumes of Land Records and 815 Vermont Property Transfer returns for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

Vital records recorded in the Town of Essex from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006:

Births: 217 Marriages: 163 Deaths: 91 Civil Union: 4

The Annual Town Meeting election was held on March 7, 2006. The following officers were elected by Australian ballot:

Moderator: (One-Year Term)	Steve McQueen
Selectboard: (Three-Year Term)	Alan Nye

Article I: Shall the Town of Essex increase the Capital Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the tax rate, in addition to the one cent previously authorized, for the purpose of financing capital projects:

Number of votes in favor: 518 Number of votes opposed: 455

At a Special Town Meeting held on April 11, 2006, voters were asked to vote on the following article:

Article I: Shall the Town of Essex adopt the proposed 2006 Essex Town Plan as recommended by the Selectboard?

Number of votes in favor: 1232 Number of votes opposed: 553

Services available at the Town Clerk's Office:

Record Land Records	Dog Licenses	Certified Copies of Vital Records
Pay Property Taxes	Marriage Licenses	Green Mountain Passports
Pay Water & Sewer Bills	Civil Union Licenses	Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals
Notary Public Service	Fish & Wildlife Licenses	Genealogy Research
Liquor Licenses		

TRAILS COMMITTEE
Dana Baron, Chair

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. Now, six years later, the committee is beginning to build a strong portfolio of achievements.

According to our charter, the Trails Committee is expected 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.

In 2006, our committee began to work more closely with the Conservation Committee, which shares similar responsibilities. We began meeting jointly for the development review portion of our meetings, thereby streamlining staff time and providing broader discussion of development issues.

One exciting potential new trail grew directly out of the committee’s development review efforts. In the area along Sunderland Brook between Pinecrest Drive and Pearl Street, two new congregate housing projects came up for review. The committee requested that the town seek trail easements in this area to formalize a bike and pedestrian connection as part of a regional plan that would ultimately connect Fort Ethan Allen with the Fairgrounds.

Also in 2006, the committee continued to work with the Town Recreation Department to produce a trail map brochure highlighting trails throughout the town. This brochure is now available at the Town Hall for a small fee.

The Trails Committee is currently made up of Dana Baron (Chair), Moshe Braner, Owen Jenkins, and Ed Ziemer. Town Recreation Director Mark Berry serves the committee well as staff liaison. As of December, the committee was short-handed, with one available opening. If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact the Town Manager’s Office at 878-1341.

If you have ideas or would like to help with a favorite trail, let us know! The Trails Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Town Offices at 81 Main Street.

TOWN MANAGER

Patrick C. Scheidel

For Essex employees, this year can best be described as one of uncertainty. Irrespective of the potential dissolution of Essex, the Town employees continued to perform routine tasks with their usual level of excellence. Additionally, staff reached out to help others who were in need and raised revenue for the Town.

Employee lead and organized, Town staff actively participated in a "Support Our Troops" drive spearheaded by Essex resident, Howard Longway, who promoted the "Have a Heart/Adopt a Soldier" program. This program, in part, supports our troops by providing food, clothing, toiletries and other items collected and sent to the men and women who are stationed in Iraq. The employees contributed and/or sought such items collecting two pallets worth of donations to be sent to U.S. troops in harms way.

Further, the Town earned a cash return by employees voluntarily managing and participating in the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Health Trust Leader Program which began January 2006. It took months of effort and involvement in health screenings, a pedometer monitored exercise program, joining fitness clubs and maintaining and implementing our safety and health policies. The net result by participating in the program was that the Town's health insurance costs were reduced by \$14,000.

In the past, town employees have always performed extra work to make our programs, buildings, grounds and working conditions as attractive and functional as possible. A family-oriented, home-baked approach has distinguished this organization from any other in which I've been involved. In so doing, our collective morale has remained positive. While this year has been more challenging than most, I am honored to lead and proud to be part of such a generous, thoughtful group of service driven co-workers. Essex is truly fortunate.

Budget

The proposed FYE 2008 budget is submitted to you with the financial resources necessary to meet the rising level of municipal maintenance and service at the lowest possible cost. To fund current service levels continues to be challenging due to a declining revenue stream. The IBM subsidy is \$87,000 less this year. Grand List growth of approximately one half of one percent does not generate enough tax revenue to offset the subsidy loss.

Once again the proposed budget reacts to external demands originating from federal and state government through unfunded mandates. One consistent example is compliance with stormwater regulations, which in 2008 requires an expenditure of \$181,578 or an increase of 10%. Additionally, the mandate to revisit the merger issue causes the proposed 2008 expenditure of \$200,000.

The proposed budget shows an increase of \$714,768 or 8.28% over last year. Salaries are budgeted at approximately 4%, excluding premium pay such as longevity, holiday, steps or overtime. The cost of living is expected to reside within a 3.5% - 4.5% range next year.

Operating cost increases in gasoline, insurance and road materials are expected and budgeted accordingly. The largest single cost is \$200,000 for merger, without which a proposed budget increase of 5.9% results.

Revenues

Revenues are projected realistically. The receipts from fees for mortgage refinancing retreated at the same rate as interest rates increased. The Town will lose \$87,000 from IBM. While the Grand List has been reduced by 25% as a result of phasing out M&E, its value will recover with the expected completion of the revaluation in 2008. It is the first revaluation in 17 years and property values are expected to increase and tax rates accordingly decrease.

Capital

The capital budget for FYE 2008 will be discussed in January. Due to the inability of the capital penny to generate enough revenue to keep pace with our smallest capital needs, last year the voters approved another penny to better meet our capital needs. The timing was none too soon as citizens living on a Class 3 highway are seeking a road paving or construction project of approximately \$2 million. Other road projects need resurfacing attention or face reconstruction. Buildings, equipment and trucks all need a financial infusion. An additional penny will help, not cure, the infrastructure situation.

It must be noted that by 2010 the general fund will be debt free given no new borrowing. At that point, it has been our plan to fund capital projects from our 2 cents and 1994 capital finance strategy. Thereafter, the Town will be in a much better position to manage its infrastructure without mortgaging its future.

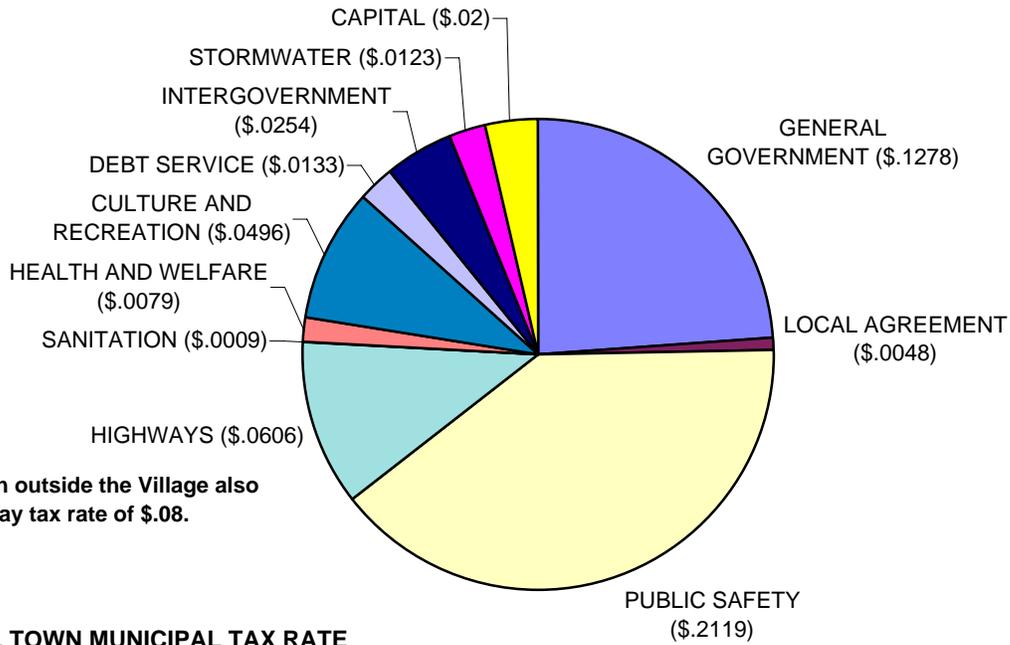
Conclusion

This budget is presented with attention to the expected tax rate for next year and a recognition of the costs associated with a growing service demand. For FYE 2008, merger costs of \$200,000 drive 28% of the proposed increase.

Debt service shows an increase of \$100,000. In 1994, when the capital penny was approved, the debt service was frozen at that year's rate of contribution. The net result of the 2008 contribution is a \$100,000 increase. Moreover, funding of the Farm and Open Land contracts and the HDI tax stabilization agreement requires the local agreement rate of \$.0047.

Unfunded mandates such as storm water rules, ever-changing school funding laws, increase absentee voting opportunity and Catamount Health Plan which are unaccompanied by funds to support the implementation of these regulations only stresses an already overburdened revenue source, the property tax. The continued uncertainty of combining the Village and Town municipal organizations necessitates planning for additional costs. It is our perpetual mission to use our budget to distinguish and balance between the desired level of service demanded by residents with that which is forced upon us by rules and regulations.

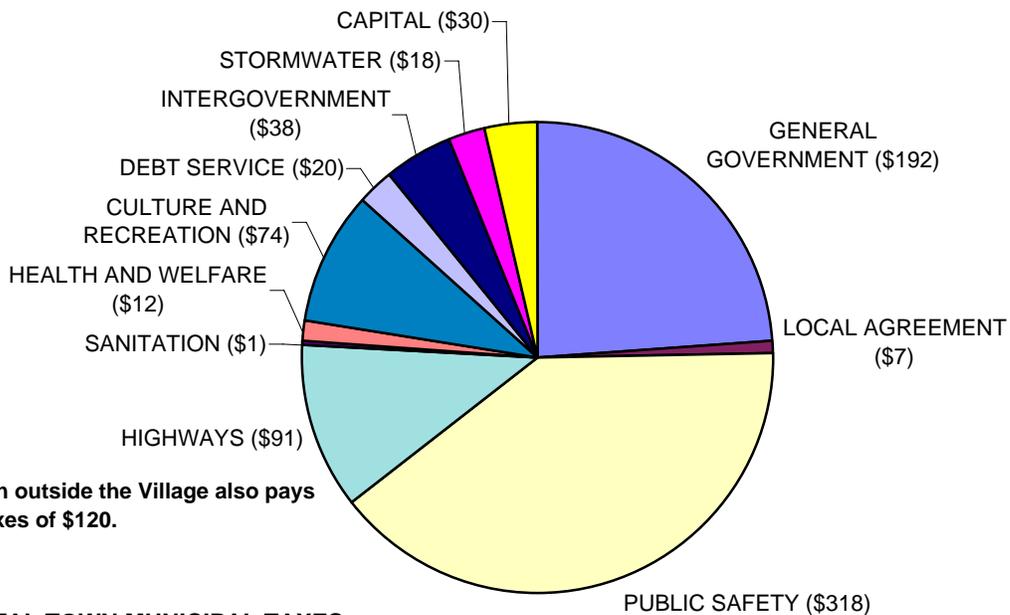
**TOWN MUNICIPAL TAX RATES
ACTUAL RATES FOR FYE 2007**



NOTE: Town outside the Village also pays Highway tax rate of \$0.08.

TOTAL TOWN MUNICIPAL TAX RATE
Village = \$.5345
Town Outside Village = \$.6145

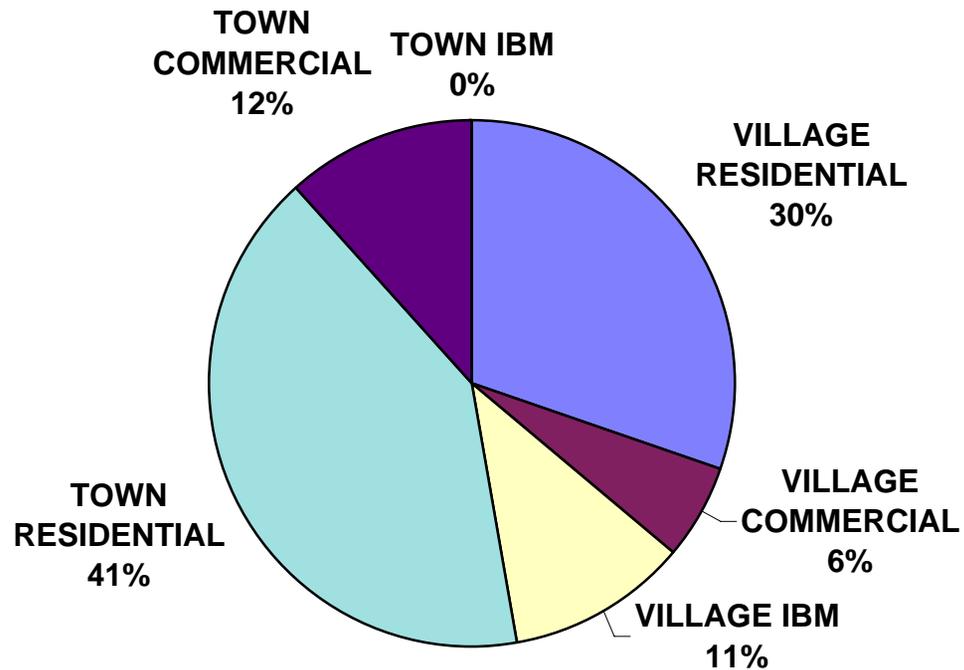
**FYE 2007 TOWN MUNICIPAL TAXES
ON HOME ASSESSED AT \$150,000**



NOTE: Town outside the Village also pays Highway taxes of \$120.

TOTAL TOWN MUNICIPAL TAXES
Village = \$801
Town Outside Village = \$921

TOTAL ESSEX MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST FOR FYE 2007 (Before Revaluation)



Total Village = 47%

Total Town outside Village = 53%

Total Value = \$13.06 million

CAPITAL BUDGET AND PROGRAM
FYE 2008 - 2012

PROJECT	TOTAL	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	POST FYE	
	COST	6/08	6/09	6/10	6/11	6/12	6/12	
BUILDINGS								
NEW TOWN OFFICES	\$4,300,000				4,300,000		\$0	
VAULT EXPANSION	\$60,000	\$60,000					\$0	
POLICE STATION FACILITY / RENOVATION	\$470,000				\$470,000		\$0	
HIGHWAY GARAGE EXPANSION	\$446,000						\$446,000	
LIBRARY DEFERRED MAINTENANCE & EXPANSION	\$109,000						\$109,000	
MEMORIAL HALL RENOVATIONS / ADDITION	\$475,000	\$80,000					\$395,000	
RECREATION PROGRAM SPACE FEASIBILITY STUDY	\$65,000				\$65,000		\$0	
HIGHWAYS								
HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$626,921	\$124,921	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$142,000	\$0	
ALLEN MARTIN PARKWAY	\$3,070,000						\$3,070,000	
PARK & RIDE LOTS	\$80,000	\$38,500					\$41,500	
SUSIE WILSON / DAVID DRIVE TRAFFIC LIGHTS	\$455,000	\$455,000					\$0	
WATERLINES								
LOWER SANDHILL	\$65,000	\$65,000					\$0	
PINECREST DR TO VILLAGE RT 2A	\$135,000						\$135,000	
DOUGLAS TO WILLOUGHBY	\$172,000						\$172,000	
OLD COLCHESTER RD WATERLINE	\$106,130	\$106,130					\$0	
SEWERS								
PAINESVILLE AREA	\$430,000		\$430,000				\$0	
CEMETERY RD	\$50,000						\$50,000	
ROSEWOOD TRAIL SEWER	\$34,075	\$34,075					\$0	
ALDER BROOK PUMP STATION UPGRADES	\$440,000	\$40,000	\$400,000				\$0	
HEAVY EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES								
HIGHWAY - EQUIPMENT/VEHICLES	\$1,280,767	\$133,097	\$160,847	\$163,580	\$226,434	\$177,809	\$419,000	
PARKS - EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES	\$179,926	\$15,769	\$46,956	\$16,763	\$18,681	\$7,294	\$74,463	
FIRE APPARATUS - RESCUE / PUMPER	\$400,000	\$400,000					\$0	
PARK FACILITIES								
SKATE PARK	\$32,000	\$7,000	\$25,000				\$0	
WOODLANDS PARK & PATH	\$30,950	\$30,950					\$0	
PARK ASSETS REPLACEMENT	\$411,010	\$39,260	\$55,175	\$50,680	\$39,000	\$53,940	\$172,955	
SAND HILL PARK KIDDIE POOL - "SPRAYGROUND"	\$113,000	\$113,000					\$0	
FOUNDERS / FOSTER ROAD PARK FIELD IMPROVEMENTS	\$50,000			\$25,000	\$25,000		\$0	
INDIAN BROOK - EURASION MILFOIL MITIGATION	\$40,825						\$40,825	
RECREATION PROPERTY SURVEY AND APPRAISAL	\$10,000						\$10,000	
FOUNDERS ATHLETIC FIELDS IMPROVEMENTS	\$25,000				\$25,000		\$0	
ATHLETIC FIELDS, BALL COURTS AND RECREATION LAND	\$216,000			\$19,000	\$45,000		\$152,000	
PATHS & WALKS								
ROUTE 15 - SAYBROOK TO SUNSET	\$123,000	\$123,000					\$0	
ROUTE 15 - CIRC TO GOLF COURSE	\$15,000			\$15,000			\$0	
ROUTE 2A - FROM OLD COLCHESTER ROAD & PINECREST	\$503,000						\$503,000	
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$15,019,604	\$0	\$1,865,702	\$1,237,978	\$410,023	\$5,334,115	\$381,043	\$5,790,743
FUNDING SOURCES								
VEHICLE / EQUIPMENT FUND			\$148,866					
OPERATING FUNDS			\$34,000					
DONATIONS / CONTRIBUTIONS			\$152,433					
GRANTS STATE / FEDERAL / OTHER			\$163,500					
RECORDS PRESERVATION FUNDS			\$60,000					
WATER / SEWER RESERVE FUNDS			\$153,675					
LONG-TERM BORROWINGS			\$548,126					
PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED CAPITAL FUNDS			\$235,532					
UNDESIGNATED CAPITAL FUNDS			\$369,570					
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS			\$1,865,702					

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET SUMMARY FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE2007	PROPOSED FYE2008
REVENUES					
PROPERTY TAXES	\$6,297,542	\$6,265,625	\$7,079,808	\$7,251,500	\$7,864,308
LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$44,900	\$39,170	\$45,100	\$45,100	\$41,100
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$171,700	\$247,935	\$176,050	\$184,000	\$182,000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$1,246,264	\$1,258,078	\$1,198,796	\$1,144,196	\$1,085,114
FINES	\$76,000	\$84,993	\$76,000	\$80,000	\$83,000
MISCELLANEOUS	\$66,001	\$129,570	\$61,001	\$103,001	\$96,001
TOTAL REVENUE	\$7,902,407	\$8,025,371	\$8,636,755	\$8,807,797	\$9,351,523
FUND BALANCE INCREASE (DECREASE)	(\$100,000)	(\$174,410)	\$0	\$77,424	\$0
TOTAL REVENUE	\$8,002,407	\$8,199,781	\$8,636,755	\$8,730,373	\$9,351,523
EXPENDITURES					
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
SELECTBOARD	\$51,697	\$36,901	\$115,994	\$116,237	\$266,631
TOWN MANAGER	\$333,828	\$314,050	\$368,166	\$368,166	\$395,035
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$16,250	\$11,021	\$16,255	\$16,255	\$16,250
ELECTIONS	\$8,300	\$5,059	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$8,300
FINANCE	\$331,095	\$385,385	\$369,374	\$386,374	\$412,510
TAX COLLECTION	\$4,000	\$4,436	\$4,400	\$4,085	\$4,250
LEGAL SERVICES	\$20,000	\$52,097	\$40,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
TOWN CLERK	\$189,977	\$174,677	\$202,459	\$203,294	\$205,925
BUILDINGS AND PLANT	\$209,530	\$245,378	\$270,530	\$271,830	\$279,080
R/E APPRAISAL	\$154,223	\$149,043	\$164,980	\$166,603	\$188,578
PUBLIC WORKS	\$95,086	\$106,144	\$97,694	\$98,194	\$106,294
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$324,861	\$301,919	\$343,747	\$343,747	\$366,967
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$1,738,847	\$1,786,110	\$2,011,099	\$2,047,285	\$2,304,820
PUBLIC SAFETY					
POLICE	\$2,814,484	\$2,793,915	\$2,986,586	\$2,993,886	\$3,094,889
FIRE	\$154,609	\$161,651	\$163,143	\$172,423	\$187,604
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$33,152	\$32,661	\$35,130	\$35,130	\$36,520
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$3,002,245	\$2,988,227	\$3,184,859	\$3,201,439	\$3,319,013
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS	\$1,475,664	\$1,491,603	\$1,594,274	\$1,582,319	\$1,660,990
STORMWATER	\$155,009	\$238,194	\$165,219	\$165,219	\$192,378
SANITATION	\$13,000	\$11,822	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
HEALTH AND WELFARE	\$119,646	\$120,078	\$124,912	\$124,912	\$133,300
CULTURE AND RECREATION					
RECREATION	\$312,925	\$364,468	\$341,520	\$383,010	\$359,787
PARKS	\$128,351	\$125,408	\$163,504	\$162,514	\$170,631
POOLS	\$80,051	\$78,676	\$80,278	\$84,028	\$88,679
SENIOR BUS	\$58,518	\$58,728	\$48,840	\$49,770	\$59,795
LIBRARIES	\$298,218	\$308,265	\$323,885	\$318,562	\$341,771
CONSERVATION	\$18,400	\$8,343	\$17,900	\$18,150	\$17,975
TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION	\$896,463	\$943,888	\$975,927	\$1,016,034	\$1,038,638
DEBT SERVICE	\$253,000	\$256,432	\$197,700	\$197,700	\$297,700
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$348,533	\$363,427	\$369,765	\$382,465	\$391,684
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$8,002,407	\$8,199,781	\$8,636,755	\$8,730,373	\$9,351,523

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
REVENUES - DETAIL						
PROPERTY TAXES						
1	GENERAL TAX REVENUE	\$5,766,042	\$5,724,088	\$6,537,808	\$6,700,000	\$6,903,308
2	HIGHWAY TAX REVENUE	\$531,500	\$541,537	\$542,000	\$551,500	\$961,000
	TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$6,297,542	\$6,265,625	\$7,079,808	\$7,251,500	\$7,864,308
LICENSES AND PERMITS						
3	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	\$3,800	\$3,610	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
4	BUILDING STRUCTURES	\$30,000	\$24,213	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$25,000
5	HUNTING AND FISHING	\$500	\$484	\$500	\$500	\$500
6	MARRIAGE LICENSES	\$1,000	\$674	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
7	ANIMAL LICENSES	\$6,500	\$7,516	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$7,500
8	GREEN MTN PASSPORT	\$100	\$98	\$100	\$100	\$100
9	DMV REGISTRATIONS	\$3,000	\$2,575	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
	TOTAL LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$44,900	\$39,170	\$45,100	\$45,100	\$41,100
INTERGOVERNMENTAL						
10	STATE AID TO HIGHWAYS	\$130,000	\$135,120	\$134,000	\$135,000	\$135,000
11	RAILROAD TAX	\$1,500	\$1,526	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
12	PILOT REVENUE	\$6,000	\$6,826	\$6,300	\$7,700	\$7,000
13	CURRENT USE / HOLD HARMLESS	\$10,000	\$10,772	\$10,000	\$14,300	\$12,000
14	STORM WATER GRANTS	\$0	\$50,574	\$0	\$0	\$0
15	STATE HIGHWAY GRANTS	\$0	\$3,266	\$0	\$0	\$0
16	VT. SAFE KIDS GRANT	\$0	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0
17	INTERLIBRARY LOAN GRANT	\$0	\$672	\$0	\$0	\$0
18	LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT	\$0	\$1,782	\$0	\$0	\$0
19	TREE PLANTING GRANT	\$0	\$1,562	\$0	\$0	\$0
20	RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT	\$0	\$835	\$0	\$0	\$0
21	TRANSPORTATION GRANT	\$0	\$8,291	\$0	\$0	\$0
22	ACT60 REVENUE	\$7,200	\$7,499	\$7,250	\$7,500	\$7,500
23	ACT 68 REVENUE	\$17,000	\$18,910	\$17,000	\$18,000	\$19,000
	TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$171,700	\$247,935	\$176,050	\$184,000	\$182,000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES						
25	IBM PAYMENT FOR SVCS - GENERAL	\$668,446	\$668,446	\$576,574	\$576,574	\$494,177
26	IBM PAYMENT FOR SVCS - HIGHWAY	\$39,618	\$39,618	\$34,172	\$34,172	\$29,287
27	USE OF VAULT	\$5,000	\$3,613	\$4,500	\$3,300	\$3,500
28	RECORDING OF LEGAL DOCS	\$200,000	\$172,399	\$200,000	\$163,000	\$165,000
29	ZONING HEARING FEES	\$1,500	\$625	\$1,500	\$900	\$1,000
30	SUBDIVISION FILING FEES	\$3,000	\$18,400	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
31	ZONING ORDINANCE PAMPHS	\$250	\$306	\$500	\$400	\$500
32	C.O. REINSPECTIONS	\$3,500	\$3,938	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
33	SITE PLAN AMENDMENTS	\$500	\$450	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,000
34	PRINTING / DUPLICATION SVCS	\$14,000	\$12,426	\$14,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
35	SALE PUBLIC WORKS SPECS	\$600	\$1,270	\$1,000	\$500	\$1,000
36	SALE OF MAPS	\$600	\$635	\$700	\$600	\$700
37	SALE OF CERTIFIED COPY	\$6,000	\$6,042	\$6,000	\$6,200	\$6,000
38	SALE OF CHECKLISTS	\$50	\$6	\$50	\$50	\$50
39	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEE	\$0	\$3,470	\$0	\$0	\$0
40	SPECIAL POLICE SERVICES	\$90,000	\$73,744	\$95,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
41	HEALTH / INSPECTION FEES	\$2,000	\$1,221	\$2,300	\$3,500	\$3,000
42	ANIMAL CONTROL / SHELTER	\$1,000	\$1,750	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$1,200
43	SWIMMING POOL FEES	\$27,000	\$25,974	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$33,700
44	AUDITORIUM USE FEES	\$5,200	\$5,100	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
45	INDIAN BROOK FEES	\$24,000	\$24,275	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
46	PROGRAM REGISTRATION FEE	\$135,000	\$174,428	\$172,500	\$172,500	\$192,000
47	AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	\$19,000	\$19,942	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
	TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$1,246,264	\$1,258,078	\$1,198,796	\$1,144,196	\$1,085,114

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
FINES						
50	PENALTIES ON TAXES	\$40,000	\$50,626	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
51	INTEREST ON TAXES	\$36,000	\$34,367	\$36,000	\$30,000	\$33,000
	TOTAL FINES	\$76,000	\$84,993	\$76,000	\$80,000	\$83,000
MISCELLANEOUS						
60	INTEREST ON DEPOSITS	\$35,000	\$83,454	\$35,000	\$75,000	\$65,000
61	RENTS AND ROYALTIES	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001
62	RECORDS PRESERVATION	\$10,000	\$1,339	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
63	SALE OF ASSETS	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
64	FREEMAN GRANT	\$0	\$5,272	\$0	\$0	\$0
65	NOT CLASSIFIED	\$10,000	\$18,504	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$15,000
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$66,001	\$129,570	\$61,001	\$103,001	\$96,001
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$7,902,407	\$8,025,371	\$8,636,755	\$8,807,797	\$9,351,523
	FUND BALANCE INCREASE (DECREASE)	(\$100,000)	(\$174,410)	\$0	\$77,424	\$0
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$8,002,407	\$8,199,781	\$8,636,755	\$8,730,373	\$9,351,523

EXPENDITURES - DETAIL

SELECTBOARD						
100	SELECTBOARD SALARIES	\$5,414	\$5,414	\$5,414	\$5,414	\$5,414
101	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$16,500	\$1,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
102	SECRETARY	\$4,300	\$6,172	\$4,400	\$4,400	\$4,400
103	PRINTING/BINDING ORDNS	\$11,000	\$8,514	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
104	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS / VLCT	\$14,483	\$15,135	\$15,180	\$15,423	\$15,817
105	MERGER EXPENSES	\$0	\$666	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$200,000
	TOTAL SELECT BOARD	\$51,697	\$36,901	\$115,994	\$116,237	\$266,631
TOWN MANAGER						
110	SALARIES	\$211,439	\$189,418	\$218,727	\$218,727	\$250,180
111	BENEFITS	\$101,489	\$95,639	\$119,579	\$119,579	\$126,300
112	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$2,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
113	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200
114	ADVERTISING	\$4,000	\$20,952	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
115	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$1,500	\$982	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
116	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$5,900	\$4,270	\$5,900	\$5,900	\$6,395
117	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$1,300	\$787	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
118	TRAVEL	\$1,800	\$1,795	\$2,760	\$2,760	\$2,760
119	SUPPLIES	\$150	\$167	\$150	\$150	\$150
120	FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	\$250	\$40	\$250	\$250	\$250
121	EDUCATION	\$3,800	\$0	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$2,000
	TOTAL TOWN MANAGER	\$333,828	\$314,050	\$368,166	\$368,166	\$395,035
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT						
131	ADVERTISING	\$5,000	\$3,122	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
132	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$500	\$144	\$500	\$500	\$500
133	TRAVEL	\$475	\$0	\$475	\$475	\$450
134	G.B.I.C.	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
135	CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	\$3,275	\$755	\$3,280	\$3,280	\$3,300
	TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$16,250	\$11,021	\$16,255	\$16,255	\$16,250

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
ELECTIONS						
141	VOTER REGISTRATION	\$1,000	\$95	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$1,000
142	ELECTIONS / TOWN MEETINGS	\$7,300	\$4,964	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$7,300
	TOTAL ELECTIONS	\$8,300	\$5,059	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$8,300
FINANCE						
150	SALARIES	\$77,633	\$80,435	\$80,734	\$80,734	\$88,994
151	BENEFITS	\$36,112	\$35,204	\$40,290	\$40,290	\$41,616
152	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$3,000	\$758	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
153	AUDIT	\$10,000	\$21,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$19,000
154	TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
155	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$20,000	\$14,214	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
156	INSURANCE	\$150,000	\$182,730	\$173,000	\$190,000	\$200,500
157	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,500	\$876	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
158	DATA PROCESSING	\$30,000	\$49,782	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
159	TRAVEL	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
160	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$350	\$386	\$350	\$350	\$400
	TOTAL FINANCE	\$331,095	\$385,385	\$369,374	\$386,374	\$412,510
TAX COLLECTION						
165	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$1,500	\$2,358	\$1,900	\$1,400	\$1,500
166	POSTAGE	\$2,500	\$2,078	\$2,500	\$2,685	\$2,750
	TOTAL TAX COLLECTION	\$4,000	\$4,436	\$4,400	\$4,085	\$4,250
LEGAL SERVICES						
167	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$20,000	\$52,097	\$40,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
	TOTAL LEGAL SERVICES	\$20,000	\$52,097	\$40,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
TOWN CLERK						
170	SALARIES	\$110,828	\$112,482	\$119,231	\$120,066	\$124,275
171	BENEFITS	\$49,519	\$46,934	\$55,548	\$55,548	\$52,970
172	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$100	\$150	\$100	\$100	\$150
173	ADVERTISING	\$730	\$130	\$730	\$730	\$730
174	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$900	\$525	\$500	\$500	\$500
175	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$15,450	\$5,558	\$14,050	\$14,050	\$15,000
176	TRAVEL	\$450	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300
177	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$12,000	\$8,898	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
	TOTAL TOWN CLERK	\$189,977	\$174,677	\$202,459	\$203,294	\$205,925
BUILDINGS AND PLANT						
180	WATER/SEWER	\$1,240	\$1,157	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,260
181	R & M SERVICES	\$20,500	\$12,247	\$20,500	\$20,500	\$20,500
182	R & M SUPPLIES	\$3,000	\$2,889	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$3,300
183	TELEPHONE	\$20,750	\$22,192	\$23,430	\$23,430	\$23,450
184	POSTAGE	\$17,000	\$16,251	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$19,000
185	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$4,840	\$5,096	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,770
186	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$24,800	\$33,073	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
187	ELECTRICITY	\$20,400	\$19,642	\$24,700	\$23,000	\$23,500

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
BUILDINGS (CONTINUED)						
188	HEATING	\$8,700	\$9,061	\$9,200	\$9,400	\$9,700
189	GASOLINE	\$74,300	\$115,414	\$117,000	\$117,000	\$124,000
190	MACHINERY	\$8,500	\$8,356	\$8,200	\$8,500	\$8,600
191	MEMORIAL HALL REPAIRS	\$5,500	\$0	\$5,500	\$8,000	\$10,000
	TOTAL BUILDINGS & PLANT	\$209,530	\$245,378	\$270,530	\$271,830	\$279,080
REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL						
200	SALARIES	\$94,201	\$94,847	\$97,960	\$99,583	\$108,558
201	BENEFITS	\$55,857	\$51,409	\$62,830	\$62,830	\$64,460
202	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$1,790	\$1,347	\$1,810	\$1,810	\$3,170
203	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$600	\$171	\$600	\$600	\$600
204	ADVERTISING	\$100	\$60	\$100	\$100	\$100
205	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,125	\$1,174	\$1,130	\$1,130	\$1,390
206	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250	\$10,000
207	TRAVEL	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100
208	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$200	\$35	\$200	\$200	\$200
	TOTAL R/E APPRAISAL	\$154,223	\$149,043	\$164,980	\$166,603	\$188,578
PUBLIC WORKS						
210	SALARIES	\$58,650	\$64,215	\$60,962	\$60,962	\$67,922
211	BENEFITS	\$24,386	\$28,561	\$27,082	\$27,082	\$28,262
212	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100
213	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$1,700	\$1,572	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$1,700
214	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$800	\$545	\$800	\$800	\$860
215	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$2,300	\$2,441	\$2,400	\$2,600	\$2,700
216	TRAVEL	\$900	\$2,500	\$900	\$1,000	\$900
217	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$500	\$154	\$500	\$500	\$400
218	MACHINERY	\$5,300	\$5,629	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
219	FURNITURE & FIXTURES	\$350	\$461	\$350	\$350	\$350
220	OTHER OBJECTS	\$100	\$66	\$100	\$100	\$100
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$95,086	\$106,144	\$97,694	\$98,194	\$106,294
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT						
230	SALARIES	\$186,181	\$181,430	\$186,222	\$186,222	\$203,049
231	BENEFITS	\$80,488	\$70,773	\$96,708	\$96,708	\$98,868
232	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$15,000	\$25,176	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$32,780
233	TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
234	R & M SERVICES	\$7,000	\$4,432	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$6,555
235	ADVERTISING	\$5,000	\$4,603	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500
236	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$2,000	\$3,205	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
237	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$3,500	\$2,337	\$4,925	\$4,925	\$4,575
238	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$9,600	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$0
239	TRAVEL	\$2,500	\$1,429	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$3,600
240	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$1,900	\$838	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$3,500
241	MACHINERY	\$11,192	\$7,346	\$4,692	\$4,692	\$4,540
	TOTAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$324,861	\$301,919	\$343,747	\$343,747	\$366,967

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
POLICE						
250	SALARIES	\$1,800,000	\$1,818,477	\$1,871,419	\$1,871,419	\$1,972,407
251	BENEFITS	\$743,757	\$701,094	\$841,487	\$841,487	\$839,434
252	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$9,731	\$11,438	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
253	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$7,600	\$4,388	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
254	ADVERTISING	\$1,500	\$763	\$1,500	\$1,750	\$1,500
255	TELEPHONE	\$23,000	\$17,234	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$23,000
256	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$3,500	\$4,058	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
257	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$1,500	\$1,812	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
258	RENTALS	\$1,250	\$1,008	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250
259	DATA PROCESSING	\$18,000	\$16,215	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
260	UNIFORMS	\$31,100	\$31,812	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000
261	REGISTRATIONS, FEES & LIC	\$290	\$102	\$290	\$290	\$150
262	TRAVEL	\$8,000	\$12,617	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
263	CRIME PREVENTION	\$6,000	\$4,593	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
264	POLICE TRAINING	\$12,000	\$15,701	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
265	POLICE COMMUNICATIONS	\$18,950	\$13,348	\$18,950	\$18,950	\$18,950
266	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$3,000	\$2,057	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
267	R & M SUPPLIES - BLDGS	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200
268	R & M SERVICES - BLDGS	\$5,500	\$5,550	\$5,500	\$5,550	\$5,550
269	UTILITIES	\$5,000	\$4,614	\$5,850	\$5,850	\$5,850
270	BUILDING & IMPROVEMENT	\$500	\$315	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
271	R & M SUPPLIES-VEH & EQUIP	\$8,000	\$13,833	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
272	R & M SVCES - VEH & EQUIP	\$14,000	\$17,253	\$14,000	\$17,000	\$17,000
273	RENT	\$30,106	\$33,600	\$35,140	\$35,140	\$37,598
274	BUYING & MAINT VEHICLES	\$62,000	\$62,033	\$61,500	\$61,500	\$61,500
	TOTAL POLICE	\$2,814,484	\$2,793,915	\$2,986,586	\$2,993,886	\$3,094,889
FIRE						
280	SALARIES	\$63,000	\$66,554	\$66,380	\$75,000	\$85,410
281	BENEFITS	\$4,819	\$5,043	\$5,078	\$5,738	\$6,534
282	PRINTING & BINDING	\$250	\$144	\$250	\$250	\$150
283	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,900	\$1,285	\$1,735	\$1,735	\$1,735
284	COMMUNICATIONS	\$3,200	\$3,403	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$3,300
285	TRAVEL	\$125	\$34	\$125	\$125	\$100
286	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$2,000	\$1,784	\$2,150	\$2,150	\$2,150
287	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$4,685	\$5,500	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$5,100
288	UNIFORMS	\$12,925	\$13,179	\$13,825	\$13,825	\$13,825
289	MACHINERY	\$7,625	\$8,871	\$8,125	\$8,125	\$8,125
290	FIRE PREVENTION	\$900	\$904	\$900	\$900	\$900
291	FIRE TRAINING	\$6,580	\$5,940	\$7,250	\$7,250	\$7,150
292	TRAINING / MEDICAL	\$1,600	\$1,601	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$1,600
293	FIRE COMMUNICATIONS	\$12,750	\$12,719	\$13,725	\$13,725	\$13,725
294	R & M SERVICES	\$16,200	\$16,340	\$19,450	\$19,450	\$19,700
295	R & M SUPPLIES	\$500	\$565	\$500	\$500	\$550
296	R & M SERVICES - BUILDINGS	\$1,650	\$2,092	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
297	R & M SUPPLIES - BUILDINGS	\$850	\$756	\$850	\$850	\$850
298	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$500	\$665	\$600	\$600	\$700
299	WATER / GAS	\$8,550	\$7,358	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
300	BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$4,000	\$0	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,000
301	HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT	\$0	\$2,248	\$0	\$0	\$0
302	ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT	\$0	\$4,666	\$0	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL FIRE	\$154,609	\$161,651	\$163,143	\$172,423	\$187,604
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT						
310	SALARIES	\$21,632	\$22,125	\$22,403	\$22,403	\$23,386
311	BENEFITS	\$10,970	\$10,269	\$12,177	\$12,177	\$12,584
312	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$150	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$150
313	COMMUNICATIONS	\$300	\$267	\$300	\$300	\$300
314	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100
	TOTAL EMERGENCY MGMT	\$33,152	\$32,661	\$35,130	\$35,130	\$36,520

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS						
320	SALARIES	\$437,164	\$444,602	\$462,388	\$462,388	\$479,715
321	BENEFITS	\$231,650	\$199,292	\$262,621	\$262,621	\$265,235
322	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$3,500	\$4,290	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
323	R & M SVCES - VEHICLES	\$15,500	\$45,112	\$19,500	\$21,000	\$23,000
324	R & M SUPPLIES - VEHICLES	\$52,000	\$62,256	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000
325	R & M SVCES - BUILDINGS	\$6,980	\$5,941	\$7,300	\$8,000	\$10,800
326	R & M SUPPLIES - BUILDINGS	\$2,800	\$2,465	\$2,800	\$2,500	\$2,500
327	RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT	\$400	\$372	\$300	\$400	\$300
328	COMMUNICATIONS	\$3,000	\$3,208	\$3,220	\$3,220	\$3,220
329	ADVERTISING	\$1,000	\$1,759	\$1,100	\$1,200	\$1,250
330	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,900	\$2,146	\$1,900	\$1,900	\$1,900
331	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$16,000	\$8,130	\$6,600	\$7,000	\$6,700
332	TRAVEL	\$1,300	\$377	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
333	TAXES / LICENSES / REGISTNS	\$340	\$110	\$340	\$340	\$340
334	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$1,800	\$2,022	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800
335	UNIFORMS	\$10,000	\$6,630	\$11,300	\$9,000	\$11,300
336	OP SUPPLIES - BLDGS	\$5,000	\$6,576	\$6,200	\$6,600	\$6,815
337	OP SUPPLIES - VEHICLES	\$3,200	\$5,375	\$3,200	\$3,800	\$3,800
338	ELECTRICITY	\$10,500	\$9,355	\$10,500	\$10,000	\$10,500
339	NATURAL GAS	\$8,600	\$11,133	\$9,670	\$12,000	\$12,800
340	MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	\$4,000	\$19,681	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,700
341	VEHICLES	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$129,000
342	SUMMER CONST - RENTALS	\$1,900	\$2,362	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300
343	SUMMER CONST - PURCH SVCES	\$160,000	\$185,290	\$175,420	\$160,000	\$183,000
344	SUMMER CONST - SUPPLIES	\$53,430	\$40,864	\$61,925	\$62,000	\$64,115
345	TRAFFIC CNTRL - PURCH SVCES	\$7,100	\$1,725	\$9,350	\$9,350	\$11,250
346	TRAFFIC CNTRL - SUPPLIES	\$7,900	\$6,128	\$8,240	\$8,000	\$8,150
347	SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS	\$31,900	\$29,597	\$40,500	\$40,500	\$39,000
348	WINTER MAINT - PURCH SVCES	\$5,300	\$5,062	\$5,700	\$5,300	\$5,700
349	WINTER MAINT - SUPPLIES	\$155,000	\$134,019	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$177,000
350	BRIDGES AND VIADUCTS	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$8,000
351	STORM DRAINS - PURCH SVCES	\$21,600	\$35,204	\$22,800	\$22,800	\$14,000
352	STORM DRAINS - SUPPLIES	\$14,900	\$17,177	\$16,000	\$17,000	\$18,000
353	ELECTRICITY - STREET LIGHTS	\$99,000	\$93,343	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000
	TOTAL HIGHWAYS & STREET	\$1,475,664	\$1,491,603	\$1,594,274	\$1,582,319	\$1,660,990
STORMWATER						
360	SALARIES	\$28,940	\$34,500	\$35,858	\$35,858	\$38,416
361	BENEFITS	\$18,069	\$15,495	\$20,361	\$20,361	\$21,162
362	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$12,000	\$11,570	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$11,000
363	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	\$27,000	\$6,000	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000
364	CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES	\$30,000	\$132,565	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$45,000
365	ADVERTISING	\$6,000	\$5,462	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
366	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$5,000	\$9,662	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,800
367	TAXES / LICENSES / REGISTNS	\$8,000	\$2,940	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$8,000
368	VEHICLES	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
	TOTAL STORMWATER	\$155,009	\$238,194	\$165,219	\$165,219	\$192,378
SANITATION						
370	LANDFILL MONITORING	\$13,000	\$11,822	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
	TOTAL SANITATION	\$13,000	\$11,822	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
HEALTH AND WELFARE						
PUBLIC HEALTH						
380	PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER	\$7,564	\$7,565	\$7,867	\$7,867	\$8,182
381	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$125	\$0	\$125	\$125	\$125
382	DOG CONTROL	\$19,858	\$19,858	\$20,553	\$20,553	\$21,478
383	ANIMAL CONTROL / SHELTER	\$1,225	\$1,510	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
WELFARE AND OTHER						
384	HUMAN SERVICE GRANTS	\$79,874	\$79,874	\$86,367	\$86,367	\$93,515
385	DONATION ESSEX RESCUE	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$5,200
386	CEMETERIES - PURCH SVCES	\$3,000	\$3,216	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
387	E.C. HISTORICAL MUSEUM	\$1,500	\$1,555	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
TOTAL HEALTH AND WELFARE						
		\$119,646	\$120,078	\$124,912	\$124,912	\$133,300
RECREATION						
390	SALARIES	\$137,902	\$151,667	\$154,021	\$156,521	\$167,711
391	BENEFITS	\$62,613	\$55,037	\$70,754	\$70,754	\$76,356
392	PROFESSIONAL SVCES	\$3,120	\$5,565	\$2,565	\$3,415	\$2,700
393	COMMUNICATIONS	\$220	\$655	\$360	\$900	\$700
394	ADVERTISING	\$200	\$991	\$450	\$450	\$450
395	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$4,800	\$4,241	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,800
396	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,645	\$1,105	\$1,660	\$1,660	\$1,660
397	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$70,000	\$98,020	\$70,000	\$106,000	\$70,000
398	TRAVEL	\$1,075	\$1,444	\$1,760	\$1,760	\$1,760
399	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$3,700	\$7,397	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
400	MACHINERY	\$300	\$200	\$300	\$350	\$300
401	YOUTH SOCCER	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
402	MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
403	HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION	\$600	\$274	\$600	\$600	\$600
404	FOOTBALL - ESSEX LEAGUE	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
405	LITTLE LEAGUE/SOFTBALL	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
406	LACROSSE	\$750	\$11,887	\$750	\$5,000	\$750
407	BABE RUTH LEAGUE	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
408	MARTIN LUTHER KING COMMITTEE	\$0	\$2,267	\$0	\$0	\$0
409	AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	\$16,500	\$14,718	\$18,000	\$15,300	\$16,500
410	TRANSFER FOR REC FACILITIES	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
TOTAL RECREATION						
		\$312,925	\$364,468	\$341,520	\$383,010	\$359,787
PARKS						
420	SALARIES	\$67,388	\$68,391	\$72,333	\$72,333	\$76,576
421	BENEFITS	\$26,057	\$25,242	\$29,296	\$29,296	\$29,631
422	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$4,000	\$4,620	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,120
423	R & M SUPPLIES	\$9,770	\$11,402	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$12,000
424	COMMUNICATIONS	\$400	\$309	\$425	\$335	\$375
425	ADVERTISING	\$100	\$83	\$200	\$200	\$200
426	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$400	\$280	\$600	\$600	\$600
427	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$10,376	\$4,867	\$11,290	\$11,290	\$12,477
428	TRAVEL	\$400	\$161	\$600	\$600	\$600
429	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$3,808	\$4,696	\$3,808	\$3,808	\$3,800
430	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$500	\$452	\$500	\$500	\$500
431	UNIFORMS	\$1,452	\$705	\$1,452	\$1,452	\$1,452
432	UTILITIES	\$3,700	\$2,895	\$4,000	\$3,100	\$3,300
433	TRAILS GRANT	\$0	\$1,305	\$0	\$0	\$0
434	TRANSFER FOR VEHICLES	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
TOTAL PARKS						
		\$128,351	\$125,408	\$163,504	\$162,514	\$170,631

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008	
SWIMMING POOLS						
440	SALARIES	\$57,400	\$53,583	\$59,696	\$59,696	\$61,485
441	BENEFITS	\$4,391	\$4,099	\$4,567	\$4,567	\$4,704
442	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$700	\$2,742	\$700	\$1,500	\$1,000
443	R & M SUPPLIES	\$500	\$1,101	\$500	\$750	\$750
444	RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT	\$225	\$336	\$225	\$225	\$250
445	COMMUNICATIONS	\$850	\$545	\$625	\$575	\$625
446	ADVERTISING	\$100	\$1,183	\$200	\$200	\$200
447	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$550	\$995	\$550	\$900	\$900
448	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$3,285	\$2,407	\$3,365	\$3,365	\$3,365
449	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$4,000	\$2,714	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,250
450	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$1,150	\$871	\$1,150	\$1,250	\$3,250
451	UNIFORMS	\$700	\$880	\$700	\$900	\$900
452	ELECTRICITY	\$6,200	\$5,453	\$4,000	\$5,600	\$6,000
453	MACHINERY	\$0	\$1,767	\$0	\$1,500	\$2,000
	TOTAL POOLS	\$80,051	\$78,676	\$80,278	\$84,028	\$88,679
SENIOR CITIZEN BUS						
460	SALARIES	\$41,285	\$39,006	\$42,550	\$42,550	\$43,047
461	BENEFITS	\$3,158	\$2,984	\$3,255	\$3,255	\$3,293
462	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$2,200	\$5,501	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200
463	COMMUNICATIONS	\$1,600	\$1,670	\$560	\$560	\$950
464	ADVERTISING	\$125	\$0	\$125	\$125	\$125
465	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$0	\$486	\$0	\$900	\$1,200
466	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$150	\$190	\$150	\$180	\$180
467	VEHICLE	\$10,000	\$8,891	\$0	\$0	\$8,800
	TOTAL SENIOR BUS	\$58,518	\$58,728	\$48,840	\$49,770	\$59,795
LIBRARIES						
ESSEX FREE LIBRARY						
470	SALARIES	\$148,704	\$141,079	\$150,225	\$145,000	\$165,155
471	BENEFITS	\$44,900	\$62,380	\$89,647	\$89,500	\$91,658
472	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCES	\$17,412	\$20,398	\$15,328	\$17,500	\$21,865
473	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$860	\$905	\$790	\$800	\$723
474	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$3,972	\$2,015	\$1,920	\$2,000	\$2,840
475	TRAVEL	\$120	\$82	\$150	\$100	\$100
476	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$6,000	\$5,425	\$5,550	\$5,550	\$5,470
477	ELECTRICITY	\$7,200	\$5,988	\$8,000	\$6,205	\$6,205
478	NATURAL GAS	\$2,000	\$1,840	\$2,375	\$2,007	\$2,007
479	BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$32,000	\$29,745	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$24,078
480	IMPROV OTHER THAN BUILD	\$3,500	\$1,863	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$600
481	MACHINERY	\$750	\$473	\$1,900	\$1,900	\$5,070
482	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	\$800	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
483	FREEMAN GRANT	\$0	\$5,272	\$0	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL ESSEX FREE LIBRARY	\$268,218	\$278,265	\$308,885	\$303,562	\$326,771
BROWNELL LIBRARY						
484	CONTRIBUTION	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	TOTAL BROWNELL LIBRARY	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	TOTAL LIBRARIES	\$298,218	\$308,265	\$323,885	\$318,562	\$341,771

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2008

	BUDGET FYE2006	ACTUAL FYE 2006	BUDGET FYE2007	ESTIMATED FYE 2007	PROPOSED FYE2008
CONSERVATION					
485 TREE CARE	\$18,000	\$8,343	\$17,900	\$17,900	\$17,550
486 TRANSFER TO W/S - AGRICULTURE	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$425
TOTAL CONSERVATION	\$18,400	\$8,343	\$17,900	\$18,150	\$17,975
DEBT SERVICE					
PRINCIPAL					
490 LIBRARY / MEMORIAL HALL	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$30,000
491 INDIAN BROOK	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
492 FIRE TRUCK - WATER SUPPLY/HOSE	\$48,500	\$47,250	\$0	\$0	\$0
493 FIRE STATION	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
INTEREST					
494 LIBRARY / MEMORIAL HALL	\$9,619	\$7,665	\$5,617	\$5,617	\$3,792
495 INDIAN BROOK	\$6,564	\$6,564	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$1,313
496 INTEREST - SHORT-TERM	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
497 FIRE TRUCK - WATER SUPPLY/HOSE	\$1,940	\$1,411	\$0	\$0	\$0
498 FIRE STATION	\$9,080	\$9,147	\$7,470	\$7,470	\$5,860
499 TRANSFER TO CAP RESERVE FUND	\$54,797	\$64,395	\$58,174	\$58,174	\$169,235
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$253,000	\$256,432	\$197,700	\$197,700	\$297,700
INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSE					
510 COUNTY TAX	\$95,000	\$107,320	\$105,000	\$117,700	\$117,718
511 CCTA	\$185,253	\$187,911	\$193,019	\$193,019	\$197,867
512 WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DIST	\$48,100	\$48,100	\$49,900	\$49,900	\$52,950
513 C.C.R.P.C.	\$14,151	\$14,151	\$14,435	\$14,435	\$15,322
514 M.P.O.	\$6,029	\$5,945	\$7,411	\$7,411	\$7,827
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$348,533	\$363,427	\$369,765	\$382,465	\$391,684
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$8,002,407	\$8,199,781	\$8,636,755	\$8,730,373	\$9,351,523

The firm of Kittell, Branagan and Sargent has been engaged to audit the financial statements of the Town of Essex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. Copies of the audit report are on file at the Town office and can be obtained on the Town web site at www.essex.org or by calling (802) 878-1359.

CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT
Peter L. Jacob, Chair, CWD Board of Water Commissioners
Jim Fay, CWD General Manager

Over the past year, the Champlain Water District continued its efforts to complete the phased recommendations from its Twenty Year Master Plan reported by Dufresne & Associates in September 2002. The past fiscal year accomplishments are as follows:

- Completed primary and secondary electric power improvements at the Water Treatment Plant site.
- Completed replacement of dehumidification, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems at the Water Treatment Plant site.
- Completed switch to monochloramines as CWD's secondary disinfectant to proactively meet more stringent United States Environmental Protection Agency disinfection by-product public health mandates, and maintain an effective disinfectant residual throughout the County service area.
- Completed Phase I and started Phase II of CWD's upgrade of its Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) system that monitors and controls the water treatment process and transmission of water throughout the County service area.
- Completed installation of an emergency pressure relief system at the Water Treatment Plant site, including an emergency interconnection from CWD High Service system to the Main Service system.
- Completed a study with Dr. Tom Manley of Middlebury College to identify optimum location for an additional lake source intake in Shelburne Bay.
- Sent out requests for proposals for final design engineering for additional source water intake in Shelburne Bay.
- Continued to serve as the Vermont Training Center for the New England Water Works Association.
- Completed engineering for field security upgrades at critical infrastructure sites in CWD's County service area.
- Completed transmission system and storage tank inspections and related maintenance scheduling within County supply network.
- Constructed a 1500 square foot cold storage building at the water treatment facility complex on Queen City Park Road in South Burlington to house materials and parts inventory and field maintenance tools and equipment.
- Collaborated with Black & Veatch Consulting and Thames Water, in conjunction with the American Water Works Research Foundation (AWWARF), to perform a case study of water quality and fluid dynamics within CWD's Essex West Tank towards design of a tank mixing system improvement.

We thank our employees and elected officials for their effort and support 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 the Champlain Water District.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Robert H. Penniman, Chair

The CCMPO serves as a cooperative regional forum for the development of transportation policies, plans and programs that address transportation issues and opportunities in Chittenden County. CCMPO plans, prioritizes, and coordinates the use of all federal transportation funds in Chittenden County.

CCMPO is a federally mandated agency to undertake transportation planning, but it is locally controlled. CCMPO is responsible to all citizens of the region to ensure the implementation of the best transportation plan for Chittenden County. The CCMPO Board is composed of appointed officials from each of the 18 county municipalities, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTRANS), the Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA), the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Vermont Transportation Authority (VTA) and air and rail representatives. These officials are accountable to their respective constituencies. The implementation of the transportation plan is primarily carried out by VTRANS and the municipalities.

In January 2005 CCMPO adopted the 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the county. Work on the 2030 MTP is underway. The transportation plan was developed based upon a forecast of over one billion dollars of federal funds to be spent within the county by the year 2025. More than half of these funds are to be used for maintaining our present transportation system.

CCMPO approved the Federal Fiscal Year TIP for 2007 through 2010 in July 2006. It 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. During the period of this TIP, more than \$166 million in federal dollars are slated for transportation projects within the county.

CCMPO provides a wide variety of technical and planning service to its membership. Some samples of this include the following:

- Infrastructure Management System
- Completed more than 100 traffic counts; 56 intersection counts; 3 park and ride counts; and 2 bike and pedestrian counts
- Route 15 Corridor Study
- Route 2 Corridor Study
- Safe Route to Schools Program
- Approved Regional Intelligent Transportation System Plan to improve traffic flow with technology
- Sidewalk Program
- Undertook 12 scoping projects which is the first step to make a concept into a project.
- Five Technical Assistance Projects were undertaken for communities
- CCMPO made three TLC (Transportation for Livable Communities) Grants to municipalities.
- Review of traffic impact studies for local development approvals.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Penrose Jackson, Chair

Created in 1966 by Chittenden County municipalities, the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is a 24-member board consisting of one delegate from each of Chittenden County's 19 municipalities and five at-large members representing the interests of agriculture, conservation/environment, industrial/business, socio-economic/housing and transportation. CCRPC provides planning leadership in both policy guidance and technical analysis. Member communities benefit from the expertise of staff through its professional and technical assistance services.

In 2006, several CCRPC projects benefited all member communities:

- Completed the 2006 Chittenden County Regional Plan
- Updated Municipal Rapid Response Plans for local emergency management providers and collected data for a region-wide "Critical Facilities Data Base"
- Started a Chittenden County Brownsfield Assessment Program

CCRPC also provided a wide variety of technical support to its member communities, especially the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) services such as:

- Cartographic Services
- Data Development
- Regional Build-Out Analysis (provides an understanding of development potential)

In addition, the Town of Essex also has benefited from the following special CCRPC projects:

- Participated on the Circ-Williston Technical Advisory Committee
- Updated the Town's Zoning Map
- Worked with the Essex Planning Department on possible strategies for designation of the Town's planned growth center through a new state program

CCRPC reviews municipal plans as part of the statutory requirement to confirm municipal planning processes. In addition, CCRPC regularly reviewed development applications governed by *Act 250* for compliance with the *2006 Chittenden County Regional Plan*.

Maintaining a balanced built and natural environment involves continued cooperation. CCRPC appreciates the opportunity to work with its member municipalities to plan appropriately for the region's future to protect the special quality of life that is shared throughout Chittenden County.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Chris Cole, General Manager

The Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) is pleased to provide full-service public transportation services to the greater Burlington area again in FY06. Services include local fixed-route bus service; commuter parking; supermarket and school shuttles; inter-regional commuter routes; multi-county ridesharing and vanpooling; transportation for Medicaid recipients and contracted ADA paratransit service for those who are unable to ride the bus. Additionally, CCTA leases two vans to the Town of Essex to support their senior transportation program.

The mission of CCTA is to provide efficient, safe, accessible, reliable, clean, and affordable transportation services to the residents and visitors of Chittenden County. CCTA is governed by a 10-member Board of Commissioners with two Commissioners representing each of the following communities: Burlington, Essex, Shelburne, South Burlington, and Winooski. The Town of Essex Commissioner to the CCTA Board is Dan Maxon. An opening is available for another commissioner.

CCTA's annual operating and capital match expenses in FY06 were \$9,351,575 (un-audited), up from \$7,131,159 in FY05. This increase is primarily due to expenses from the Link Express Commuter routes, Medicaid, planning expenditures, and CCTA's management of other Vermont public transit organizations. Equal or greater revenues in FY06 offset these increased expenses.

Increased Ridership

CCTA is pleased to report that ridership increased by 6.5 percent in FY06, which represents an additional 122,267 riders for a total ridership of 2,009,371. Much of the increase is due to expanded outreach programs, such as Unlimited Access for UVM, aimed at attracting new riders, as well as enhanced services for current riders. Additionally, rising fuel costs prompted many customers to look for alternative forms of transportation.

Improved Information and Amenities

CCTA continued to advance several projects to both improve the flow of information to passengers and make our transit system more enjoyable and user-friendly.

- CCTA installed additional schedule holders at stops throughout the system. This is an ongoing project to provide customers with route and schedule information in an effort to increase riders' ability to use the bus system efficiently and confidently;
- CCTA continues to add to and enhance the quality of the bus shelters in Chittenden County. In FY06, five new regular sized shelters were constructed along with one extra-large shelter. All new bus shelters have a durable and attractive timber frame and metal roof that meet ADA accessibility requirements.

LINK Express Commuter Routes

In October 2005, CCTA began operating the third LINK route connecting Chittenden and Franklin counties. The new St. Albans LINK Express (Route 96) delivers commuters to FAHC, UVM, Champlain College and Cherry Street in downtown Burlington. LINK routes also provide commuter transit services outside Chittenden County, which reduces local congestion and improves air quality. The St. Albans LINK joins the Montpelier and Middlebury LINK's which have each shown steady growth throughout FY06. The Middlebury LINK increased to approximately 45 boardings per day while CCTA's Montpelier LINK Express also continued to grow, recording more than 31,000 boardings for the year – a 32% increase over FY05.

Route 15 Service Development

The CCTA Board of Commissioners has identified the Essex Junction Route (Route 1) from the Village of Essex to Burlington as having the greatest potential for increased ridership. This route allows commuters and shoppers to travel into Burlington and access resources such as FAHC, the University of Vermont, the Church Street Marketplace, the Echo Center and other Burlington attractions. Throughout FY06, CCTA actively worked to secure funding from the state to support increased service in the Route 15 corridor and anticipate receiving the requested funding.

Unlimited Access Program

In FY04, CCTA, UVM and the Campus Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA) created the Unlimited Access Program. This program allows those with a valid UVM ID card to board any CCTA bus by simply swiping their ID. UVM then reimburses CCTA for the rides. The Unlimited Access Program continued to grow in FY06 with increased ridership from UVM students, faculty and staff. In addition, CCTA welcomed Champlain College to the Unlimited Access family in April 2006. The UA program was well received by staff and students and will continue for FY07.

Contact CCTA for Route and Schedule Information

802-864-2282 (Phone)
info@cctaride.org (E-mail)
www.cctaride.org (Web)

CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Thomas Moreau, General Manager

ADMINISTRATION:

CSWD owns and oversees 11 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. Monthly meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month, typically at the South Burlington City Hall. The audited FY '06 General Fund expenses were \$6,809,344 which is a 9.4% decrease from the FY '05 General Fund expenditures.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES/EVENTS:

FY'06 revolved around the design of the proposed regional landfill. A Landfill Oversight Committee was created to work with Shaw Environmental, the company hired to design and permit the landfill, and their sub-consultants.

ONGOING OPERATIONS:

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OFFICERS include: Chairman William Leach of Westford; Vice Chair Bert Lindholm of Jericho, and Secretary/Treasurer Mike Coates of Williston. **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS** include: William Leach, Mike Coates, Ken Nolan of Milton, Paul Stabler of South Burlington, and Steve Goodkind of Burlington.

DROP-OFF CENTERS located in Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Milton, Williston, Richmond, Colchester and Hinesburg are available to District members who prefer to self-haul their trash and recyclables. Drop-Off Centers collected 3,206 tons of recyclables, an increase of 0.3% from FY '05, and 7,144 tons of household trash during FY '06, a 1% increase from FY '05.

The **MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY** in Williston is owned by CSWD and is privately operated by Casella Waste Management, Inc. In FY '06, 36,677 tons of recyclables were collected, sorted, baled and shipped to markets. This represents a 12% increase from the previous year. The average sale price for materials was \$76.84, which is a 7.5% increase over last year's average.

The **ENVIRONMENTAL DEPOT** and the **ROVER** are CSWD's hazardous waste collection facilities for residents and businesses. In FY '06, 8,365 households and 543 businesses participated in the program. 589,413 pounds of waste were collected and processed at these facilities. This included 58,240 pounds (5,824 gallons) of latex paint re-blended and sold as "Local Color", 12,358 pounds of waste given away through the "Hazbin" reuse program and 96,200 pounds (9,620 gallons) of latex paint processed for recycling in Canada.

CSWD brokered 15,444 wet tons of **BIOSOLIDS** for our member communities in FY '06, up 6% from the previous year.

CSWD's **MARKETING CAMPAIGN** included promotion of the expanded Electronics Recycling Program, the Rover household hazardous waste collection schedule, the Spring Move Out Project, the Waste Reduction Award, Green Up Day, school waste prevention, the Tire and Appliance Round Ups, Merry Mulch, Local Color recycled paint, Pedals for Progress, business recycling and the Creative ReUse Showcase. In addition, a guide to trash disposal, recycling, composting, and hazardous waste management was mailed to every resident and business in Chittenden County.

A variety of **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** are available to assist residents, institutions, and businesses to reduce and properly manage their wastes. The **CSWD HOTLINE (872-8111)**, **WEBSITE:** (www.cswd.net), school programs, workshops, informational pamphlets, free recycling bins and signage, and waste assessments for businesses are part of this positive community outreach.

Two hundred businesses and institutions representing over 3,000 employees, residents of residential complexes, students, volunteers, and clients were impacted by the **BUSINESS OUTREACH PROGRAM**. One hundred twenty-five school presentations, equipment loans, and facility tours, reached over 5,100 students through the **SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAM**.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT efforts, which have dual goals of reducing the amount of waste generated and land-filled along with making programs more convenient and cost-effective, focused on recycling participation; waste composition; marina shrink wrap recycling; management of fats, oil, and grease; construction and demolition debris recycling; organics diversion; and alternative disposal technologies.

CSWD provides funding and staff time to support **GREEN UP DAY** efforts in Chittenden County. In May 2006, 63 tons of litter was collected, including 1,741 tires and 28 cubic yards of scrap metal. CSWD also contributed \$4,100 to Green Up Vermont on behalf of its member municipalities.

The fall and spring **TIRE AND APPLIANCE ROUND UPS** brought in 948 major appliances and 6,454 tires at no charge from 2,269 households.

The **COMMUNITY CLEAN UP FUND** helps members keep their communities clean and litter free throughout the year. In FY '06, over \$13,000 was distributed to twelve of CSWD's member municipalities through this program.

WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DISTRICT
Jennifer Ely, Executive Director

The Winooski Valley Park District's mission is to preserve natural areas that are a short walk or bike ride from where 110,000 people live and work. In 1972, the residents of Essex and Essex Junction voted to join the Park District. Our 17 parks total 1,754 acres and offer 28 miles of trails, canoe and fishing access, and more than 13 miles of shoreline. Visit www.WVPD.org to learn more. Woodside Park, Essex Overlook and 50 acres of Colchester Pond Park are in the Town of Essex.

Mark Berry is your Board representative. Highlights of the year follow:

- **Range of Biodiversity Confirmed at the Parks**

The natural areas contain a greater variety of flora and fauna than we had imagined. 546 plant species, 139 animal species, and 35 state-listed rare/uncommon species were documented at the parks by a talented field ecologist from UVM's Field Naturalist Programs.

- **Essex Volunteers Helped Steward the Parks**

Forty-five volunteers from Essex removed invasive species, tracked wildlife, improved habitat for a rare plant species, and maintained trails at the parks. New this year, a grant allowed us to train 15 Master Eco-Stewards (one an Essex resident) who in turn will lead other volunteers at the parks in the coming years.

- **Fun is Learning at the Parks**

Over 200 children from local Parks and Recreation Departments, including 15 Essex youngsters, learned about macroinvertebrates at the parks and how these tiny creatures help people measure water quality.

- **Parks Used as Outdoor Classroom by Local Educators**

We want local educators to feel comfortable visiting the parks on their own with their students. More groups are doing this, including YMCA's Nature Camp, Camel's Hump Middle School, the School House, Mater Christi, several UVM departments, Johnson State College and Pine Ridge School. Teachers from Essex requested our free Activity Guide for the park closest to their school.

- **Trail Maps and Brochure Printed**

Two of our most popular publications were updated and reprinted. Look for your free copy inside information boxes at park entrances.

TOWN OF ESSEX
2006 Town Meeting
Minutes
March 6, 2006

SELECTBOARD: Thomas James, Chair, Thomas Torti, Jeffrey B. Carr, Linda Myers and Alan Nye.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Patrick C. Scheidel, Town Manager; Todd Odit, Assistant Town Manager; Cheryl Moomey, Town Clerk; David Demag, Police Chief; Douglas Fisher, Finance Director; Dennis Lutz, Town Engineer/Public Works Director; Mark Berry, Parks and Recreation Director; Bill Ellis, Town Attorney; Howard Rice, Fire Chief.

MODERATOR: Steve McQueen

Mr. McQueen introduced himself at 7:30 p.m. He called attention to the State Representatives present: Martha Heath, Debbie Evans, Tim Jerman and Linda K. Myers and the Village Trustees present: Larry Yandow, Tim Jerman, John Lajza and Peter Gustafson. He explained that one of the reasons why the representatives were present was to answer questions after the meeting was adjourned, so if anyone had questions for the elected representatives, they could ask them at that time. He asked the public to take a moment to recognize their service to the community.

Next, Mr. McQueen explained the rules governing the Essex Town Meeting. The public had no questions regarding the rules.

Mr. McQueen introduced the Essex Selectboard Chair, Thomas James, who in turn introduced those people sitting at the head table.

Mr. McQueen explained that Senator Bill Doyle's 2006 Town Meeting Day Survey was available in the entryway to the auditorium for the public to complete that night. He noted that if the public wished to take the survey home to complete, he suggested Representative Myers could pass those completed surveys along to Senator Doyle.

At 7:37 p.m., Mr. McQueen called the 2006 Town of 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.

THOMAS JAMES MOVED AND DAVID KEENAN SECONDED A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES BY REQUIRING A MAJORITY VOTE TO AUTHORIZE A PAPER BALLOT FOR THIS MEETING.

There was no discussion on the motion.

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

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

PAULA DUKE MOVED AND MARGE GASKINS SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ARTICLE 1.

There was no discussion on the motion.

THE MOTION TO PASS ARTICLE 1 PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE II: SHALL THE TOWN ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2006 TO JUNE 30, 2007 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,636,755.00.

PAULA DUKE MOVED AND RALPH GUILLETTE SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ARTICLE II.

Paul Hyde from Essex Junction asked for an explanation as to why the public was being asked to pay more than 12% in taxes, which he felt was an outlandish increase.

Mr. James asked Mr. Hyde for clarification as to the figure of 12%. Mr. Hyde responded that 12% was the increase in property taxes. Mr. James stated that he was present to address the budget, and Mr. Hyde responded that he understood the budget increase to be about 8%. Mr. James asked Mr. Scheidel, the Town Manager, whether they could address the tax rate and other issues other than the budget, and Mr. Scheidel informed him that they could only discuss the budget. Mr. James clarified with Mr. Hyde that the only issue warned for the Town Meeting was the budget.

Mr. James, in response to Mr. Hyde's question and to clarify some of the increased budget items, presented a summary for the Essex Town 2006-2007 Proposed Budget to the public. The summary showed the breakdown of increases in percentage that totaled a budget increase of 7.9 percentage points, which equaled a delta of \$634,348. Salaries were 2 percentage points of the total increase of 7.9 percentage points which was an increase of \$158,762 and Benefits were 3 percentage points of the total 7.9 percentage points, which was an increase of \$243,045. The next items were Professional Services, Elections, Supplies and Gasoline, an increase of \$119,700, which was 1.5 percentage points of the total increase of 7.9 percentage points. Mr. James pointed out that if the public wished to examine the details of those items, he provided the line item numbers for reference in the Annual Report. For example, Professional Services could be explained in more detail in line items 101, 112 and 232. Mr. James explained that Line 101 included contracts and negotiation money, line 112 included \$10,000 in anticipated costs for merger transition and line 232 was additional money for community development staff, which was lacking at the present time. Under Elections, Mr. James referred to line 142, which was \$7,300 for an additional merger election. Under Supplies, Mr. James referred to lines 344, 345 and 350, which included additional costs involved with petroleum products, which totaled \$33,000. Under Gasoline, line 189 was \$43,000 for additional costs for gasoline. Mr. James reassured the public that with many of these line items, if funds were not actually used, then the Town would not spend that money, such in the situation of the possible merger or unpredictable gasoline prices. Next, Mr. James stated that the subtotal equaled 6.5 percentage points. The following Item was Other Items, which included lines 105 and 434. In Line 105, \$50,000 was

budgeted for actual merger expenses, not including the \$10,000 for the merger transitional year that was included in line item 112. Mr. James reiterated that if the Town did not need to spend the money, it would not be spent. He concluded his presentation by stating that over the last several years, the staff and the Selectboard had made diligent efforts in keeping cost increases to the budget for a given year at a minimum if at all possible. He stated that most years they had been able to keep the increase at 5% by using reserves that helped them offset a higher percentage. This year, Mr. James explained that the reserves were depleted and that there were the additional increase of costs from a possible merger and gasoline and petroleum prices. As a result, he stated that the Selectboard felt this proposed budget was reasonable and fair and that the staff had done a great job of trimming costs without cutting services.

Alison Wermer from Essex Junction asked for clarification on line 434, under Other Items, as it had been a budget of \$0 in the past and wondered why there was an increase of \$25,000 for Transfer of Vehicles.

Mr. Carr explained that the \$25,000 in line item 434, Transfer of Vehicles, was for the establishment of a sinking fund for the purchases of equipment for the Parks and Recreation Department. He explained that Parks and Recreation maintained many fields at the present time in the community. He added that there were many activities in the Department that generated revenues that offset their expenses; however, there were times when they needed to make major equipment purchases. Mr. Carr explained that if they did not establish an on-going fund of a \$25,000 contribution per year to allow them to buy new equipment, the line item would be at \$0 for a number of years and then suddenly would have a dramatic increase of \$85-\$100,000 depending on the cost of the equipment needed that year. Mr. Carr stated that in the past, the Parks and Recreation Department had been offering this idea of establishing a fund so that the Town would not be in a situation where there would be a dramatic increase in one year to replace equipment. At the same time, the Selectboard had reviewed all the equipment needs for Parks and Recreation and put the equipment on a replacement schedule. In this way, the Selectboard had an idea of the replacement costs to be able to budget responsibly in order to purchase needed equipment in the future without the need for a bond. Mr. Carr explained that the intent this year was to begin this fund so that the Parks and Recreation Department was appropriately equipped to handle the increased demands in the community.

THE MOTION TO PASS ARTICLE II PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

AT 7:55 P.M., MARGE GASKINS MOVED AND LEO COUTURE SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL 7:00 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 7, 2006.

THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Respectfully submitted,
Saramichelle Stultz

Saramichelle Stultz
Recording Secretary

Approved this 8th day of January, 2007

(See minutes of this date for corrections, if any).

Linda K. Myers, 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
Parks & Recreation	Parks & Recreation	878-1342
Recycling/Drop Off Center	Chittenden Solid Waste District	878-1342
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
Voting Registration	Town Clerk	879-0413
Water/Sewer Services	Public Works	878-1344
E-Mail Address		Manager@essex.org
Web Site		www.essex.org

NOTES: