

# Town of Mendon Vermont



## **2016 Annual Report**

Financial Reports  
July 1, 2015—June 30, 2016

Budget Proposals  
July 1, 2017—June 30, 2018

# Town of Mendon Vermont

[www.mendonvt.org](http://www.mendonvt.org)

## *Town Office Staff*

Town Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM, Wed. and Fri. closed.

Phone: 775-1662 \*Town Office hours are subject to change,  
see [www.mendonvt.org](http://www.mendonvt.org) for most current information.

Animal Control Officer – Rod MacCuaig		775-1545
Bookkeeper/Office Manager – Nancy Gondella	<a href="mailto:mendontown@comcast.net">mendontown@comcast.net</a>	775-1662
Collector of Delinquent Taxes - Nancy Merrill		775-4689
Dir. Public Safety/Constable – Phil Douglas		775-1662
Fire Warden – Geoff Wells		558-4742
Health Officer - Sara Hebert Tully	<a href="mailto:mendonadmin@comcast.net">mendonadmin@comcast.net</a>	775-1662
Planning Commission - Therese Corsones		773-3413
Road Commissioner - Bill Ellis		773-4402
Selectboard:		
<hr/>		
Geoff Wells		558-4742
Richard Wilcox		775-3351
Tax Assessor - Spencer Potter		802-496-9689
Town Administrator - Sara Hebert Tully	<a href="mailto:mendonadmin@comcast.net">mendonadmin@comcast.net</a>	775-1662
Town Clerk- Marie Conway	<a href="mailto:mendonclerk@comcast.net">mendonclerk@comcast.net</a>	775-1662
Town Treasurer- Marie Conway		775-1662
Zoning Administrator - Steve Cosgrove		775-0065

### *Meeting Schedule*

Planning Commission	First Monday at 5:15 PM at Town Office
Selectboard	Second and fourth Monday at 5:30 PM at Town Office
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Meets as required

### *Important Dates*

February 28, 2017	Barstow Unified Union School District Meeting, Barstow Memorial School, 6:30 PM
March 6, 2017	Town Meeting at Mendon Mountainview Lodge, 6:00 PM
March 7, 2017	Local Elections at Town Office polls open 8:00 AM- 7:00 PM
March 13, 2017	Taxes Due at the Town Office
April 3, 2017	Dog License registration due at the Town Office
September 12, 2016	Taxes Due at the Town Office

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Barstow Graduating Class of 2016

## Elected Town Officers

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Moderator (one year)	Christopher Corsones	2017
Town Clerk (three years)	Marie Conway	2018
Treasurer (three years)	Marie Conway	2019
Selectboard (three years)	Larry Courcelle	2017
	Geoff Wells	2018
	Richard Wilcox	2019
Mendon School Directors (three years)	Christopher Gandin	2017
	Erica McLaughlin	2018
	Michelle Erickson	2019
Delinquent Tax Collector (three years)	Nancy Bridge Merrill	2019
Justice of the Peace (two years)	Rich Carlson	2019
	Wanda Courcelle	2019
	Charlene Godair	2019
	Lindsey MacCuaig	2019
	Betsy Reddy	2019
	Ann Singiser	2019
	Vacancy	2019
Constable (two years)	Phil Douglas	2018
Grand Juror (one year)	Phil Douglas	2017
Town Agent (one year)	Therese Corsones	2018

## Appointed Town Officers

Title	Name	Term Ends	
Bookkeeper/Office Manager	Nancy Gondella		
Road Commissioner (one year)	William Ellis	3/31/17	
Road Commissioner Admin. (one year)	Sara Tully	3/31/17	
Fire Warden (three years)	Geoff Wells	1/31/17	
Town Service Officer (one year)	Mary Ann Reich	4/14/17	
Planning Commission (four years) (7 member board)	Bill Godair	3/31/19	
	Therese Corsones, Chair	3/31/20	
	Nicole Kesselring	3/31/20	
	Justin Lindholm	3/31/20	
	Neil Langer	3/31/17	
	Phil Douglas	3/31/17	
	Fred Bagley	3/31/17	
Zoning Administrator (three years)	Steve Cosgrove	3/31/19	
Zoning Board of Adjustment (three years)	Mike Curran	3/31/19	
	Andrew Zak	3/31/19	
	Therese Corsones	3/31/19	
	Harvey Zara	3/31/17	
	Jack Kennelly, Chair	3/31/18	
	Alternates:	Ernie Smalley	3/31/17
		Vacancy	3/31/17
	Vacancy	3/31/17	
Town Recreation (four years)	Jim Reddy	3/31/20	
	Larry Courcelle	3/31/17	
	Steve Senecal	3/31/17	
	Betsy Reddy	3/31/19	
	David Gleed	3/31/19	
	Leo Lawrence, <i>member emeritus</i>		
Cemetery Commission Chairman (one year)	Michael Barone	3/31/17	
Regional Transportation Commission (three years)	Phil Douglas	3/31/19	
	Larry Courcelle, Alternate	3/31/19	
Emergency Management (two years)	Phil Douglas	3/31/17	
E911 Coordinator (two years)	Sara Hebert Tully	3/31/17	

Rutland Regional Planning Commission (three years)	Larry Courcelle	3/31/18
Landscape Committee	Lydia Gulick Gwen Allard Judith Dark Sara Hebert Tully	
Health Officer (three years)	Sara Hebert Tully	4/30/19
Regional Ambulance Service	Mary Ann Reich	3/31/18
Rutland County Solid Waste District Representative	Susannah Loffredo	3/31/18
Fence Viewers	Larry Courcelle Geoff Wells Justin Lindholm	3/31/17 3/31/17 3/31/17
Animal Control Officer/Poundkeeper	Rod MacCuaig	3/31/17
Tree Warden	William Ellis	3/31/17

## Highlights and Objectives

**Financial:** The town ended FY16 with a balanced budget. The proposed budget for 2017-2018 reflects a \$17,670 or 1.9% increase in operating expenses over 2016-2017 budget as presented by the Selectboard. The appropriate requests increased 88% from \$6,942 to \$13,052. If all the appropriation articles pass, the budget will reflect a 2.5% increase. Mendon has a loan with Mascoma Savings Bank for Tropical Storm Irene expenses totaling \$165,000 as of December 2016. All 28 construction projects are complete and submitted to FEMA in order to receive final reimbursements in both federal and state funds.

**Infrastructure Improvements:** We received an Agency of Transportation Structures Grant to engineer and replace a large culvert C07-48 on Wheelerville Road. Construction was completed in the summer of 2016 with a total project cost of \$63,196 of which \$56,876 was paid with grant funds. We received a Better Backroads Grant for to replace culvert C07-47 on Wheelerville Road. Construction was completed in the summer of 2016 with a total project cost of \$20,214 of which \$16,171 was paid by grant funds. We received a Better Backroads Grant to conduct an erosion control project on Old Turnpike Road that will consist of replacing some small culverts and ditching along the roadway. This project will be completed in the summer of 2017. We received an Agency of Transportation Structures Grant to engineer and replace culvert C02-09 on Townline Road. Construction is expected in the summer of 2017.

**Infrastructure Inventory and Capital Budget Plan** Through a successful grant application, the Better Backroads Program is financially supporting an infrastructure inventory project in order to create a capital budget plan. Mendon has contracted with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to assist with this project. It is expected to be completed in the summer of 2017. The grant is approved for \$7,168 and Mendon's match is \$1,792 which will be in kind labor and equipment.

**Law Enforcement** Over the past two years Mendon has experienced difficulties finding and retaining law enforcement officers. Mendon hired the Rutland County Sheriff to provide services to Mendon under a short term contract. The Selectboard will evaluate a long term contract with the Rutland County Sheriff for FY18. The Selectboard sold the Chevrolet Impala to the Rutland County Sheriff and has retained use of the Chevrolet Silverado for use in patrols from Constable Phil Douglas.

**Mendon Emergency Response Trailer** The Mendon Emergency Response Trailer (MERT) was created in 2003 to respond to lost hikers and skiers, forest fires, Hazmat accidents and long term accidents in Mendon. The Selectboard along with Phil Douglas, Director of Public Safety decided the MERT trailer was no longer a service to Mendon and it was disassembled. The trailer itself was sold for \$3,000 and the funds were deposited in the Law Enforcement Fund.

**Elected Officials, Appointed Officials and Staff:** Mendon hired a full time law enforcement officer, Damon Angelo, but left Mendon for employment in Castleton, VT. Greg Webster did not return to seasonal part time employee to assist the road crew. This position is currently vacant. The Selectboard is currently looking to fill positions on the Mendon Zoning Board of Adjustment. **\*\*WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS\*\*** Please contact the Town Office!

**Garage Improvement Project:** The voters of Mendon approved a bond in the amount of \$285,000 to construct a new Sand/Salt Shed and make repairs to the Town Garage. The new Sand and Salt Shed has been erected. The old shed will be converted to cold storage and repairs to the three bay Town Garage will be performed in the summer of 2017 to complete the project. To date, the project is on budget.

More detailed information about this project is available on the Mendon website at [www.mendonvt.org](http://www.mendonvt.org).

# Management Discussion and Analysis

## Reporting the Town As A Whole

### *The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities*

One of the most important questions asked about the Town's finances is, "Is the Town as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information about the Town as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private –sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expense are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Town's net assets and changes in them. You can think of net assets – the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure the Town's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other non-financial factors (such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's roads) to assess the overall health of the Town.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the Town's operations or basic services are reported, including public safety, town infrastructure, recreation, and general administration. Property taxes finance most of these activities.

## Reporting The Town's Funds

### *Fund Financial Statements*

The fund financial statements included in the audit provide detailed information about the most significant funds – not the Town as a whole. However, the Selectboard establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes (like the Reappraisal Fund) or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The Town uses the following accounting approach.

Governmental Funds – Most of the Town's basic services are reported in the governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Town's programs. We reconcile the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds immediately following the fund financial statements,

The Town's Reserve fund balances increased to \$1,615,033 from last year's value of \$1,294,745. Unrestricted net assets (the part of net assets that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints) increased to \$236,962 from \$112,563 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

As the Town completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$236,962. Total budget exceeded expenditures by \$50,394 primarily due to a reduction in anticipated payroll expenses and a mild winter.

### Capital Asset and Debt Administration

#### *Capital Asset/Reserve Funds*

As of June 30, 2016, a broad range of capital assets (including police equipment, building and roads) total \$5,290,697.

#### *Reserve Funds*

The Town continues to build, maintain and manage its Reserve Fund balances. It is the purpose of the Reserve Funds to cover major purchases without incurring debt. The Town has the authority to borrow from the Reserve Fund in anticipation of taxes.

Fund Title	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015
Road Equipment & Vehicles	\$308,971	\$256,546
Highway & Bridges	807,571	657,925
Facility Maintenance	107,650	95,239
Reappraisal	144,974	144,256
Law Enforcement	69,951	65,125
Contingency	17,467	17,401
Records Preservation and Restoration	32,334	31,192
New Office Equipment	5,693	6,555
Recreation	7,879	6,844
Cemetery Maintenance	18,706	13,662
Totals	\$1,521,196	\$1,294,745

During the fiscal year 2016, \$78,126 was expended primarily on Truck #3 replacement and road improvements.

#### *Depreciation Schedules*

The Town continues to strive to create reasonable depreciation schedules for its equipment in accordance with the GASB-34 requirements. The objective of the Town is to maintain the equipment as long as the maintenance costs make it cost effective to do so.

GASB-34 requires depreciation schedules be established for the Town's roads, bridges, vehicles, equipment and building costs. The town has no plans to incur debt to finance projects. Rather, we will use the current reserve to finance projects. More detailed information about the Town's capital assets is presented in the annual Town Report.

#### *Debt*

In June 2004, the Town issued a \$275,000 bond for the construction of the new town office building, issued by the Vermont Bond Bank at a net interest cost of 4.38% for the repayment period of 20 years. The principal balance at June 30, 2016 is \$125,000.

The town maintains a loan with Mascoma Bank to cover repair expenses caused by Tropical Storm Irene in 2011. The loan amount at June 30, 2016 was \$645,100 and the interest rate is

1.25%. Borrowed funds are repaid upon receipt of the federal and state share of the project expenses.

### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

Mendon (population 1,089) is primarily a residential community located in Rutland County, Vermont. The town relies heavily on property taxes (85% of total operating municipal revenues), and has adopted a budget for FY 2016-2017 with no anticipated use of prior year fund balance. Overall net debt is low, at \$707 per capita as of June 30, 2016, with \$592 resulting from current balance of line of credit for Irene Storm Projects.

These indicators were taken into account when adopting the General Fund budget for FY 2016-2017. Amounts available for appropriations in the municipal general fund budget are \$1,079,313 an increase of 0.8% over the FY 2015-2016 budget of \$1,070,647. A 1.2% increase in the amount collected with property taxes is expected as a result of this increase.

The Town has not added any major new programs, but will start paying on the Town Garage Improvement Bond which is included in the FY 2017-2018 budget. In March 2016, the voters approved a bond for \$285,000 for the Town Garage Improvement Project which included the replacement of the Salt/Sand Shed and repairs to the Town Garage building. The bond was issued on July 1, 2016 with an annual payment of \$19,000 at an interest rate of 2.517% paid semi-annually. This bond is expected to increase the debt service by \$261 per capita.

Voters of the towns of Mendon and Chittenden approved the creation of the Barstow Unified Union District. The Barstow Agreement has been dissolved and the Barstow Unified Union District began operating July 1, 2016. For more information about the Barstow Unified Union District, please contact Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union.

### **Risk and Exposures**

Any financial plan is fraught with risks and uncertainties. It is impossible to predict the number of accidents on Route 4, the number of snowstorms in a winter, the number of fires within the Town or the possible effects of a major forest fire.

The cost of repairing and replacing the damaged sections of our roads, bridges and culverts from Tropical Storm Irene is still under review by FEMA. All construction projects are complete. At this time it remains unclear if our reserve fund balance is sufficient to cover the total cost to the town.

Your management team continues to "buy" services when it is cost effective to do so rather than "provide" them. The disciplines established by the management system and GASB-34 ensure that taxpayer dollars are used effectively.

The management team believes that the Town of Mendon is living within its means and provides its governmental services at a reasonable cost.

### **Contacting the Town's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability

for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the town treasurer or Selectboard at the Town Office, 775-1662.

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## **Independent Auditor's Report Town of Mendon**

The Town contracted with Angolano & Company of Shelburne Vermont to complete the annual audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities and the aggregate remaining fund information as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016.

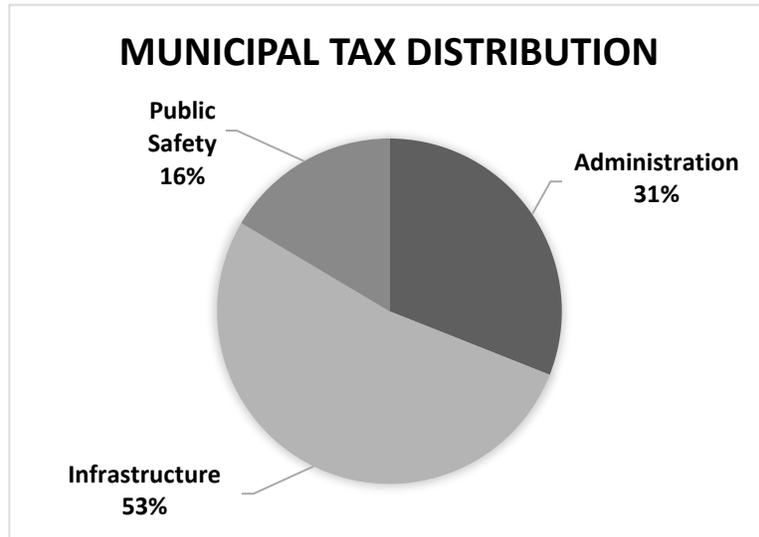
The process also included auditing the financial statements of each of the District's non-major governmental and fiduciary funds for the same period. The audit includes Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information.

The audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Mendon's basic financial statements.

Angolano and Company has stated the audit was in accordance with auditing standards that require them to plan and perform the audit in order to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

*A copy of the annual audit can be obtained at the Town of Mendon Office.*

## 2017/2018 Estimated Municipal Tax Rate



- (a) Amount to be raised by taxes \$965,188\*
- (b) Estimated Grand List \$1,756,260
- (c) Estimated Tax Rate \$.5496

\* Assumes the voters at Town Meeting approve \$13,052 for funding appropriations.

### Calculation of Municipal Tax Rate

The *Municipal Tax Rate* is expressed as the amount of tax to be paid for each \$100 of assessed value.

**Tax Rate** = Amount to be raised by taxes / (Grand List / 100)

**Amount to be raised by taxes** = total expenditures for general government and roads, reduced by other sources of revenue.

**Grand List** = the total value of all taxable real estate and personal estate taxable to the town.

### 2016/2017 Tax Rate:

**Homestead = \$1.7957**  
 (\$.5133+\$1.2814+\$.0010)

**Non-Residential = \$2.0318**  
 (\$.5133+\$1.5175+\$.0010)

**Municipal Tax Rate: \$.5133**

2015-2016 Amount to be raised by taxes	\$901,398
2015-2016 Municipal Grand List	\$1,756,260

**Education Tax Rate:**

**Homestead = \$1.2814**

**Non-Residential = \$1.5175**

**Local Agreement Tax: \$.0010**

**2016-2017 Total Taxes Billed**

**\$3,352,133**

<b>2017/2018 Budget Summary</b>	<b>2014-2015 Actual</b>	<b>2015-2016 Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Actual</b>	<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017-2018 Budget</b>
Cash Balance Forward	30000	0	0	0	0
Total Property Taxes Collected	880751	930232	929288	941398	952136
Non-Property Tax Revenue					
Revenue Allocated to Administration	88323	68415	84180	65915	64515
Revenue Allocated to Infrastructure	43848	42000	61884	42000	42000
Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	10190	30000	11875	30000	30000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1053112</b>	<b>1070647</b>	<b>1087227</b>	<b>1079313</b>	<b>1088651</b>
Total Expenses					
Expenses Allocated to Administration	316984	335150	309358	339590	337502
Expenses Allocated to Infrastructure	584540	567411	496179	572737	571813
Expenses Allocated to Public Safety	151588	168086	150562	166986	179336
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1053112</b>	<b>1070647</b>	<b>956099</b>	<b>1079313</b>	<b>1088651</b>

NOTES:

<b>2017/2018 Administration Budget</b>	<b>2014-2015 Actual</b>	<b>2015-2016 Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Actual</b>	<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017-2018 Budget</b>
<b>Revenue Allocated to Administration</b>					
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	35438	28000	38434	28000	28000
Interest Late Taxes 1%	13573	10000	11907	10000	10000
Delinquent Tax 8%	16891	11500	14354	11500	10000
Investment Interest	2176	2000	2050	2000	2000
Licenses & Fees					
Recording Fees	9361	8000	7203	8000	8000
Marriage Licenses	115	125	165	125	125
Dog Licenses	1053	1000	928	1000	1000
Zoning and Building Permits	3251	2000	2245	2000	2000
Site Plan Review and Warning Fees	651	300	190	300	300
Truck Permits	355	400	355	400	400
Copying Fees	2122	2000	1955	2000	2000
Liquor Licenses	495	600	875	500	600
Town Shop Rental	2400	2400	2400	0	0
Miscellaneous	442	90	1119	90	90
<b>Total Revenue Allocated to Administration</b>	<b>88323</b>	<b>68415</b>	<b>84180</b>	<b>65915</b>	<b>64515</b>

<b>2017/2018 Admin. Budget Cont.</b>	<b>2014-2015 Actual</b>	<b>2015-2016 Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Actual</b>	<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017-2018 Budget</b>
<b>Administration Expenses</b>					
Wages and Salaries					
Town Clerk	3000	3000	3000	3000	3000
Town Clerk Staff	16000	16320	16714	16650	16983
Town Treasurer	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Town Treasurer Staff	3000	3060	3059	3120	3182
Bookkeeper/Office Manager	37456	38220	38206	38985	39765
Selectboard	4000	7000	7000	4000	7000
Town Administrator	33556	34250	34237	34935	35634
Zoning Administrator	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000
Tax Collector	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Fees Paid					
Tax Collector	5270	6300	8963	6300	6300
Office Expenses					
Advertising and Warning	324	300	976	300	300
Animal Control	600	800	600	800	800
Appraisal Services	8700	9000	7915	9000	9000
Auditing	6750	6000	7000	7000	7000
Computers/Computer Services	3444	4000	5241	4000	5000
Continuing Education	767	3500	778	3500	3500
Copier Service	483	1000	1221	1000	1000
Election Expenses	1621	500	518	2000	500
Insurance	31166	34000	35650	34000	38860
Landscaping	0	1000	210	1000	1000
Legal	102	2000	135	2000	2000
Office Supplies and Maintenance	3207	3500	3020	3500	3500
Planning and Zoning Expense	1679	1000	627	1000	1000
Postage and Printing	2996	2500	2359	3000	3000
Street Lights	4985	5000	5459	5000	5000
Tax Maps	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100
Town Office Utilities	6214	5500	5496	6000	6000
Town Reports	1912	2100	502	2100	600
Office Cleaning	1610	1300	1477	1600	1600
Miscellaneous	2429	2500	2600	2500	3000
Payroll Taxes and Benefits					
Health Insurance	77158	80500	60695	80500	70778
Disability Insurance	2008	2700	1797	2500	1800
Payroll Taxes	19579	21100	18395	21100	19000
Retirement Fund	9868	10100	8408	10100	8800
Reserve Funds					
Town Office Maintenance	1500	1500	1500	1500	4000
Town Shop Maintenance	5000	5000	5000	5500	5500
Recreation Fund	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
New Office Equipment	2500	2500	2500	4000	5000
Contingency	0	0	0	0	0
Reappraisal	0	0	0	0	0
Preservation	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cemetery	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000
<b>Total Administration Expenses</b>	<b>316984</b>	<b>335150</b>	<b>309358</b>	<b>339590</b>	<b>337502</b>
<b>Percent of Total Expenditures</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>31%</b>

<b>2017/2018 Infrastructure Budget</b>	<b>2014-2015 Actual</b>	<b>2015-2016 Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Actual</b>	<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017-2018 Budget</b>
<b>Revenue Allocated to Community Infrastructure</b>					
State Aid to Highways	43848	35000	53824	35000	35000
Road Maintenance Revenue	0	7000	8060	7000	7000
<b>Total Revenue Allocated to Community Infrastructure</b>	<b>43848</b>	<b>42000</b>	<b>61884</b>	<b>42000</b>	<b>42000</b>
<b>Community Infrastructure Expenses</b>					
<b>Salaries</b>					
Winter	56880	63040	50000	64301	65587
Summer	38950	42250	35433	43095	43957
Road Commissioner	3250	3250	3250	3250	3250
Administrative Road Commissioner	1750	1750	1750	1750	1750
<b>Winter Roads</b>					
Fuel	10400	12000	5648	12000	12000
Salt	36031	45600	24809	45600	45600
Liquid Chloride	10320	7500	0	7500	7500
Sand	12325	12000	13216	12000	12000
Repairs and Supplies	2073	2500	951	2500	2750
Equipment Hire	2235	4300	1250	4300	4300
<b>Summer Roads</b>					
Fuel	4547	4600	2221	4600	4600
Gravel	17131	17000	15776	17000	17000
Repairs and Supplies	2224	2500	3714	2500	2750
Equipment Hire	2700	5000	3830	5000	5000
<b>Miscellaneous Road Expenses</b>					
VT DEC Municipal Roads General Permit	0	0	0	2000	2400
Robinwood Roads	4000	5000	4000	5000	5000
Garage Utilities	9416	8000	5498	9000	9000
Sign Replacement	27	1500	378	1500	1500
Vehicle Maintenance	30210	18000	17844	18000	18000
<b>Reserve Funds</b>					
Garage Maintenance	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000
Highway Equipment	50000	50000	50000	50000	50000
Highway Improvement	120000	120000	120000	120000	110000
Bridge & Culvert	40000	40000	40000	40000	50000
Tropical Storm Irene	50000	20000	20000	20000	0
<b>Other Community Infrastructure Expense</b>					
Field Maintenance	969	2500	1623	2500	2500
Recreation Programs & Barstow Youth Club	2510	4500	161	4500	3500
Library	22624	23086	23087	23800	23087
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	900	900	925	925	925
Vermont Coalition of Municipalities	0	250	0	0	0
Vermont League of Cities and Towns	2041	2108	2108	2108	2187
Mendon Historical Society	500	500	0	0	0
Rutland County Tax	11869	12078	13008	12000	12000
<b>Appropriations</b>					
ARC	0	0	0	1000	0
Boys and Girls Club	1000	0	0	0	0
Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council	750	0	0	0	0
Marble Valley Regional Transit	1200	1200	1200	1200	0
Mentor Connector	500	0	0	0	0
Retired & Senior Volunteers	230	500	500	500	0
Rutland Area Visiting Nurse	2600	2600	2600	2600	0
Rutland Mental Health	1242	1242	1242	1242	0
Southwest Council Aging	400	400	400	400	0
<b>Town Office Bond</b>					
Principal	15000	15000	15000	15000	15000
Interest	5736	4757	4757	4066	3387
<b>Garage Bond</b>					
Principal					19000
Interest					6283
<b>Total Community Infrastructure Expenses</b>	<b>584540</b>	<b>567411</b>	<b>496179</b>	<b>572737</b>	<b>571813</b>
<b>Percent of Total Expenditures</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>53%</b>

<b>2017/2018 Public Safety Budget</b>	<b>2014-2015 Actual</b>	<b>2015-2016 Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Actual</b>	<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017-2018 Budget</b>
<b>Revenue Allocated to Public Safety</b>					
Law Enforcement Income	5690	30000	8125	30000	30000
Alarm Ordinance Fines	4500	0	3750	0	0
<b>Total Revenue Allocated to Public Safety</b>	<b>10190</b>	<b>30000</b>	<b>11875</b>	<b>30000</b>	<b>30000</b>
<b>Public Safety Expenses</b>					
<b>Wages and Salaries</b>					
Constable	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Director of Public Safety	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
Law Enforcement Staff	34930	40800	35900	40800	65500
Constable Training	201	1000	260	1000	1000
<b>Fire Protection</b>					
Rutland Fire Department Equipment	57800	60000	60000	60000	60000
Rutland Fire Department Variable	34121	35000	28309	35000	35000
Fire Warden - Salary	800	1200	1200	1200	1200
Fire Warden - Expenses	479	600	520	100	100
Emergency Cost Recovery Services	175	0	0	0	0
<b>Law Enforcement Expenses</b>					
Vehicle #1 Expense	1385	1500	1337	1500	1000
Vehicle #1 Fuel	661	1800	540	1800	1800
Vehicle #2 Expense	2259	2000	1383	2000	0
Vehicle #2 Fuel	2430	3600	973	3600	0
Cell Phone	462	600	296	0	0
Equipment Replacement & Repairs	2149	5750	6108	5750	1500
Other	0	500	0	500	500
Rutland Regional Ambulance	4236	4236	4236	4236	4236
Law Enforcement Reserve Fund	2500	2500	2500	2500	500
<b>Total Public Safety Expense</b>	<b>151588</b>	<b>168086</b>	<b>150562</b>	<b>166986</b>	<b>179336</b>
<b>Percent Total Expense</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>16%</b>

### Schedule of Outstanding Bond Payments

#### Town of Mendon Office

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2017-2018	15,000.00	3,386.57	18,386.57
2018-2019	15,000.00	2,695.07	17,695.07
2019-2020	15,000.00	1,968.34	16,968.34
2020-2021	10,000.00	1,396.82	11,396.82
2021-2022	10,000.00	890.09	10,890.09
2022-2023	9,800.68	306.18	10,106.86
2023-2024	8,758.46	39.96	8,798.42
2024-2025	8,868.87	0.00	8,868.87
<b>Totals</b>	<b>92,428.01</b>	<b>10,683.03</b>	<b>\$103,110.04</b>

#### Town of Mendon Garage Improvement

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2017-2018	19,000.00	6,283.35	25,283.35
2018-2019	19,000.00	5,994.35	24,994.35
2019-2020	19,000.00	5,688.25	24,688.25
2020-2021	19,000.00	5,359.35	24,359.35
2021-2022	19,000.00	5,005.75	24,005.75
2022-2023	19,000.00	4,625.55	23,625.55
2023-2024	19,000.00	4,221.60	23,221.60
2024-2025	19,000.00	3,796.75	22,796.75
2025-2026	19,000.00	3,349.10	22,349.10
2026-2027	19,000.00	2,874.85	21,874.85
2027-2028	19,000.00	2,375.90	21,375.90
2028-2029	19,000.00	1,862.70	20,862.70
2029-2030	19,000.00	1,340.95	20,340.95
2030-2031	19,000.00	810.65	19,810.65
2031-2032	19,000.00	271.80	19,271.80
<b>Totals</b>	<b>285,000.00</b>	<b>\$53,860.90</b>	<b>\$338,860.90</b>

## Reserve Fund Balances\*

<b><u>Office Maintenance</u></b>			<b><u>Restoration/Preservation</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$10,399		Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$29,082
Income: Interest	40		Income: Interest	122
Annual Appropriation	1,500		Annual Appropriation	1,000
Expense: Building Repairs	333		Recording Fees	3,012
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$11,606		Expense: Records Restoration	311
			Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$32,905
 <b><u>New Office Equipment</u></b>			 <b><u>Reappraisal</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$6,567		Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$144,851
Income: Interest	21		Income: Interest	537
Annual Appropriation	2,500		Annual Appropriation	0
Expense: Phone System	3383		State Payment	7,191
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$5,705		Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$152,579
 <b><u>Shop Maintenance</u></b>			 <b><u>Contingency</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$38,985		Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$17,433
Income: Interest	150		Income: Interest	66
Annual Appropriation	5,000		Annual Appropriation	0
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$44,135		Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$17,499
 <b><u>Recreation</u></b>			 <b><u>Law Enforcement</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$8,168		Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$70,214
Income: Interest	34		Income: Interest	293
Annual Appropriation	1,000		Annual Appropriation	2,500
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$9,202		Civil Fines	2,032
			Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$75,039
 <b><u>Cemetery</u></b>			 <b><u>T.S. Irene</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$15,774		Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$138,293
Income: Interest	56		Income: Interest	517
Annual Appropriation	4,000		Annual Appropriation	20,000
Expense: Mowing	4,000		Expense: LOC Interest Pay	11,017
Return of previously sold lot	200		Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$147,793
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$15,630			

<b><u>Highway Equipment</u></b>		<b><u>Highway Improvement</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$257,088	Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$467,909
Income: Interest	1,007	Income: Interest	1,891
Annual Appropriation	50,000	Annual Appropriation	120,000
Sold Truck 3 (2007 Ford)	22,000	Expense: Falls Road	975
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$330,095	Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$588,825
<b><u>Bridge and Culvert</u></b>		<b><u>Garage Maintenance</u></b>	
Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$102,024	Opening Bal. 07/01/15	\$45,442
Income: Interest	392	Income: Interest	165
Annual Appropriation	40,000	Annual Appropriation	10,000
Expense: Wheelerville Engin.	11,664	Expense: Building Repairs	1,083
Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$130,752	Engineering	\$3,030
		Ending Balance 06/30/16	\$51,494

\*The above ending balances may not necessarily reflect the actual bank balances as accrued payments and receivables have been included in this report.

# Mendon Highway Equipment Fund

Fiscal Year 2017

The Highway Equipment Fund combines the Truck Fund, Backhoe Fund, Grader Fund and New Road Equipment Fund as approved by the voters at Town Meeting 2014

Assumptions:			Facts:			
Big Trucks have a life expectancy of	12	years	Big Truck #1	Mack	2014	\$168,000
Small Truck has a life expectancy of	7	years	Big Truck #2	INTER	2008	\$148,129
Grader has a life expectancy of	30	years	Small Truck	Ford	2015	\$86,000
Backhoe has a life expectancy of	15	years	Grader	CAT	1993	\$100,000
			Backhoe	CAT	2003	\$85,000
Interest rate	0.4%	percent				
Inflation rate	4.0%	percent				

Fiscal Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Available Cash	Equipment Replaced	Cost (inflation adj)	Trade In	Net Expend	Interest Earned	Closing Balance
2015									
2016	\$330,095	\$50,000	\$380,095					\$1,520	\$381,615
2017	\$381,615	\$50,000	\$431,615					\$1,726	\$433,342
2018	\$433,342	\$50,000	\$483,342	Backhoe	\$155,000	\$15,000	\$140,000	\$1,373	\$344,715
2019	\$344,715	\$50,000	\$394,715					\$1,579	\$396,294
2020	\$396,294	\$60,000	\$456,294					\$1,825	\$458,119
2021	\$458,119	\$60,000	\$518,119	Big Truck #2	\$236,900	\$30,000	\$170,000	\$1,392	\$349,512
2022	\$349,512	\$60,000	\$409,512					\$1,638	\$411,150
2023	\$411,150	\$60,000	\$471,150	Small Truck	\$117,600	\$25,000	\$92,600	\$1,514	\$380,064
2024	\$380,064	\$60,000	\$440,064	Grader	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$225,000	\$860	\$215,924
2025	\$215,924	\$70,000	\$285,924					\$1,144	\$287,068
2026	\$287,068	\$70,000	\$357,068	Big Truck # 1	\$268,000	\$30,000	\$238,000	\$476	\$119,544
2027	\$119,544	\$70,000	\$189,544					\$758	\$190,302
2028	\$190,302	\$70,000	\$260,302					\$1,041	\$261,344
2029	\$261,344	\$70,000	\$331,344					\$1,325	\$332,669
2030	\$332,669	\$80,000	\$412,669	Small Truck	\$147,000	\$25,000	\$122,000	\$1,163	\$291,832
2031	\$291,832	\$80,000	\$371,832					\$1,487	\$373,319
2032	\$373,319	\$80,000	\$453,319					\$1,813	\$455,132
2033	\$455,132	\$80,000	\$535,132					\$2,141	\$537,273
2034	\$537,273	\$80,000	\$617,273	Big Truck #2	\$275,000	\$35,000	\$240,000	\$1,509	\$378,782
2035	\$378,782	\$90,000	\$468,782	Backhoe	\$279,000	\$20,000	\$259,000	\$839	\$210,621
2036	\$210,621	\$90,000	\$300,621	Small Truck	\$160,900	\$30,000	\$130,900	\$679	\$170,400

# Highway Improvement Fund

Fiscal Year 2017

Town Roads:						
	Last Paved	Cost		Last Paved	Cost	
Townline Road	2013	100,000		Cream Hill	2008	37,700
Brookwood	2014	50,000		Old Turnpike Road	2010	122,521
Eastridge	2014	60,000		Woodward Road	2014	59,000
Pond Road	2014	6,300		Journey's End	2013	56,000
Mountain Road	2014	11,620		Meadowlake Drive	2009	110,000
Garage Driveway	2014	15,500		Sherwood Drive	2012	91,720
Cedar Lane	2008	17,900		Terra Lane	2008	13,000
Park Lane	2008	42,800		Medway	2008	13,000
S. Mendon Road	2014	54,000		Falls Road		250,000
Notch Road	2010	119,400		Town Office	2004	25,000

Beginning Balance	Fund Contribution	Interest Earned	Planned Projects	Normal Maintenance	Total Cost	Ending Balance	
2016	588,825	120,000	1,000	Cedar Lane 28,000 Park Lane 60,000 Falls Road 220,000	20,000	328,000	381,825
2017	381,825	110,000	1,000	Cream Hill 80,000 Medway 28,000	20,000	128,000	364,825
2018	364,825	110,000	1,000	Meadowlake Drive 125,000	20,000	145,000	330,825
2019	330,825	110,000	1,000	Old Turnpike 125,000 Notch Road 125,000	20,000	270,000	171,825
2020	171,825	110,000	1,000	Town Office 35,000	20,000	55,000	227,825
2021	227,825	110,000	1,000	Sherwood Drive 100,000 Terra Lane 12,000	20,000	132,000	206,825
2022	206,825	110,000	1,000	Journeys End 60000	20,000	80,000	237,825
2023	237,825	110,000	1,000	Townline Road 100,000 Eastridge 60,000 Pond Road 8,000 Mountain Road 12,000	20,000	200,000	148,825
2024	148,825	110,000	1,000	Brookwood 50,000 S. Mendon Road 55,000 Woodward Road 60,000 Garage 16,000	20,000	201,000	58,825
2025	58,825	110,000	1,000		20,000	20,000	149,825
2026	149,825	110,000	1,000	Cedar Lane 30,000 Park Lane 65,000	20,000	115,000	145,825

# Bridge & Culvert Fund

FY 2017

Year	Beginning Balance	Fund Contribution	Interest Earned	Other Income	Available Balance	Projects	Cost	Ending Balance
2017	\$130,000	\$40,000	\$479	\$56,876 \$16,171	\$243,526	C07-48 C07-47	\$63,196 \$20,214	\$160,116
2018	\$160,116	\$50,000	\$479		\$210,595	Bridge 21 culverts	\$85,000 \$10,000	\$115,595
2019	\$115,595	\$50,000	\$211		\$165,806	Bridge 2 culverts	\$50,000 \$10,000	\$105,806
2020	\$105,806	\$50,000	\$200		\$156,006	culverts	\$10,000	\$146,006
2021	\$146,006	\$50,000	\$200		\$196,206	culverts	\$10,000	\$186,206
2022	\$186,206	\$50,000	\$200		\$236,406	culverts	\$10,000	\$226,406
2023	\$226,406	\$50,000	\$200		\$276,606	culverts	\$10,000	\$266,606
2024	\$266,606	\$50,000	\$200		\$316,806	culverts	\$10,000	\$306,806
2025	\$306,806	\$50,000	\$200		\$357,006	culverts	\$10,000	\$347,006
2026	\$347,006	\$50,000	\$200		\$397,206	culverts	\$10,000	\$387,206
2027	\$387,206	\$50,000	\$200		\$437,406	culverts	\$10,000	\$427,406
2028	\$427,406	\$50,000	\$200		\$477,606	culverts	\$10,000	\$467,606

\* Project schedule after 2019 to be determined upon completion of updated Capital Improvement Plan FY 2017

## **Appropriations**

Total Requests = \$13,052

In accordance with T. 17 V.S.A. § 2642, the Selectboard required petitions for appropriation requests. In order for an appropriation request to be included on the warning for Town Meeting 2017, the petitions signed by 5% of the voters had to be submitted to the Town Clerk by January 19, 2017. In Mendon, these petitions required at least 45 valid signatures.

### **ARC Rutland Area Serving Citizens with Developmental Disabilities**

128 Merchants Row, Suite 302, Rutland, VT 05701      [www.ARCRutlandArea.org](http://www.ARCRutlandArea.org)      802-775-1370  
ARC requests \$1,000 to advocate for the rights of individuals and families with developmental disabilities to be regarded as valued citizens with the same entitlements as a non-disabled individual, including the right to lifelong opportunities for personal growth and full participation in the community.

### **Boys and Girls Club**

PO Box 636, Rutland, Vermont 05702      [www.rutlandbgclub.org](http://www.rutlandbgclub.org)      802-747-4944  
The Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County requests \$5,000 to inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive responsible and caring citizens. Our goal is to provide every child with the essential tools needed for a successful and bright future. Our Boys & Girls Club provides a safe place to learn and grow, ongoing relationships with caring adult professionals, life-enhancing programs and character development experiences, hope, and opportunity.

### **Marble Valley Regional Transportation District “The Bus”**

158 Spruce Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701      [www.thebus.com](http://www.thebus.com)      802-773-3244  
Marble Valley Regional Transportation District requests \$1,200 to provide safe, reliable, accessible and coordinated public transit service to enhance economic, social and environmental quality of life throughout Rutland County and surrounding communities. The Diamond Express and other routes serving the resort community provided rides to and from Mendon.

### **RSVP & The Volunteer Center**

6 Court Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701      [www.volunteersinvt.org](http://www.volunteersinvt.org)      802-775-8220  
Retired Senior Volunteer Program requests \$550 to provide an "Invitation to Serve" program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through meaningful use of their skills, talents, interests and knowledge as volunteers.

### **Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice**

7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland, Vermont 05702      802-775-0568  
The Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice requests \$2,600 to provide Rutland County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. RAVNAH's mission is to provide medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, regardless of a client's ability to pay, location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

### **Rutland Mental Health Services**

78 South Main St., Rutland, VT 05701      [www.rmhsccn.org](http://www.rmhsccn.org)      802-775-2381  
Rutland Mental Health Services requests \$1,242 to provide individual counseling for children, adults and families, substance abuse treatment services and emergency/crisis services. Rutland Mental Health Services and is committed to providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay.

## Regional Marketing Initiative

The Regional Marketing Initiative is a collaboration of the Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce (RRCC) and the Rutland Economic development Corporation (REDC) along with area businesses and municipalities with the ultimate goal of growing the economy in our region. The Regional Marketing Initiative is requesting \$1,060 (approximately \$1 per resident). For more information contact RRCC at 50 Merchants Row, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-773-2747 or REDC at 110 Merchants Row, Suite 10, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-773-9147.

## Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

East Ridge Professional Building, 1085 US Route 4, Unit 2B Rutland, Vermont 05701-9039 802-786-5990  
The Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging requests \$400 to provide senior meals (Meals on Wheels and Blizzard Bags), case management, Senior Helpline (800-642-5119), Elder Care Clinician program, health benefit counseling, legal service through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project, nutrition education and counseling, Senior Companion support, coordination of transportation services, and care giver support and information.

\* Note: \$2,500 for Barstow Youth Club (formerly Barstow Boosters) is included in the Recreation Program line item of the budget. \$100 for Vermont Green Up is included in the Summer Repairs and Supplies line item of the budget.

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### Appropriations 2016-2017 Total Requests = \$8,666

ARC Rutland Area Serving Citizens with Developmental Disabilities	\$1000
Marble Valley Regional Transportation District "The Bus"	\$1200
RSVP & The Volunteer Center	\$500
Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice	\$2,600
Rutland Mental Health Services	\$1,242
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	\$400

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# Mendon Historical Society

## For calendar year 2016

The Mendon Historical Society is a registered 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation “with the intent to educate and preserve Mendon’s history for the future,” according to our by-laws.

A major event of the year was the erection and dedication of a Vermont roadside historical marker honoring General Edward H. Ripley. We applied to the Vermont Department for Historic Preservation for this designation. After a fairly lengthy process our application was approved. The marker is in front of Sugar and Spice, where General Ripley’s house stood and where his warhorse Old John is buried. The dedication ceremony, attended by approximately 70 people, took place on November 11, 2017, appropriately Veterans’ Day and coincidentally Ripley’s 177<sup>th</sup> birthday. We are delighted that this Civil War hero and prominent Mendon resident was honored. See another page in this report for pictures of the ceremony.

The primary focus of our efforts is the restoration of our Old Town Hall now occupied by Adi’s woodworking shop. The building continues to deteriorate and unless remedial action is taken soon, we may lose it. The Selectboard appointed a Subcommittee to consider what action should be taken. To determine what is needed the Mendon Historical Society paid to have an evaluation of the building done by Nimitz, Berryhill and Fiegel Architects. We now have a report outlining the steps to be taken to save and restore the building with the approximate cost of each phase of the project. Members of the Subcommittee have been soliciting estimates on the work to be accomplished. We hope to have some of it done in the spring. We welcome anyone who would like more information about our plans or would like to help with the project to please get in touch with any of us. Again this year, we asked the Selectboard to give our usual \$500 appropriation to the Reserve Fund established for the maintenance of the building. We appreciate that the Selectboard agreed to this request.

Our Society meets four times a year, on the third Thursday of April, June, September and November at 5:00 p.m. at the Mendon Town Office. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Thanks to all our members for their support and please feel free to contact any of us for more information on any of our activities.

Ann Singiser, President  
Mary Ruth, Secretary

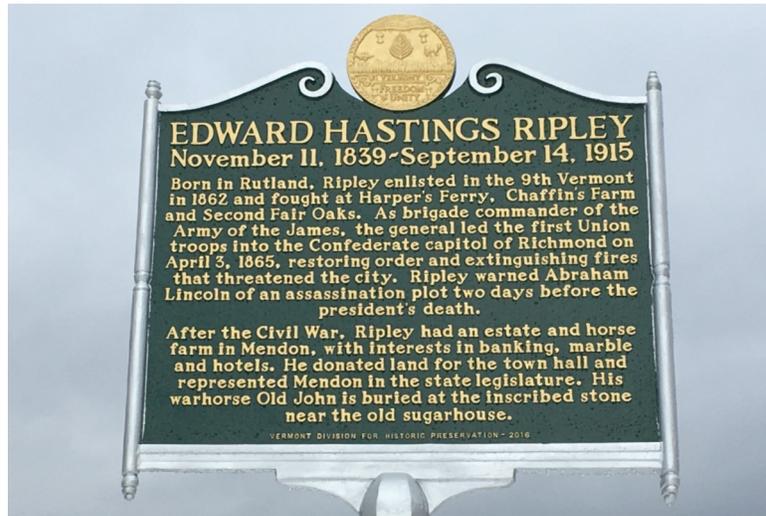
Shelly Susina, Vice-President  
Richard Kaufman, Treasure  
Elaine Latzky, Member at Large



Our original Town Hall, built in 1888, in better days.

# Dedication Ceremony of General Edward H. Ripley Historic Marker

## November 11, 2016



Bunting covering the sign before the unveiling



Jack Anderson, Speaker  
 Civil War Historian



Dennis Charles and Erik Woodbury, Civil War Re-enactors



Civil War re-enactor Erik Woodbury, 16, of Rutland plays the fife while leading a band of fife and drum Dennis Charles of Mendon in a procession Friday at the unveiling of the Gen. Edward H. Ripley Memorial Dedication at Sugar A. Stone in Mendon.

**A Vermont salute**  
 Mendon unveils Gen. Edward Ripley marker on Veterans Day

We made the front page of the Rutland Herald!

Abby Noland  
Director

Randal Smathers  
Assistant Director



Board of Trustees

Heather Cooper  
President

Joan Gamble  
Vice President

Cathy Reynolds  
Treasurer

Rachel Alexander  
Betsy Bloomer  
Hurley Cavacas  
Anita Duch  
Sherri Durgin-Campbell  
Jude Endrizal  
Doris Farenkopf  
Kay Jones  
Betsy Reddy  
Stephanie Romeo

## ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

Rutland Free Library has had another year of improvements.

### Materials:

- Vermont Library Catamount Consortium participants are steadily growing. This means that the number and variety of materials available to patrons continues increase.
- Over 172,000 materials were checked out this year.
- Library volunteers and staff have completely revised our shelving procedures to ensure patrons can consistently find materials in our system.
- We continue to provide outreach services to patrons in the area.
- Over \$30,000 in grants were obtained by the library.

### Technology:

- Due to your special support last year, the library has new patron computers including a special ADA computer for the visually impaired. In a typical week over 360 patrons use these computers.

### Building Improvements:

- In May, we replaced the failing subflooring around the circulation desk. The new tiling is sound absorbent and patrons no longer trip on a crumbling floor.
- In October, we received a matching grant from Vermont Arts Council. The grant has enabled the library to bring our patron restroom up to ADA standard, our plumbing up to commercial code, increase energy savings, and improve community safety.

### Collaboration:

- With a donation from Phoenix Bookstore, the library initiated and collaborated with Wonderfeet Kid's Museum, Building Bright Futures, and Help Me Grow to create a resource guide to fun activities for children birth through age 8 in the Rutland area. This collaboration was in direct response to a recent Rutland City Promise Community Team survey. The most requested information was where to locate activities for families with young children. Additionally, with this grant, the library purchased a family reading glider to promote literacy. Studies show that when caregiver's cuddle with young ones while reading, they improve the child's literacy skills significantly.
- The successful Tables of Content Fundraiser enabled the library to purchase materials and cover basic operating costs. The event is the collaboration of many thoughtful and generous volunteers, Friends of the Library, Trustees and businesses.

### Finance:

- The Financials have been completely renovated for transparency.
- The Friends of the Library continue to support us with their book sales. The majority of these monies go toward sponsoring the Vermont Humanities Council First Wednesday Program, purchasing new DVD cases, CD holders, and other timely needs.
- The Library has invested monies in the Vermont Community Foundation in order to increase our investment income in a community responsible manner.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Director Abby Noland

10 Court Street \* Rutland, Vermont 05701-4058 \* 802-773-1860 \* fax 802-773-1825  
[rutlandfree@rutlandfree.org](mailto:rutlandfree@rutlandfree.org) \* [www.rutlandfree.org](http://www.rutlandfree.org)



*Rutland Regional Planning Commission is a resource for towns; is a platform for ideas; and inspires a vision for our future. We balance local desires, best practices, and regional growth for communities that are vibrant today and strong for years to come.*

**We enjoyed working with the town of Mendon last year**, especially with Larry Courcelle who represented your town on our Regional Board of Commissioners and who sat on one of our board's committees. We also worked closely with Therese Corsones and Philip Douglas, who facilitated work on the town's municipal planning grant and the town's hazard mitigation plan, respectively.

The Mendon Planning Commission edited and adopted the Town Plan with guidance and support from RRPC. This plan was granted regional approval by the RRPC board in early 2016. Staff then assisted the Planning Commission with a Municipal Planning Grant application to fund a comprehensive update to the plan. RRPC met with the Mendon hazard mitigation committee in order to write and submit to FEMA a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Transportation planning included a culvert inventory under the existing Better Roads grant; highway technical assistance; and GIS assistance, which included mapping Jeffords State Forest. Lastly, the Select Board met with RRPC's director to discuss the town's planning objectives, and how RRPC can assist the town with meeting those objectives.

*Here's more about what RRPC does:*

**RRPC is a resource for towns.** Rutland County towns can count on RRPC to provide the tools and information they need to make smart decisions about land use, economic development, energy, transportation, emergency management and more. From traffic counts and culvert studies and implementing new water quality and energy planning requirements to assisting with grant applications and producing high-quality maps with the latest digital data - RRPC's team does what it takes to help towns get the job done.

**RRPC is a platform for ideas.** We create opportunities and provide space for people to learn, share and come together around topics that matter and impact our lives. Some of the topics include: monthly road commissioner meetings; local emergency management, and water quality solutions.

**RRPC inspires a vision for the future.** A cornerstone of our work is the Regional Plan; a document written by RRPC with input from our board. The Plan articulates a vision for the Rutland region: economic, social, and environmental resilience; incremental and long-term growth; urban design for humans; and walkable, connected communities. We have been hard at work updating sections of the Plan and we're keeping a keen eye on laws and rulings that impact the Plan's governing strength.

**Thank you for the opportunity to serve your community and, in 2017, celebrating with us our 50<sup>th</sup> year in the Rutland region.**

*If you feel inspired to participate in local or regional planning; want to be paired with opportunities to grow your community; or just want to learn more, please visit or give us a call; we'd love to hear from you!*

The Opera House | 67 Merchants Row | Rutland, VT 05702 | (802) 775-0871 | [RutlandRPC.org](http://RutlandRPC.org)

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*Cooperative planning in the region*

## **Constable/Director of Public Safety 2016 Annual Report**

In 2016 the Constable's office continued to be more visible in the community. Our main thrust, however, remained proactive traffic enforcement on Route 4, Town Line Road, Park Lane and Meadow Lake Drive. Mendon has contracted with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department for traffic enforcement and neighborhood patrol. The Sheriff's Department purchased our Impala patrol car and has assigned Deputy Sheriff Chris Stephenson as our Mendon officer. Officer Stephenson will be driving the blue Mendon car, so he will be easily recognized on patrol. For non-emergencies, call the Rutland County Sheriff's Office at 775-8002. Animal control problems should be reported to Mendon Animal Control Officer Rod MacCuaig or if you need immediate assistance call the Sheriff's ACO. For emergencies dial 911.

This year Constable Phil Douglas took part in two Governors Highway Safety Council traffic campaigns to qualify for equipment grants totaling \$4,000. Speeding violations, seatbelt violations, child restraint violations and DUI violations were the main focus of the campaigns. I will continue to take part in these campaigns in order to receive equipment grants from the state.

Criminal activity decreased this year in Mendon. As a "bedroom community" we are fortunate that criminal activity in our town remains relatively low. Our proximity to Rutland City may still result in an increase in drug-related criminal activity. Mendon residents should report any unusual or suspicious activity in their neighborhood, to the State Police, Sheriff or the Constable. The more eyes we have watching our community, the safer we will be. Don't hesitate to report anything that looks suspicious or out of place to you.

False fire alarms continue to be a problem in Mendon. We have been revisiting our alarm ordinance and will be bringing it current, including the requirement to register all alarm systems. You are required to have a valid permit to have an alarm system, so be sure that you, or your alarm company, register your system. Everyone is reminded to install new batteries in their fire, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors every January 1<sup>st</sup>. Alarm calls based on old or failed batteries will prove costly if you are fined.

We are currently working with the Town of Chittenden in setting up an emergency shelter at Barstow Memorial School. The emergency generator that was funded by FEMA is now installed and operational. It can power the entire school facility during a power outage. Barstow Memorial School is being considered for a shelter for both towns. We have also appropriated some dog crates from the Rutland County Humane Society for use during an emergency if the temporary relocation and transportation of pets is required. Larger animals would need to be housed temporarily at other facilities.

Respectfully submitted,  
Phil Douglas  
Constable & Director of Public Safety

# Mendon Delinquent Tax Collector

Turned over for collection on March 15, 2016 were 106 delinquent taxes some for multiple years totaling \$205,611.78. On January 1, 2017 there are 9 delinquent taxes totaling \$10,866.43.

As of the printing of this report the following properties have not paid:

Beattie, Thane	574.50
Dunbar, James	2836.42
Ellison, Isaiah	328.82
Giese, Travis	1111.32
Hansson, Craig	2138.98
Kennelly, Patrick	993.00
Trahnstrom, Nils	1299.47

Isaiah Ellison reclaimed his property that had been sold at tax sale.

Christopher Senecal's property sold at tax sale.

James Dunbar's property is scheduled to be sold at tax sale February 2, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Bridge Merrill, Delinquent Tax Collector

## Dog License Report

146	Neutered males or Spayed females	\$1,471.50
2	Males not neutered	50.00
7	Females not spayed	81.00
29	Late fees	<u>84.00</u>
		\$1,686.50
	State of Vermont Rabies Control	<u>727.00</u>
	Total of General Fund	\$959.50

Please register your dog on or before April 1, 2017 to avoid a late charge. Due to an increased State surcharge, the fee to register Spayed or Neutered dogs will now be \$11.00. For an unsprayed or un-neutered dog, the fee will be \$15.00

The State of Vermont requires a current rabies vaccination certificate to be on file at The Town Clerk's Office.

Failure to register your dog is a VIOLATION of the Mendon Animal Control Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marie Conway, Town Clerk

## Record of Vital Statistics-Mendon, VT 2016

### Births

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Parents Names</u>
Ayden Thomas Long	M	Feb. 1, 2016	Rutland	Emily Ann Long
Samuel John English	M	Apr 10, 2016	Rutland	Brian Edward English Abigail Ruth English
Vincent Mark Loffredo	M	Apr 6, 2016	Rutland	Adam Thomas Loffredo Susannah Gallus Loffredo
Abbigail Jane Rock	F	Apr 14, 2016	Middlebury	Alexander Paul Rock Charity Jane Fitzgerald
Helena Wiola Chabros	F	Jun 1, 2016	Rutland	Marcin Chabros Kelly Ann Chabros
Wynter Grace Robinson	F	Aug 10, 2016	Rutland	Kristofer Jon Robinson Ashley Ann Robinson
Bradley Cedric Hunter	M	Sep 21, 2016	Middlebury	Benjamin Barter Hunter Karla Susan Molina
Cyra Adia Dempsey	F	Sep 17, 2016	Burlington	Alex Keith Dempsey Jaidlyn Kodi Champion
Lilyanna Elizabeth Tully	F	May 28, 2016	Rutland	Michael O'Rourke Tully Sara Elizabeth Hebert Tully
Alissia Carr	F	Dec 09, 2016	Rutland	Kirtan Carr Daniela Blaga

### Deaths

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>
Helen Romano	90	Jan 17, 2016	Mendon
Richard R. Lancour	77	Feb 1, 2016	Mendon
John Stewart Lane	90	Mar 10, 2016	Mendon
Edward Newall Stevens	99	Apr 11, 2016	Rutland
Jean Elaine Martel	79	Sep 26, 2016	Mendon
Marguerite Kristal	88	Nov 14, 2016	Rutland
Marion Adams	94	Nov 25, 2016	Mendon
William A. Spanos	85	Dec 1, 2016	Mendon

### Marriages

<u>Party A</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Party B</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>
Patrick Thomas Kitchin	VT	Katherine Evelyn Salinas	VT	Feb 28, 2016
Emily Thompson Cykon	VT	Michael Joseph Marrano	VT	Apr 23, 2015
Brittany Elizabeth Lake	VT	Jonathon Edward Charles	VT	Jun 4, 2016
Carie Ann Jeleniewski	NJ	Michael Biondo	NJ	Jun 11, 2016
Nicholas Theodore Corsones	VT	Eliza Baker	VT	Jun 25, 2016
Emily Rose Mattson	MA	Michael Patrick Wilson	MA	Jul 2, 2016
Julie Marie DuBray	VT	Brian Donald Abrahamson	VT	Aug 11, 2016
Emily Elisabeth Rock	VT	Joshua Michael Stevens	VT	Aug 13, 2016
William Paul Barrett, Sr	VT	Laura Ann Fraley	VT	Sep 1, 2016
Jessica Marie Conway	VT	Chad A. Galiano	VT	Sep 10, 2016
Katelyn Savoy	VT	Timothy Austin Cushman	VT	Oct 29, 2016

## **Mendon Planning Commission**

The Mendon Planning Commission includes members Phil Douglas, Neil Langer, Bill Godair, Justin Lindholm, Fred Bagley, Nicole Kesselring and Teri Corsones. The Planning Commission has jurisdiction over subdivision permit applications and applications for building development for other than one or two-family residences.

The Planning Commission meets on the first Monday of each month at 5:15 p.m. at the Mendon Town Offices. If a monthly meeting falls on a state or federal holiday, the meeting for that month is held on the next ensuing Monday.

Please contact the Mendon Planning Commission regarding any questions or suggestions you have about the planning process, or if we can be of assistance to you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teri Corsones

## **Zoning Administrator**

2016 was a good year in terms of zoning permits issued, significantly more than in 2015 and with 3 new single family home permits issued.

The breakdown of permits issued in 2016 is as follows:

3 new single family homes  
1 new camp;  
12 assorted additions for bedrooms, sheds, garages, and decks;  
3 certificates of compliance;  
0 new signs;  
1 Planning Commission commercial site Plan Reviews.  
1 appeal to the Board of Adjustment for a new garage setback.

I have no regular office hours. However, I can be reached by phone during business hours on Monday thru Fridays at 775-0065 to make a specific office or home appointment or answer your questions. Messages can also be left at the Town office. If you hear or see any apparent zoning violations, please call me to investigate.

Respectfully submitted  
Stephen Cosgrove, Zoning Administrator  
775-0065

## Assessor's 2016 Report

In 2016, thirty-three properties received change of appraisal notices. Seventeen property owners elected to grieve the appraisal for their property. No property owner appealed the decision to the Board of Civil Authority. The two properties that appealed to the State Board of Appraisers were heard and are now closed.

History of Mendon's CLA & COD since last reappraisal

Year	CLA	COD	Year	CLA	COD
2015	101.15	13.79	2016	106.68	23.57
2014	103.41	15.28	2008	90.37	15.49
2013	105.13	13.59	2007	95.56	12.34
2012	106.05	16.46	2006	106.13	9.60
2011	97.42	18.47	2005	112.37	11.28
2010	91.39	19.04	2004	76.74	21.18
2009	88.25	17.07			

The Vermont Legislature has not changed the rules for **Homestead Declarations**.

Homestead Property is owned and occupied by a VT resident as his or her principal home on April 1, and declared as a homestead on Form HS-122, Section A, that is filed with the VT Department of Taxes. **A Homestead Declaration must be filed each year.** The form can be downloaded at:

<http://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/2015-HS-122-web.pdf>

I want to thank the voters of Mendon for their continued support. It has been a pleasure serving the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Potter, Vermont Municipal Assessor

## Cemetery Report

The Cemetery Reserve Fund contribution will remain at \$4,000 for the upcoming year. In the past, revenue from the sale of plots has covered the costs associated with cemetery maintenance. As the number of available plots decreases, this source of funding declines. Future goals of the Cemetery Commission include restoring older damaged gravestones, repairing fences around the perimeters, and possibly surveying land for an additional cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Barone, Chair, Cemetery Commission

## Recreation Report

This past year had little activity to report on. A basketball hoop was installed at the Mendon Recreation Field this year. The Recreation Committee is looking for volunteers that can help with painting the dugouts, clearing trails of debris and spring cleanup. Please contact the town office if you would like to volunteer.



## **Barstow Youth Club 2016-2017 Annual Report**

This report covers the spring 2016 baseball/softball season, the fall 2015 soccer season, the winter 2016-17 basketball seasons, the winter 2016 indoor soccer season, and the spring 2016 outdoor soccer season.

The past year offered a variety of offerings to the youth in our community. We had the following number of children participate in our sponsored activities.

Baseball/Softball –86

Fall Soccer – 51

Winter Basketball (teams) – 40

Winter Basketball (K-2 Skills Sessions) – 25

Winter Indoor & Spring Outdoor Soccer – 25

Highlights from this past year include purchasing new miniature basketball hoops that are utilized by both the school and the BYC for our K-2 winter basketball skills series. Our 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball team had a great season winning both the Proctor and Middlebury basketball tournaments. Our 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade minor league softball team also had a great season finishing 8-1.

We are looking for parents from our younger age divisions to step in and become active participants to help keep the BYC moving forward. Please think about volunteering.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael McLaughlin - acting Director of the BYC

Dave Gleed - Treasurer

Randy Johnson

Steve Senecal

Amy Merrill

Chris Gandin

George Schaffer

Jamie Gallagher

## Road Commissioner Report

The winter last year was a warm one and not much in the way of storms. It gave the Road Crew an opportunity to help with the Town Garage Improvement Project by way of clearing trees and stumps for the site preparation for the new Sand and Salt Shed. The grading of the site was done by Seth Bridge, Mendon Trucking and he also transported the concrete blocks from Cararra's for the foundation of the structure. Wilk's Sealing paved the pad and driveway. Newt Jones and I set the blocks for the foundation and secured them by drilling 1200 holes, 5" deep and bolted steel plates and corner brackets to complete the foundation. The new sand and salt shed is 80' X 75' and was delivered and constructed by ClearSpan Fabric Structures International, Inc. Electrical work was completed by Lafaso Electric. The erection of the building was completed in November 2016. There is still work to be done on the garage floors, floor drains, overhead doors and a side door to complete the Town Garage Improvement Project.

There were three construction projects completed in 2016. The first project continued to upgrade the Falls Road with the goal of restoring similar access to the properties off the Notch Road, Clark Mason Road and Northam Road that were affected by the loss of the Notch Road in TS Irene. I hauled and spread \$10,000 in gravel from Casella. The second project replaced culvert C07-48 on Wheelerville Road with a 57" x 38" x 40' arch pipe. Mendon contracted with Enman Kesselring Consulting Engineers to engineer the culvert and Richard Reed and Sons to install the culvert. Total project cost of \$63,196 of which \$56,876 was paid with an Agency of Transportation Structures Grant. The third project replaced culvert C07-47 on Wheelerville Road. Mendon contracted with Enman Kesselring Consulting Engineers to engineer the culvert and Mendon Trucking to install the 24" X 36' plastic culvert. The total of the project was \$20,214 of which \$16,171 was paid by a Better Backroads Grant.

Through a successful grant application, the Better Backroads Program is financially supporting an infrastructure inventory project in order to create a capital budget plan. Mendon has contracted with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to assist with this project. It is expected to be completed in the summer of 2017. The grant is approved for \$7,168 and Mendon's match is \$1,792 which will be in kind labor and equipment. It is required that Mendon have an updated inventory of its infrastructure that is less than three years old.

There are two construction projects planned for this summer. The first is a culvert replacement project on Townline Road near Connor Drive. The road will be closed during construction using Route 4 and Gleason Road as detours. The second project is on erosion control project on Old Turnpike Road that will reestablish ditches and replace two culverts.

Routine maintenance was performed grading and ditching in various places. The Road Crew cleaned out a ditch on Round Robin Rd. and Overbrook Drive.

Susan Shreibman assisted the Road Crew to update safety policies which included a Hazardous Communication Program, Personal Protective Equipment Policy and a Lock Out Tag Out Policy. We would like to thank Susan for her assistance.

I would like to thank Greg Webster who worked part time through the winter, however, during the summer he found a full-time job with a contractor, and did not return this winter. I wish him well in his new job.

Scott Bradley worked for Mendon in various capacities for 15 years, but the longest driving Truck #1 on the Road Crew. Scott was a highly motivated and dedicated member of the Road Crew and was a pleasure to work with. I would like to sincerely thank him for the long hours and sacrifices he made while keeping our roads safe. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors. Newt Jones moved up from part time to full time to replace Scott Bradley.

I would like to thank Sara Tully and Nancy Gondella for all the help they give me on the paper & computer work and their help is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

William Ellis  
Road Commissioner



New Sand & Salt Shed next to the former shed that will be utilized for cold storage.

## Minutes of the Mendon Town Meeting

Monday, February 29, 2016

Mendon Mountainview Lodge

Larry Courcelle, Chairman of the Mendon Selectboard, opened the meeting at 6:08 p.m., since Chris Corsones, the elected Town and School Moderator was unable to be in attendance. Larry asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Thereafter, Larry asked for nominations for Town and School Moderator for this evening's meeting. Earlier Jack Kennelly, an attorney, had indicated that he was available for nomination. Sara Tully moved to nominate Jack Kennelly and it was seconded by Tom Soriano. No other nominations were offered.

Sara moved to appoint Jack Kennelly as Moderator of the School District Meeting. It was seconded by Tom Soriano and unanimously approve.

Jack thanked the Mendon Mountainview Lodge and Ski Mendon Management LLC for allowing Mendon to hold the Town Meeting at their location. Jack then introduced Job Tate, the Mendon representative in Montpelier. Job informed everyone that he and his wife had welcomed their second son this past year. Job handed out a flyer to give everyone an idea of what he considers his top 5 priorities:

1. **To put Vermont back on a sane, sound and sustainable fiscal path.** Job wants to stop spending more than we take in. We need to spend within our needs.
2. **To reduce the property tax burden on Vermonters by addressing runaway education costs.** Job feels we have a spending model that is antiquated. Job noted that our student population continues to drop. As an example in 2005-06 the student enrollment was 93,925. Last year that number had dropped to 84,446, a decrease of 10%. Our special education and staff to student ratio (although lowest in the nation) are the main reason for our higher costs.
3. **To provide access to quality healthcare which all Vermonters can afford.** Job feels that moving to the federal exchange makes sense and the State government should develop policies so that businesses offer affordable health plans to their employees. Job is convinced that Montpelier should not add a tax on independent doctors and dentists. Vermont needs more primary physicians.
4. **To promote economic development and job creation while retaining existing business.** The Fee Bill if passed would increase overall fees by \$28,000,000 which would impact many small businesses. Before Job will vote on this bill, it will have to "do no harm." According to Job, Montpelier needs to focus on places other than Chittenden.
5. **To reduce the burden on local government.** Job advised that the budget is so tight, and Montpelier just transferred costs to municipalities.

Matt Conway voiced his concerns about the student to teacher ratio. According to a recent study of worldwide schools, the U.S. does not rank very high. Matt asked how far the student/teacher ratio was aiming. Job stated 4 to 1. Job noted that the ratio and special education are intertwined. We don't want to give up quality education, but the funding model may be the problem.

Matt's second concern was around Medicare (federally run) and Medicaid (State run). One-third of the population is on Medicare, while 40% are Medicaid. The State is underfunded and cannot make ends meet.

Lynn Sandage expressed her frustration with events in Washington. Job said he understood the frustration people were feeling.

Erica McLaughlin identified herself as a principal and member of the school board. She felt that the Picas report is one shortsighted view and wants Job to take that expression back to share at Montpelier. Job stated that the Barstow reputation in Montpelier is 'sterling.'

Bert Winans from Cream Hill Road talked about the number of homes on his road on the market today as opposed to 13 years ago. Gerhard Sihler thanked Job for sharing the Montpelier news. He too was concerned with the high cost of living in Vermont and likened it to his experience when he lived in Connecticut in the 80's and 90's. Gerhard would like to see more internships supported by schools and businesses which in turn would reap trained, skilled future workers who would bring more industry to Vermont.

Fred Bagley noted a VTrans report with a lot of road projects in Chittendon County. Jennifer Bagley asked Job if anyone else has voluntarily taken a pay in salary. Job responded not to his knowledge. Larry Courcelle talked with Job about ACT 64, clean water and discharge. Mendon road will be impacted and we will have to budget for this in 2017-18. Job responded that this will be a municipal cost, however, Mendon, Chittendon and Killington should be fine. These areas are not causing any problem, Vivienne Gulick stated that as a mother of a high school student about to go to college next year, she is very conscious of household expenses as compared to wages. Is it any wonder why our educated children are not returning to Vermont after graduation? Job noted that we need to focus on economic development.

Gerhard Sihler asked Job what his feelings were about marijuana. Job stated he is opposed to the legalization of marijuana, however, he thinks it is very likely to become law. He believes the use of marijuana for medical purposes is good.

Job thanked everyone for their support and departed. At 6:48 p.m. Jack turned the meeting over to the Mendon School District for their portion of the evening.

**As the approved Town Moderator, Jack Kennelly re-opened the Town Meeting portion of the evening at 7:15 p.m.**

Jack introduced the Selectboard members: Larry Courcelle, Chair, Geoff Wells, and recently appointed Dick Wilcox.

Larry Courcelle reviewed both Article 1 and Article 2 presented in the Warning.

**Article 1. Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to acquire by gift or purchase, land for municipal forest, to produce wood products, maintain wildlife habitat, protect water supplies, provide forest recreation and for conservation education purposes?**

Sara Tully moved to approve Article 1. Vivienne Gulick seconded the motion and there being no discussion the vote unanimously approved the motion.

**Article 2. Shall the town authorize the Selectboard to set the hourly compensation rate for non-salaried employees, and in the event of an appointment of a town office at mid-term?**

Patti Lancaster moved to approve Article 2. It was seconded by Sara Tully and there being no discussion, the vote unanimously approved the motion.

Larry noted that Caroline Schneider, who is the Town Treasurer, has offered her resignation due to many other commitments. Mendon is very grateful for her contributions. Additionally, Phil Douglas is also thanked for his time and efforts in mowing the recreation with his own tractor. We will be looking for someone at least 18 years of age to do our mowing in the future.

Larry noted that on the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, the next meeting will be March 23, at 6:30 p.m., in the Town Office—not March 9<sup>th</sup> as previously scheduled.

Larry thanked all the volunteers, election officials, members of various committees, boards, etc., and reminded everyone that we are always looking for volunteers. This year's town report is dedicated to two generous people: Matt Conway for his 10 years of service on the School Board, and Greg Smith, the previous Selectboard Chair, for his many years of service as well.

**Article 3. To see if the Town will vote the Administrative portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town**

Larry reviewed the three sections of the budget: Administration Budget, Infrastructure Budget and the Public Safe Budget.

Gerhart Sihler moved to approve Article 3. Patti Lancaster seconded the motion and there being no further discussion, the vote unanimously approved the motion.

**Article 4. To see if the Town will vote the Community Infrastructure portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town.**

Sara Tully moved to approve Article 4. Matt Conway seconded the motion. A chart was displayed by Geoff Wells depicting proposed culvert repairs. Geoff noted that Route 4 will not have to be closed, and this will be a 2-year project. In 2017 we will be repairing Bridge 2 on Meadowlake Drive. The other bridge is at the Junction of Route 4 and Wheelerville Road. The largest portion of the infrastructure budget is for replacements of culverts and bridges. Thanks are offered to Bill Ellis and his crew for doing a great job for the Town. Dick Wilcox commented on the Irene/FEMA projects. It is a top priority to get this wrapped up. It is important to get everything filed and get the money in. Dick stated that while he is coming in at the end of this project, he observed how well documented everything is, given the tsunami of paperwork caused by Irene.

Arnold Kirbach asked about the ravine and what was going to be done with the land above it. The State is buying the ravine and the land up top.

Bill Ellis brought the town's attention to the deterioration of the Salt and Sand Shed. The tinsel strength of the shed walls is faltering due to faulty initial installation. The estimate to repair the shed is

approximately \$250,000 plus an addition \$250,000 to seal the walls. An alternative plan was developed by Phil Douglas, a professional engineer, and Bill Ellis. The town uses about 600 tons of salt per year, which must be stored inside. The proposed alternative new shed will be made of fabric and steel, for one half the cost of cited repairs. The installation can be done with our current town crew, as opposed to an outside contractor. Additionally, we will be able to take our salt delivery before winter. A \$285,000 bond is proposed to fund the shed structure over a 15-year repayment with a 2.44% interest rate. For homeowners this will amount to approximately \$14.20 a year. The logical approach is the new structure. Larry described repairs need at the garage as well.

Vivienne Gulick asked if this proposal took demolishing and removing the old shed into account? Jennifer Bagley asked if the structure would be big enough so that no stacking against the walls would be necessary. Larry advised that is what is intended. Justin Lindholm asked if the shed would have doors and a gate.

Phil Douglas described the fabric as being available in several colors, however, white allows the most light to pass through, which will provide more interior lighting.

Millie Steingress noted that it is a good idea to do this project now, while the interest rates are so low. Fred Bagley was concerned about the old salt shed's lifespan. Larry indicated that it would probably be safe as long as nothing is pressing up against the walls, for many more years.

Phil explained the advantage to doing the work ourselves. The design calls for concrete block which is a cost savings. These can be bought locally.

Bill Tager wondered if hail could damage the building. Jody Wilcox asked if this building was going into the same place as the garage? Phil responded that it is. One more advantage is that if necessary, the building can be taken down.

A vote was called for the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Article 5. To see if the Town will vote the Public Safety portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town.**

Matt Conway moved to approve Article 5. It was seconded by Tom Soriano and there being no further discussion the vote unanimously approved the motion.

**Article 6. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 for the ARC Rutland Area Serving Citizens with Development Disabilities?**

Mary Marriott moved to approve Article 6. It was seconded by Patti Lancaster and the vote produced one nay but was carried.

**Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,200 for the Marble Valley Regional Transit District (The Bus)?**

Minga Dana review the various services provided to the citizens of Mendon.

Patti Lancaster moved to approve Article 7. It was seconded by Jennifer Bagley and the vote produced one nay, but was carried.

**Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate \$500 for RASVP and The Volunteer Center?**

Wanda Courcelle advised that she has worked with RSVP for many years and confirms the good work done by the group.

Larry Courcelle moved to approve Article 8. It was seconded by Phil Douglas and the vote unanimously approved the motion.

**Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,600 for the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?**

Phil Douglas moved to approve Article 9. It was seconded by Gerhard Sihler and the vote produced two nays but was carried.

**Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,242 for Rutland Mental Health Services formerly Rutland Area Community Services?**

Teri Corsones moved to approve Article 10. It was seconded by Larry Courcelle and the vote produced 1 nay but was carried.

**Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate \$400 for the Southwestern Council on Aging?**

Patti Lancaster moved to approve Article 10. It was seconded by Gerhard Sihler and the vote unanimously approved the motion.

**Article 12. To elect all necessary Town Officers.**

Election will take place at the Mendon Town Hall on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**Article 13. To transact any other legal business.**

Bert Winans noted in the future he would like to suggest that all hand-outs be placed on the table outside the meeting room, rather than being passed around during the meeting.

**There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Larry Courcelle, Selectboard Chair

/s/ Jack Kennelly, Town Moderator

/s/ Marie E. Conway, Town Clerk

## **Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union Board Annual Report**

First and foremost we would like to thank the voters of all of the towns that make up the Supervisory Union for their confidence and faith in the members of the Board. It is gratifying to see budgets passed, the passage of our new unified district under Act 46, and your support shown in so many ways.

This year we continued to have much on our plates...with working through the nuances of Act 46 and the passage of the Otter Valley Union Unified District and the Barstow Unified District, contract negotiations for both our para-professionals and bus drivers and licensed professionals, continuing review of our policies, development and adoption of Central Office, Transportation, and Special Education budgets.

Although much of our time is spent on the business of operating our schools, our primary goal is to provide the very best quality education for all of the students in our districts. We know that the communities and the students count on our board to guarantee high standards, quality education, multiple opportunities to learn, a high degree of safety, and highly qualified teachers and staff to educate our children and get them ready to be outstanding citizens. We work hard to achieve those goals.

We also conducted our second evaluation of Jeanné Collins, our Superintendent. Jeanné did a self-evaluation and then an online confidential evaluation was done by members of all the school boards. We are pleased to say that Ms. Collins received high rankings in all categories. She worked hard at her goals and met many of them.

Once again we thank you for the confidence you place in us and the great opportunity you give us to serve all of our children.

Sincerely,

Richard A. White  
Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union Board Chair



Dear Residents of Chittenden and Mendon

Welcome to the newly formed Barstow Unified Union School District. After a successful vote to consolidate on January 19, 2016, we opened our doors on July 1, 2016 and have spent much of our first few months transferring properties and ensuring our systems have caught up with the new changes. Not much needed to change at Barstow, as we already functioned as one district under a Joint Agreement. However, it is now easier for the two towns to speak with one voice on the needs of the students and families of Barstow, which helps with greater efficiencies.

Many are aware that our long time custodian, James Ashby, retired and moved out of state this June. This meant the Principal's House was empty. The Board chose to bring in a consultant to look at the house and assess its needs. We are currently in the process of updating the house and improving its condition using the facilities fund and will then lease it to our new custodian, Alison Patterson and her family as we welcome them to Barstow Memorial School. This arrangement has worked well in the past and we are pleased to be able to continue it.

Barstow Unified Union is a district within Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union; thus, it will have its own Annual Meeting, replacing the two-town meeting at budget time. Please plan to attend the first annual Barstow Unified Union meeting on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 6:30 PM at Barstow Memorial School. Prior to that meeting, all relevant budget materials and information about the schools you are used to reading in your town report will be collated and sent to you in a separate report, mailed out by BUU before the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual BUU Meeting on Feb. 28. If you have any questions, please email me at [jcollins@nesu.org](mailto:jcollins@nesu.org) or use the *Let's Talk* link on any school website.



**Barstow Unified Union School District (BUUSD)  
Board of Directors' Annual Report**

Since the formation of the Barstow Unified Union School District, the school board has been keeping busy, as has the Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union Central Office. The board agreed to develop a new governance model in the spring of 2015 and we have been chipping away at creating this new model. Work is still in process and we have excellent guidance from Val Gardner.

Barstow has a new head custodian, Alison Patterson, this year. We are using facility funds to update the Principal's House. The house has been in need of repairs and maintenance for quite some time and we feel it's best to protect the assets we have.

The main structure at the school playground was found to be unsafe at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year. Reinforcements were made but we still need to address the long term use and are currently fundraising to make it a sound structure for years to come.

We had the school tested for EMR (electromagnetic radiation) in June of 2016. The levels are below the FCC's stated "safe levels" but there are numerous studies showing harmful effects well below the "safe level" set by the FCC. The NEA states that the report is to be available to the public for those who may wish to review it. Please contact our Superintendent Jeanné Collins for access to the report.

This past year was the first year that Barstow did not meet AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) via student assessments. We knew this would eventually happen but was hoping it would not be so soon. The students did come in above the state levels, which is normally the case. Barstow continues to strive on excellence.

The tuition rate for Barstow students has increased from \$14,700 to \$14,850 per the suggestion of the Central Office.

The board has decided to provide bus transportation for Mendon high school students, Chittenden has had a high school bus for years but Mendon has not. We felt it was best to offer the bus to all Chittenden and Mendon families under our Barstow Unified Union School District.

Support Staff negotiations for FY17 are still being discussed. Teacher negotiations are still under way for new contract/salaries for FY18. Progress has been made but both sides of the equation have yet to reach an agreement.

We have a *Let's Talk* link on both the RNESU website ([www.rnesu.org](http://www.rnesu.org)) and Barstow Memorial School website (<http://barstow.rnesu.org/>) that can be a great communication tool for residents, taxpayers and families of Chittenden and Mendon. Barstow Unified Union School District meetings are being held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at Barstow Memorial School. The following link can be used to access info on meeting agendas, the minutes of past meetings, our work plan and the BUUSD brochure. Please go to <http://www.rnesu.org/school-boards/barstow-unified-union-school-board>

Mendon and Chittenden will have the same tax rate but that rate will be adjusted by each town individually via CLA, or Common Level of Appraisal.

The board strives to be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers while doing our best to offer the best education possible to the students of Barstow. We wish you a good year.

Respectfully submitted,

Barstow Unified Union School District Directors:

Michelle Erickson, Chair

Debbie Singiser, Clerk

Kathy Cunningham

Erica McLaughlin



TA 14

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TOWN OF MENDON, VT

Received for Record 01-28 2016  
at 4:00 o'clock P. M. and recorded in  
Mendon Land Records, Vol TA 4 Page 130

Attest Mari E Conway  
Town Clerk

*Mendon Town School District  
Special School District Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 18, 2016, 6:00pm, Community United Methodist Church*

**Mendon School Board Members Present:** Michelle Erickson; Erica McLaughlin

Deb Singiser and Liz Stahura, Chittenden School Board Members, were also in attendance.

Michelle Erickson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Michelle introduced the members of the Mendon and Chittenden School Boards.

A nomination was made by Matt Conway, seconded by Gerhard Seiller and passed to appoint Jack Kennelly as moderator for the meeting.

Michelle referenced the Articles to be voted on in the election taking place on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. Michelle indicated that copies of the Articles will be available at the polls on Tuesday and that the polls will be open 7am-7pm.

**Act 46 Study Committee Members Present:** Matt Conway and Cort Jones. Matt Conway addressed the group (approximately 35 people) and talked about Act 46 and outlined what this vote will accomplish. A unified Barstow School District would be created and would include a new board made up of two Chittenden Directors, one Mendon member and one at-large member. Cort Jones addressed the group and talked about the benefits of centralized services. There was discussion regarding the tax rate and the CLA (common level of appraisal).

A motion was made by Sarah Tully, seconded by Mike Tully and passed to allow Kellie Becker to address the group. Matt responded to Kellie's comments that maintaining school choice is extremely important and that the Boards have chosen an accelerated timeline in order to realize tax benefits.

A motion was made by Erica McLaughlin, seconded by Cort Jones and passed to allow Deb Singiser to address the group.

Moderator Jack Kennelly thanked the Board and Committee members for their work. He also thanked the Church folks for hosting the meeting.

A motion was made by Jay Knable and seconded by Cort Jones to adjourn the meeting at 6:55pm.

*Lisa K. Wilson*

Lisa K. Wilson, Recording Secretary

*January 20, 2016*

Date

*John Kennelly*

John Kennelly, Moderator

*1/28/2016*

Date

*Michelle Erickson*

Michelle Erickson, Chair of School District

*1/28/2016*

Date

## Minutes of the Mendon School District Meeting

Monday, February 29, 2016  
Mendon Mountainview Lodge

Jack Kennelly, the approved School Moderator, opened the Mendon School District Meeting at 6:58 p.m. and turned the floor over to the school board for presentation.

Michelle Erickson introduced herself as the Chairperson of the Mendon School Board. She also introduced Renee Castillo, the new principal of Barstow School who stated she has an open-door policy.

Michelle reviewed the statistics of the Elementary and Middle School and noted that Jeanne Collins is the Superintendent.

Matt Conway asked Renee if there were any changes. Renee noted the class size is one change. There are 20 children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The State requires us to maintain certain class sizes.

Michelle then reviewed the newly adopted Barstow Unified District and thanked everyone for their support on Act 46 voting in January. In response to an inquiry, Michelle advised that with regard to the standardized testing, it is not a matter of students passing or failing the tests this year. Barstow did well on the testing.

Chris Gandin introduced the members of the School Board: Michelle Erickson, Chair, Erica McLaughlin, and himself. Chris noted there are 205 students pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Barstow, composed of 55% Chittendon students and 45% Mendon. Erica discussed the new approach to governing the schools under the newly adopted Barstow Unified District. Erica advised that Barstow students out-performs in the State. Erica listed the various high school which Barstow students attend: Rutland High, West Rutland, out-of-state schools, Burr & Burton, Burke Mountain and Long Trail School. In all cases, Barstow students are well prepared. Michelle reviewed the budget for the Barstow Unified District, as well as the Mendon tax rate, noting that our CLA is close to 100%. She advised that Barstow's per pupil spending remains below the state average.

Jennifer Bagley talked about Barstow's pre-school program, which has a State mandate of 10 hours per week. Jennifer asked how many years Barstow has had a full day program for kindergarten. It has been in existence for five years. It was noted that heavy parent involvement is one of the reasons for Barstow's success.

Michelle moved to postpone indefinitely the proposed School Budget. Sara Tully seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Patti Lancaster moved to approve the School District to borrow money to meet expenses. Betsy Reddy seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Erica McLaughlin noted that next year voting will be done in the town of residence and the votes will be co-mingled.

The School Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. until election at the Town Hall on Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Michelle Erickson, Chairperson for School District

/s/ Jack Kennelly, Moderator

/s/ Marie E. Conway, Town Clerk



Congratulations 2016 Barstow Graduates

Tanner Merrill and Ryan McLaughlin

**Warning**  
**Town Meeting –March 6, 2017**  
**Mendon Mountainview Lodge**  
**5654 US Route 4, Mendon, Vermont**

The legal voters of the Town of Mendon are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Mendon Mountainview Lodge on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:00 PM to transact all business except Article 15. The meeting will adjourn until March 7, 2017 at 8:00 AM, at the Mendon Town Office, to vote by Australian ballot on Article 15. Voting will close at 7:00 PM.

- Article 1 - Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to acquire by gift or purchase, land for municipal forest, to produce wood products, maintain wildlife habitat, protect water supplies, provide forest recreation, and for conservation education purposes?
- Article 2 - Shall the town authorize the Selectboard to set the hourly compensation rate for non-salaried employees, and in the event of an appointment of a town officer at mid-term?
- Article 3 - To see if the Town will vote the Administrative portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town.
- Article 4 - To see if the Town will vote the Community Infrastructure portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town.
- Article 5 - Shall the Town replace the Law Enforcement Fund with the Public Safety Fund?
- Article 6 - To see if the Town will vote the Public Safety portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town.
- Article 7 - Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 for the ARC Rutland Area Serving Citizens with Developmental Disabilities?
- Article 8 - Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 for the Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County?
- Article 9 - Shall the Town appropriate \$1,200 for the Marble Valley Regional Transit District (The Bus)?
- Article 10 - Shall the Town appropriate \$550 for RSVP and The Volunteer Center?
- Article 11 - Shall the Town appropriate \$2,600 for the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
- Article 12 - Shall the Town appropriate \$1,242 for Rutland Mental Health Services formerly Rutland Area Community Services?
- Article 13 - Shall the Town appropriate \$1,060 to the Regional Marketing Initiative, a collaboration of the Rutland Regional Chamber of Commerce (RRCC) and the Rutland Economic development Corporation (REDC) along with area businesses and municipalities with the ultimate goal of growing the economy in our region?
- Article 14 - Shall the Town appropriate \$400 for The Southwestern Council on Aging?

Article 15 - To elect all necessary Town Officers.

Article 16 - To transact any other legal business.

Dated at Mendon, Vermont on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2017

Selectboard:

/s/ Larry Courcelle

/s/ Marie Conway, Town Clerk

/s/ Geoff Wells

/s/ Richard Wilcox

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## Town of Mendon, VT **SAMPLE BALLOT**

### OFFICIAL BALLOT (SAMPLE) TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, mark a cross (X) in the square to the right of that person's name. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name on the blank line in the appropriate block, and mark a cross (X) in the square to the right of that person's name.

For Town Moderator - 1 year term  
Vote for not more than ONE

Christopher Corsones .....

\_\_\_\_\_ Write-In

For Selectman - 3 year term  
Vote for not more than ONE

Scott Bradley .....

\_\_\_\_\_ Write-In

For Town Agent - 1 year term  
Vote for not more than ONE

Therese Corsones .....

\_\_\_\_\_ Write-In

For Grand Juror - 1 year term  
Vote for not more than ONE

Philip M. Douglas .....

\_\_\_\_\_ Write-In

**SAMPLE BALLOT**

**SAMPLE BALLOT**

## Recognition of Six Years of Service

# Larry Courcelle

## Mendon Selectboard



Larry Courcelle served on the Mendon Selectboard from March, 2011 through March, 2017.

Just 6 months after Larry took office, he worked with boots on the ground during the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene. Immediately after the storm, Larry accompanied then Director of Public Safety, Scott Bradley on All Terrain Vehicles to deliver water and a message to the stranded residents that the town would be there to meet their needs. Over the next 5 years, Larry oversaw 32 construction projects to put Mendon's infrastructure back together.

During his time on the board, Larry supported the Town Garage Improvement Project and the creation of the Jim Jeffords State Forest located in Mendon.

Larry served as chair of the board for one year and will continue to represent Mendon on the Rutland Regional Planning Commission.

Thank you Larry for your extraordinary service and dedication!

