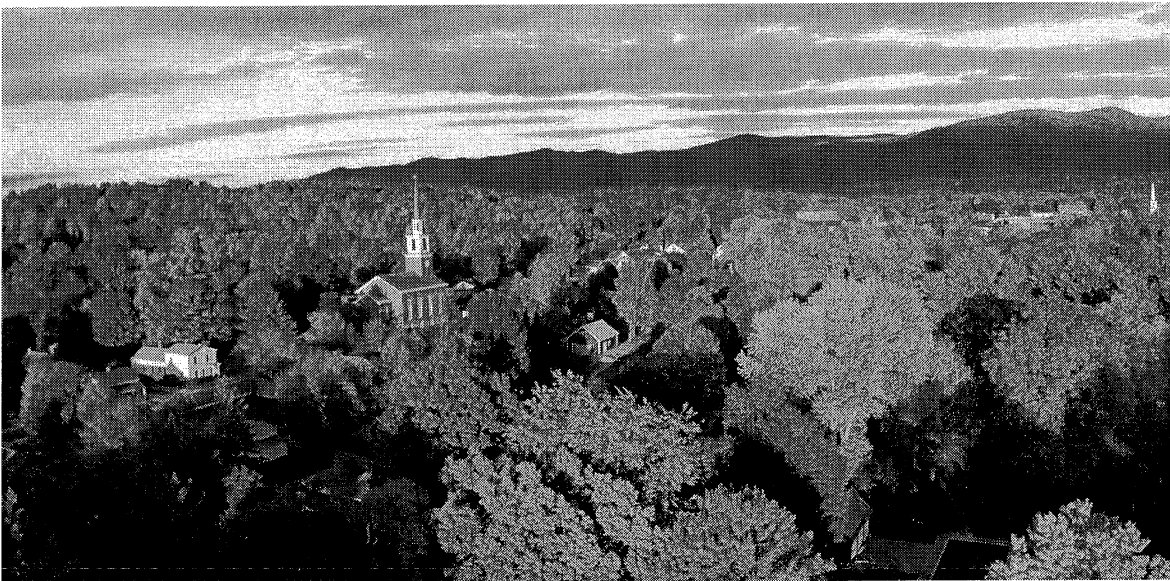


# **TOWN OF BRANDON ANNUAL REPORT FY 2014- 2015**

[www.townofbrandon.com](http://www.townofbrandon.com)

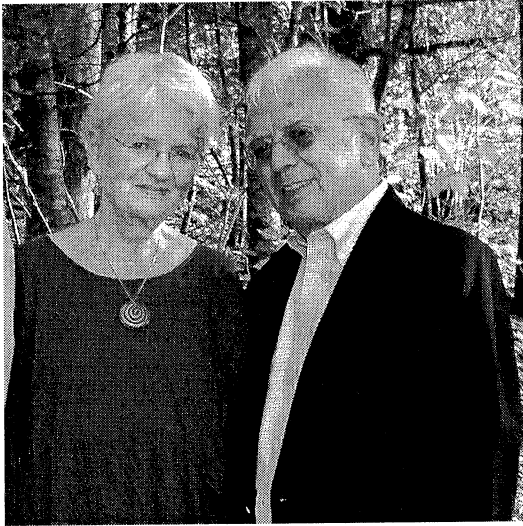


**The Town of Brandon, in all her autumn glory.**

Photo by Joseph Zingale

## DEDICATION

### TERRY and DOTTIE KLINE



The Select Board dedicates this year's town report to a very special couple who touched the lives of many Brandon citizens through their professional and personal lives. Terry and Dottie Kline moved to Brandon in 1978 from Arcade, New York, with their three children Molly, Doug, and Mark.

Terry was president of the First Brandon National Bank for 25 years, a tenure marked by professionalism and trust. In his retirement, he has continued to serve local families as executor for a number of estates.

Terry has been instrumental in the responsible transformation of property uses that make up Brandon as we know it today. Dottie taught piano to countless budding Brandon musicians, from the very young to those more advanced in years. Early-morning lesson times exemplified the dedication she inspired in her students, and her springtime recitals were an event not to be missed. She also shared her gift for music by accompanying the violinists of the "Bows and Ivories" ensemble.

Many people fondly associate the Klines with their fastidious maintenance of their beautiful Park Street home, surrounded by a white picket fence. Several times a day, one or both of them would head out onto the sidewalk to stroll to town and back with the French bulldog then part of their family. Ziggy in particular was known as the mayor of Park Street. The Klines have recently moved to a retirement community in Middlebury with their French bulldog Henri. But we are happy that from time to time, we still see them around town here in Brandon. We hope we shall enjoy that pleasure for many years to come.

For more than thirty-five years of quiet, peaceful citizenship and contributions to Brandon's economic and civic life, we dedicate this town report to Terry and Dottie Kline.

Photo: Gary Pearl

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## TOWN MEETING PROCEDURES

The rules that govern Town Meeting are designed to transact the public business efficiently while giving everyone the opportunity to speak his or her mind. *Robert's Rules* are the foundation, but even they are modified by State Statute, tradition, and the standing rules adopted by previous Town Meetings. Perhaps even more important is the informal rule that through it all we retain our sense of humor and civility, for the person you attack tonight you will inevitably meet in the grocery store tomorrow!

Like the Australian Ballot, you must be a registered voter of Brandon to fully participate in Town Meeting. While everyone who is interested is invited to observe the meeting, only registered voters may speak without special permission; only voters may actually vote on any question. The job of the Moderator is to keep the discussion focused and to help the people operate within the rules. If you are not quite sure how to make a motion, just ask and the Moderator will guide you through the process. From time to time, the Moderator may have to rule on other issues - most of which relate to the question of germaneness.

Remember the acid test for any motion: Could someone not here have expected that the motion would be offered? If the answer is clearly "yes," it's probably germane, and if not, you may have a problem. If you make sure that your remarks or motions do not unreasonably stray from the subject, purpose, or funding method of the original warning, you should be well within the rules.

### **Three final points to remember:**

1. To maintain order, all comments, questions, and rebuttals must be addressed to the chair - even when the urge to respond directly to the previous speaker is close to overwhelming.
2. Our standing practice is to allow a follow-up to every question, to give the original questioner a chance to clarify or comment on the response.
3. Even moderators can be overruled. If you think that a bad ruling has been made, make a point of order and the full assembly will decide on the question.

**TOWN OF BRANDON  
WARNING FOR EVENING MEETING  
FEBRUARY 29, 2016**

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Neshobe Elementary School at 17 Neshobe Circle on Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. to transact the following business:

1. Take appropriate action on the reports of officers as they appear in the Town Report.
2. To hear a presentation by the Select Board of its recommended budget for fiscal year 2016-2017. This budget and appropriations will be voted by Australian ballot on March 1, 2016 at the Neshobe School located at 17 Neshobe Circle.
3. To hear a presentation by the Select Board regarding the issuance of general obligation bonds for certain improvements, namely, (1) construction of culvert, highway and bridge infrastructure repairs and replacements at an estimated aggregate cost of \$835,200, and (2) reconstruction of the Champlain Street wastewater pump station, sewer force main replacement and sewer collection system rehabilitation, at an estimated cost of \$680,000. Meeting was separately warned per VSA 24 §1756. These general obligation bonds will be voted by Australian ballot on March 1, 2016 at the Neshobe School located at 17 Neshobe Circle.
4. Shall the voters designate the Town of Brandon as a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) District to enable participating property owners to access funding for eligible energy efficiency and renewable energy projects and then pay back the cost as a regular municipal assessment on that property owner's property tax or other municipal bill as provided for by 24 V.S.A. Chapter 87 (Section 3261 et seq.) and authorize the Select Board to enter into an agreement with Vermont Energy Investment Corporation d/b/a Efficiency Vermont to operate the PACE program, including the processing of all applications and regular billing?
5. To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

**TOWN OF BRANDON  
AUSTRALIAN BALLOT  
FOR MARCH 1, 2016**

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon, Vermont are further notified and warned to meet at the Neshobe Elementary School at 17 Neshobe Circle on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. to vote by Australian ballot on the following matters:

ARTICLE 1      To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year:  
Moderator .....One for one-year term  
Selectman.....One for three-year term  
Selectman.....One for one-year term  
Selectman.....One for one-year term  
Trustee of Public Funds..... One for three-year term  
Town Agent..... One for one-year term  
Town Grand Juror..... One for one-year term  
Library Trustee..... One for two-year term

ARTICLE 2  
To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate the sum of Two Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$2,946,710) for the FY 2016-2017 budget year, of which the sum of Two Million, Four Hundred and Eighty Six Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-two Dollars(\$2,486,822) is to be raised by property taxes?

ARTICLE 3  
To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$3,500 for ARC-Rutland Area, serving citizens with developmental and intellectual disabilities?

ARTICLE 4  
To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$1,000 for the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce?

ARTICLE 5  
To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$20,735 for the Brandon Area Rescue Squad?

ARTICLE 6

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$10,000 for the Boys & Girls Club of Brandon?

ARTICLE 7

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$85,500 for the Brandon Free Public Library?

ARTICLE 8

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$6,000 for the Brandon Independence Day Celebration Committee?

ARTICLE 9

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$13,500 for the Brandon Senior Citizens Center, Inc?

ARTICLE 10

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$15,000 for the Foxcroft Farm Harvest Program?

ARTICLE 11

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$550 for the RSVP and The Volunteer Center?

ARTICLE 12

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$10,200 for the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice; of which \$1,200 will support Rutland Area Hospice and \$9,000 will support RAVNAH home and community health services?

ARTICLE 13

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$750 for the Rutland County Humane Society?

ARTICLE 14

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$6,624 for Rutland Mental Health Services?

ARTICLE 15

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$2,500 for the Stephen A Douglas Birthplace Community Center Inc.?

ARTICLE 16

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$2,400 for the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?

ARTICLE 17

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate an amount not to exceed \$100,250 for paving projects, including 12 village streets in collaboration with the Fire District waterline project?

ARTICLE 18

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will authorize the Select Board to re-appropriate \$24,000 in unspent match funds appropriated for the Wheeler Road bridge design at Town meeting on March 4, 2014, for Structures Grant Match?

ARTICLE 19

To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will authorize the Select Board to allocate a portion of the Town Farm funds in the amount of \$18,000 for the Maple/Union Street Sidewalk grant match?

Select Board

Signed and Certified January 25, 2016

Douglas Bailey	Signed _____
Seth Hopkins	Signed _____
Devon Fuller	Signed _____
Ethan Swift	Signed _____
Tracy Wyman	Signed _____

Adopted and approved at a duly warned meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Brandon called, noticed and held on January 25, 2016. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Brandon on January 26, 2016.

**WARNING**

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Neshobe School in the Town of Brandon on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Articles of business:

**ARTICLE I**

Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Brandon in an amount not to exceed Eight Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$835,200), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of constructing construction of culvert, highway and bridge infrastructure repairs and replacements, the aggregate estimated cost of all such improvements being Eight Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$835,200)?

**ARTICLE II**

Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Brandon in an amount not to exceed Six Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$680,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of the Champlain Street wastewater pump station, sewer force main replacement and sewer collection system rehabilitation, the estimated cost of such improvements being Six Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$680,000)?

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Neshobe Elementary School at 17 Neshobe Circle, in the Town of Brandon at seven o'clock (7:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Select Board of the Town of Brandon duly called, noticed and held on January 25, 2016. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Brandon on January 26, 2016.

ATTEST:  
Susan M. Gage  
Town Clerk

SELECT BOARD

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**VOTING**

Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos has announced the roll-out of the new Elections Management Platform. This platform has three main parts:

- Elections Management System (EMS) – includes a new statewide voter checklist and other resources and tools to be used by town and city clerks across Vermont to conduct all of their election related business – from registering voters, to processing absentee ballot requests, to entering election results;
- New Online Voter Registration Tool – allows all eligible Vermonters to submit their voter registration application online anytime and anywhere they can access the internet; and
- New “My Voter Page” – online resource that allows every registered voter to login and have access to a unique, voter-specific web page where they can request an absentee ballot, track its status, update their voter registration record, find their polling place, view a sample ballot, and much more.

Secretary Condos states, “I am very excited to announce the roll-out of Vermont’s first online voter registration system. One of my primary goals as Vermont’s chief election officer is to increase voter participation. I am confident that our new online voter registration system and the ‘My Voter Page’ tool will increase engagement with the electoral process across the state and make it easier than ever for all eligible Vermonters to participate in our elections.”

The online voter registration page can be found at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us> and the My Voter Page login can be found at <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>.

## TOWN OF BRANDON DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### SELECT BOARD REPORT

Thanks to the confidence expressed by the voters, 2015 was a year of substantial progress for Brandon. This Board wants to get things done. The Select Board is truly appreciative of the support of the taxpayers and constantly mindful of our responsibilities to you.

To that end, the Board took decisive action immediately after the election. Key personnel changes were made to ensure the Town has the right people in the right jobs. The performance of the new Town Manager and Public Works Director have proven these to be sound choices. We wish to thank all town employees, boards, committees, and volunteers, whose hard work contributed to improved morale and positive momentum for Brandon this year.

One of the priorities of the Board this year was to put Tropical Storm Irene behind us after four years. For too long it had become an excuse for inaction and an obstacle to moving forward. Through the efforts of the Select Board, Town Manager, Public Works Director, and FEMA, all the remaining Irene projects in the downtown were completed. Cobb Hill remains in progress.

The Select Board is committed to delivering town services as efficiently as possible, and to identifying and supporting projects which will improve the quality of life and economic vitality of our community. In FY 14-15, capital projects (appropriations) were separated from the municipal operating budget. In the best traditions of New England self-government, we asked the voters to give us direction on priorities. In their good judgment, voters supported both the operating budget and the appropriations for public works projects, and Brandon moved forward. We thank the citizens' budget committee members for their assistance in the process, which is enabling us to look ahead beyond the immediate term and proactively identify future needs and goals.

The Board continues to work to find revenue sources that will supplement the town budget and/or allow us to accomplish projects without relying solely on the property tax. Our town-owned lot at the industrial park will soon host solar, resulting in modest lease payments and reduced electric costs to the town. Our proposed town charter and local option tax has been submitted to the Legislature and we await their action. When in place, this revenue will partially fund capital projects within the town rather than those costs being funded only by property tax appropriations.

Please note that the four appropriations approved last year will come off your tax bill in the coming year. They were one-year / one-event taxes, not ongoing elements of the town budget. Now that those projects are done, their tax impact is done.

We are asking the voters to support an appropriation of \$100,250 this year to take advantage of the current low prices of asphalt and a voter-approved project of Brandon Fire District No. 1 to replace water lines under a dozen in-town streets. The project would take advantage of the mobilization of equipment and labor to complete the resurfacing of these streets, beyond the length the Fire District would do on its own. The Town and the Fire District have cooperated to plan this project in a way that will make widespread, noticeable improvements to town streets at a significant savings to the taxpayers. Note also that this one-year appropriation amount is less than the \$131,390 amount of the one-year appropriations approved last year (Marble St, Champlain St, overflow culvert design, sidewalk paving), all of which are removed from the FY 16-17 tax bill.

Big-ticket infrastructure needs require us to ask the voters to approve two separate bonds. In one case, the voters would approve issuance of a bond to replace the Champlain Street wastewater pump station, which is in very poor condition, including sleeving 2000 feet of sewer line from Arnold District to the pump station. This sleeve will prevent infiltration of large quantities of water (which must then be cleaned at the sewer plant) and debris into the sewer line, saving us money on treatment. After a positive bond vote, the US Dept of Agriculture will award the town a grant covering a portion of the project cost. The amount to bond is \$680,000 and the anticipated grant from USDA is 35 - 40% of that amount, resulting in a bond borrowing a smaller amount. Like the Fire District bond, all Brandon voters are eligible to vote, but the payments will be borne by users of town sewer only, through their sewer bills. The Select Board is requesting a 20-year bond at an interest rate of 2.80% which will require payments in the amount of about \$50,000 per year, billed based on sewer usage. This bond will have no impact on the municipal operating budget or property tax bills.

Another bond for three downtown projects will impact the town budget and tax bills for all property owners. The Town is embarking upon making major investments in its long-term infrastructure. The Town's 5% match for bridge 114 (\$84,000), the updated 5% match for Segment Six of US Route 7 following changes and delays and 50% match for undergrounding of utilities (\$245,000), and the 25% match for the construction of the overflow culvert (\$487,430) cannot be borne in the general operating budget or by a one-year appropriation. These matches draw down large amounts of state and federal money to complete long-lasting work. The Select Board is requesting a 20-year bond at an interest rate of 2.807% which will require payments in the amount of about \$62,000 per year after the first year. The first year's payment, which is interest only, is

included in the proposed FY 2016-17 municipal operating budget. Two of these (Segment Six and the culvert design) are projects that the voters have already approved and partially funded in previous years. While bonding for short-term or operational needs is poor practice, bonding for assets that have many decades of service to give is a prudent way to finance the otherwise unaffordable.

The overall municipal operating budget proposes an increase in total expenses of 1.40% and an increase in the amount to be raised by taxes of 2.11%. We trust you will agree that this is a modest increase in light of the visible and durable improvements we are making.

We encourage any Brandon resident to contact any member of the Select Board with concerns or suggestions. We are always ready to listen.

Respectfully Brandon Select Board,  
Doug Bailey, Chair; Devon Fuller, Clerk; Seth Hopkins, Vice-Chair; Ethan Swift; Tracy Wyman

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### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

I must admit, while writing the Select Board report for the Town Report last year, I did not think I would be writing the Town Manager's Report this year! The reorganization steps we took last year have certainly started to pay off. This has enabled us to take complete control of the many projects that need to be completed.

We have been fortunate to fill our Public Works Director position with Daryl Burlett who brought with him many years of experience, knowledge and skill. With him on board we have been able to complete our remaining FEMA projects which included Green Park and Kennedy Park. Daryl has also played a major role in getting the Overflow Culvert on a fast track with hopes of building it in 2016. With him on board we are now able to plan our projects ahead of time and get the most out of taxpayer dollars.

We also brought on a new bookkeeper Jacolyn Savela. She brought with her a wealth of expertise in accounting and finance that has been a valuable and much needed asset to the Town. We were able to bring back a fourth person on the Highway Department with John Capen and replace a Wastewater Operator with Tim Kingston. I feel that with these additions to our staff we have a very knowledgeable and professional group of employees in all departments.

Our working relationship with Brandon Fire District No.1 has become stronger this year which has enabled us to join forces on water and sewer projects to save costs on repairs. It has been a pleasure working with Ray Counter and his board and we look forward to working together for years to come.

The Route 7 Segment Six project has been moving along with Right-of-Way negotiations. The decision was made to sever ties with VHB and keep the Local Project Manager position in house. We are currently back on track with this project and are anticipating the utility work to commence in the fall.

After four years of being in temporary office space we are finally moving back to the Town Offices at 49 Center Street in March. Many people were involved in making this a reality, most notably is the group of volunteers that spent many hours donating their time and expertise. Thank you Robert Black, Wayne Rausenberger, Blaine Cliver and Jeff Stewart! We have made many positive steps forward this year and will continue to move in this direction next year.

Sincerely, David J. Atherton, Town Manager

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### **BRANDON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

This year the Brandon Police Department has experienced changes to technology, staffing, and equipment. These changes overall have been positive and progressive, yet staffing presents some challenges.

This year we incorporated the use of body worn cameras by officers. The cameras and storage drive were paid in part by a 50% matching grant. These cameras are worn by officers and record our contacts with people we interact with. It enhances our ability to utilize this information as evidence in court proceedings, ensures officer accountability and professionalism, as well as protects against false accusations which reduces our liability. The overall goal of the cameras is transparency with those we are entrusted to protect and serve. With ever increasing scrutiny of policing in America, we feel this is a wise investment that protects us and the public, and provides a level of accountability that the public expects from us.



With the reduction to our staff of officers due to budget challenges last year, we were forced to change our scheduling which had provided 24 hour a day coverage 7 days a week. Without the number of officers to provide 24 hour coverage, officers are "on call" during overnight hours and respond to calls from home which increases the response time as well as our visibility on the streets to deter crime. This lack of coverage also prohibits officers from being able to assess road conditions overnight which assists the highway department during winter conditions to determine when manpower is needed. We believe the ability to have officers on duty 24 hours a day is not only reasonable for our community's safety, but also works to enhance other departments within the town to do their jobs efficiently as well. To add to that dilemma, most are unaware that when a position is lost or an officer leaves for another position, the time to replace that position is a 12-16 month process provided a qualified applicant is identified. This lack of staffing forces increased overtime, or lack of coverage.

The Town of Brandon hired Justin Cram as the Animal Control officer to handle animal complaints and work on licensing issues. The Animal Control Officer can be reached at 558-8452. The position is a part time position only however Justin has been very responsive and effective in his role.

Over this past year we have been able to replace three of our cruisers. One was replaced with budgeted funds while the other two were replaced at no cost to taxpayers. With the new addition of key management positions within the town, department heads and staff are working better together than ever before, with the common goal being the safety, maintenance, and improvement of infrastructure of the town. Because of this improved collaboration, excess FEMA funds were utilized to replace necessary equipment for the town which included vehicles for the Police Department and Highway Department. The use of these funds was specified by FEMA. This savings also allowed us to reduce our capital improvement budget by over 66% for the replacement cycle of vehicles.

As of December of 2015, the Brandon Police Department has handled over 4,240 calls for service. The department conducted 883 traffic stops resulting in the issuance of 737 warning violations and 408 traffic violations. The Brandon Police Department made 119 arrests resulting in 148 criminal charges. Officers responded to 58 alcohol related calls and 43 mental health related calls. Officers also conducted 1,189 residential and business property watches to ensure the properties were secure as well as to be a visible deterrent to criminal activity. We also interact regularly with other entities beyond other police agencies to share information on crime and drugs. We work collaboratively with The FBI, DEA, Rutland County State's Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, and Secret Service to name a few. We forge and promote good relationships with other partners such as Rutland Mental Health, Rutland County Women's Shelter, Adult Protective Services, and DCF. Policing is an evolving system of proactive and reactive actions to ensure a safe community.

The officers of the Brandon Police Department are committed to the safety of the Brandon Community and provide quality law enforcement services to all who live and visit our community. We continue to provide information to the community through our Facebook page, and welcome input from citizens on our efforts and what services they would like to see.

Respectfully, Christopher Brickell, Chief of Police

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## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

My name is Daryl Burrett. I started as your Public Works Director March 10, 2015. The town then hired David Atherton as the Town Manager. A great move for the Town of Brandon. With his support WE have accomplished several projects. These projects are a collaboration of department heads from Public Works, Police Department, Economic Development Department and Fire District No. 1 along with all Town staff working together to move the Town of Brandon forward.

We began work immediately and completed Green Park and Kennedy Park projects. Both were long standing FEMA projects. We also finished Briggs Lane sewer replacement and road reconstruction which were also FEMA projects. We replaced the sewer line in Kennedy Park and built an observation deck overlooking the falls, which were also FEMA projects. Through responsible contractor negotiations, much more work was able to be completed on the Kennedy Park sewer project resulting in excess FEMA funds available to the Town. These funds which were designated by FEMA resulted in the ability to purchase two police cruisers and a new F550 with plows at no cost to the Town. A shoulder wash repair was done on Wheeler Road and we were able to repair the flooding issue between the Neshobe River Bridge and the overflow bridge. We rewrote the scope of work for the reclaim of a half mile of road on Union Street which resulted in 2.4 miles of extra paving on Union Street. We were able to pave Champlain Street, Marble Street, Grove Street and the section between the two bridges on Wheeler Road. With help from the Brandon Chamber of Commerce we were able to remove the Jersey barriers at the old Brandon House of Pizza lot and construct a new fence. The Highway crew was able to repair a lot of roadside drainage issues this year that result in better gravel roads. We have taken the first steps in acquiring a new grader for the Town. The old grader, after 14,000 hours, was running on borrowed time, and the cost to maintain it would be more expensive than replacing it. We look forward to continuing this practice in the upcoming year.

Following is a list of projected projects for the coming year:

We have applied for a grant for Wood Lane box culvert replacement and received a Vt. State Grant for \$93,000. The total project cost is estimated to be \$133,000. That structure will be installed the summer of 2016. The Cobb Hill Road structure is shovel ready. The total project cost is \$405,000 funded by FEMA. This is the final FEMA project to be completed caused by tropical storm Irene. We have funds available to resurface sidewalks on Marble Street, North side of Park Street and a section on Union Street. We are also going to extend the sidewalk on Maple Street to complete the Enhancement Grant. We are applying through HMPG for a grant on the Route 7 overflow structure. Hopefully this will be installed in the summer of 2016. Bridge 114 design is at 95% completion. This bridge construction will be incorporated with the Segment 6 construction. Segment 6 is on schedule for utilities to go in the ground in the fall of 2016, road construction is scheduled for 2017-2018. We are working with the Brandon Fire District No.1 to complete resurfacing of 12 village streets as they replace waterlines. We are looking forward to resurfacing these 12 streets.

These upcoming projects rely on the Town's positive bond vote in March.

#### Wastewater Happenings:

This year we have a new welcome addition to the Wastewater crew. Tim Kingston from the Town of Brandon has joined our team. This year Wastewater has had new roofs installed on three buildings. We have also enclosed the four-bay sludge building and insulated along with installing four new overhead doors to make this building a functional shop. We have installed four new propane heaters instead of using electric milk house heaters. Being an extremely dry summer we have had many tree root issues on the main and lateral lines. The summer resulted in many main line digs for repair. The 22 miles of sewer line in the Town of Brandon were installed in the 1930s. Wastewater is being proactive on flushing and applying RootX to your lines. The Champlain pump station is in a desperate state of disrepair. It was installed in 1961 and is in critical need of replacement. The main line from Park Village to the Champlain Pump station infiltration is 12,000 gallons per day. The force main from the Champlain pump station to the Baptist Church has had several repairs and needs to be replaced. The cost of a new pump station and to line the 2000 feet of main and to replace the force main is \$680,000. We have applied for a USDA bond grant. After a positive bond vote for the total amount USDA will tell us how much of the \$680,000 is grant funded up to 45%.

Respectfully submitted, Daryl Burrett

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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As economic development officer, I continue to work closely with the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Downtown Brandon, the Economic Development Board, the VT District Office of the US Small Business Association, the Rutland Economic Development Corporation and local realtors and landlords to make sure that every potential business is welcomed into our community.

A new economic tool that our town has is comprehensive tax stabilization plan, the details of which can be found on our website. This is a great way to encourage businesses to invest in Brandon; we are open for business and will help any existing or new business owner connect with the resources they need to be successful!

Please do not hesitate to contact me about any help you may need for your business or with any leads and ideas you might have for potential businesses. (802) 247-3635 X213 or email me at: [bmoore@townofbrandon.com](mailto:bmoore@townofbrandon.com)  
<http://townofbrandon.com/departments/economic-development/>

Respectfully submitted, Bill Moore, Economic Development Officer

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### ZONING / RENTAL / HEALTH AND CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

In the 2015 year the Zoning Administrator position has been combined with and includes the Rental Inspector, Health Officer and Code Enforcement Officer Positions and is now considered to be full time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the public and Town Office Staff for their patience during this time of transition. The Zoning Office is now accessible Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and by appointment.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind residents that the Brandon Land Use Ordinance, states that no land development or construction may be undertaken within the Town of Brandon without first obtaining a land use permit. I am happy to assist you with your proposed project or with any zoning concerns you might have.

I would also like to thank Dolores Furnari, Deputy Health Officer, for assisting in completing rental inspections and assisting the public with their questions and concerns. For several months the position was vacant and I now realize that many citizens were not aware that rental inspections and the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy is required for all non-owner occupied dwelling facilities and all owner occupied housing facilities wherein two or more rooms are rented. A new Certificate of Occupancy is required whenever there is a tenant change. Also, annually, during the month of January, each dwelling unit owner shall submit a Statement of Compliance on a form supplied by the Town of Brandon to the property owner and signed by the current tenant.

The chart below depicts the land use permit activity for fiscal year July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

Applications Submitted	80
DRB Conditional Use Approval	4
DRB Variance Approval	3
DRB Appeal Hearing	1
DRB Local Act 250 Review	1
Applications not Required/Agriculture	3

Respectfully Submitted, Anna Scheck, Zoning /Rental / Health / Codes

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT

#### Recreation Participant Numbers:

Youth Wrestling	46
Snowbowl Ski Lessons	21
Baseball/Softball	133
Summer Wrestling Camp	31
Tone-ally Awesome Music Camp	7
Field Hockey Camp	3
Swimming Lessons	42
Pre-Season Football Camp	21
Pre-Season Soccer Camp	8
Fall Soccer	108
Middle School Football (7-8 Grade)	27
Flag Football (5-6 Grade)	26
OCC Pre-Season Basketball	14
Youth Basketball	125
Adult Basketball	29
NIA Dance	6
Adult Volleyball	13
Youth Cross-Country Running	2
Lego Club	11
Adult 3 on 3 League	44
Youth 3 on 3 League	39
Brandon Ski Club	12
Boot Camp	9
Kripalu Yoga with Alison	8

#### New Programs:

Brandon Ballet	8
Youth Theatre	16
Clay Club	16
Adult Cornhole League	43
Flag Football (3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	17
Glass Fusion	16
Hip-hop Dance Summer Camp	5
Kids Can Cook Summer Class	9
Tie-Dye Summer Camp	6

**Discontinued Programs:**

Zumba , VT Fit Club, Hola Spanish, Cheerleading Camp, Swing Dance, Bitty Summer Basketball, Winter Corn-Toss League, Crossmon Crossfit Training, Bitty Basketball

**Special Events:**

4 Bus Trips (NYC, Rockettes, Boston Celtics, Casino)  
Winter Carnival (Estabrook Fundraiser)  
Halloween Dance (Seminary Hill Fundraiser)  
Vermont Lake Monsters Trip

In addition to these registered programming offerings, we also collaborated on special events :

- Independence Day Family Games (Brandon Independence Day Celebration Committee)
- Rockin' with The Rec (SOAR Collaboration)
- 2 Teen Dances (Pittsford Recreation Department)
- British Soccer Camp (Challenger Soccer)
- Pumpkin Carving (Boys & Girls Club)
- Safety Day (Neshobe PTO, Fire Department, Brandon Area Rescue Squad)
- The Brandon Toy Project (Community Collaboration with Colleen Wright)

**Youth Programs:** The majority of growth for youth programs in 2015 was in the “non-sport” area. Of particular interest was the creation of the Brandon Rec Youth Theatre. Enthusiastic kids and their parents, under the direction of Nancy Manney, put on a fantastic performance of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. This is the beginning of a great feeder program for Otter Valley’s Walking Stick Theatre program. Our continued collaboration with Otter Valley, the Neshobe School and other organizations and sponsors help to keep costs low and participation rates high.

**Adult Programs:** Cornhole and 3 on 3 basketball were the most successful adult programs that we rolled out on this year for adults. Our fitness classes have waned, though Yoga and Boot Camp are 2 classes that continue despite the low numbers, thanks to dedicated instructors and the donation of space.

**Infrastructure:** Collaboration with our Public Works Department has created the opportunity for the expansion of the spaces in which our community recreates. Daryl (our new Public Works Director) and Dave (new Town Manager) have made it their priority to help the Recreation Department improve the spaces that we own. Estabrook with 13+ acres will look to have some upgrades to the playground, installation of a trail network, creation of an additional soccer pitch/ball diamond, and the sprucing up of the tennis court. A playground committee has been formed and grants are being pursued to aid in the replacement of that equipment. Of course, the Neshobe School and principal Judi Pulister continue to provide a great place for recreation activities to occur, both inside and out at no charge to the Town.

**Volunteers and Sponsors:** As with last year, our volunteers have donated over 1,300 hours of youth sports instruction. Local businesses continue to provide support through team sponsorship and donations of cash, goods and services. Thank you to all who have supported programs, events and the Recreation Department mission. Special thanks to the Dunmore Hose Company for all of their help. Be it safety day, flooding ice rinks, providing bonfire support, they are always ready to help out our department.

The Recreation Department phone number is (802) 247-3635 X 213 and my e-mail address is bmoore@townofbrandon.com The website is: <http://townofbrandon.com/departments/recreation-department/>. Feedback is a critical component of being responsive to our town’s needs. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any ideas, complaints or compliments you have about our programming.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill Moore, Recreation Director

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**VITAL STATISTICS**

	2015	2014	2013	2012
<b>BIRTHS</b>	44	38	35	47
<b>DEATHS</b>	44	38	47	42
<b>CIVIL MARRIAGES</b>	35	39	54	45

Due to the Town’s liability exposure and the possible use of information fraudulently, the Vermont Department of Health has recommended against printing names in the Vital Statistics section of the Town Report. The Brandon Town Clerk’s Office concurs with this policy.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT**

The Assessor's office processed 146 property transfers from April 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015.

Grievance hearings were held May 27, 2015 with 26 grievances heard resulting in minor adjustments. The two residents who applied to the State for a hearing, resulted in no changes in values, however; one went to court, and that also resulted in favor of the town.

Presently there are 55 properties enrolled in current use (land use program) with five out of 60 opting out this year. With over four million dollars in exemptions, our State reimbursement was \$42,087.00.

There are 31 Veterans' exemptions at \$40,000 each totaling \$1,240,000, with the Town picking up the education tax on \$30,000 for each exemption.

The Town re-appraisal account is presently at \$158,609.05 including interest. The Town yearly receives a check of approximately \$18,000 plus from the State, which automatically goes into a re-appraisal account, plus what the Town applies in the budget of \$5,000.

Respectfully submitted, Board of Assessor's-NEMRC  
Dolores Furnari, Administrative Asst.

**PROPERTIES VOTED EXEMPTIONS**

DATE VOTED	NAME	BEGINNING DATE	END DATE	VALUE BEFORE EXEMPTION	ASSMT. LESS CONTRACT
03/02/09	BARS Building & Land	03/30/14	07/01/19	567,700	-0-
03/03/15	Brandon Senior Citizens	03/03/15	06/30/20	262,700	-0-
03/30/09	Brandon Masonic Assn	03/30/14	07/01/19	310,900	-0-
07/01/02	Cable Holdco Exchange	07/01/02	Equip.Only	*663,151	*663,151
03/03/08	Stephen Douglas Birthplace	07/01/08	03/01/18	195,300	-0-
03/04/14	Rutland County Parent/Child	06/01/14	06/01/19	613,700	-0-

Properties owned by the Town of Brandon and State of Vermont are not listed above.

**DOG LICENSES 2014-2015**

TYPE	# SOLD	FEE	TOTAL
NEUTERED	370	\$4.00	\$1,480.00
UN-NEUTERED	34	\$8.00	\$ 272.00
NEUTERED AFTER 10/1	3	\$2.00	\$ 6.00
UN-NEUTERED AFTER 10/1	0		
KENNEL/SPECIAL	3	\$30.00	\$ 90.00
LATE FEES			\$ 180.00
TOTAL PAID TO TOWN			\$2,028.00

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Your Brandon Planning Commission spent 2015 focused on updating the Town Plan to meet new challenges and respond to new legal requirements. (The last major revision was more than ten years ago.) Our efforts were supported by a Municipal Planning Grant from the State, in addition to the contributions of our members, the Select Board, and those involved in the Town "Barn Raisings." Major revisions include the adoption of a new future land use map, a revamped Energy section, and addition of solar siting guidelines. We also made some changes to the Recreation section, as well as the Water/Sewer subsection (to open up some grant opportunities). The Town Plan is expected to be adopted early in 2016, after which the

Planning Commission will begin work on the Brandon Based Code – a revision of the Brandon Land Use Ordinance to allow for greater flexibility of use while promoting the essential elements that make Brandon the Town we love. We thank those who have participated in these processes so far and encourage everyone to stay informed and lend us your thoughts.

In case you haven't heard, the Barn Raising events, sponsored by the Planning Commission, the Select Board, MainStreet Brandon (formerly the Downtown Brandon Alliance), and the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce, have brought together people who are interested in bridging gaps in communication and combining the efforts of organizations and individuals to build on Brandon's strengths. Keep an eye on The Reporter and the Town website for announcements, and join us at the next event!

Brandon also participates in the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and the Rutland Regional Transportation Council. With support from the Municipal Planning Grant and our Town's membership contribution, the RRPC provided technical support to our Town Plan revisions, especially some great mapping – including for the proposed Forest Dale Village District, reviewed Act 250 and Section 248 applications, assisted with emergency management planning, among other things. In addition, the RTC provided support for a grant application for bike/pedestrian feasibility studies and infrastructure projects.

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### **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Brandon Development Review Board (DRB) is a five-member, quasi-judicial volunteer board whose members are appointed by the Brandon Select Board. Additionally, the DRB currently has one alternate member, also appointed by the Brandon Select Board. The DRB hears appeals and grants variances, conditional uses and setback waivers in accordance with the Brandon Land Use Ordinance (BLUO). The DRB is also charged with reviewing sections 6 (municipal impacts), 7 (school impacts), and 10 (compatibility with the Town Plan) of the Act 250 review process. All DRB hearings are publicly warned 15 days in advance in "The Reporter" and posted on the town bulletin boards. The DRB usually meets the fourth Wednesdays of the month, as needed. Location varies so check the town website for official hearing and meeting notices.

Development Review Board Members are: Samantha Stone, Chair; John Peterson, Vice Chair; Robert Clark; Eric LaRock, Tom Bohler.

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### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER**

This reporting year the Brandon Fire Department responded to 153 emergency calls. Our thirty-four members dedicated over 4,332 hours of time to the community. 1,500 of these hours were for training and drills. This year we welcomed four new members to the fire company, Brady Cook, Riley Kenney, Cheyenne Reed, and Michael Markowski. I want to thank all of the members for their many hours spent serving and protecting the citizens of Brandon, Leicester and Goshen. Without their dedication and commitment the Brandon Fire Department would not be able to accomplish our main mission of protecting life and property.

This past year the Department marked some significant achievements. The year started with the addition of our new tanker to our apparatus line. At an open house Brandon Tanker 1 was proudly dedicated to Charlie Rivers who has served the department for over 55 years. The addition of the tanker has supported our firefighting capabilities at all types of calls from structure fires to brush and wild land fires. Other activities that the Department participated in were Memorial Day Ceremonies, Brandon Independence Day Celebration and related activities and fire prevention activities both at the station and local schools.

Unfortunately there will be an increase in the budget this year. With our call volume and call length continuing to increase, our payroll costs are also increasing. This past year we encountered an unscheduled large expenditure. It became necessary to replace the emergency backup generator at the station. When the old generator failed it over energized the circuits into the station. The alarm system, as well as other electronics devices were damaged and had to be repaired or replaced. This all caused a strain on the budget. We have been and are pursuing grants to help with expenses. We were not successful with a FEMA grant this year, but we will continue to pursue these grants. The proposed budget has increases for the purchase of firefighter gear as well as other vital equipment like hose. We continue to proactively fund vehicle replacement and capital replacement funds. It is our hope that these will help in the near future to stabilize the budget.

As always, we are working in partnership with the Brandon Area Rescue Squad and the Brandon Police Department to make our community safer. To ensure well-staffed and timely response to incidents we have in place automatic mutual aid agreements with neighboring departments, which is invaluable when dealing with structure fires and with serious incidents along the Route 7 corridor. I would like to acknowledge the help and support the Pittsford Fire Department has given not just to

the Brandon Fire Department but also to the people we serve. This holds true to the Vermont tradition of neighbor helping neighbor, which makes us all stronger.

I want to greatly thank the Prudential Board as well as Superintendent Ray Counter. They work behind the scene and make what we do possible. Without their continued help and support it would be next to impossible to function in the professional way that we do. They have been responsible for helping to make the Brandon Fire Department the organization that it is today. And most importantly, I would like to acknowledge and thank all the family members of our firefighters whose unending support make it possible for us to do the things that we do.

The Fire Department is always looking for new members. Please stop by during drill time to discuss becoming a member. Our doors are always open if you have questions. We are at the station from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for drills on the second and third Wednesdays of each month and we welcome visitors. Don't forget you can follow us on our Facebook page to see what your Fire Department is doing.

Respectfully submitted, Roman Wdowiak, Chief Engineer

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### FRIENDS OF THE BRANDON TOWN HALL

Thanks to the generosity of the Town, donors, sponsors, contributors, the Board of Directors and Volunteers we had another successful year with over 35 scheduled events. Having heat in the downstairs area enabled us to continue to provide the community with a place to meet year round. The Town Hall has become a true community center used by, the Brandon Select Board, Water Department, Fire Department, Chamber of Commerce, DRB, Planning Commission, our successful participation in Moonlight Madness, and many more. We were able to generate some income by renting out the downstairs for special presentations, birthday and anniversary parties, state and regional events. Our main source of income was the ticket sales for our weekly scheduled events, the very successful raffle, our Annual Campaign and the monetary assistance from the town. With these funds we have been able to maintain the usual building repairs, cleaning and restroom supplies, upgrading some of the electrical system, and provide the matching funds for two grants. Our main focus and most fund raising efforts for 2015 and beyond will be the much needed repairs on our 155 year old slate roof.

The Board of Directors have accrued over 3,500 volunteer hours during the 2015 year. The upstairs hall and downstairs was used for 248 days with the downstairs area used for 160 of those days. We estimate that over 8,000 people entered the Town Hall over the past year. The sponsorship program enabled us to provide a variety of events including children's productions, puppet shows, classical, folk, jazz, bluegrass and Celtic music groups. The Brandon Town Players were on board with a staged reading of old time radio shows and a production of Neil Simon's "Female Version of The Odd Couple". Once again our Silent Movie series proved extremely popular and one of our largest productions was the very successful "Brandon Has Talent" show.

Our ongoing Historic Preservation Grant for \$28,000, funded by the Agency of Commerce and Community Development Division for Historic Preservation and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, continues to move along with six of our main hall windows completely restored and renovated. We hope to have the remaining windows completed by the time we open for the 2015 season in May. Our second grant was a Cultural Facilities Grant funded by the State of Vermont and administered by the Vermont Arts Council and Vermont Cultural Facilities Coalition: Vermont Historical Society and Vermont Department of Historic Preservation for \$8,000. This enabled us to add much needed electrical improvements throughout the building and stage area, efficiency upgrades to our sound and lighting systems in and around the stage in the main hall plus the addition of an assisted listening system. These improvements will give us the ability to provide educational workshops and even more professional productions/events for the entire Brandon Community.

The Town Hall has become a destination venue, not only for the Brandon community and surrounding area but for Regional and State presentations. We value the wonderful community support through the sponsorship program, financial contributions and volunteering. Because of all this we have been able to provide low cost or free admission to over half the events. Look for upcoming events on our website: [www.BrandonTownHall.org](http://www.BrandonTownHall.org) or contact us at FOTH, PO Box 181, Brandon, Vt., 05733. You can also visit us on Facebook or at [info@BrandonTownHall.org](mailto:info@BrandonTownHall.org) Thanks again for your continued support, we look forward to seeing you next season at your Town Hall.

Dennis W. Marden, President Friends of The Brandon Town Hall

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES as of JANUARY 6, 2016

**PROPERTY OWNER**

ATWOOD KELLY A  
AYER ROBERT A  
BAILEY MICHELE  
BAKER RICHARD A  
BAKER RICHARD A  
BAKER RICHARD A  
BARNES RENEE  
BEER DAVID & DIANN  
BERTRAND RANDALL  
BIERWIRTH JOHN H I  
BIERWIRTH JOHN H I  
BIRD EDITH  
BOYD DAVID & TINA  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BROWN CHRISTINE  
BROWN JOSEPH  
BUNNELL ROBERT J  
BUSHEE PAUL S  
CLARK STEVE  
COBB JO ANN  
CRAM WALTER  
CUMMINGS LINDA  
CUMMINGS LINDA  
DANLEY CHERYL  
DENIS ANTHONY  
DINN GEORGE  
DOUSKEY ADAM JR  
DOWNS STEVEN E JR  
DOWNS STEVEN JR  
DRAKE MICHAEL J  
FREDERICK KENNETH  
FREDETTE HEATHER  
GEROW MICHAEL A  
GRIFFIN DAVID A  
GYDUS WILLIAM JOSE  
HANCSARIK CHRISTOPHER  
HANFIELD WILLIAM  
HANFIELD WILLIAM B  
HANFIELD WILLIAM B  
HANFIELD WILLIAM B  
HODGES ELLEN  
HOLMAN DENNIS  
HUNTOON HIRAM  
JOHNSON TIMOTHY

**PROPERTY OWNER**

KERR ROBERT K  
KEY SUSAN A  
LAMOUREUX CHARLES  
LAMOUREUX RAYMOND  
LANGLOIS JAMES  
LAROCK CHRISTINE  
LEAVITT ALLAN M  
LOVELETTE MICHAEL  
LUTHER RODNEY F  
LUTZ JOHN T & VALA  
LYONS GRACE ANN  
MAHONEY HAROLD P  
MARCOUX RAYMOND JR  
MARTIN WANDA A  
MCLAREN KATHLEEN  
MUNGER ROBERT  
NEWTON JENNIFER L  
OBERKIRCH FREDERIC  
PALSHAN ROBERTA  
PHILLIPS PAUL W TT  
POCKETT JONATHAN E  
POPP ANTHONY  
PRATT BONNIE  
PRATT TIMOTHY  
PULSIFER ALLEN R S  
PULSIFER ROSE  
REED GREGORY  
ROBERTS CHARLES  
SARWALSTU CORPORATION  
SARWALSTU CORPORATION  
SARWALSTU CORPORATION  
SAUDER JAMES N  
SMITH KEVIN  
TAYLOR MELISSA  
TAYLOR ROBERT S  
TEDDY TIRE SALES  
TOTH ROBERT  
TULIANO PATRICIA M  
VAFIAS JOHN  
WARSHAUER TREV  
WEDGE BILLY  
WHEELER SHIRLEY  
WHITE NEAL & ELISA  
WOOD ROLLIN EST  
WOOD ROLLIN EST  
WOODS AT SPRING POND

**Total Delinquent Taxes Due: \$306,969.40**

(includes penalty and interest)

All accounts shown are for amounts due in excess of \$25



DELINQUENT SEWER LIST AS OF JANUARY 28, 2016

**PROPERTY OWNER**

27 29 31 CHURCH STREET LLC  
ALBARELLO ANTHONY & CARRIE  
ATWOOD KELLY A  
BAILEY MICHELE BROWN JOSEPH  
BAKER RICHARD A  
BARON KENNETH ENGLE SARA  
BASSETT PATRICIA A  
BASSETT RICHARD & VICTORIA  
BEER DAVID & DIANNA  
BENDER GARY & SARAH  
BERGERON REAL & JEANNE  
BIERWIRTH JOHN H III  
BIERWIRTH JOHN H III  
BIRD GLENN E  
BIXBY MONICA  
BOYD DAVID & TINA  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH & CRYSTAL  
BUSHEE PAUL S & JEAN G  
CABOT JANE  
COBB JO ANN  
CUMMINGS LINDA E  
DANYOW NICOLE REMY  
DENIS ANTHONY & CHRISTINE  
DESFORGES DANIEL  
DINN GEORGE  
DRISCOLL MICHAEL & TERESA  
DULAURENCE TARA  
EASTMAN STEVEN JR & THERESA  
EUBER CHRISTINA & JAMMIE  
FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE  
FIFIELD DAVID  
FLORES TENNILE  
FOLAN MARY L DECICCO JOHN J  
FOREST DALE MOBILE HOME PARK  
FRASIER MARK & LISA  
FREDETTE HEATHER  
GEROW MICHAEL A & SADIE E  
GILLETT GREGORY LEIVERS CO  
GRACE ELLIS

**PROPERTY OWNER**

HAHN CHRIS  
HALLETT RANDALL & TAMMY  
HANCARIK CHRISTOPHER/ALICE  
HAYES RANDY  
HAYES RANDY  
HEITMANN IAN & DARCIE  
JAMES FRANK & AMY  
JOHNSON DONNA  
JOHNSON TIMOTHY & JEAN  
KENNEDY PETER  
KENYON DEAN PAGE LISA  
KEOUGH WARREN DUNBAR ASHLEY  
KERR ROBERT  
LADD JEFF & DALLAS  
LAMOUREUX CHARLES & SUSAN  
LAMOUREUX FRANKLIN STREET TRU  
LEAR GORDON JR  
LEAVITT ALLAN M  
LOVELETTE MICHAEL & MARY  
LUTHER RODNEY F & FRANCES  
LUTZ JOHN & VALERIE  
MACKIE TROY & TARA  
MAHONEY HAROLD P  
MANCHESTER LUCAS & BETH  
MARCOUX RAYMOND & THOMASINA  
MOSELEY DAMON R  
NEWTON JENNIFER L & JEFFREY  
POPP ANTHONY & KADY  
PRATT BONNIE  
PULSIFER ALLEN  
PULSIFER ROSE  
QUENNEVILLE MATTHEW URSO MOR  
REED GREGORY  
SHERWOOD HOPE  
SMITH KEVIN  
SUNDSTROM BOBBI-JO PISCOPO  
TAYLOR ROBERT S  
TELEPHONE OPERATING CO OF VT  
TRUDEAU THEODORE  
WARREN WAYNE G  
WEDGE BILLY & JENNIFER  
WELDON RICHARD & KAREN  
WHITE RICHARD  
WILLIAMS MELANIE

**Total Delinquent Sewer Due: \$191,695.85**

**Not including payments due on December 15, 2015 and January 15, 2016.**

All accounts shown are for amounts due in excess of \$25

(includes penalty and interest)

TREASURER'S TAX REPORT

TAXES FOR 2014-2015	TAX RATE	X GRAND LIST =	TOTAL RAISED
NON-RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION	\$ 1.4371	\$ 1,369,649	\$ 1,968,323
HOMESTEAD EDUCATION	\$ 1.3362	\$ 1,932,657	\$ 2,582,416
MUNICIPAL			
TOWN	\$ 0.7226	\$ 3,302,306	\$ 2,386,246
FIRE DIST	\$ 0.0709	\$ 3,302,306	\$ 234,133
VOTED EXEMPTIONS	\$ 0.0079	\$ 3,302,306	\$ 26,088
VETERANS EXEMPTION	\$ 0.0036	\$ 3,302,306	\$ 11,888
APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 0.0652	\$ 3,302,306	\$ 215,310
			<hr/>
TOTAL TAXES BILLED			\$ 7,424,406
CORRECTIONS/ABATEMENTS/ADJ.			\$ (26,732)
TOTAL TAXES COLLECTABLE			<hr/> <u>\$ 7,397,674</u>

TAXES PAID BY 5/15/15	\$ 7,015,912	
STATE PMTS ADJ - FOR SUPPLEMENTAL	\$ 36,115	
DELINQUENT TAXES	<u>\$ 345,646</u>	
TOTAL TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR		<u>\$ 7,397,674</u>

TAXES PAID TO:		
BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$ 2,130,222	
OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 1,622,812	
BRANDON FIRE DISTRICT #1	<u>\$ 234,431</u>	
TOTAL		<u>\$ 3,987,465</u>

NON-RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION	\$1,968,323
HOMESTEAD EDUCATION	\$2,582,416
BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT	-\$2,130,222
OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL	<u>-\$1,622,812</u>
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BILLED AND PAID	<u>\$797,706</u>
STATE PAYMENTS	-\$951,335
STATE PMTS TO MUNICIPALITY	\$130,455
MUNI LATE FILING FEES	-\$270
.225 OF 1% RETAINED BY MUNI - HOMESTEAD	-\$3,987
.225 OF 1% RETAINED BY MUNI - NONRESIDENTIAL	-\$4,477
LOCAL AGREEMENT - Veterans Exempt Prop (\$10K)	\$31,908
	<u>-\$797,706</u>
	<u>\$0</u>

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Gage, Town Treasurer

**STATE PAYMENTS TO THE TOWN OF BRANDON  
DEPT. OF FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT  
JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015**

Railroad Tax	\$	233.90
AOT - Class 1,2,3 Roads	\$	148,829.56
Judiciary-Municipal/Civil Fines	\$	3,183.50
Judiciary-Annual VTTC Refund	\$	3,691.81
Leins/Releases	\$	342.00
Lister Education	\$	402.86
VT Housing & Comm Development	\$	4,288.00
VT Housing & Conserv Board	\$	20.00
PILOT Reimbursement	\$	4,954.76
Dept of Public Saftey/Grant Funds	\$	54,965.06
Current Use/Hold Harmless	\$	34,350.00
Lister Reappraisal & Equalization	\$	18,549.64
AOT- Grants/Other HW Projects	\$	1,158,160.44
AOT - Sewer Payments	\$	412.27
Municipal Property Tax Adjustment	\$	130,455.10
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>\$ 1,562,838.90</b>

**Grant Status Report  
July 1, 2014 -June 30, 2015**

Grant Name	Program Administrator	Total received 2014/2015
DUI Enforcement	Dept of Public Safety	\$ 582.39
OP Enforcement	Dept of Public Safety	\$ 540.65
Equipment Incentive	Dept of Public Safety	\$ 5,000.00
2015 PACIF Equipment Grant Program	VT League of Cities & Towns	\$ 3,639.00
Route 7 Segment 6	VT Agency of Transportaion	\$ 1,106,169.72
Bridge #114	VT Agency of Transportaion	\$ 47,810.66
Overflow Culvert	HMPG DR 4022	\$ -
Town Office Grant	CDBG	\$ -
Maple / Union St Sidewalks	VT Agency of Transportaion	\$ -
Union Street	VT Agency of Transportaion	\$ 178,803.20
Briggs Lane & Sewer	FEMA	\$ 20,112.92
Green Park	FEMA	\$ -
Kennedy Park - Back Wall	FEMA	\$ 42,962.02
Kennedy Park - Sewer	FEMA	\$ -
Cobb Hill	FEMA	\$ -
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>\$ 1,405,620.56</b>

This is reflecting money received between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. We have multiple Grants that we are awaiting payment on.

**BRANDON TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

<u>Beginning Balance Lake Sunapee NOW Checking Account - July 1, 2014</u>		\$ 643.49
Receipts:		
Interest Income Deposited	\$ 0.32	
Transfer from Morgan Stanley Investment Account	31,250.00	
Total Receipts		<u>31,250.32</u>
Total Cash Available		31,893.81
Expenditures:		
Brandon Senior Citizen Center - Repair crushed sewer line	5,000.00	
Brandon Free Public Library - Maintenance	5,000.00	
United Methodist Church, Brandon - Roof Repair	5,000.00	
Rutland Co.Parent/Child Center,Brandon - Child sponsorship	2,000.00	
Town of Brandon	9,250.00	
Total Expenditures		<u>26,250.00</u>
<u>Ending Balance Lake Sunapee NOW Checking Account - June 30, 2015</u>		<u>\$ 5,643.81</u>

Composition of Fund as of June 30, 2015

Lake Sunapee NOW Account #177244060	\$ 5,643.81	
Morgan Stanley Investment Account		
Cash Balance	5,332.04	
Equities	194,342.09	
Fixed Income	<u>472,647.07</u>	
Total Fund Value at June 30, 2015		<u>\$ 677,965.01</u>

Five Year Historical Record of Fund Value

Year ended June 30, 2011	\$ 637,099.92
Year ended June 30, 2012	<u>\$ 605,269.29</u>
Year ended June 30, 2013	<u>\$ 643,605.57</u>
Year ended June 30, 2014	<u>\$ 699,105.94</u>
Year ended June 30, 2015	<u>\$ 677,965.01</u>

The following outstanding fund commitments existed as of June 30, 2015  
 Foxcroft Farm Harvest Program - Potentially 2 payments of \$5,000 each.

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

Sharron Kenney (2016) - Tanner Romano (2017) - Carolyn Whittaker (2018)

**TOWN OF BRANDON EMPLOYEES WAGES 2015**

Employee	Gross Pay	Employee	Gross Pay
ALVARADO LIZBETH M.	\$ 150.00	JACOBS M. JAKE	\$ 360.00
ATHERTON DAVID J.	\$ 51,229.30	KENT STACY M.	\$ 630.00
BAILEY DOUGLAS A.	\$ 1,230.00	KINGSTON TIMOTHY J.	\$ 7,568.23
BAKER RICHARD A.	\$ 16,150.00	LAGRANGE CHARLES	\$ 46,685.30
BANDY ANNE MARIE F.	\$ 23,372.43	LARAWAY LANCE M.	\$ 175.00
BENNETT ROBIN M.	\$ 41,365.38	LUFKIN MICHAEL S.	\$ 675.00
BLIER KEVIN W.	\$ 70.00	MANNEY NANCY D.	\$ 125.00
BOLOGNANI TARRYN N.	\$ 40.00	MARTIN TYLER J.	\$ 50,476.21
BOVEY LINWOOD L.	\$ 126.00	MATHIS WILL	\$ 398.50
BRICKELL CHRISTOPHER J.	\$ 75,641.46	MCCUEN LINDA D.	\$ 950.00
BRIDGES EMILY R.	\$ 300.00	MERKERT LUANNE J.	\$ 34,987.11
BRODOWSKI JOHN R.	\$ 560.00	MERKERT MARIAH A.	\$ 180.00
BRYANT CHARLENE	\$ 5,020.00	MITCHELL DAVID A.	\$ 70.00
BRYANT JESSICA M.	\$ 150.00	MONDLAK JANET	\$ 3,196.75
BURLETT DARYL F.	\$ 57,153.90	MOORE WILLIAM III	\$ 42,048.42
BUTTERFIELD DAVID B.	\$ 56,609.89	MUNGER MARJORIE D.	\$ 560.00
BUTTERFIELD PAULA S.	\$ 7,820.51	MURACH ADAM R.	\$ 50,868.96
CANNON FREDDIE L.	\$ 200.00	NICKLAW RICHARD C.	\$ 45,644.69
CAPEN JOHN T.	\$ 20,414.89	O'GRADY PETER	\$ 2,000.00
CARRARA SARAH-LYNN E. T.	\$ 150.00	PHELPS LOUIS D.	\$ 4,728.00
CIFONE KENNETH	\$ 320.00	PULSIFER RODNEY D.	\$ 64,399.71
CIJKA STEPHEN	\$ 56,592.82	SAVELA JACOLYN R.	\$ 19,208.59
CLIFFORD SETH R.	\$ 10.00	SCHECK ANNA	\$ 54,563.87
COLBURN FRED W.	\$ 62,916.06	SMITH ELAINE	\$ 43,584.05
COOK ADELBERT A.	\$ 155.00	SMITH PETER K.	\$ 763.00
COOK SALLY A.	\$ 140.00	SWIFT ETHAN H.	\$ 1,200.00
COOLIDGE BERTRAM D.	\$ 245.00	THOMAS JOAN A.	\$ 355.00
CRAM JUSTIN V.	\$ 1,000.00	TORREY KENNETH	\$ 145.00
DANFORTH SUSAN G.	\$ 302.50	VARIAN JULIA R.	\$ 320.00
DAVIS HANFORD R.	\$ 95.00	WHITE RICHARD A.	\$ 225.00
DEAN RAYMOND	\$ 780.00	WHITTAKER TOM S.	\$ 400.00
DENIS MICHAEL	\$ 39,066.18	WILLIAMS JASON H.	\$ 2,728.00
DENSMORE NICOLE L.	\$ 200.00	WINKLER MICHAEL T.	\$ 49,735.30
DICK WILLIAM A.	\$ 500.00	WINSLOW JAMES M.	\$ 105.00
FABER CHRISTOPHER W.	\$ 210.00	WYMAN TRACY R.	\$ 425.00
FAIVRE LOUIS E.	\$ 385.00		
FULLER DEVON D.	\$ 1,210.00	Total Wages 2015	\$ 1,207,054.58
FURNARI DOLORES	\$ 9,248.06		=====
GABORIAULT BENJAMIN W.	\$ 70.00	Above Wages include Gross, Overtime	
GAGE SUSAN M.	\$ 54,584.00	and Misc Wage Earnings.	
GRAZIANO LINDA B.	\$ 38,381.90		
HANS ALISON H.	\$ 360.00		
HARRIS WILDA M.	\$ 10.00		
HERRICK BENJAMIN C.	\$ 50,969.61		
HIRSCHBERGER CHARLOTTE	\$ 220.00		
HOPKINS SETH M.	\$ 845.00		

# ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND STAFF

**\*\*\*\*\* ELECTED OFFICIALS \*\*\*\*\***

**Justices of the Peace**

Seth Clifford	2017
Del Cook	2017
Sally Cook	2017
Bud Coolidge	2017
Hanford "Skip" Davis	2017
Lou Faivre	2017
Wilda Harris	2017
Bill Moore	2017
Marge Munger	2017
Joan Thomas	2017
Ken Torrey	2017
Richard White	2017

**Library Trustees**

Beth R. Carr	2017
Sharron Kenney	2016

**Moderator**

Hanford "Skip" Davis	2016
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**Neshobe School Board**

Debbie Boyce	2017
Devon Fuller	2017
Erin Gallivan	2016
Lisa Kenyon	2018
Michael Lufkin	2016

**OVUHS Board**

Kevin Thornton	2016
Peter Werner	2017
Richard White	2017

**Select Board**

Doug Bailey	2016
Devon Fuller	2016
Seth Hopkins	2017
Ethan Swift	2016
Tracy Wyman	2018

**Town Agent**

vacant

**Town Clerk & Treasurer**

Sue Gage	2017
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**Town Grand Juror**

vacant

**Trustees of Public Funds**

Sharron Kenney	2016
Tanner Romano	2017
Carolyn Whittaker	2018

**\*\*\*\*\* APPOINTED OFFICIALS \*\*\*\*\***

**Animal Control**

Justin Cram

**BLSG Insect Control District Rep**

Jeremy MacLachlan	2016
Wayne Rausenberger	2016

**Budget Committee**

Carol Bertrand	2016
Janet Coolidge	2016
Anthony Peduto	2016
Doug Sawyer	2016

**Development Review Board**

Tom Bohler	2016
Robert Clark	2018
Eric LaRock	2017
John Peterson	2016
Samantha Stone	2017

**Economic Development Committee**

Bernie Carr ~ Marty Feldman  
 Devon Fuller ~ Liz Gregorek  
 Stephanie Jerome ~ Bill Moore  
 Dennis Reisenweiver ~ Jeff Stewart  
 Linda Stewart ~ Alyssa Zollman

**Emergency Management Director**

Christopher Brickell

**Fence Viewers**

Cindy Bell	2016
Seth Clifford	2016
Todd Nielsen	2016

**Fire Warden**

Linwood Bovey	2019
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**Friends of the Town Hall**

Doug Bailey ~ Richard Baker  
 Bruce Brown ~ Missy Case  
 Jan Coolidge ~ Dolores Furnari  
 Deb Jennings ~ Robert Kinchen  
 Dennis Marden ~ Debbie Perry  
 Kathy Rausenberger ~ Dave Rowden

**Green-up Day Coordinator**

Gail M. Barr

**Health Officer**

Anna Scheck	2017
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**Deputy Health Officer**

Dolores Furnari	2017
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**Historic Preservation Commission**

Blaine Cliver	2018
Dolores Furnari	2018
Jeff Stewart	2018
Lance Meade	2018
Richard Baker	2018

**Independence Day Committee**

Debbie Boyce ~ Marie Bradbury  
 Mary Cliver ~ Jean Lamarre  
 Bill Moore ~ Bobbi Torstenson  
 Susan Stone ~ Darcey Wijnsenbeek

**Inspector of Lumber**

John M. Reynolds	2016
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**Planning Commission**

Phyllis Aitchison	2017
Anne Bransfield	2016
Frank Bump	2016
Marty Feldman	2017
Jeff Guevin	2018
Linda Stewart	2016

**Revolving Loan Fund Committee**

Karen Lynch	2016
Joel Mondlak	2016
Frank Spezzano	2018
Tom Whittaker	2016
Stephanie Jerome, alt.	2016

**Rutland Region**

**Transportation Council Rep**

Richard Baker	2016
David Atherton, alt.	2016

**Rutland Regional**

**Planning Commission Rep.**

Anna Scheck	2016
David Atherton, alt.	2016

**Solid Waste District Rep**

Gabe McGuigan	2016
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**Town Service Officer**

Anna Scheck	2016
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**Tree Committee**

Bruce Brown ~ Mei Mei Brown  
 Bob Clark ~ Lorraine Kimble  
 Laura Peterson ~ Mary Lou Webster

**Tree Warden**

Wayne Kingsley	2016
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**Weigher of Coal**

Lou Faivre	2016
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**\*\*\*\*\* EMPLOYEES \*\*\*\*\***

**Economic Development Officer**

Bill Moore

**Police Department**

Christopher Brickell - Chief  
 Anne Bandy ~ David Butterfield  
 Linda Graziano ~ Benjamin Herrick  
 Tyler Martin ~ Adam Murach  
 Rodney Pulsifer ~ Jason Williams  
 Michael Winkler

**Public Works Department**

Daryl Burlett - Director  
 John Capen ~ Stephen Cijka  
 Fred Colburn ~ Mike Denis  
 Tim Kingston ~ Rick Nicklaw

**Recreation Director**

Bill Moore

**Town Manager**

David Atherton

**Town Office Staff**

Dolores Furnari ~ Luanne Merkert  
 Jacolyn Savelle ~ Elaine S. Smith

**Zoning Administrator**

Anna Scheck	2018
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**TOWN OF BRANDON MINUTES FOR EVENING MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2015**

Moderator Art Doty called the Annual Brandon Town School District meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Attending the meeting were Select Board members Chairman David Atherton, Douglas Bailey, Devon Fuller, Seth Hopkins, and Ethan Swift, Clerk Sue Gage and 139 registered voters.

Cub Scout Keith Carrara of Pack 123, Brownies Aly LaRoche, Kylee Raymond, Clara Cifone, and Linnea Faulkner of Brownie Troop 300067, Brownie/Daisies Christina Carrara and Lucia Carrara of Troop 30033, and leaders Sarah-Lynne Carrara, Jeff Carrara, Tanya LaRouche and Liz Alvarado presented the colors and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following business was then transacted:

Moderator Doty introduced Select Board Chair David Atherton, who introduced the remaining Select Board as well as the Budget Committee members, Jan Coolidge, Seth Hopkins, Carol Bertrand, and Doug Sawyer. Chair Atherton also recognized Select Board members that resigned during the year, Maria Ammatuna and Blaine Cliver, and thanked them for their service.

1. Take appropriate action on the reports of officers as they appear in the Town Report.

Mr. Bailey noted a correction on page 41 of the Annual Report, in the Assessor's section of the budget report. The proposed FY 15/16 budget was incorrectly compared to the FY 13/14 rather than the FY 14/15 budget. The summary on page 37 is correct, but the detail is incorrect.

2. To hear a presentation by the Select Board of its recommended budget for fiscal year 2015-2016. This budget and appropriations will be voted by Australian Ballot on March 3, 2015 at the Neshobe School located at 17 Neshobe Circle.

Mr. Hopkins led a presentation on the budget proposal. The presentation included an overview of the budget, estimate of the tax bill, and answers to anticipated questions.

Following the presentation Moderator Doty invited the voters present to address the Select Board with any questions or concerns.

Deb Bratton addressed the comparison of the current budget to the prior year budget with the library and senior center removed from the current budget, but still in the prior year budget. She stated that the 2% increase is actually a 6% increase, and the comparison is confusing. Mr. Hopkins reiterated the estimated tax effect of all budgets and appropriations passing.

Jeremy MacLachlan expressed concern that the budget does not address capital improvements that are much needed in the town and that he sees an increased budget but not increased services. He asked when the Board will address changes to reduce administrative expenses, he indicated that the budget is top heavy, specifically with the salary of administrators. Mr. Fuller stated that the town has a number of projects in various stages that need to be addressed and will be addressed with the hiring of a full-time Public Works Director. Mr. Bailey also addressed the fact that the town requires a full-time Public Works Director to complete the projects on its list.

Larry Rogers asked to address the union contract negotiations. He noticed pay raises in the budget and asked whether these raises were a result of the contract negotiations. He also wanted to know who is representing the town in the negotiations. Mr. Bailey stated that the union contract negotiations are not complete, but the budget responsibly reflects a likely increase in employee's wages. Mr. Fuller stated that negotiations are underway and the town is represented by Select Board members Devon Fuller, David Atherton, the Town Manager, Robin Bennett and an attorney. Mr. Rogers is concerned that the Town Manager is on this negotiation team, because she directly benefits from anything in the union contract.

The Select Board conducted a straw poll asking whether those present would support the board pursuing a Local Options Tax in Brandon. Mr. Fuller explained the 1% local options tax to the attendees, and explained that this would require changes to our Town Charter. Mr. Bailey explained that both Middlebury and Rutland have this tax in effect. He also explained that Middlebury used the funds provided from these taxes for infrastructure improvements. Mr. Bailey would like to see a Local Options Tax support infrastructure in Brandon. Jed Byrom asked whether the Select Board had any idea how much revenue could be generated with a local options tax. Mr. Bailey stated that we could see an additional \$80K in revenue, depending on how extensive the tax would be.

Cindy Bell asked what the time frame would be before we would receiving these funds. Mr. Bailey stated that it is difficult to tell, at least a year or more. Ms. Bell stated that it appears the town takes a long time to move forward on projects. Mr. Fuller clarified that this is a timely project, and that is exactly why the Board wants to take a straw poll of the people present because the task will take a long time and they don't want to invest time in something that the populous doesn't support.

Ms. Bell has a larger concern about town management not seeming to get through projects in a timely manner. Mr. Fuller stated that the straw poll on local options tax was currently on the table and these larger concerns were not germane to the discussion on the table.

Judy Bunde spoke as an inn owner in support of a local options tax in Brandon. Rep. Steve Carr along with Rep. Butch Shaw have talked to folks in Montpelier. He stated that a change in the charter can take a few months through the legislature, but he is confident that if the town wants to go ahead and the local options tax is voted in next town meeting, it could happen during the next legislative session (Jan – May of 2016).

Stacey Doucette owns the Brandon Motor Lodge and agrees with Judy Bunde in support of the 1% local options tax. She also urged the Select Board to get information out to the voters. She also clarified that the local voters will really not be paying this tax, but tourists and travelers through town will be shouldering it.

Phyllis Reed clarified that Rutland Town has a 1% Local Option Tax, but Rutland City does not.

Moderator Doty conducted the straw poll on whether the Select Board should pursue a Local Options Tax in Brandon. The Ayes won.

Motion Bernie Carr and a second by Jan Coolidge to accept the reports as presented. Clarification that the reports were amended during the discussion.

Bernie Carr moved to accept the reports as amended, seconded by Charlie Jakiela. The motion passed

3. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will authorize the Select Board to spend unbudgeted, unanticipated income received by the Town so long as the expenditure of such funds will not create a deficit?

Motion to approve the question from Larry Rogers and a second from Dolores Furnari. The motion passed

4. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will vote to exempt the buildings and property belonging to the Brandon Senior Citizens Center, Inc located at 1591 Forest Dale Road (parcel ID 0083-1591) from **education property tax** for a period of five(5) years in accordance with the exemption clause for charitable and fraternal organizations as set forth in 32 V.S.A § 5404A?

Motion to approve the question from Bob Ripley and a second from Jan Coolidge. The motion passed

5. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will vote to exempt the buildings and property belonging to the Brandon Senior Citizens Center, Inc located at 1591 Forest Dale Road (parcel ID 0083-1591) from **municipal property tax** for a period of five(5) years in accordance with the exemption clause for charitable and fraternal organizations as set forth in 32 V.S.A § 3840?

Motion to approve the question from Bob Ripley and a second from Jan Coolidge. The motion passed

6. To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

Cindy Bell asked whether there will be any adjustments to the sewer bills for people who are running their water per the Fire District request. Mr. Atherton stated that there will be adjustments to everyone's bills.

Janet Mondlak requested support for the Brandon Free Public library. She also clarified the library funding needs, stating that the money from the town funds four positions at the library.

Rep. Steve Carr requested that we suspend the rules so that Rep. Butch Shaw of Pittsford can speak at the meeting. Bernie Carr moved and Charlie Jakiela seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Rep. Carr addressed the largest issue facing the legislature which is the budget deficit. He spoke about the proposed closure of the local dispatch centers and introduced Rep. Shaw who explained that there is a consolidated effort fighting these closures both in our area and in the Northeast Kingdom. Rep. Shaw stated that this is part of the budget process, and cuts are being examined across the board including closing the Veterans home in Bennington, closing the prison in Windsor, cutting state employee's wages 5%, and reducing the size of the legislature. Beyond the budget woes, the legislature is looking at incentives to keep graduating students in Vermont. Rep. Carr spoke of his shared concerns about rising property taxes, and recognizes that we need to make some changes to the education funding system in the state. Rep. Carr stated that there is a bill in the legislature currently which may address some of these issues through innovative funding of smaller schools. Both



representatives encouraged individuals to examine the education bill introduced. Rep. Carr can be reached at scarr@leg.state.vt.us and Rep. Shaw can be reached at bshaw@leg.state.vt.us.

Moderator Doty read the remaining warning items that will be voted by Australian ballot tomorrow. The meeting was recessed at 8:28 P.M.

POST RECESS - Judy Bunde asked that those present recognize Janet and Joel Mondlak as our Town Report dedicatees.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Doty  
Moderator

Louis Faivre  
BCA Chair

Susan Gage  
Town Clerk

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### MINUTES OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - JUNE 29, 2015

Moderator Skip Davis brought the meeting to order at 7 pm. Attending the meeting were Select Board members Chairman Douglas Bailey, Devon Fuller, Seth Hopkins, Ethan Swift, and Tracy Wyman, Town Manager Dave Atherton, Town Clerk, Sue Gage, and 69 registered voters. Moderator Davis explained that this was an informational meeting and that no voting would occur. Moderator Davis requested a motion to dispense of the reading of the articles. Motion was made by Charlie Jakiela and a second by Bernie Carr.

Moderator Davis then turned the podium over to the Select Board for presentation of Article 1.

1. To hear a presentation by the Select Board regarding appropriated but unspent funds from three previously-approved public works articles.

Chairman Bailey addressed the first article by explaining that the appropriations approved by voters at previous town meetings have come in under budget and require a vote before they may be utilized in another infrastructure project. Approximate funds remaining: Union St - \$83,000, Marble St - \$6,000, Champlain St - \$22.

Some of the potential uses of these funds are the following: 5% match for FEMA projects, approximately \$35,000; Purchase of the parking lot under Article 4; Additional infrastructure projects such as Wheeler Rd repair, Route 53 intersection near Dave's Store, Pearl Street on west end near creek, and sidewalks. We will also have \$16K left from the Kennedy Park wall which can go into this pool.

Discussion ensued with questions about what would happen to the funds if the item did not pass, who decides which projects take priority with the remaining funds. The funds are appropriated by the voters for the specific uses and cannot be used for anything else, regardless of the balances remaining. The use of remaining funds would be decided by town management and the Select Board. Discussion about areas of town needing repairs. Taxpayers attending spoke of issues on Church Street and Park Street. Select Board members addressed the Park Street repair which is substantial and requires more than a quick fix.

Taxpayer expressed concern about the parking lot acquisition. Concerned about environmental factors, such as contaminated soil and the swamp land. Town Manager responded stating that soil tests are being done before the parcel is purchased.

There was also mention of building a roof over the walkway into the Town Hall basement meeting room. Another taxpayer said there were issues with any solution as any structure would affect the neighbor to the west.

Moderator read Article 2 and turned the podium over to the Select Board for its presentation.

2. To hear a presentation by the Select Board proposing the Town of Brandon adopt a governance charter pursuant to its action at the May 11, 2015 Select Board meeting, and hold a public hearing on the same.

Seth Hopkins presented that there was an initial hearing on the charter on May 26<sup>th</sup> and this Special Town Meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup> constitutes the second hearing considering the charter. The Charter is on the Town website for individuals to view. The Charter is for implementation of the 1% Local Options Tax only, and does not change the Towns current governance under General Law. Tax revenues from the collection of 1% Local Options Tax would be used for capital infrastructure only.

Discussion ensued. Taxpayers asked whether the Select Board could alter the local options tax rate or what the funds are used for. The State of Vermont sets the local options tax rates and the Select Board can only change the Charter with voter approval and State legislative action. Voters also asked whether expenditures from the local options tax revenues would be approved by voters. The Select Board clarified that expenditures will be approved by management and the board, but not voters, although the funds will be used for capital projects and infrastructure. Taxpayers also asked whether passage of the local options tax would require additional staff to administer. The Select Board clarified that administration of the local options tax is through the State of Vermont, and they retain 30% of the proceeds.

Moderator read Article 3 and turned the podium over to the Select Board for its presentation.

3. To hear a presentation by the Select Board proposing the Town of Brandon adopt a 1% local option tax on sales, meals and rooms, and alcohol, per 17 VSA §2645, subject to the proposed charter being approved by the voters and by the Legislature.

The Select Board indicated that the local options tax would be added to sales tax, meals and rooms tax and alcohol tax. They are able to get estimates on all except the alcohol tax, as those numbers are not tracked and published. It is estimated that the local options tax will bring in approximately \$70K in annual revenue for the town to be used for infrastructure and large capital projects.

Taxpayers asked when the local options tax would take effect. The Select Board responded that if the charter and tax pass at the election tomorrow, the Charter would then need approval from the legislature in next year's session, so the earliest the tax would go into effect would be July of 2016. The payments would be received by the town on a quarterly basis, in October, January, April and July. Taxpayers also asked whether the local options tax would reduce property taxes. The Select Board answered that it may offset infrastructure costs, but the amount of revenue is not substantial enough to offset very much tax on an annual basis. Taxpayers also asked how the Treasurer would account for these funds. Treasurer answered that they would likely be run through their own fund, both revenues and expenditures.

Moderator read Article 4 and turned the podium over to the Select Board for its presentation.

4. To hear a presentation by the Select Board proposing the Town of Brandon to negotiate and purchase a portion of property located at 9 Conant Square, being .464 acres +/-.

Select Board Chairman Doug Bailey described the property being considered for purchase. It is approximately half an acre of land located behind the current Mobil station at Conant Square. The owners of the Mobil station will be tearing down the building and erecting a Dunkin Donuts and gas station. He also confirmed the purchase for a price of \$40,000 and tax stabilization going forward. He stressed that there are many important uses for this land: parking for town employees, parking for downtown merchants, parking for Town Hall events, staging area for Segment 6 project, staging area for Bridge 114, and a staging area for the Town Office project. The Select Board is committed to keeping the town open for business during the construction projects. Space for parking is an integral part of the downtown.

Taxpayers asked whether the existing owners are no longer allowing use for free. The Select Board clarified that the owners will be parting with this piece of land and have offered it to the town first. Select Board also stated that there are funds available for Park and Ride lots which can pay for improvements. They also stated that this property was offered to the town in 2003, but the Select Board at the time passed on it. Taxpayers also wanted to ensure that a right of way would be ensured through future owners. The Select Board confirmed this.

Taxpayers asked how the \$40,000 price tag and subsequent tax stabilization was arrived at. The Select Board explained that the appraisal on the property came in at \$75,000, and the tax stabilization is reasonable as the property owners will pay municipal property taxes on the assessed value of the old building, so the town will put off new taxes for five years, and after five years the new building will be taxed at full appraisal.

The Select Board also confirmed that soil testing and testing around the underground storage tank will be completed before the purchase, and any contract would have contingencies for contaminants. Some taxpayers were concerned that the taxpayers shoulder a lot of burden related to the downtown area, and a parking lot and its maintenance would be an additional burden. Other taxpayers stated that downtown businesses take care of public property regularly in the downtown area.

Moderator read Article 5.

5. To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

Taxpayers asked for clarification on the tax stabilization and whether the town would be giving up large amounts of tax revenue. The Select Board clarified that the tax stabilization is for municipal taxes only, and that is about 1/3 of the total tax bill. The amounts stabilized would not be excessive.

Bernie Carr moved to adjourn, and Charlie Jakiela seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hanford "Skip" Davis, Moderator

Louis Faivre, BCA Chair

Susan Gage, Town Clerk

## **TO THE CITIZENS OF BRANDON**

### **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**

In accordance with 24 V.S.A §1682(a)(2) and the affirmative vote at the Brandon Annual Town Meeting on March 6, 2006, the Town hereby gives notice that the independent audit for fiscal year 6/30/2015 conducted by Morrison & Bradley CPAs, P.C. is available in the Town Offices located at 2417 Franklin Street (49 Center Street, beginning in April 2016). A complete copy may be requested by contacting the Town Office at 802-247-3635, or may be accessed on the website [townofbrandon.com](http://townofbrandon.com).

## REPORTS FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

### BLSG INSECT CONTROL DISTRICT

The Board of the BLSG Insect Control District thanks citizens of our district for their continuing strong support this past year. Our mission is to reduce the levels of mosquitoes for better quality of life and improved health of our citizens. Our main goal is to provide leadership, information and education in our effort to minimize the impacts of mosquitoes on our citizens with as little environmental impact as possible. Joint multi-town efforts are more economical and efficient and require communication, and cooperation with property owners, residents, and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture in our effort to reduce and control mosquito populations.

The BLSG employees an integrated mosquito management protocol. IMM is a comprehensive mosquito prevention/control strategy that utilizes all available mosquito control methods singly or in combination to exploit the known vulnerabilities of mosquitoes in order to reduce the numbers to tolerable levels while maintaining a quality environment. Integrated mosquito management methods are specifically tailored to safely counter each stage of the mosquito life cycle.

Prudent mosquito management practices for the control of immature mosquitoes (Larvae and pupae) include such methods as the use of biological controls, source reduction, as well as the use of EPA registered larvicides. When source elimination or larval control measures are not feasible or are clearly inadequate, or when faced with imminent mosquito-borne diseases, application of EPA registered adulticides by applicators trained in the special handling characteristics of these products may be needed. Adulticide products are chosen based upon their demonstrated efficacy against species targeted for control, resistant management concerns and minimization of potential environmental impact. Full implementation of modern-day IMM entails significant expenditure of resources that may be beyond the capabilities of the BLSG insect control program due to significant budget constraints.

Due to restrictions in Larval dip. counts and acreage limitations imposed by the Vermont agency of agriculture we have not been as effective this past year as we would like to have been. For the 2016 season, our staff is evaluating the efficiency of new application techniques including use of an amphibious vehicle (An Argo) which we hope to acquire.

For the latest information, please visit our Web-site: [blsgmosquito.wordpress.com](http://blsgmosquito.wordpress.com)

Respectfully submitted, Benjamin F. Lawton, Jr., DMD

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### MARBLE VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT "THE BUS"

Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD), known as "The Bus" is in its thirty-ninth year of providing service to the residents of the greater Rutland area. The Transit District is the largest, non-urban, public transportation system in the State of Vermont and provides transportation to the general public throughout Rutland County, as well as to social and human service agencies, the resort communities and area businesses. MVRTD provides an enhanced level of self-sufficiency for the elderly, disabled and transportation disadvantaged who rely on public transportation. System ridership was over 686,000 rides this past year. MVRTD provides 65 jobs year round, with upwards of 80 during the winter peak season.

MVRTD provided over 3,400 rides to Brandon on the Middlebury Route, a commuter service with stops at the American Legion, Brandon Post Office, Estabrook Field and Park Village. Other highly successful commuter routes operated by MVRTD both within Rutland County and beyond provide connections to three adjoining counties thus serving the growing population committed to the environmental benefits of public transit use as well as the savings realized in the cost of fuel. An additional 3,072 medically necessary trips were provided to Brandon residents as well.

MVRTD has provided service under the Elderly and Disabled Program to Brandon for many years in partnership with Bridges and Beyond.

For more information about schedules and services please call 773-3244 x117 or visit MVRTD's web site at [www.thebus.com](http://www.thebus.com).

MVRTD thanks the residents of Brandon for their continued support of public transit. Live Green – Ride the Bus  
Jennifer Ellis, Community Outreach

## RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

RRPC Mission: To develop and implement a regional plan, to provide assistance to municipalities with the planning process and information gathering, to be a central repository of planning information and to administer regional programs while remaining consistent with our federal and state requirements.

The Commission's 2015 Activities Included:

- Technical assistance to municipalities on land use, transportation, water quality, emergency management, agriculture, energy, capital budgeting, and economic development planning.
- Land Use planning, including enhanced consultations with Planning Commissions and Select Boards, the update and implementation of town plans and land use bylaws, and Regional Approval of town plans.
- Use of mapping and GIS capabilities to provide mapping and data collection on a variety of land use, emergency management, water quality, public health and safety, and economic development topics.
- Grant writing assistance and general administration services to municipalities receiving funding from state and federal sources.
- Support of the Rutland Region Transportation Council to provide a forum for public involvement; and to plan for transportation needs of the Region, including roundtables of local road commissioners and outreach regarding Clean Water Act requirements.
- Education, training, and information outreach programs on various topics for municipal officials and reimbursement for program fees for attendance at workshops offered through other organizations.
- Review of Act 250 and Section 248 applications for municipalities, with comments to the Public Service Board and District Environmental Commission.
- Operated the Brownfields Reuse Program by conducting environmental site assessments and remediation planning, and by providing redevelopment assistance to property owners.
- Emergency Management planning for towns including flood resilience and disaster recovery, development of hazard mitigation projects, public assistance community briefings, maintenance of critical facilities lists and updates of local hazard mitigation plans.
- Update of the Rutland Regional Plan, including new Land Use and Agriculture and Forestry chapters.
- Disaster trainings for town officials and first responders through the Rutland Region Local Emergency Planning Committee and emergency management planning including assistance to towns updating their Emergency Operations Plans.
- Supported agricultural viability and economic development through work on an Agritourism Toolkit and collaboration with the Rutland Area Farm and Food Link and VT Farmers Food Center.
- Natural resource and water quality planning, including work with the Rutland Natural Resource Conservation District and Poultney Mettowee Natural Resource Conservation District.
- Partnered with the Vermont Department of Health on projects exploring links between community health and land use planning.

The Commission's 2015 Activities Specific to Brandon Included:

- Paid for local officials' participation in planning & zoning workshops.
- Coordinated Vermont Economic Resiliency Initiative (VERI), including two community forums held October 16, 2014 and April 6, 2015.
- Provided the Zoning Administrator with several wetland/ flood hazard maps for National Flood Insurance Program review.
- Provided training for Road Commissioners on topics including: Road Surface Management System, water quality, hazardous material reporting, weight limit posting, maintenance of small structures and managing roads.
- Provided assistance with grant applications for the Maple/Union Street sidewalks.
- Worked with the Planning Commission to update the town's land use bylaws and municipal plan.
- Provided Act 250 and Section 248 project review and comments to District Commission and Public Service Board.
- Provided maps and other support for VTRANS and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program applications.
- Provided technical GIS support to Public Works commissioner seeking GIS software/hardware.
- Provided the planning commission with a bylaw review focusing on stormwater management.
- Assisted the town with the update and submission of the Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- Reviewed the Town Plan for Regional Approval and Confirmation of the planning process.
- Provided Planning Commission with GIS services to update the town's land use documents.
- Assisted the Planning Commission with a Municipal Planning Grant application from the State of Vermont to update the zoning regulations.

Additional 2015 Activities Included:

- Created model Town Plan language regarding solar electrical generation facility siting.
- Created checklists for towns to use when deliberating over proposed solar or wind electrical generation facilities.
- Provided 13 best practices and how-to guides on agritourism to regional farmers and hosted a two-day conference on using agritourism education and direct sales to increase farm profits.
- Performed a GIS based regional residential growth analysis in Village Designations, towns and Future Land Use districts, 2005 - 2014.
- Conducted Flood Resiliency checklist surveys.
- Created a user-friendly tool for towns to use to inform conversation about renewable energy developments.

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## RUTLAND REGION TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015

The Rutland Region Transportation Council (RRTC) provides a forum for public involvement in transportation planning; the development of regional transportation planning and priorities for the Region; assistance on transportation projects; coordination on policies and priorities with the Vermont Agency of Transportation; and the promotion and cooperation on transportation issues. The Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) provides planning, administrative, and geographic information system staff to the Council.

All towns in the Rutland Region can participate in the RRTC and those with representatives appointed by their town to the Council may vote on any issue. Meetings are held monthly, normally on the fourth Thursday, at the RRPC office. All are invited to attend. Questions about the Transportation Council may be directed to: Susan Schreiber, Assistant Director (775-0871 ext. 204) or Richard Baker, Chair (236-2946) or check the website: <http://rutlandrpc.org/transportation.php>.

2015 Highlights Include:

- Assessed and prioritized the Rutland Region's VTrans transportation project list.
- Assisted in organizing the Pedestrian Assessment with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in Rutland City.
- Served on the Board of Marble Valley Regional Transit District and participated in strategic planning efforts.
- Facilitated the regional advisory group of Public Transportation for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities.
- Organized monthly meetings of the Region's Road Commissioners/Foremen on topics such as Road Surface Management System, electronic timesheets, weight limit posting, emergency management /Tier 2 reporting, paving contracts, and maintenance of small structures.
- Represented the RPC/Regional Transportation Council on the Statewide Safe Routes to School Task Force, Public Transit Advisory Council, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Regional Advisory Board, statewide committee for the development of the On Road State Highway Bicycle Plan.
- Assisted Rutland City and Brandon with grant applications for bike/pedestrian feasibility studies and infrastructure projects.
- Served as project manager on Strong Communities, Better Connections grant for BR4/VT4A in West Rutland and Rutland Town.
- Assisted towns of Castleton, Chittenden, Clarendon, Danby, Ira, Middletown Springs, Pawlet, Pittsford, Poultney, and West Haven with culvert inventories as part of the Better Backroads Program.
- Developed a Capital Improvement Plan with Tinmouth local officials.
- Worked on imputing data to [vtculverts.org](http://vtculverts.org), the state on-line culvert database; to reduce towns' local match on bridge and structure grants.
- Provided technical assistance/project management to Rutland City for the Rutland Creek Path (Segments 4 & 5) and Center Street Alley.
- Participated in a High Risk Rural Road study in Danby.
- Conducted traffic studies and counts in Benson, Rutland City, Shrewsbury, and Sudbury.
- Continued and expanded support of the Safe Routes to Schools Program, particularly with the City of Rutland and Town of Pittsford.

Currently and in the future, the RRTC will continue working on these efforts, with the goal of coordinating land use and transportation to create a more balanced, efficient multi-modal transportation network.

## RUTLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Rutland Economic Development Corporation (REDC) has for over 75 years served this region with economic development services. During this time the organization has worked with businesses in all parts of the county, helping them to start, expand and prosper. And when a company has an impediment to progress, REDC is the "One-Stop-Shop" to find them the resources they need. The Development Corporation acts as a single source point of contact to access regional, State, and Federal programs to assist business.

REDC provides a local home base for several programs based in Montpelier. By locating staff in Rutland, these programs are more accessible for business, and technical assistance advisors have the opportunity to build relationships with local entrepreneurs. Currently REDC is home to the Procurement Technical Assistance Program, which helps guide businesses through government contracting opportunities. The Small Business Development Center provides counseling services and technical assistance with one-on-one counseling and group training programs. REDC provides a conduit to the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center, Global Trade Office, and many more State run programs.

In 2015 REDC held our first Mini-Maker Faire. The event introduced dozens of small businesses from a bronze pouring artisan to a developer of high tech drones. We have begun work on the potential development of a Maker Space in the region. We also hosted a stop on the Fresh Tracks Capital Road Pitch, where local entrepreneurs had an opportunity to "pitch" their ideas Shark Tank style to a group of angel investors and advisors. All of this is tied to a renewed focus on encouraging new businesses for our region.

Additionally REDC has been very active developing resource ties for workforce training. With high retirement rates in most operations over the next 5 years, and a historically low unemployment rate, we recognize that creating and keeping the workforce we need going forward will require a major effort from everyone. REDC will continue to lead efforts to meet the need.

REDC is a regional support system, providing assistance to companies throughout the County. Each year we work with communities to plan for future economic development, as well as provide direct services to small businesses located in each town. Through a collaborative process with a variety of programs, REDC is the one-stop-shop to access small business assistance for home-grown enterprises.

With a resurgence of domestic manufacturing occurring nationally, now is the time to redouble our efforts to rebuild this region as a prominent economic driver for the State. With your help we can continue this important work, creating an economic vitality that provides for the high quality of life we all desire. And please don't stop with membership. Participate in REDC activities, join a committee, be part of the solution.

Jamie Stewart, Executive Director 2015

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## GREEN UP DAY

Green Up Day marked its 45th Anniversary in 2015! Green Up Vermont, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, continues to proudly carry on this tradition of Green Up Day. Green Up Vermont is not a State Agency. The success of Green Up Day depends not only on individuals volunteering to clean up, but also on financial support given by both the public and private sectors throughout Vermont. New, starting in 2015, people can now choose to donate to Green Up Vermont by entering a gift amount on Line 29 of the Vermont Income Tax Form.

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

Support from cities and towns has been an essential part of our operating budget. It enables us to cover about 15 percent of the budget. Funds help pay for supplies, including over 48,000 Green Up trash bags, and promotion, education and services of two part-time employees.

Mark your calendar! May 7, 2016 Green Up Day, 46 years of tradition!

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

## PUBLIC AWARENESS & HEALTH

### VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REPORT FOR BRANDON

Your local health district office is in Rutland at the address and phone number above. Come visit or give us a call! At the Vermont Department of Health, we are working every day for your health. With twelve district offices around the state, and state office and laboratory in Chittenden County, we deliver a wide range of public health services and support to your community. For example, in 2015 the Health Department:

Supported healthy communities: Rutland Area Prevention Coalition was awarded \$140,000.00 in order to prevent substance abuse, prevention and education. Partnership for Success was awarded \$130,000.00.

Provided WIC nutrition services and healthy foods to families: We served about half of all Vermont families with pregnant women and children to age five with WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children). WIC provides individualized nutrition counseling and breastfeeding support, home-delivered foods, and a debit-like card to buy fruit and vegetables. In Brandon, 168 women, infants and children were enrolled in WIC. The average value of foods provided is \$50 per person per month. Families served by WIC are now able to shop for WIC foods themselves, increasing choice (a change from home delivery).

Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease: In 2014 we responded to 313 cases of infectious disease in Rutland County. In 2014, \$13,916,297 of vaccine for vaccine-preventable diseases was distributed to healthcare providers statewide, \$1,132,651.07 of which was in your district's area.

Aided communities in emergency preparedness: In 2014/15, \$10,000.00 was contributed to fund training for Rutland County's Emergency Medical Services and Medical Reserve Corps. In addition, since July 2013, funding of \$73,062.00 supported emergency preparedness capabilities at Rutland Regional Medical Center.

For more information, news, alerts and resources: Visit us on the web at [www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov).

Join us on <https://www.facebook.com/vdhrutland> and follow us on [www.twitter.com/healthvermont](http://www.twitter.com/healthvermont).

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## REPORTS FROM APPROPRIATIONS

### ARC-RUTLAND AREA

Our mission is 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.

In 2015:

- We were representative payee for about 56 clients referred to us by Social Security and other Human Service agencies and organizations.
- Provided Five dances throughout the year: Valentines, End of Winter, Spring Fling, Halloween, and our annual Christmas Dinner Dance – together these events were attended by about 416 people. A newsletter goes out to invite all members and interested parties on the mailing list (approximately 470 addresses), they get updates with valuable information on; upcoming trainings, possible legislative changes, support circles, upcoming events, and some free to low cost activities in the community.
- ARC Rutland Area supported the local Self Advocacy group for people with developmental disabilities; members focus on group goals, share their lives and gain committee meeting experience. They can be called upon to provide an Abilities Awareness Training. Pennies collected, funds from a car wash, and funds from their bake sales go to adopt a family at Christmas through the Boys and Girls Club. This year a self advocate facilitated a Stereotype workshop for the group.
- ARC continued to support The Rutland Family Support Network, which is lead by parents, is ongoing with their listserve, and provides a space for trainings, workshops and informational gatherings.
- Some of our efforts have again gone into the Transportation grant. We used the Elderly & Disabled Grant to help get people with transportation gaps to where they need to go; the self advocacy group, AKtion Club, work, events and our dances. We also advocate for voiced transportation needs.
- The AKtion Club, is a group of adults living with disabilities giving back through community service projects and is co sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Rutland. This year they participated in a pet food drive, Pack the Paramount food

drive, Stuff A Bus food drive, Grow and Donate Garden veggies, cards to recovering soldiers, back packs for school children, blankets for Vets and ARC petitions.

On behalf of the Board Members, friends, and families; we are grateful for the support and continued assistance from the citizens of the Rutland Area. We receive neither state nor federal funding, our main sources of income continue to be allocations from United Way and 14 other towns/city in the greater Rutland Area. Our minor sources of income come from our membership, service fees, 50/50 raffles, door donations, and two new fundraiser events. We thank all who have donated to ARC Rutland Area and made these great things possible. In 2015, there were a total of 45 residents in Brandon and 938 residents in the greater Rutland Area who took advantage of all the opportunities we offered. Our 2016 funding request is \$3,500. We do all this, with three part-time employed positions, two part-time staff volunteers, volunteer board members and much community support. For those who want to use our services or volunteer, please call 775-1370.

Sincerely, Lisa S. Lynch, Executive Director

**Appropriation Request - \$3,500**

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### BRANDON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"The Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce is a membership-based organization dedicated to the improvement and advancement of a positive and dynamic economic, industrial, professional and business climate, and community enhancement in the Brandon area." We strive to make the Brandon area a better place to live, work, and play.

The Chamber of Commerce puts on many community events throughout the year including the free Summer Concert Series, Great Brandon Auction, Yard Sale Day, Make Your Own Leaf Person, Memory Tree, Moonlight Madness, Holiday Decorating contest, and March Magic sales days. In 2015, we contributed to the Toy Project, awarded a scholarship to an outstanding OVUHS graduating student, lit Central Park and downtown trees in December, and sponsored or participated in informational meetings for area businesses and residents covering many topics including Efficiency Vermont with ways to save monies and energy in our homes and businesses. We partnered with the town in the removal of cement barriers in the downtown and installation of attractive fencing and continue to support Brandon Cares in their efforts combating opiate addiction. The Chamber also organizes the Meet the Candidates Night each year.

We continue to support the activities and operations of our wonderful museum, visitor's center, and community meeting space at the Stephen A. Douglas Birthplace.

We have an active and busy website full of information for the traveling public and the community. Our popular electronic newsletter is sent to more than 1400 email addresses on a regular basis.

The Chamber continues to be heavily involved with town economic development, striving to bring new residents and businesses to expand our tax base and working closely with the Town's Economic Development Officer. We highlight various aspects of Brandon yearly at the Rutland Trade Show and send out informational packets requested by visitors and those interested in starting a business in town. As the long awaited Segment 6 project comes into play in 2016, your Chamber will be a key player in assisting citizens, businesses, and visitors through the process of information dispersal and as a conduit to the town and construction companies with our needs and concerns.

We thank the Brandon voters and taxpayers for past support and look to them for help with future expenses. We're proud to be part of Brandon and hope to continue to effect change in a positive and dynamic way.

Please contact the Chamber at 802-247-6401 with any questions or look us up on-line at [www.brandon.org](http://www.brandon.org). If you are interested in receiving our e-newsletter, click on the "Chamber Newsletter" link on our website, open one of the archived newsletters and follow the instructions at the end to join in the fun.

Businesses of every size and many "individual" members contribute greatly to making Brandon the place we all love. So call or email today and join in the journey!

Liz Gregorek, 2015 President and Bernie Carr, Executive Director

**Appropriation Request - \$1,000**



## **BRANDON AREA RESCUE SQUAD, INC.**

Brandon Area Rescue Squad, Inc. serves towns Brandon, Goshen, Forest Dale, Sudbury and Leicester.

Brandon Rescue has a staff of 30 volunteers, 1 full time Operations Chief, and 9 per diem Paramedics.

Certification held by Rescue staff range from Driver, Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic. ·

Total calls for 2014/2015:

- 669 calls in Brandon/Forest Dale. ·
- Total call volume of 758 calls for 2014/2015. ·
- B.A.R.S. responded to 12 calls for mutual aid for neighboring towns. ·
- Total Volunteer Hours: Over 25,000 hours of time for On Call shift, second or third Calls, Special Events, Trainings etc.

If you have ever thought about doing something to help in your community, please think about joining Brandon Rescue. Currently over 50% of our volunteers are from outside our service area. We are always in need of good people who want to make a difference in their community and in others lives. There is not much that is more rewarding than helping your neighbors in their time of need.

**Please be sure your house number is very clearly marked and visible from the road. The quicker we can find you, the quicker we can help you!**

**Appropriation Request - \$20,735**

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## **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF BRANDON**

Building Futures One Child at a Time ~ How We Change Lives

A personal message from Freddie: I just would like to take this opportunity to thank the Brandon Community for all your support. There would not be a Boys & Girls Club in this town if not for your generosity. Without your continued support our organization would certainly not be able to help the youth in our area. As I am sure you are aware BGCB is committed to helping children and youth succeed; to that end we want to make a lasting positive impact on each of our individual member's lives. Your support enables us to work with over 2,100 youth per year.

As you know nonprofit organizations depend on the giving nature of individuals. Without that support we would simply not exist; as you can see our budget is very small and the need within our community is very great. So what do we do for Brandon? We change lives of youth for the better one person at a time. Our club fosters positive life changing growth whether it is working with children, youth or helping out families we do whatever is necessary to help our members grow.

Sometimes it is as simple as making flash cards for a 10 year old who doesn't believe she can learn all fifty state capitals; other times it's just listening to a member's dreams, hopes, heartaches, or fears. It might mean putting together a food bag for a teen whose parents are too ashamed to go to the food shelf. Often it is making sure that a youths basic needs get met, like giving out toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and other hygiene items. Sometimes it means meeting with a member's family and referring them to another organization such as SOAR that can better meet the member's needs. All of these things reinforce in our member's hearts that in "Brandon" people care. It gives them their own sense of worthiness, that they actually matter to the community. As they begin to see the town as belonging to them they are far more likely to become involved in the community. We offer our members growth, enrichment, learning, friendships and opportunity.

But we do so much more at BGCB we are very interested in keeping track of our members. Let me just share a snapshot of the culture of the BGCA. Our organization is in the forefront of programs that help youth to that end 59% of club seniors from low-income families are likely to enroll in college. We're a small club yet we have club members who have received full scholarships to college; one of whom is the first in her family to graduate high school. We help youth develop a moral compass and the strong character to make positive life choices, as well as empowering youth with opportunities to effect positive change in Brandon, have long been bedrock principles of the Boys & Girls Clubs; 69% of our teen Club members indicated that they will volunteer at least once per year, and 46% said they volunteer at least once a month. Those stats prove that our youth members today will become the backbone of tomorrow's community.

Please put our request on your ballot so that we can continue to help youth in Brandon and the surrounding communities. If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me at 1(802) 353-5591 or by email at fcannon2424@gmail.com. Thank you for all your help.

Sincerely, Freddie Cannon II

**Appropriation Request - \$10,000**

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### **BRANDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The mission of the Brandon Free Public Library is to provide free, equal and easy access to information in all forms to the Brandon community and surrounding area. Approximately 50% of the Library's income is derived from the Town of Brandon. *At the 2016 Town Meeting, Brandon voters will be asked to approve an appropriation for the Library; these funds were previously within the Town of Brandon budget. The Library appropriation is level-funded since 2014.*

The Library's other sources of income include several annual fundraisers, financial and book donations from the non-profit Friends of the Brandon Free Public Library, annual campaign, apartment rents, line items from the town budgets of Leicester and Sudbury, and distribution from endowment (which is invested wisely and provides much needed income for the operating budget).

The Library employs one part-time and two full time librarians as well as cleaning and maintenance personnel. The doors are open more than 40 hours a week and except for copy/print/fax, every service provided is totally free. The Brandon Free Public Library is not exclusive -- every member of the community is welcome and encouraged to access its offerings, services and resources.

#### General Library Services

- Books, DVD, programming, magazines, daily newspapers, audio CDs, interlibrary loan service, Friday film series, and Brandon Sits, a mindful meditation on Wednesdays 12:30 to 1:30.

#### Children's Services

- Children's room with books for all age groups, a separate Young Adult section upstairs, DVDs, audio CDs, magazines, popular summer program every July, weekly story hour. In 2015 'Magic the Gathering' drop-in gaming began on Wednesdays after school.

#### Library Building is a Resource

- The Library building is used by a wide variety of community groups: Here's a short list: Brandon Planning Commission, Main Street Brandon, Italian Conversation Group, Farmer's Market, Republican and Democratic caucuses, 4-H Club, Estabrook Award, Home Owner's Association, Child Care Providers Organization, Scouts. Local artists display their work with someone new featured monthly.

#### Computer & Digital Services

- The Library has six computers for general use. In today's world, it is nearly impossible to do homework or apply for a job, unemployment, food stamps, or other benefits without a computer. The Library's public computers are in use just about every minute the doors are open. The librarians assist patrons and offer tech help.
- The Brandon Library pays membership fees in order for patrons to access the Vermont Online Library - an electronic database, Listen-Up Vermont - downloadable audio and ebooks, and Universal Class - non-credit Continuing Education classes at no additional expense.
- Print, Copy and Fax machine for public use
- Personalized computer help: free one hour sessions by appointment
- The building has wireless internet capability.

#### Non-traditional Services

- The Seed Library offers free seeds, education and monthly workshops. Online at: [bfplseedlibrary.org](http://bfplseedlibrary.org)
- The Library is an outlet for people who want to volunteer and do community service -- a welcoming environment for teens and adults to "give back". Also a site for mandated community service.
- Free and reduced price passes are available for ECHO Center & Aquarium, Vermont State Parks, Historical Sites, and the VT Precision Museum.
- Depository site for weekly bread delivery brought by the Brandon Food Shelf.

Elderly Services

- Extensive "Large Print" book selection
- Home delivery for members of the community who can't get out – this is a personalized service.
- Various free and accessible programs

Funds from the town of Brandon, Sudbury, Leicester and Goshen help keep the Library doors open. The Library is a busy place from the moment the doors open until closing time. The Library Board of Trustees thanks everyone who contributes to the Library. It will be important for Brandon voters to "Check Yes for the Library" at Town Meeting. If you haven't already done so, check out the Library at the corner of Franklin and Park Streets or call 802-247-8230. Online at: brandonpubliclibrary.org.

Board of Trustees: Carl Phelps, President; Beth Carr, Secretary; June Bohler, Treasurer  
Phoebe Chestna, Sharron Kenney, Stacey Doucette, Nancy Rowe, Janet Smith, Charles (Trip) Willis III

**Appropriation Request - \$85,500**

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**BRANDON INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE**

The BIDCC is a small, fluid group of volunteers responsible for organizing and fundraising for Brandon's two-day Independence Day celebration. Throughout its forty-year history, the event has evolved until we have become the main attraction for thousands of tourists, and our parade is considered the best small town parade in Vermont. Some years back we began holding the event on the first Friday and Saturday of July to avoid competition from other towns who always hold their events on the fourth. You'll remember that July 4 fell on a Saturday this past year, and our parade was slightly shorter than usual because of that, but in 2016 we will celebrate on July 2 and 3, so we expect to be bigger and better than ever. Our activities include:

- Friday night street dance and food vendors in Central Park
- Saturday Silent Auction in Fellowship Hall
- Saturday pre-parade activities: food vendors and karaoke in Central Park plus a wide variety of family activities behind the Brandon Inn
- Our famous Brandon Independence Day Parade
- Live music after the parade in Central Park
- The traditional Great Ball Race over the falls at Green Park
- Annual fireworks display at dusk at Park Village

Obviously this requires a great deal of organization, hard work—and funding. In addition to paying for entertainment before, during and after the parade, we also have Port-a Potties, dumpsters, prizes and awards, postage, police and firemen, plus the biggest and most important expenditure: the fireworks. We are eternally grateful to the generous support we receive from the community for our fundraising efforts, primarily the silent auction and the Great Ball Race. But as costs continue to rise, and revenue falls, we also depend on the appropriation of \$6,000 that we receive annually from the town. This appropriation covers the fabulous fireworks display that provide the magical ending to the most memorable event of the summer.

Debbie Boyce, chairman ~ Susan Stone, treasurer

**Appropriation Request - \$6,000**

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**BRANDON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, INC.**

1591 Forest Dale Road

The Board of Directors continues to improve the building. In 2015 we had to replace the aging, leaking roof. We decided to install a standing seam roof, which will far outlast any of us! This was done through grants, fundraising and generous donations by many good folks. Thankfully, the debt has been paid, allowing us to move on to another project. We have also renovated the bathrooms by installing new floors, lighting and adding a touch of color with new paint. The Board of Directors have strived to open up the building to a myriad of social events. Bone Builders meet every Monday & Wednesday, followed by Meals on Wheels. The free community lunches held on Friday seem to be a big hit, along with the monthly sponsored dinners. The comfortable atmosphere which has been created lends itself to folks wanting to stay and socialize, play cards, knit or do a jigsaw puzzle.

WIC clinic is held every month and Visiting Nurses Toenail Clinic is held every other month. A foot "spa treatment" has been added, for those interested.

We would like to thank Foxcroft Farms, the Harvest Program for installing 3 new raised garden beds and filling them with primo manure. This has significantly improved our yield for the summer lunch program. We would also like to thank them for their support in our Friday Community Lunch Program, as well as our bake sales. Thanks also to Otter Valley North staff and students for supporting the Center by starting the seeds and planting the gardens, sweeping the sand off the parking lot and shoveling the stone to make walkways between the beds.

The Center continues to be "green" by recycling and composting all foodstuffs. We also collect returnable bottles to help defray operating expenses.

Thank you to the Town of Brandon for supporting us. We thank everyone who contributes in any way, thereby helping us to help others. We encourage folks to visit us anytime.

**Appropriation Request - \$13,500**

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### FOXCROFT FARM HARVEST PROGRAM

Located at Foxcroft Farm in Leicester and serving both Addison and Rutland Counties, the Harvest Program utilizes the farm's agricultural resources to support the educational and personal development needs of its participating youth, as well as a diverse range of local community projects and needs. At Harvest, we sow the seeds of opportunity that help youth grow their strengths and interests, reap their best efforts *and share what they produce with their community*. Our practice is natural, meaningful and effective.

- Harvest's "Growing to Know" Project provides hands-on educational enrichment opportunities for PreK -6th grade students through special project-based sessions and field trips during the school day and after school.
- "Growing Roots" provides intensive support for personal development for middle school students during their school day to help them to grow a sense of purpose, increase self esteem and improve social skills. Activities allow them to build on their strengths, engage in meaningful learning and take a positive role in their community.
- "Growing to Volunteer" provides after school and summer sessions for middle school students to remain connected with the farm and to help to make their community a better place.
- "Growing to Work" provides work readiness and job skill training to 9-12 grade students after school and in the summer. The goal is to develop and improve work skills that are critical to success in the workforce. Students help to support the farm needs and service activities, while also working as mentors for younger students.

We are currently serving 56 students at Harvest. Our Roots Project is serving 7 middle school students during half of their school day to support their educational objectives. During after school hours Harvest is serving 15 middle school students in our Growing to Volunteer Project on Mondays and Tuesdays, 27 5th/6th graders in our Growing to Know Project on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and 7 high school students daily in our Growing to Work Project. Some attend daily, some several days a week and others one day each week. *All attend because they choose to, all are engaged in learning and contributing to their community*. Our Harvest students are learning to contribute to their community as they grow. 97% of our operating budget is program expense, supporting direct services to youth; *18% is given back into our local communities through product and service, much of it to help senior citizens*.

Currently 20% of our operating budget is supported through school funding, as we are once again serving students during the school day. 8.5% of our budget is supported through Brandon appropriations. On average, about 60% of our services support Brandon youth and their community. To learn more: please call, visit our Facebook page, our website ([www.vtharvest.org](http://www.vtharvest.org)), or stop in to visit and see first-hand what your investment will help to support.

We thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely, Anne Young, Executive Director  
Board of Directors: Peter Lebenbaum, Shirley Markland, Charlie Tatro, Addie Gladding, Catherine Raishart, Jill Blanchard, William Moore

**Appropriation Request - \$15,000**

## RSVP and THE VOLUNTEER CENTER

RSVP and The Volunteer Center is an "Invitation to Serve" program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through volunteer service. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health care, education, literacy, and the arts, just to name a few. RSVP/VC involves individuals in service that matches their personal interests and makes use of their varied life and professional experiences. Through such efforts, RSVP/VC is meeting the needs that strained local budgets cannot afford. RSVP/VC enables people to contribute to their communities while enjoying the personally satisfying and rewarding experience that community engagement offers.

Additionally, over the past 10 years RSVP has implemented several "Signature Programs" aimed at addressing pressing community needs. These programs include RSVP TeleCare, a telephone reassurance and safety check in program offered FREE to Rutland County seniors, a children's literacy and mentoring program called RSVP Rutland County Reads, and after school program called RSVP After School Buddies, an osteoporosis prevention program, RSVP Bone Builders, which provides FREE strength and balance exercise classes with RSVP/VC volunteer instructors to Rutland County residents, and RSVP Operation Dolls & More, in which RSVP/VC volunteers restore and refurbish donated dolls, toys books and games. Last year over 10,000 items were distributed to 2,000 children and over 50 organizations to share with clients.

Locally, RSVP/VC is the largest program of coordinated volunteer services serving the people of Rutland County with 1036 volunteers. From April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015, RSVP/VC volunteers provided 179,316 hours of community service. The cost benefit to the communities of Rutland County in terms of cost of services provided equals \$4,095,577. Once again this year RSVP/VC is not asking for additional monies from the Town of Brandon. The monies we request are used to help defray the costs of providing services that impact the lives of citizens of all ages throughout Rutland County.

Currently in Brandon, 23 volunteers donate their services to the following non-profit organizations: The American Red Cross, Village Manor, Park Terrace, Rutland RRMC, Northeast School, Northwest School, Otter Valley Union High School, Neshobe School SOAR Program, Brandon Rescue Squad, Brandon Area Food Shelf, The Pines Nursing Home, RSVP Good-time Singers, Pleasant Manor Nursing Home, College of Saint Joseph, The Meadows, Mountain View Center, Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, One-2-One, The Godnick Adult Center, Park Terrace, Bridges and Beyond, Brandon Senior Center, Currier Memorial School, Headstart, Lothrop Elementary School, VT Police Academy, RSVP Bone Builders classes, RSVP Operation Dolls and More. Currently, there are several RSVP Bone Builders classes offered in Brandon free of charge to area residents.

On behalf of RSVP& The Volunteer Center, I would like to thank the residents of Brandon for their continued support. As financial constraints effect more and more non-profit organizations, the need for volunteers increases. With your help, RSVP/VC will continue to respond to this need.

Sincerely, Nan M. Hart, Director

**Appropriation Request - \$550**

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## RAVNAH

In 2015, Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) provided Rutland County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. From infants with hi-tech needs to our most senior population facing end-of-life care, we continued to bring medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, regardless of a client's ability to pay, location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

In the face of shrinking government and state reimbursements and rising healthcare costs, RAVNAH has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective health care services to some of Rutland County's most vulnerable individuals. Last year, RAVNA's dedicated staff made more than 91,840 visits to 3,308 patients. In the Town of Brandon, we provided 7,713 visits to 249 individuals.

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

Ronald J. Cioffi, Executive Director ~ Dr. Richard Lovett, President of the Board of Directors

**Appropriation Request - \$10,200**

### **RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

The Rutland County Humane Society is dedicated to the goal of helping citizens make their communities more humane. We provide shelter and adoption opportunities for pets who are homeless and promote animal welfare through community education and events that benefit both animals and people.

RCCHS acts as the coordinator for animal cruelty cases in Rutland County and works to provide relief for victims of animals neglect and abuse.

Our agency also works to control over-population through low cost spay/neuter clinics for cats, Trap/Neuter/Return assistance for feral cats

The RCCHS shelter is the largest program of the agency, taking in more than 1,250 animals in 2015.

Our agency is funded through fees for service, town funding and donations or special events. We thank those citizens of Brandon who support our operations

In 2015, the Rutland County Humane Society took in 32 animals from Brandon and investigated 3 complaints of cruelty.

Please call us at 483-9171 if you would like further information about the Rutland County Humane Society or need our assistance.

**Appropriation Request - \$750**

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### **RUTLAND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC.**

In the year 2015, 27 towns in Rutland County supported the work of Rutland Mental Health Services through town giving. Our agency is committed to providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. The generous support of towns such as the Town of Brandon assures that quality services are available for their families, friends and neighbors. Services provided to town residents include:

- Individual Counseling for Children, Adults and Families
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Emergency/Crisis Services
- Developmental Disability Services

During fiscal year 2015, Rutland Mental Health Services provided 45,229 hours of services to 191 Brandon residents. We value our partnership with the Town of Brandon in providing these much needed services and thank you for your continued support.

Dick Courcelle, Chief Executive Officer, Rutland Mental Health Services, Inc.

**Appropriation Request - 6,624**

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### **BRANDON MUSEUM at the STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS BIRTHPLACE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.**

The Brandon Museum and Stephen A Douglas Birthplace continues to be Brandon's primary cultural, historical, architectural, and community asset. The building is a first generation Vermont home, built in 1802. The famous 19th century American statesman, Stephen A Douglas, was born in the home in 1813. Two hundred years later, the building stewardship was graciously passed on to the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce from the Daughters of the American Revolution. A separate 501C3 entity was established and with financial, physical and intellectual input from many Chamber members and others in the community, the home has been totally renovated and has evolved into a fine example of a multi-use community building.

Through the use of hundreds of digital photographs, antiques, paintings and many other eclectic items, many donated by citizens of Brandon, the museum features the thematic history of our town and tells the detailed story of the early anti-slavery

movement of the first half of the 19th century. The museum also traces the architectural history of the building starting with two rooms in 1802 and gradually increasing in size to its present configuration.

The Museum is open daily from mid-May through mid-October from 11 am - 4 pm thanks to an active group of approximately 25 volunteers and a part-time Museum Steward, Brandon resident Dan Celik. Dan will be spending time in the off-season curating old Brandon Union newspapers, passed along to us by the now defunct Brandon Historical Society.

We are always looking for more volunteers and for historic photos of Brandon, which we scan and return to you very quickly. If you would like a special museum tour for your classroom, community group or any other large party, please contact us for special arrangements. There is no admission to the museum.

The building also houses the town's newly dedicated Janet Mondlak Visitor Center, full of Vermont brochures, maps, guidebooks, information and a municipal restroom. The Visitor Center is open daily from 8 am - 6 pm, 365 days a year and it is handicapped accessible. The Cliver Community Meeting room continues to be used by many community organizations, boards, associations, committees, and businesses. If you would like to schedule a time to use the meeting space, please contact us.

The Stephen A Douglas Birthplace operates on a small budget and is asking Brandon voters and taxpayers for \$2500.00 to help us continue to protect and maintain the building and the artifacts that are our history. If you have any questions or would like more information about the Museum, the Meeting Room, or the Visitor Center, please contact us through the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce at 802-247-6401 or email us at info@brandon.org

Sincerely, John Dilts, President, Brandon Museum at the Stephen A Douglas Birthplace Community Center, Inc.  
Bernie Carr- Executive Director

**Appropriation Request - \$2500**

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### **SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING**

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Brandon in 2015:

**Senior Meals:** The Council helped provide 8,734 meals that were delivered to the homes of 57 elders in your community. This service is often called "Meals on Wheels". We also supply "Blizzard Bags" containing "shelf-stable" meals to home delivered meal participants and other isolated elders for use during a weather related emergency. In addition, 84 Brandon elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 1,869 meals were provided.

**Case Management Assistance:** SVCOA case management staff helped 87 elders in your community. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder's home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder's situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

**Other Services and Support:** 1) "Senior HelpLine" assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues via the "60Plus" column appearing in the Rutland Herald; 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA's Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland County Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance.

**Appropriation Request - \$2400**

TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Summary

Department	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16 to 17	\$ change 16 to 17
<b>Non-tax Revenue:</b>	508,516.47	470,705.00	459,888.00	-2.30%	(10,817.00)
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Transfer out	18293.59				
Administration	432,744.04	455,512.00	420,125.00	-7.77%	(35,387.00)
Assessor	27,717.60	30,945.00	35,245.00	13.90%	4,300.00
Zoning	41,163.07	96,405.00	90,425.00	-6.20%	(5,980.00)
Clerk	138,861.75	141,975.00	155,325.00	9.40%	13,350.00
Police Department	731,659.48	823,811.00	808,900.00	-1.81%	(14,911.00)
Highway Department	683,005.14	743,620.00	771,035.00	3.69%	27,415.00
Intergovernmental	159,747.77	57,900.00	66,778.00	15.33%	8,878.00
Recreation Department	114,805.24	102,205.00	110,780.00	8.39%	8,575.00
Debt Service	245,663.78	241,505.00	254,850.00	5.53%	13,345.00
Economic Development	9,280.90	13,344.00	18,280.00	36.99%	4,936.00
Buildings & Grounds	253,503.81	198,853.00	214,967.00	8.10%	16,114.00
<b>Net Municipal Budget</b>	<b>2,856,446.17</b>	<b>2,906,075.00</b>	<b>2,946,710.00</b>	<b>1.40%</b>	<b>40,635.00</b>
<b>TO BE RAISED BY TAXES</b>	<b>2,347,929.70</b>	<b>2,435,370.00</b>	<b>2,486,822.00</b>	<b>2.11%</b>	<b>51,452.00</b>

**Notes for Budget:**

While reviewing the budget from last year we made the decision to re-create the Building and Grounds department to show what the total expenses are to maintain our Town owned buildings, including all insurances, utilities and repairs.

Economic Development was moved out of Administration and now stands as its own department.

The proposed Bond payment has been added to Debt Service.

The Highway Department budget includes a four person crew as well as new grader and truck payments.

The Police Department car replacement has been cut from funding a car and a half to only half a car. This is due to the two cruisers that were purchased by FEMA. We have been able to cut our gasoline costs by purchasing a fuel tank to buy in bulk.

The Clerk Department has an added line for Liability Insurance that was previously included in the Administration budget.

These changes within the budget will better allow us to properly track our expenses and revenues within their departments as well as assist us in creating next years budget.



TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16to 17	\$ change 16 to 17
<b>Revenue</b>					
Duplication Revenue	298	400	400	0.00%	-
Administrative Services	20,000	30,000	32,000	6.67%	2,000
Vendor Permit Revenue	100	200	200	0.00%	-
Misc. Revenue	5,830				
Lister Education	403		400	100.00%	400
Misc Zoning	-	500	500	0.00%	-
Land Use Permit Revenue	4,308	5,000	4,184	-16.32%	(816)
Rental Code Compliance	-	12,000	6,000	-50.00%	(6,000)
Pilot/CU	39,512	38,000	47,174	24.14%	9,174
In Lieu of Taxes-Railroad	234				
Liquor License Revenue	1,690	1,200	1,800	50.00%	600
Misc./Extraordinary Revenue	1				
Land Records	26,090	30,150	31,500	4.48%	1,350
Vault Time	3,436	3,000	3,500	16.67%	500
Misc. Clerk Revenues	1,220	1,000	1,250	25.00%	250
Marriage Licenses	435	400	450	12.50%	50
Hunting/Fishing Licenses	31	100	50	-50.00%	(50)
Vital Statistics	3,035	2,600	3,000	15.38%	400
Dog License Revenue	2,096	2,000	2,100	5.00%	100
Records Preservation	2,963	3,350	3,500	4.48%	150
Interest Revenue	8,075	4,000	15,000	275.00%	11,000
Penalty & Int. Revenue	35,431	65,000	45,000	-30.77%	(20,000)
State Traffic Ticket Reve	6,875	5,000	5,500	10.00%	500
Parking Fine Revenue	120	100	100	0.00%	-
Misc. Police Revenues	1,262	500	500	0.00%	-
Bravo Fees	75				
Police Grants	3,639				
SRO Officer	37,168	36,000	36,000	0.00%	-
Clicket or Ticket Campaig	600	3,000	3,000	0.00%	-
DOCUMENT REIM. REQ. PD	3,088	3,000	3,000	0.00%	-
Misc./Extraor. Rev.	-	1,500		-100.00%	(1,500)
Access Permit Revenue	150	100	200	100.00%	100
Excavation Permit Revenue	150	100	200	100.00%	100
State Highway Revenue	148,830	147,000	148,000	0.68%	1,000
Over Weight Permits	535	400	500	25.00%	100
Mosquitos- Trustees Reim.	9,250	9,250	11,000	18.92%	1,750
Recreation programming	43,877	49,655	46,880	-5.59%	(2,775)
Metals Sales	59				
Mixed Recyclables	2,115	9,000		-100.00%	(9,000)
TS Rent	7,200	7,200	7,000	-2.78%	(200)
EWM Deposits	72,713				
misc.	123				
Town Hall Grants	7,521				
RCSW Surcharge Revenue	7,979				
<b>Revenue minus taxes.</b>	<b>508,516</b>	<b>470,705</b>	<b>459,888</b>	<b>-2.30%</b>	<b>(10,817)</b>

TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16to 17	\$ change to 17
<b>Administration</b>					
Transfer out	18,294	-	-		
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	275,333	280,047	278,650	-0.50%	(1,397)
Travel & Expenses	2,123	4,000	1,500	-62.50%	(2,500)
Personnel Recruitment	-	1,000	250	-75.00%	(750)
Misc.	137	-	-		
Dues & Subscriptions	855	6,625	6,625	0.00%	-
Professional Development	3,206	3,800	1,500	-60.53%	(2,300)
Legal Services	23,727	20,000	25,000	25.00%	5,000
Auditors	27,250	20,000	18,000	-10.00%	(2,000)
Office Supplies	9,841	10,000	10,000	0.00%	-
Service Contracts	6,944	10,000	10,000	0.00%	-
Postage Expenses	9,263	8,000	8,000	0.00%	-
Technical Support	3,115	5,000	4,000	-20.00%	(1,000)
Legal Advertising	2,379	1,000	2,200	120.00%	1,200
Town Report	5,875	5,000	5,000	0.00%	-
Telephone Exp. Admin.	8,070	7,000	5,000	-28.57%	(2,000)
Interest Short Term	1,340	10,000	2,000	-80.00%	(8,000)
Town Admin. Insurance	32,658	38,615	12,300	-68.15%	(26,315)
Insurance Claim Deduct.	1,000	2,000	1,000	-50.00%	(1,000)
Workers Comp. Admin.	5,084	4,890	6,600	34.97%	1,710
Tax Sale Legal /Misc Exp.	-	4,000	4,000	0.00%	-
Capital Improvements	14,543	12,885	15,000	16.41%	2,115
<b>Total Town Admin</b>	<b>432,744</b>	<b>455,512</b>	<b>420,125</b>	<b>-7.77%</b>	<b>(35,387)</b>

<b>ASSESSOR</b>					
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	8,938	8,595	9,695	12.80%	1,100
Travel & Expenses	-	100	100	0.00%	-
Dues & Subscriptions	239	250	250	0.00%	-
Continuing Education	-	200	200	0.00%	-
Legal Fees Lister	-	-	500	100.00%	500
Property Assessor	18,188	16,800	17,500	4.17%	700
Professional Supplies	138	-	1,000	100.00%	1,000
Office Equipment	215	-	1,000	100.00%	1,000
Reapp Acct.-Transfer out	-	5,000	5,000	0.00%	-
<b>Total Assessor</b>	<b>27,718</b>	<b>30,945</b>	<b>35,245</b>	<b>13.90%</b>	<b>4,300</b>

<b>ZONING</b>					
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	37,374	79,605	81,350	2.19%	1,745
Travel & Expenses	159	1,200	1,200	0.00%	-
Dues & Subscriptions	-	350	350	0.00%	-
Continuing Education	125	750	750	0.00%	-
Mapping	2,650	3,500	3,500	0.00%	-
Professional Services	-	4,200	500	-88.10%	(3,700)
Legal Services - zoning	-	5,000	1,500	-70.00%	(3,500)
Professional Supplies	85	300	225	-25.00%	(75)
Planning/Zoning Postage	-	500	-	-100.00%	(500)

TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16to 17	\$ change 16 to 17
Legal Advertising	770	1,000	950	-5.00%	(50)
Printing	-		100	100.00%	100
<b>Total Zoning</b>	<b>41,163</b>	<b>96,405</b>	<b>90,425</b>	<b>-6.20%</b>	<b>(5,980)</b>

**CLERK**

Wages, Taxes & Benefits	129,827	128,925	139,825	8.45%	10,900
Travel & Expenses	-	350	350	0.00%	-
Dues & Subscriptions	88	200	350	75.00%	150
Professional Development	250	500	500	0.00%	-
Elections	4,535	5,000	5,000	0.00%	-
Office Supplies	310	1,500	500	-66.67%	(1,000)
Records Preservation	3,853	5,500	3,500	-36.36%	(2,000)
Insurance VLCT	-		5,300	100.00%	5,300
<b>Total Clerk</b>	<b>138,862</b>	<b>141,975</b>	<b>155,325</b>	<b>9.40%</b>	<b>13,350</b>

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Wages, Taxes & Benefits	597,781	623,991	648,100	3.86%	24,109
Travel & Expenses	1,686	1,500	2,000	33.33%	500
Clothing Allowance	2,689	5,500	5,500	0.00%	-
Dues & Subscriptions	1,208	1,200	1,400	16.67%	200
Professional Development	1,745	4,000	5,500	37.50%	1,500
Forfeiture Fund Payments	845				-
Radio Maintenance	998	1,500	1,500	0.00%	-
MDT/Aircards	2,054	3,000	3,000	0.00%	-
Legal Services	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%	-
Office Supplies	3,096	3,000	3,000	0.00%	-
Professional Supplies	9,555	3,500	4,000	14.29%	500
Service Contracts	8,055	9,200	9,500	3.26%	300
Postage Expenses PD	151	500	200	-60.00%	(300)
Office Equipment	-		3,000	100.00%	3,000
Legal Advertising	-	200	200	0.00%	-
Special Investigations	207				-
Community Police	-		250	100.00%	250
New Equipment - Vehicles	2,341	2,000	2,500	25.00%	500
Fuel - Vehicles	16,882	24,000	22,000	-8.33%	(2,000)
PD Maint. Supplies-Vehicl	-		250	100.00%	250
Bravo Expense	25				
PD Vehicle Maintenance	12,247	11,500	9,000	-21.74%	(2,500)
PD Telephone Service	2,805	3,000	3,000	0.00%	-
PD Insurance VLCT	38,274	44,635	37,350	-16.32%	(7,285)
PD Workers Comp.	29,016	31,585	31,650	0.21%	65
Capital Improvements	-	49,000	15,000	-69.39%	(34,000)
<b>Total Police</b>	<b>731,659</b>	<b>823,811</b>	<b>808,900</b>	<b>-1.81%</b>	<b>(14,911)</b>

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Wages, Taxes & Benefits	291,633	331,735	395,275	19.15%	63,540
Travel & Expenses	155	600	750	25.00%	150

TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16to 17	\$ change 16 to 17
Clothing Allowance	2,471	3,500	2,700	-22.86%	(800)
Dues & Subscriptions	-	150	100	-33.33%	(50)
Continuing Education	269	500	350	-30.00%	(150)
Engineering	5,090	20,000	-	-100.00%	(20,000)
Contractors	12,577	30,520	6,000	-80.34%	(24,520)
Equipment Rental	250	2,000	2,500	25.00%	500
Office Supplies	389	750	500	-33.33%	(250)
New Equipment-Misc. Tools	3,638	2,000	2,000	0.00%	-
Safety Equipment	245	750	750	0.00%	-
Fuel - Vehicles HW	22,372	40,000	30,000	-25.00%	(10,000)
Oil - Vehicles	432	2,000	2,000	0.00%	-
HW Maint. Supplies-Vehicl	16,871	16,000	15,000	-6.25%	(1,000)
HW Tires - Vehicles	8,024	3,000	5,000	66.67%	2,000
HW Outside Maint. - Vehic	11,158	9,000	9,000	0.00%	-
HW Telephone	2,372	2,500	2,500	0.00%	-
Ditching	50	700	-	-100.00%	(700)
Roadside Mowing	5,600	5,400	5,800	7.41%	400
Tree Removal/Planting	3,047	2,000	2,000	0.00%	-
Guardrails	-	1,000	2,500	150.00%	1,500
Street Sweeping	-	-	5,500	100.00%	5,500
Signs & Posts	3,302	3,000	2,500	-16.67%	(500)
Line Painting	5,499	1,000	5,000	400.00%	4,000
Paved Road Patching	1,867	15,000	10,000	-33.33%	(5,000)
Cold Patching	4,137	3,500	4,500	28.57%	1,000
Culverts	7,585	2,500	3,500	40.00%	1,000
Gravel	26,288	25,000	32,000	28.00%	7,000
Chloride	8,277	10,000	20,000	100.00%	10,000
Road Salt	49,784	50,000	50,000	0.00%	-
Winter Sand	24,273	35,000	35,000	0.00%	-
HW VLCT Insurance	15,695	19,515	14,000	-28.26%	(5,515)
Workers Comp	22,019	26,500	23,300	-12.08%	(3,200)
Leased Equipment	78,014	78,500	66,010	-15.91%	(12,490)
GIS- mapping system	-	-	5,000	100.00%	5,000
Capital Improvements	49,621	-	-	-	-
Structures Grants match	-	-	10,000	100.00%	10,000
<b>Total Highway</b>	<b>683,005</b>	<b>743,620</b>	<b>771,035</b>	<b>3.69%</b>	<b>27,415</b>

INTERGOVERNMENTAL					
County Tax	22,023	23,500	28,000	19.15%	4,500
VLCT	5,075	-	-	-	-
Rut. Regional Commission	900	900	925	2.78%	25
Brandon Library	85,500	-	-	-	-
Green-Up Day	300	-	300	100.00%	300
Senior Citizen Center	12,825	-	-	-	-
Public Transit	3,500	3,500	3,500	0.00%	-
REDC	125	500	500	0.00%	-
Rut Nat Resources Conserv	-	-	250	100.00%	250

TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16to 17	\$ change 16 to 17
Mosquito Control	29,500	29,500	33,303	12.89%	3,803
<b>Total Intergovernmental</b>	<b>159,748</b>	<b>57,900</b>	<b>66,778</b>	<b>15.33%</b>	<b>8,878</b>

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Wages, Taxes & Benefits	58,163	54,780	64,070	16.96%	9,290
Travel & Expenses	-	150	300	100.00%	150
Dues & Subscriptions	122	200	250	25.00%	50
Advertising/Recruitment	-	-	3,836	100%	-
Rec Contractors / Mowing	3,235	4,500	2,000	-55.56%	(2,500)
Office Supplies	34	200	200	0.00%	-
Professional Supplies	1,900	-	150	100.00%	150
Recreation Telephone	-	500	500	0.00%	-
Parks Maintenance	-	500	500	0.00%	-
Recreation Insurance	3,435	3,925	1,950	-50.32%	(1,975)
Recreation Workers comp	2,217	2,675	2,500	-6.54%	(175)
<b>REC PROGRAMS-TOTALS:</b>	<b>45,700</b>	<b>34,775</b>	<b>34,524</b>	<b>-0.72%</b>	<b>(251)</b>
<b>Total Rec Dept</b>	<b>114,805</b>	<b>102,205</b>	<b>110,780</b>	<b>8.39%</b>	<b>8,575</b>

**DEBT SERVICE**

RT 7 Town Share	213,864	210,355	204,350	-2.85%	(6,005)
PD Bond Payment	31,800	31,150	30,500	-2.09%	(650)
Infrastructure Bond (new)	-	-	20,000	100.00%	20,000
<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>245,664</b>	<b>241,505</b>	<b>254,850</b>	<b>5.53%</b>	<b>13,345</b>

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Wages, Taxes & Benefits	7,692	10,344	10,780	4.22%	436
Travel & Expenses	-	-	500	100.00%	500
Economic Development	1,589	3,000	7,000	100.00%	4,000
<b>Total Economic Development</b>	<b>9,281</b>	<b>13,344</b>	<b>18,280</b>	<b>36.99%</b>	<b>4,936</b>

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

Wages, Taxes & Benefits	7,050	16,138	14,570	-9.72%	(1,568)
Rental	12,000	-	-	-	-
License & Fees	206	300	300	0.00%	-
Testing/Monitor Fee	2,624	3,000	5,000	66.67%	2,000
PD Heating Fuel	1,936	3,500	-	-100.00%	(3,500)
Heating Fuel - Bldg	7,422	8,750	-	-100.00%	(8,750)
Heating Fuel	6,382	12,000	17,000	41.67%	5,000
Heating - Propane	-	-	7,500	100.00%	7,500
PD Water Fees	117	400	-	-100.00%	(400)
Bldgs & Grounds Water Fee	635	400	900	125.00%	500
PD Electric charges	3,523	3,900	-	-100.00%	(3,900)
Electric - Town Barn	2,029	2,300	-	-100.00%	(2,300)
Street Lights	40,507	50,000	-	-100.00%	(50,000)
Bldgs & Grounds Electric	7,862	11,000	56,000	409.09%	45,000
PD Sewer charges	-	800	-	-100.00%	(800)
Bldgs & Grounds Sewer	30	1,000	-	-100.00%	(1,000)

TOWN OF BRANDON Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 15	Budget 16	Proposed 17	% change 16to 17	\$ change 16 to 17
PD Bldg. Maintenance	1,719	5,000	25,000	400.00%	20,000
Town Office	14,569	10,000	8,000	-20.00%	(2,000)
Bldg Maintenance	3,831	8,000	8,000	0.00%	-
Cemeteries	-	-	1,000	100.00%	1,000
Municipal Mowing	4,410	12,000	14,500	20.83%	2,500
Recreation Field Maint.	-	-	5,500	100.00%	5,500
Town Clock Maint.	-	500	500	0.00%	-
Town Hall Repair/Maint.	(2,327)	10,000	20,000	100.00%	10,000
Parks Maint.	8,835	2,500	10,000	300.00%	7,500
Trash costs-Transfer Stat	2,004	15,000	2,500	-83.33%	(12,500)
Maint. Supplies Bldgs.	1,759	3,000	3,000	0.00%	-
Bldg. Repairs	4,622	8,000	-	100.00%	(8,000)
Bldg. & Grounds Insurance	839	2,000	15,697	684.85%	13,697
Unemployment	-	65	-	100.00%	(65)
Green-Up day	-	300	-	-100.00%	(300)
Solid Waste Disposal	7,257	-	-	-	-
RCSWD/Recycling	4,088	9,000	-	-100.00%	(9,000)
EWM Payments	72,827	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlay B&G	36,748	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Buildings and Grounds</b>	<b>253,504</b>	<b>198,853</b>	<b>214,967</b>	<b>8.10%</b>	<b>16,114</b>

<b>TOTAL MUNICIPAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>2,856,446</b>	<b>2,906,075</b>	<b>2,946,710</b>	<b>1.40%</b>	<b>40,635</b>
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**APPROPRIATIONS**

BIDCC -4th of July Com.	6,000	6,000	6,000	0.00%	-
Brandon Rescue Squad	20,735	20,735	20,735	0.00%	-
Chamber of Commerce	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.00%	-
RSVP	406	-	550	100.00%	550
SW VT Council on Aging	2,400	-	2,400	100.00%	2,400
RAVNA	10,200	10,200	10,200	0.00%	-
Rutland Mental Health	6,624	6,624	6,624	0.00%	-
ARC of Rutland	3,500	3,500	3,500	0.00%	-
Comm.Health Services-Addi	750	-	-	-	-
Boys and Girls Club	-	10,000	10,000	0.00%	-
Stephen A. Douglas Inc.	-	2,500	2,500	0.00%	-
Rutland Co Humane Society	-	-	750	100.00%	750
FOXCROFT FARM	15,000	15,000	15,000	0.00%	-
Brandon Library	-	85,500	85,500	0.00%	-
Senior Citizen Center	-	13,500	13,500	0.00%	-
Paving Projects	-	-	100,250	100.00%	100,250
Union Street	125,000	-	-	-	-
Wheeler Rd Bridge	24,000	-	-	-	-
Overflow Culvert HMPG Mat	-	68,550	-	-100.00%	(68,550)
Marble St Overlay	-	24,545	-	-100.00%	(24,545)
Champlain St Overlay	-	18,295	-	-100.00%	(18,295)
Sidewalk Repairs	-	20,000	-	-100.00%	(20,000)
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>215,615</b>	<b>305,949</b>	<b>278,509</b>	<b>-8.97%</b>	<b>(27,440)</b>



## TOWN OF BRANDON PHONE DIRECTORY

General Information:  
247-3635 ext. 201

Accounting:  
247-3635 ext. 205

Assessor:  
247-3635 ext. 214

Economic Development:  
247-3635 ext. 213

Police Department:  
Non-Emergency:  
247-5723

Office:  
247-0222

Public Works Department:  
Director:  
247-3635 ext. 211

Highway Garage:  
247-3600

Sewer Plant:  
247-6730

Transfer Station:  
247-8372

Recreation Department:  
247-3635 ext. 213

Rental Housing:  
247-3635 ext. 202

Town Clerk & Treasurer:  
247-3635 ext. 203 & 204

Town Manager:  
247-3635 ext. 210

Zoning Administrator  
247-3635 ext. 202

Brandon Fire District  
Water Department: 247-3311

Brandon Area Chamber  
of Commerce: 247-6401

Brandon Free Public  
Library: 247-8230

Neshobe School: 247-3721

OVUHS: 247-6833

RNESU: 247-5757

[www.townofbrandon.com](http://www.townofbrandon.com)

## MEETING SCHEDULES

*Dates and locations may change.  
It is a good idea to call ahead or  
check the website to confirm.*

### SELECT BOARD

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 PM at  
the Brandon Town Hall located at 1  
Conant Square.

### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 PM. or as  
needed. Location varies. Check  
the Town website

### PLANNING COMMISSION

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:00 PM or  
as needed at the Brandon Free  
Public Library.

### NESHOBE SCHOOL BOARD

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 PM at the  
Neshobe School.

### OVUHS BOARD

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 PM at the  
Otter Valley Library.

### RNESU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 PM at the  
Otter Valley Library.

## PERMITS

### BURN PERMIT

A burn permit is required for any  
outside burning. Only untreated  
wood products such as unpainted  
lumber, brush and leaves can be  
burned. A burn permit requires 24  
hours notice. To obtain a burn  
permit, please call Linwood Bovey  
at 342-7129 or 236-4914.

### LAND USE

Please contact the Zoning Office to  
determine if a permit is required  
before you start any type of land  
use development on your property.

### RENTAL

Before renting out an apartment,  
house or mobile home, a landlord  
**must** obtain a Certificate of  
Occupancy before a tenant moves  
into the unit. Owners of rental  
property must also complete a  
compliance form for each unit  
every January.

### BRANDON TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Town Office will be closed for  
the following holidays:

New Year's Day  
Martin Luther King Day  
Presidents' Day  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Columbus Day  
Veterans' Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Friday after Thanksgiving  
Christmas Day

### BRANDON TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### BRANDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### Summer hours:

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - noon

#### Winter hours:

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

To volunteer for the Fire  
Department, please contact  
Chief Roman Wdowiak at  
247-6476 or speak with any  
member of the Fire Department.

### RESCUE SQUAD (BARS)

To volunteer for the Rescue  
Squad, please contact Andy  
Jackson at 247-3231.

**SAVE A LIFE  
STOP A CRIME  
REPORT A FIRE  
9 – 1 – 1**



# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRANDON SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**BRANDON, VERMONT**



**Brandon School District Meeting**

**Monday, February 29, 2016 at 7:00 PM @ Neshobe School**



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BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WARNING

The legal voters of the Brandon Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Neshobe School on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. to conduct the following business:

- Article I. To hear the reports of the Brandon Town School District Officers.
  
- Article II. To hear a presentation by the School Board of its recommended budget for FY2016/2017.
  
- Article III. To fix the compensation of the Brandon Town School District Officers.
  
- Article IV. To authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to meet the necessary expenses of the Brandon Town School District.
  
- Article V. To do any other business proper to be done when met.

The meeting shall then be recessed to Tuesday, March 1, 2016. The polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the Neshobe School to vote on the remaining articles by Australian ballot.

- Article VI. To elect the following Town School District Officers:
  - a. A Moderator for a term of one (1) year.
  - b. A Town School Director for a term of two (2) years.
  - c. A Town School Director for a term of three (3) years.
  - d. A School Director for Otter Valley Union High School District #8 for a three (3) year term.
  - e. A School Director for Otter Valley Union High School District #8 for a three (3) year term.
  
- Article VII. Shall the voters of the Brandon Town School District approve the school board to expend \$5,470,056, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$12,813 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 2.92% higher than spending for the current year.
  
- Article VIII. Shall the voters approve the Otter Valley Unified Union school district board, if the Otter Valley Unified Union School District is formed with operations commencing July 1, 2016, to expend \$22,604,806, which in accordance with the Otter Valley Unified Union School District formation plan, is the amount the school boards of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting town school districts and Otter Valley Union High school district have determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$14,495 per equalized pupils.

Dated at Brandon, Vermont, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.

BRANDON BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Lisa Kenyon, Chair	2018
Erin Gallivan, Clerk	2016
Devon Fuller	2017
Michael Lufkin	2016
Debra Boyce	2017

**BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING - MARCH 2, 2015  
NESHOBES SCHOOL - FORESTDALE**

Moderator Art Doty called the annual Brandon Town School District Annual Meeting to order at 8:36 P.M. Attending the meeting were school board members Chairman Lisa Kenyon, Erin Gallivan, Devon Fuller, and Debra Boyce, Clerk Sue Gage and an unknown number of registered voters as several people left following the town meeting. Absent was school board member Mike Lufkin. The following business was then transacted:

Article I. To hear the reports of the Brandon Town School District Officers.

The reports are included in the Annual Town Report. Bernie Carr made a motion to accept the reports as presented in the Town Report and Maria Ammatuna seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Article II. To hear a presentation by the School Board of its recommended budget for FY2015/2016.

Chair Lisa Kenyon introduced the school board members and Principal Judi Pulsifer. Ms. Kenyon stated that the board with Ms. Pulsifer have worked hard to be fiscally responsible and provide children's needs. One of the biggest challenges this year was the state mandated preschool.

Deb Boyce spoke about specific reductions the board made in the budget to offset the increases due to the state-mandated pre-school program. Taxes will increase \$0.02, which is \$20 per year on a \$100,000 home. The board offered an early retirement incentive to six professionals. One accepted, and that position will be scaled back in the upcoming school year. The budget was also reduced by the elimination of one para-educator. Other budget reductions include reduced funding for the Soar program, and reduced math and reading intervention positions.

Erin Gallivan spoke about mandatory pre-school. Neshobes has had a pre-k program for 11 years funded through Title I federal funds. The legislatures mandated pre-k beginning in July of 2016, but the board felt it would be fiscally responsible to begin adding the pre-k programs into the budget for next year. The board also altered two existing positions so that they can get funded with Title I funds which funded pre-k in the past. The board is trying to stay ahead of the mandate so that the taxpayers are not hit all at once with the mandate. Moving the pre-k program into the general fund budget added \$190,000 to the budget that we haven't had in the past.

Devon touted Neshobes School, and spoke of the programs that we have at Neshobes. We have a second language program, an art program and a music program. Neshobes has a 17 to 1 ratio of students to teachers. The enrollment and ratios stay steady at Neshobes. RNESU has consolidated in many areas, such as bussing and special education which has saved tax dollars. Neshobes and RNESU do an excellent job when it comes to the fiscal side of education.

Bill Orth questioned whether adding additional students from the other area small schools would affect the budgets at Neshobes. What is Neshobes able to handle? Principal Judi Pulsifer stated that we have not been approached by any of the small schools and do not have enough information to answer the question. Judy believes Neshobes could physically house an additional 60 - 70 students fairly easily.

Jan Ripley stated that Neshobes once had 511 kids in the school. Bernie Carr stated that in the late 80's there were 524 kids which is the maximum according to Judi Pulsifer.

Wayne Rausenberger asked for clarification on the cost of the Pre-K program. Mr. Rausenberger then spoke about a Promises to America program, four year grant, to build an early education program in the state. The grant is for four years, and then there is nothing. Mr. Rausenberger encouraged the school board to sit down with our Representatives in Montpelier to address unfunded mandates such as these.

Jennifer Philo wanted to commend the board for all the work they did getting information out to voters.

Jeremy MacLachlan asked for clarification on the teacher student ratio at Neshobes. Ms. Pulsifer believes that the ratio is 1-15, with 8.2 para-educators in support of 20 teachers. Mr. MacLachlan then asked about the increase in workmen's compensation insurance. Ms. Gallivan stated that this is based on an average. Mr. MacLachlan requested that the board monitor accidents to minimize workmen's comp claims. Mr. MacLachlan then asked about RNESU Central Office expenditures and whether the board felt we were getting a good value from the services. Lisa Kenyon stated that the Central Office budget was actually reduced for the upcoming budget year.

Article III. To fix the compensation of the Brandon Town School District Officers.

Bernie Carr moved that the compensation of officers remains the same, Charlie Jakiela seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Article IV. To authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to meet the necessary expenses of the Brandon Town School District.

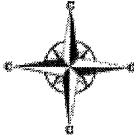
Bob Ripley moved to accept, seconded by Richard Baker. The motion passed.

Article V. To do any other business proper to be done when met.

The meeting was recessed at 9:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Doty	Louis Faivre	Susan Gage
Moderator	BCA Chair	Town Clerk



**Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union**

... dedicated to the development of character, competence, creativity and community

**VALUES**

- Caring • Effort & Resilience • Visual & Performing Arts • Social & Personal Responsibility • Acceptance & Celebration of Diversity •
- Mutual Respect • Individual & Collective Achievement • Appreciation of the Natural World • Physical Health & Wellness •
- Lifelong Learning • Equity •

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students are successful learners, workers and citizens by becoming:

- Academically Accomplished
- Effective Oral and Written Communicators
- Effective Collaborators
- Independent & Creative Thinkers
- Innovators & Problem Solvers
- Globally Aware & Responsible Citizens
- Community Contributors
- Physically & Emotionally Healthy
- Kind, Caring & Gracious
- Appreciative of Visual & Performing Arts
- Aware & Respectful of the Natural World
- Confident, Courageous & Persistent
- Responsible & Motivated Self-Advocates
- Respectful, Fair & Just Individuals
- Curious & Lifelong Learners

**LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Students participate in learning opportunities that:

- ...provide access to a rigorous academic curriculum
- ...engage students in authentic and relevant work
- ...integrate best and "next" instructional practices
- ...promote critical thinking & innovation
- ...are personalized & proficiency-based
- ...are both minds on and hands-on
- ...are project/problem based
- ...are interdisciplinary
- ...include community service & service learning experiences
- ...engage students in the natural world
- ...integrate the effective use of technology
- ...are vocational and experiential in nature
- ...encourage student voice, ownership and leadership
- ...promote "habits of mind" or executive skills
- ...are extended beyond the school day, school year and school building

**OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS, RESOURCES & PRACTICES**

The RNESU community is committed to fulfilling our mission and values by providing:

- Adequate Instructional Staffing
- Adequate Support Staffing
- Adequate Continuum of Intervention & Support
- Access to Quality Professional Development
- Adequate Instructional Resources
- Access to Current Technology
- Safe and Adequate Transportation
- Safe, Healthy & Efficient Facilities
- Equity in Access to Programs & Services
- Positive Learning Environments
- Effective Governance & Leadership
- Effective Professional Practices
- Effective Feedback, Assessment and Grading Practices
- Effective Communication
- Opportunities to Collaborate
- A Culture of Continuous Improvement
- Opportunities to Recognize & Celebrate Achievements
- Community Engagement

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT & PROGRAM EVALUATION**

RNESU will assess student outcomes and evaluate programs based on:

- Regular Review of RNESU, School and Grade Level Profiles
- Regular Review of State, RNESU, School, Grade Level and Individual Student Data

**PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION**

RNESU will develop and implement programs with attention to:

- The Common Core State Standards
- Vermont Educational Quality Standards
- Vermont School Quality Standards
- Common Board Policy
- Multi-Year Supervisory Union Action Plan
- Annual School Action Plan
- Professional Goal Setting
- Student Goal Setting

# **RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION**

## **Superintendent's Report January 2016**

Rutland Northeast schools have had quite an active year this past year. The Compact is alive and well and the focus within the Compact is on Brain Based Learning. All teachers in all seven schools received professional development on this framework of learning last summer, with a focus on the four principles of Emotional Engagement, Mental Models, Rapid Feedback and Targeted Practice. To help bring these principles forward, we have introduced weekly professional learning communities for teacher collaboration at the K-6 schools plus Barstow. The investment in our faculty and staff will help us meet our goals for our students in the RNESU compact going forward.

While the elementary schools focused on Brain Based Learning principles, Otter Valley introduced a student designed advisory system and continued its work on proficiency based learning. Middle schools have also been working hard at assessing how they are meeting the needs of students in our SU and looking at options for updating our learning environments. Barstow Middle has made great progress in integrating units with a reduction in teaching staff this year.

Our schools and communities have made great investments in heating and energy systems. Lothrop Elementary put in new wood pellet boilers and air exchange system over the summer. Both Otter Valley Union High School and Neshobe Elementary School received voter approval in November, 2015, to put in new energy efficient heating systems. These systems are expected to be in place for next school year.

The School Boards negotiated an agreement with the paras and bus drivers this year. This agreement is both fiscally responsible yet keeps our valued employees in line with their colleagues for pay and benefits. The Boards are entering negotiations this school year with teachers and again with paras and bus drivers, navigating the new world of changing health insurance systems at the same time.

Two new principals were hired this year. With the retirement of Karen Prescott after 17 years at Barstow Memorial, the Board hired Renee Castillo who started in July. Karen was honored by the Board for her years of service with a plaque naming a wing of the school after her. Renee comes to us from California, with family in the area, and has stepped in nicely to the position as she and her husband and children are settling nearby.

Sara Raabe left the Lothrop School after three years of service and Debbie Alexander of Castleton, Vermont was hired to replace her. Debbie hit the ground running with a fire in the old boiler in the first few weeks of school. Debbie is already familiar with many of the locales and people in Pittsford and is settling right in as well.

This fall brought board and community conversations about a governance merger under Act 46. By the time this goes to print, that vote will have been completed. This town report, not knowing the result of that vote, will include budgets for both the town as well as the merged system for readers to delve into. In my short time in Rutland Northeast, I have quickly learned of the incredible support and collegueship our towns give to our children. Our systems are in place for a successful merger, our relationships are solid, and we will do what is best for our children together. I look forward to continuing the work of the Compact with the communities in the coming year.

With great respect and appreciation,

*Jeanné Collins*

Superintendent of Schools

## **Brandon School District Report January 2016**

The Brandon School Board has worked very hard and accomplished multiple items on our *To Do* list this year. Here is a brief summary of how things stand:

### **ELY FUND**

We have worked countless hours with our attorney and our financial services to identify a new financial advisor and updating the Ely Fund, to make sure that the students get the most from the investment opportunities. As we merge into a new Otter Valley Unified Union District, we have ensured that there is an article in place within the new district that the Ely fund will still be used for the present and future students of Brandon. Act 46 says the terms of the trust cannot be changed and this article ensures that is the case.

### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

This is the second year we have discussed and taken steps to improve our school's energy efficiency. We are grateful to the voters for passing a bond that will allow us to provide an efficient heating and ventilation system. This bond will be paid off through the use of the Ely Fund for the next 20 years. Our next step is to receive bids, and we will proceed from there to start the work later this spring.

### **BOARD TOPICS**

The Board has discussed a variety of topics this year, such as how to implement Universal Preschool per Act 166, the new Open Meeting law, recess and student activity times, and Neshobe's discipline processes. Minutes from our meetings are online at the board page and all meetings are open to the public. Come and participate at any meeting!

### **RETIREMENTS and THANK YOUS**

We say goodbye this year to Donna Howe, primary teacher, after 42 years of teaching. We thank Ms. Howe and wish her the best as she continues on her journey. We also thank all of the faculty and staff who dedicate their professional life to helping the students of Brandon. Finally, the School Board would like to thank all of the voters of Brandon for their support and dedication that they give to the students of our great town.

*Lisa Kenyon,  
Neshobe Board Chair*



## NESHOBE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Neshobe Elementary is committed to maintaining high expectations for our students that we have set as a school community. It is our belief that all students can learn with the appropriate level of support and opportunity, and we provide a solid framework for providing a strong learning environment educationally, socially, and emotionally.

The mission statement of our school reads:

### ***We Believe...***

*We believe in the potential of every student. We believe each student has unique needs, and that we can provide the safe, supportive, yet challenging learning environment to meet those needs and foster growth. We believe all students learn better if there are strong connections with their teachers and other school staff, based on positive, respectful interactions. We believe family involvement is essential to the success of our students.*

*We encourage families to take an active role in the social and academic lives of our students. We believe it is our responsibility to provide opportunities for families to contribute to the school community. We believe connections that are personal, educational, and family and community oriented support the whole child. These strong connections help students feel safe both physically and emotionally in their school setting.*

*We believe in actively communicating to students that they are valued and guiding them so a sense of personal and group responsibility permeates the learning environment.*

*This encourages students to care for and support each other, the school, and their environment, and to carry their responsible behavior into field studies and other off-campus settings. Providing many opportunities for choices helps students build the skills of decision making, problem solving, as well as supporting responsible actions. As staff, we are responsible for and invested in every child. We believe in nurturing the hopes and dreams of our students.*

*We believe in ourselves and our colleagues and that working together we can support all students to feel success and make those hopes and dreams a reality.*

We are guided by the framework of our Mission Statement, the RNESU Compact, the Common Core State Standards, and Brain Based Learning in our work to advance the learning of all students.

This school year our staff has spent a great deal of time learning about the latest research on brain based learning and working on developing ways to put it into practice to best support our students. It is a delicate balance between learning, planning, and application while teaching. Wonderful Wednesdays (WW) have enabled us to participate in the Northern Tier Professional Learning Community (PLC) with teachers from Leicester, Sudbury, and Whiting. Our teachers are divided into two groups: grades 3-6 and K-2. While one group participates in the PLC, the other group runs clubs with the counselors, school nurse, integrated art teachers, and school secretary.

On Wonderful Wednesday afternoons, our students have had the opportunity to participate in a club for the last hour of the day. Throughout this school year, students will participate in six club sessions with each club running for five sessions.

A sampling of what some students have identified what they like about Wonderful Wednesdays:

- "Choices, I get to make my own choices on what club I am in!"
- "I like working with kids from other classes and grades."
- "We get to work with different teachers."
- "We have fun!"
- "I get to try new things."
- "I got to work with my last year teacher."
- "I like helping the kids in kindergarten. You should see what they know how to do."
- "Our school is awesome, we have clubs."
- "I learned how to play Chess."

What I like about Wonderful Wednesdays:

- They offer our students an opportunity to experience new activities and learning in a different way.
- They provide our students time to practice and apply skills such as problem solving, collaboration, sportsmanship, perseverance, and cooperation in a new setting with different people.
- The high level of engagement and motivation displayed by our students.
- The opportunity for them to work with students from different grade levels and classrooms helps to build strong connections between students in a larger school.
- The opportunity to work with different adults creates more connections between our students and staff.

We are continuing to build a Multi-Tier Systems of Support (MTSS) model for academic and behavior. MTSS expands upon the RtI model we had had been following for a more comprehensive approach which includes all students. On a monthly basis, grade level teams are analyzing data to assess progress and plan instruction. To further develop and ensure a feeling of community, connection, and sharing between students and students and staff, we have created new opportunities such as Primary Nation (K-2) which meets every Monday morning. Our third and fourth grades are hosting small social lunch groups, as well as with the counselors and principal. The counselors are also providing classroom instruction and small group work in developing problem solving and social skills, self-regulation, communication, independence, communication, and sportsmanship.

Neshobe School follows The Vermont School Crisis Guide outlined procedures and practice drills on a monthly basis to ensure all children and staff know what to do in case of an emergency. We will remain vigilant and reevaluate our security procedures on a regular basis in consultation with the Brandon Police and Fire Departments to ensure our students' safety.

Congratulations and best wishes to Donna Howe on her retirement after 42 years of teaching! She leaves a legacy of lifelong learning as a leader in change and new approaches to meet the learning needs of all children.

We believe the whole community is essential to each child's success in our school community. We have faithful community and parent volunteers supporting programs such as Odyssey of the Mind, Four Winds and Everybody Wins, as well as, volunteers in our classrooms, library, and on field studies.

We have a committed PTO which works hard to raise funds which will maintain and expand a safe playground. Our collaborative partnership with Bill Moore, Brandon Recreation Director, provides additional learning opportunities for our students and the Brandon Community through physical activities, seasonal events, and adult programs.

It also ensures that Neshobe School remains a resource which benefits the community outside of school hours. And, finally, we have a very supportive community without which none of this would be possible.

It is my privilege to be part of the Neshobe School Community where I have the opportunity to work daily with students and families, a dedicated staff, a school board, and community members in our quest to ensure learning opportunities are meeting the needs of all students in a warm and welcoming learning environment.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to know more about our school or become involved in our learning opportunities.

Respectfully,

Judith A. Pulsifer M.Ed.  
Principal

## SCHOOL LEGAL NOTICES – TOWN OF BRANDON

**School Board** - The school board welcomes your input on all issues. The school board meetings are held on the second and fourth (*the fourth only when necessary*) Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Neshobe School library. Please call the school in advance (247-3721) in order to assure a place on the agenda and to see if there have been any meeting changes, postponements or cancellations.

**Equal Opportunity** - The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union insures equal employment and educational opportunities regardless of race, color, handicap, national origin, or sex.

**Students with Disabilities** - The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union is required by federal laws IDEA-B (Formerly EHA-B) and Section 504 and state regulations to identify and locate all persons with disabilities between the ages of birth and 21 who may be in need of regular education, special education services or accommodations in accessing public education. If you know of any individual residing in the town of Brandon who you suspect of having such needs, but who is not currently receiving them, please contact the Director of Special Services, Marsha Bruce, at (802) 247-5757 or the school principal for your town.

**Records Review** - As provided under federal and state laws and regulations, all parents and legal guardians are hereby notified that they have a number of rights under FERPA (the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act). You may inspect the educational record, request an amendment or file a complaint. If you find this necessary, please contact your school principal. You may also contact your school for a copy of the RNESU Records Policy, which outlines your rights under this law.

**Asbestos** - The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act [40 CFR 763.93 (g) (4)] requires that written notice be given that the following schools have Management plans for the safe control and maintenance of asbestos-containing materials found in their buildings. These Management Plans are available and accessible to the public at the administrative offices of each facility listed below. Please contact the building Principal if you wish to read this plan.

	<u>School Address</u>	<u>Designated Person</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.	Neshobe Elementary School 17 Neshobe Circle Brandon, VT 05733	Jeff Bushey Judi Pulsifer	247-3721
2.	Otter Valley Union H. S. 2997 Franklin Street Brandon, VT 05733	Kyle Watrous	247-6833
3.	Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union 49 Court Drive Brandon, VT 05733	Brenda Fleming	247-5757

**Audit Reports** - Certified Public Accountants audit reports are available for public inspection. These may be found on the Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union website at [www.rnesu.org](http://www.rnesu.org) or by calling the business office at (802) 247-5757.

**Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment Notification (PPRA)** - PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys. These include the right to:

- *Inspect*, upon request and before administration or use –
  1. Protected information surveys of students;
  2. Instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum.

**Educator Quality** - Under the No Child Left Behind Act, parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teacher. This information includes: whether the teacher has met the state requirements for the grade level(s) and subject area(s) they are teaching; whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency license; the college major and/or graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher; and whether their child is provided services by paraprofessionals and if so, their qualifications. During the 2014-2015 school year, 100% of core academic classes at Neshobe Elementary School were taught by Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) and 0% of the teachers were on provisional licenses.

**State Assessment Results** - Under the No Child Left Behind Act, students in grades 3 – 8 and 11 are assessed annually in reading, writing, math and science. School wide test results may be found on the State Agency of Education website at [www.education.vermont.gov](http://www.education.vermont.gov).

**RNESU Annual Report** - The RNESU Annual Report and Profile is available electronically and may be found on the Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union website at [www.rnesu.org](http://www.rnesu.org) or by calling the Central Office at (802) 247-5757.

**RNESU BUDGET NOTE**

The District Wide Transportation Proposed Budget and Assessments, the Special Services Proposed Budget and Assessments and the Central Office Proposed Budget and Assessments can be found in the Otter Valley Union High School Report; which is available on-line at [www.ovuhs.org](http://www.ovuhs.org) or by calling Otter Valley Union High School at (802) 247-6833.

**RNESU PROFESSIONAL SALARIES**

The Rutland Northeast professional salaries by negotiated groups for 2015-2016 (as of January 1, 2016) can be found in the Otter Valley Union High School Report; which is available on-line at [www.ovuhs.org](http://www.ovuhs.org) or by calling Otter Valley Union High School at (802) 247-6833.

NESHOBÉ  
PROFESSIONAL SALARIES BY  
NEGOTIATED GROUPS  
2015-2016  
(AS OF JANUARY 1, 2016)

<b>Column A or Bachelor's + 0 Credits \$37,414 – 47,890</b>	<b>Column B or Bachelor's +15 Credits \$38,911– 50,883</b>	<b>Column C/Bachelor's +30/Master's+0 \$40,407 – 53,876</b>
Sally Beayon Zachary Farnham-Haskell* Kathleen Mack Julia Varian	Alia Dick Hannah Fjeld Michele La Flam	John Brodowski Christina Charbonneau Susan Dier Mary Heath*
<b>Column D or Master's+15 Credits \$41,904 – 61,359</b>	<b>Column E/Bachelor's+60 /Master's+30 \$43,400 – 70,338</b>	<b>Column F or Master's+45 Credits \$44,897 – 74,828</b>
Monica Keith Julie Sequeira-Bacher John-Charles Sharrow Danielle Spaulding	Heather Best Elizabeth Greeno Ellen Knapp Nancy Merriman Kathryn Tricario Harriet Wyman	Kelly Coolidge Sharon Desforges Kim Faber Wendy Fjeld Christopher Greco Donna Howe McMahon-Lendway, Moira* Donna Peduto Derreth Romano Shannon Stoner

\* less than 100% FTE

**Brandon Town School District**

**June 30, 2015 – Restricted and Assigned Fund Balances**

Restricted, committed and assigned fund balances represent amounts that must be used for specific purposes within that fund and cannot be spent otherwise without prior approval of funding source. A more detailed explanation is provided in Note 10 of the Audit Report.

**Reservations at year end are for the following**

**General Fund:**

Fiscal 15-16 Budget                    \$ 80,155

**Special Reserve Funds:**

After School Fund                    \$ 223,381

Buildings & Grounds Reserve       \$ 205,074

Total                                        \$ 428,455

**Capital Projects Fund:**

Energy Project                         \$ 17,244

**Permanent Fund:**

Ely Fund                                    \$ 181,802

**Private Purpose Trust Funds**

Awards and Scholarships            \$1,126,741

**Capital Leases**

On October 3, 2007, the Brandon School District entered into a non-cancellable lease agreement with Honeywell, Inc. for the lease of energy equipment. This lease agreement qualifies as a capital lease, for accounting purposes and thus, has been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments at the inception of the lease in the general long-term debt account group. The total amount due is \$590,561, to be paid in semi-annual installments of \$29,528 over 11 years with a buyout at the end of \$0. Interest rate on the capitalized lease is approximately 4.45%.

*Present Value of Future lease Payments      \$164,150*

**FY2017 Proposed Budgets  
Town School District Budgets, Otter Valley Union High School Budget  
And Otter Valley Unified Union Combined Budget**

Description	Article VII					OV Ballot				
	Town School Districts					OVUHS				
	Brandon	Goshen	Leicester	Pittsford	Sudbury	Whiting	Middle & High School	OV Unified Union	Combined Budget	Article VIII
<b>Expenditures:</b>										
Salaries	\$1,848,772	\$0	\$330,411	\$1,180,278	\$174,506	\$203,756	\$2,604,987	\$6,342,710		
Employee Benefits	\$755,655	\$0	\$81,175	\$482,064	\$65,088	\$62,424	\$828,346	\$2,274,752		
Purchased Professional & Technical Svcs	\$22,500	\$0	\$33,330	\$55,500	\$21,600	\$0	\$185,850	\$318,780		
Equipment Services	\$400	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$6,290	\$9,190		
Tuition, Travel and Insurance	\$0	\$136,500	\$6,200	\$500	\$15,000	\$14,800	\$87,915	\$260,915		
Supplies and Materials	\$85,700	\$0	\$20,300	\$93,160	\$5,600	\$6,450	\$150,136	\$361,346		
Drivers' Education Vehicle	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,090	\$5,090		
Dues, Interest and Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600		
<b>Direct Instruction - Regular Programs - 1100</b>	<b>\$2,713,027</b>	<b>\$136,500</b>	<b>\$472,916</b>	<b>\$1,811,502</b>	<b>\$282,794</b>	<b>\$287,430</b>	<b>\$3,870,214</b>	<b>\$9,574,363</b>		
Purchased Professional & Technical Svcs	\$1,345,241	\$73,236	\$216,907	\$806,070	\$127,668	\$143,008	\$2,347,622	\$5,059,752		
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,700	\$5,700		
<b>Direct Instruction - Special Education - 1200</b>	<b>\$1,345,241</b>	<b>\$73,236</b>	<b>\$216,907</b>	<b>\$806,070</b>	<b>\$127,668</b>	<b>\$143,008</b>	<b>\$2,353,322</b>	<b>\$5,065,452</b>		
Vocational Education Tuitions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$596,792	\$596,792		
<b>Vocational Education and Tuitions - 1300</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$596,792</b>	<b>\$596,792</b>		
Salaries	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$650	\$175,771	\$176,971		
Employee Benefits	\$190	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$26,019	\$26,209		
Purchased Professional & Technical Svcs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,500	\$0	\$0	\$50,180	\$53,680		
Purchased Property Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000		
Tuition, Travel and Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000		
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,894	\$21,894		
<b>Direct Instruction - Co-curricular - 1400</b>	<b>\$490</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$650</b>	<b>\$274,864</b>	<b>\$280,754</b>		
Salaries	\$171,010	\$0	\$0	\$142,058	\$4,900	\$0	\$365,375	\$683,343		
Employee Benefits	\$64,712	\$0	\$0	\$79,419	\$300	\$0	\$119,737	\$264,168		
Purchased Professional & Technical Svcs	\$0	\$0	\$39,435	\$6,000	\$0	\$4,500	\$115,800	\$165,735		
Purchased Property Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150	\$150		
Tuition, Travel and Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400		
Supplies and Materials	\$1,250	\$0	\$600	\$725	\$0	\$100	\$15,795	\$18,470		
<b>Student Support Services - 2100</b>	<b>\$236,972</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$40,035</b>	<b>\$228,202</b>	<b>\$5,200</b>	<b>\$4,600</b>	<b>\$617,257</b>	<b>\$1,132,266</b>		

**FY2017 Proposed Budgets**  
**Town School District Budgets, Otter Valley Union High School Budget**  
**And Otter Valley Unified Union Combined Budget**

Description	Article VII						OV Ballot				Article VIII	
	Town School Districts						OVUHS				OV Unified Union	
	Brandon	Goshen	Leicester	Pittsford	Sudbury	Whiting	Middle & High School				Combined Budget	
Salaries	\$44,268	\$0	\$4,754	\$50,874	\$0	\$0	\$98,125	\$198,021				\$ 198,021
Employee Benefits	\$54,471	\$0	\$9,485	\$50,405	\$10,800	\$4,000	\$102,597	\$ 231,758				\$ 231,758
Purchased Professional & Technical Svs	\$17,034	\$0	\$15,165	\$11,036	\$3,024	\$2,263	\$82,880	\$ 131,402				\$ 131,402
Purchased Property Services	\$0	\$0	\$2,283	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,500	\$ 7,783				\$ 7,783
Tuition, Travel and Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,884	\$ 3,884				\$ 3,884
Supplies and Materials	\$5,500	\$0	\$13,123	\$5,500	\$5,590	\$4,700	\$40,984	\$ 75,397				\$ 75,397
<b>Instructional Staff Support Services - 2200</b>	<b>\$121,273</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$44,810</b>	<b>\$117,815</b>	<b>\$19,414</b>	<b>\$10,963</b>	<b>\$333,970</b>	<b>\$ 648,245</b>				<b>\$ 648,245</b>
Salaries	\$2,500	\$900	\$1,968	\$3,300	\$1,200	\$1,600	\$14,050	\$ 25,518				\$ 25,518
Employee Benefits	\$0	\$71	\$0	\$0	\$77	\$0	\$941	\$ 1,089				\$ 1,089
Purchased Professional & Technical Svs	\$291,563	\$17,989	\$50,777	\$179,372	\$30,982	\$33,849	\$507,019	\$1,111,551				\$1,111,551
Tuition, Travel and Insurance	\$1,000	\$300	\$900	\$750	\$0	\$500	\$9,000	\$ 12,450				\$ 12,450
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$800	\$ 1,000				\$ 1,000
Dues, Interest and Other	\$3,540	\$0	\$1,800	\$2,550	\$1,200	\$1,000	\$4,350	\$ 14,440				\$ 14,440
<b>General Administrative Support Services - 2</b>	<b>\$298,603</b>	<b>\$19,260</b>	<b>\$55,445</b>	<b>\$185,972</b>	<b>\$33,459</b>	<b>\$37,149</b>	<b>\$536,160</b>	<b>\$1,166,048</b>				<b>\$1,166,048</b>
Salaries	\$165,019	\$0	\$76,176	\$117,103	\$50,075	\$52,845	\$334,047	\$ 795,265				\$ 795,265
Employee Benefits	\$74,687	\$0	\$39,081	\$36,766	\$27,827	\$22,899	\$148,860	\$ 350,120				\$ 350,120
Travel and Insurance	\$1,500	\$0	\$200	\$1,250	\$150	\$150	\$5,700	\$ 8,950				\$ 8,950
Supplies and Materials	\$600	\$0	\$140	\$200	\$1,250	\$0	\$52,000	\$ 54,190				\$ 54,190
Dues, Interest and Other	\$700	\$0	\$1,100	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 2,800				\$ 2,800
<b>School Administration - 2400</b>	<b>\$242,506</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$116,697</b>	<b>\$156,319</b>	<b>\$79,302</b>	<b>\$75,894</b>	<b>\$540,607</b>	<b>\$1,211,325</b>				<b>\$1,211,325</b>
Short Term Interest and Other	\$2,000	\$200	\$800	\$4,500	\$900	\$900	\$12,350	\$ 21,650				\$ 21,650
<b>Fiscal Services - 2500</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>	<b>\$900</b>	<b>\$900</b>	<b>\$12,350</b>	<b>\$ 21,650</b>				<b>\$ 21,650</b>
Salaries	\$90,289	\$0	\$4,542	\$94,887	\$1,098	\$0	\$231,561	\$ 422,377				\$ 422,377
Employee Benefits	\$14,363	\$0	\$545	\$44,494	\$153	\$0	\$126,159	\$ 185,714				\$ 185,714
Purchased Professional & Technical Svs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,150	\$0	\$40,500	\$ 46,650				\$ 46,650
Purchased Property Services	\$80,100	\$0	\$48,885	\$80,500	\$44,866	\$33,690	\$212,900	\$ 500,941				\$ 500,941
Telephone, Travel and Insurance	\$35,000	\$0	\$11,850	\$29,300	\$5,300	\$5,300	\$72,334	\$ 159,084				\$ 159,084
Supplies and Materials including utilities	\$91,800	\$0	\$23,000	\$97,000	\$11,600	\$13,100	\$385,796	\$ 622,296				\$ 622,296
<b>Facility Services - 2600</b>	<b>\$311,552</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$88,822</b>	<b>\$346,181</b>	<b>\$69,167</b>	<b>\$52,090</b>	<b>\$1,069,250</b>	<b>\$1,937,062</b>				<b>\$1,937,062</b>

**FY2017 Proposed Budgets  
Town School District Budgets, Otter Valley Union High School Budget  
And Otter Valley Unified Union Combined Budget**

Description	Article VII					Town School Districts					OV Ballot		Article VIII	
											OVUHS		OV Unified Union	
	Brandon	Goshen	Leicester	Pittsford	Sudbury	Whiting	Middle & High School	Combined Budget	OV Unified Union					
Salaries	\$5,050	\$0	\$2,500	\$9,216	\$1,000	\$1,650	\$30,000	\$ 49,416						
Employee Benefits	\$400	\$0	\$154	\$42	\$0	\$0	\$2,295	\$ 2,891						
Purchased Professional & Technical Sys	\$98,736	\$4,779	\$16,974	\$60,175	\$9,946	\$11,287	\$325,292	\$ 527,189						
<b>Transportation Services - 2700</b>	<b>\$104,186</b>	<b>\$4,779</b>	<b>\$19,628</b>	<b>\$69,433</b>	<b>\$10,946</b>	<b>\$12,937</b>	<b>\$357,587</b>	<b>\$ 579,496</b>						
Supplies and Materials	\$250	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 450						
<b>Food Service Program - 3100</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$ 450</b>						
Debt Service - Interest Payment & Capital Le	\$93,956	\$0	\$0	\$36,043	\$0	\$2,540	\$54,844	\$ 187,383						
Debt Service - Principal Payment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$63,500	\$0	\$5,000	\$135,000	\$ 203,500						
<b>Debt Service - 5100</b>	<b>\$93,956</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$99,543</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,540</b>	<b>\$189,844</b>	<b>\$ 390,883</b>						
<b>Grand Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,470,056</b>	<b>\$ 233,975</b>	<b>\$1,057,260</b>	<b>\$3,829,037</b>	<b>\$ 629,100</b>	<b>\$ 633,161</b>	<b>\$10,752,217</b>	<b>\$22,604,806</b>						
FY16 Current Budget Expenditures	\$5,467,111	\$ 187,500	\$1,153,558	\$3,832,345	\$ 559,713	\$ 664,735	\$10,718,131	\$22,583,093						
Total Dollar Budget Change	\$ 2,945	\$ 46,475	-\$ 96,298	-\$ 3,308	\$ 69,387	-\$ 31,574	\$ 34,086	\$ 21,713						
Percent Change	0.05%	24.79%	-8.35%	-0.09%	12.40%	-4.75%	0.32%	0.10%						



**FY2017 Proposed Budgets  
Town School District Budgets, Otter Valley Union High School Budget  
And Otter Valley Unified Union Combined Budget**

Description	Article VII					OV Ballot				Article VIII
	Town School Districts					OVUHS				OV Unified Union
	Brandon	Goshen	Leicester	Pittsford	Sudbury	Whiting	Middle & High School	Combined Budget		
<b>Grand Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,470,056</b>	<b>\$ 233,975</b>	<b>\$1,057,260</b>	<b>\$3,829,037</b>	<b>\$ 629,100</b>	<b>\$ 633,161</b>	<b>\$10,752,217</b>	<b>\$22,604,806</b>		
<b>Less Revenues:</b>										
Fund Balance Forward	\$33,675	\$0	\$19,882	-\$32,728	\$17,115	\$0	\$0	\$ 37,944		
Tuition Revenue	\$129,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$126,000	\$ 267,000		
Interest Revenue	\$1,000	\$40	\$200	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,500	\$ 9,740		
Trust Transfers In	\$61,409	\$0	\$0	\$99,453	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 160,862		
Other Local Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,200	\$ 14,200		
Other State Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$68,400	\$ 68,400		
Small School Grant/Merger Grant	\$0	\$0	\$108,406	\$0	\$51,640	\$62,594	\$0	\$ 222,640		
Special Education Revenue	\$797,416	\$42,298	\$128,647	\$479,134	\$0	\$84,850	\$1,307,222	\$2,839,567		
Special Ed Expenditure Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$77,622	\$0	\$0	\$ 77,622		
National Forest Receipts	\$0	\$6,000	\$2,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 8,200		
Fund Transfer In Revenues	\$17,244	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 17,244		
Transfer In - Reserve Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$10,700	\$0	\$ 30,700		
Prior Year Refunds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000	\$ 6,000		
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$3,300	\$0	\$1,100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$ 7,400		
<b>Total Non-Education Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,043,044</b>	<b>\$48,338</b>	<b>\$260,435</b>	<b>\$547,859</b>	<b>\$166,377</b>	<b>\$170,144</b>	<b>\$1,531,322</b>	<b>\$3,767,519</b>		
<b>Education Spending</b>	<b>\$4,427,012</b>	<b>\$185,637</b>	<b>\$796,825</b>	<b>\$3,281,178</b>	<b>\$462,723</b>	<b>\$463,017</b>	<b>\$9,220,895</b>	<b>\$18,837,287</b>		
Equalized Pupils	345.51	18.81	55.71	207.03	32.79	36.73	602.96	1299.54		
<b>Ed Spending Per Equalized Pupils</b>	<b>\$12,813</b>	<b>\$9,869</b>	<b>\$14,303</b>	<b>\$15,848</b>	<b>\$14,112</b>	<b>\$12,606</b>	<b>\$15,293</b>	<b>\$14,495</b>		
<i>FY2016 Ed Spending per Equal Pupil</i>	<i>\$12,450</i>	<i>\$10,364</i>	<i>\$14,119</i>	<i>\$16,112</i>	<i>\$16,507</i>	<i>\$13,890</i>	<i>\$15,163</i>	<i>n/a</i>		
<i>Dollar change</i>	<i>\$363</i>	<i>-\$495</i>	<i>\$184</i>	<i>-\$264</i>	<i>-\$2,395</i>	<i>-\$1,284</i>	<i>\$130</i>	<i>n/a</i>		
<i>Percent Change</i>	<i>2.92%</i>	<i>-4.78%</i>	<i>1.30%</i>	<i>-1.64%</i>	<i>-14.51%</i>	<i>-9.24%</i>	<i>0.86%</i>	<i>n/a</i>		

**FY2017 Proposed Budgets  
Town School District Budgets, Otter Valley Union High School Budget  
And Otter Valley Unified Union Combined Budget**

Description	Article VII					OV Ballot			Article VIII	
	Town School Districts					OVUHS Middle & High School			OV Unified Union	Combined Budget
	Brandon	Goshen	Leicester	Pittsford	Sudbury	Whiting				
<b>Ed Spending Per Equalized Pupils</b>	<b>\$12,813</b>	<b>\$9,869</b>	<b>\$14,303</b>	<b>\$15,848</b>	<b>\$14,112</b>	<b>\$12,606</b>	<b>\$15,293</b>	<b>\$14,495</b>		
ESTIMATED: SCHOOL Homestead Tax Rate BEFORE Tax Incentives	\$1.29 n/a	\$0.99 n/a	\$1.44 n/a	\$1.59 n/a	\$1.42 n/a	\$1.27 n/a	\$1.54 n/a	\$1.46 -\$0.08		
<b>Less \$0.08 merger tax incentives year 1 ESTIMATED Homestead Tax Rate AFTER Incentives</b>	<b>\$1.29</b>	<b>\$0.99</b>	<b>\$1.44</b>	<b>\$1.59</b>	<b>\$1.42</b>	<b>\$1.27</b>	<b>\$1.54</b>	<b>\$1.38</b>		
<b>ESTIMATED - Town Homestead Tax Rate, AFTER proration of school rates: Non-merger process</b>										
Elementary Homestead Tax Rate	\$0.74	\$0.77	\$0.65	\$0.78	\$0.68	\$0.73	n/a	n/a		
High School Homestead Tax Rate	\$0.65	\$0.35	\$0.84	\$0.79	\$0.80	\$0.65	n/a	n/a		
Total Education Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.39	\$1.12	\$1.49	\$1.57	\$1.48	\$1.38	n/a	\$1.38		

*\*Please note, under Act 46 Tax Rate Changes are limited to 5% (increase or decrease)*

District: <b>Brandon</b> County: <b>Rutland</b>		<b>T026</b> Rutland Northeast				Property dollar equivalent yield <b>9,950</b>	Homestead tax rate per \$9,950 of spending per equalized pupil <b>1.00</b>
						<b>11,065</b>	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income
<b>Expenditures</b>		<b>FY2014</b>	<b>FY2015</b>	<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>		
1.	<b>Budget</b> (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$5,250,119	\$5,321,670	\$5,467,111	\$5,470,056		
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-		
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-		
4.	<b>Locally adopted or warned budget</b>	<b>\$5,250,119</b>	<b>\$5,321,670</b>	<b>\$5,467,111</b>	<b>\$5,470,056</b>		
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-		
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-		
7.	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$5,250,119</b>	<b>\$5,321,670</b>	<b>\$5,467,111</b>	<b>\$5,470,056</b>		
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	\$265,768	\$280,259	\$284,731	\$282,883		
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-		
<b>Revenues</b>							
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$1,030,288	\$1,013,026	\$1,168,011	\$1,043,044		
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-		
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-		
13.	<b>Offsetting revenues</b>	<b>\$1,030,288</b>	<b>\$1,013,026</b>	<b>\$1,168,011</b>	<b>\$1,043,044</b>		
14.	<b>Education Spending</b>	<b>\$4,219,831</b>	<b>\$4,308,644</b>	<b>\$4,299,100</b>	<b>\$4,427,012</b>		
15.	Equalized Pupils	338.34	344.62	345.30	345.51		
16.	<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil</b>	<b>\$12,472.16</b>	<b>\$12,502.59</b>	<b>\$12,450.33</b>	<b>\$12,812.98</b>		
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$174.55	\$171.37	\$171.03	NA		
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	\$11.17	\$3.39	\$4.94	NA		
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorale has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		
25.	Allowable growth per pupil spending threshold (secs. 37 & 38, Act 46, 2015)	threshold = \$15,456	threshold = \$16,166	threshold = \$17,103	District Threshold		
26.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	\$12,830.84		
27.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$12,472	\$12,503	\$12,450	\$12,812.98		
28.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	136.293% <small>based on \$0,151</small>	134.654% <small>based on \$9,285</small>	131.624% <small>based on \$9,459</small>	NA		
<b>Prorating the local tax rate</b>							
29.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$12,812.98 + (\$9,950.00 / \$1,000))]	\$1,2812	\$1,3196	\$1,3031	\$1,2877		
30.	Percent of Brandon equalized pupils not in a union school district	55.28%	56.76%	57.90%	57.88%		
31.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (57.88% x \$1.29)	\$0.7082	\$0.7490	\$0.7545	\$0.7453		
32.	<b>Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)</b>	102.37%	105.42%	103.80%	101.63%		
33.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.7453 / 101.63%)	\$0.6918 <small>based on \$0.94</small>	\$0.7105 <small>based on \$0.98</small>	\$0.7269 <small>based on \$0.99</small>	\$0.7333 <small>based on \$1.00</small>		
<p>If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a <b>PARTIAL</b> homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.</p>							
34.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$12,812.98 + \$11,065) x 2.00%]	2.45% <small>based on 1.80%</small>	2.42% <small>based on 1.80%</small>	2.37% <small>based on 1.80%</small>	2.32% <small>based on 2.00%</small>		
35.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (57.88% x 2.32%)	1.35% <small>based on 1.80%</small>	1.37% <small>based on 1.94%</small>	1.37% <small>based on 1.94%</small>	1.34% <small>based on 2.00%</small>		
36.	Percent of equalized pupils at Otter Valley UHSD	44.72%	43.24%	42.10%	42.12%		
37.		-	-	-	-		

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,955 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,157 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.538. New and updated data have changed the proposed property yield to \$9,870 and the income yield to \$11,065.  
 - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.  
 - The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

## IN MEMORIAM

It is certainly the exception to the rule that the Brandon Town Report should twice recognize the same person. However, when that person is a woman by the name of Wilda M. Harris, few people would be surprised. Unfortunately this recognition had to be made posthumously after Wilda's death on January 20, 2016.



Wilda , a native Vermonter, became the Town Clerk in Brandon in 1968 and, in 1971, added Town Treasurer to her title. She devoted the next 23 years of her life serving the people of this community in whatever way that she could, from issuing hunting and fishing licenses to helping people apply for a marriage license or deal with their property taxes. Wilda's dedication to, and popularity in, the Town of Brandon was measured by the thousand plus voters who turned out to support her in 1991, the only time that she

was ever challenged at the polls for her position as Town Clerk and Treasurer.

Wilda wore many other hats in her role as friend, neighbor, and community member. She had served on the Board of Civil Authority, worked the polls until shortly before her death, and served as a substitute teacher at both Neshobe Elementary School and Otter Valley High School until her retirement in 2014. As a Patron of the Brandon Free Public Library, Wilda donated hundreds of books over the years in memory of family members and friends and also assisted for 15 years at the annual library auction and book sale.

Following her retirement in 2014, Wilda spent much of her free time traveling, visiting both England and Wales, and helping her daughter, Janis Anderson and her family on their ranch in Wilsall, Montana. She continued to lead an active and productive life up until her demise on January 20, 2016.

It is with deep affection, appreciation, and warm remembrance that the Brandon Select Board memorialize Wilda M. Harris in the 2015 Town Report.

**Memoriam written by Shelley Poremski**  
**Photo credit: Marie Strong**

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**Kennedy Park in downtown Brandon is a favorite viewing area to see the Upper Neshobe Falls.**

**Photo by Bill Moore**