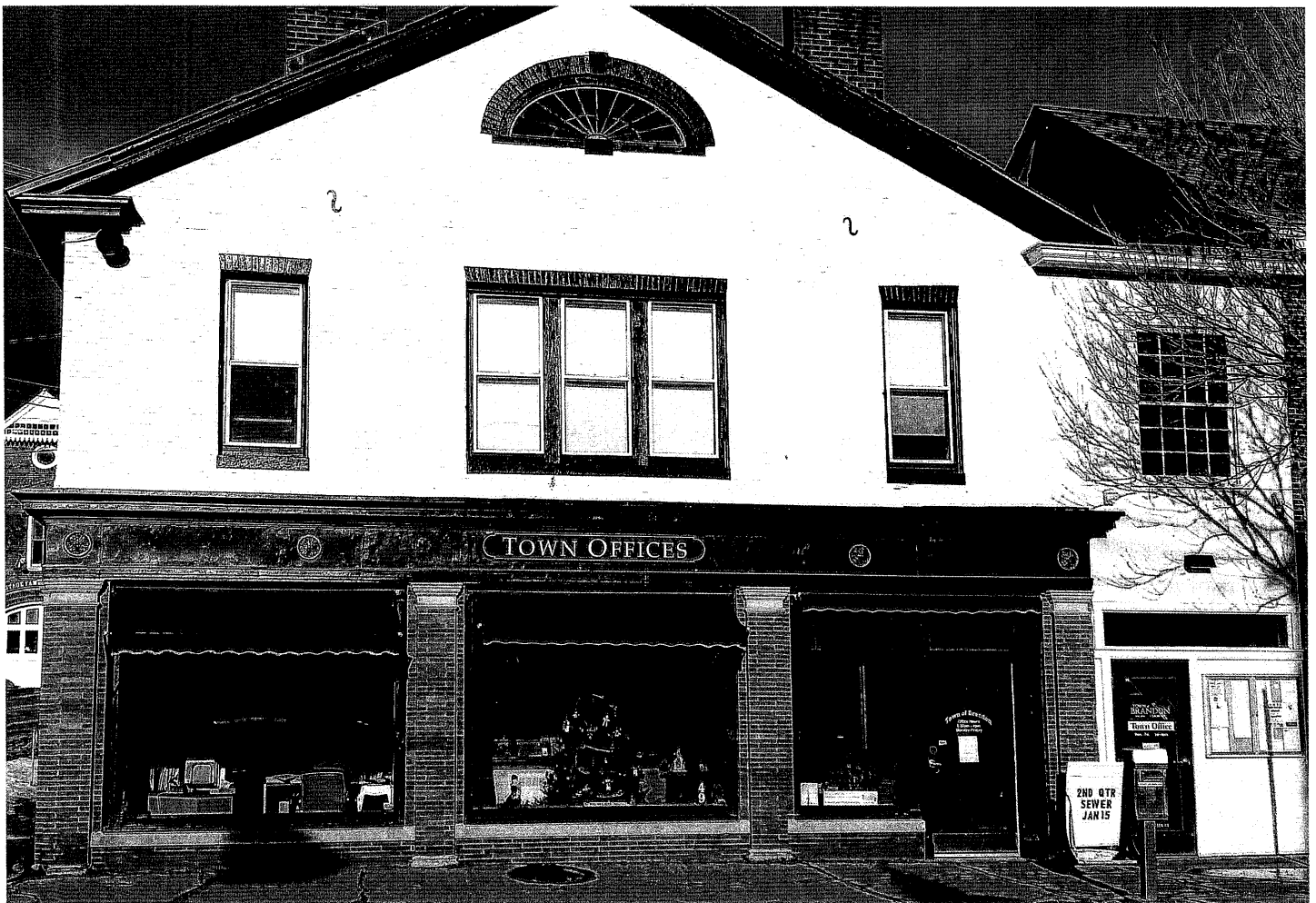


# TOWN OF BRANDON ANNUAL REPORT FY 2015-2016

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



**The renovated Brandon Town Offices**  
Photo by David Atherton

## DEDICATION

### BUD & JANE COOLIDGE



The Brandon selectboard considers it an honor and privilege to dedicate the 2016 Town of Brandon Annual Report to an outstanding couple who have dedicated their professional lives to the nurture and education of the children of our town: Bud and Jane Coolidge.

Both natives of Brandon, they themselves were educated in our public schools and graduated from Castleton State College. Jane's first teaching assignments were in southern Vermont towns, but she later came home to Brandon where she gave many children a great start to their education as an elementary teacher at both the Seminary Hill School and the Neshobe School. Bud's entire career has been here in Brandon, first as a science teacher, and then as teacher and principal of the Seminary Hill School and then principal of the Neshobe School. Teachers, staff, and students remember well their sense of humor, love of learning, and the joy they brought to their profession. They seem to have been born educators.

In the wider community, they have been active in their faith family, the Forest Dale Wesleyan Church, as well as the senior center and the food shelf. For many years now, Bud has been a justice of the peace, long the top vote-getter at town meeting time, and has brought wisdom and discernment to the work of Brandon's board of civil authority and gentlemanly dignity to the many weddings he has officiated. Their well-cared-for home in Forest Dale is a pleasure to passers-by with various seasonal decorations through the year.

A memorable moment was a recent town meeting which had gotten a little boisterous toward the end. It may even have been unruly. Under "other business proper to be done when met," Mr. Coolidge rose with the intent of remembering to those assembled the names of former teachers who had passed away that year. Perfect silence was attained before he even reached the microphone at the front of the room. Truly: genuine respect, earned and exercised.

As a mark of our respect, for choosing to give of themselves to the littlest members of our community, and for a lifetime of neighborliness and good citizenship, the Brandon selectboard dedicates this year's town report to our friends Bud and Jane Coolidge.

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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.

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## MY VOTER PAGE AND ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Last year, Secretary of State Jim Condos announced the launch of Vermont's new Elections Management Platform. This streamlined the elections administration process, providing voters with greater access to voter specific information. Over 25,000 Vermonters registered to vote online in 2016. For the November General Election, nearly 6,500 Vermonters requested an absentee ballot through the My Voter Page.

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- Check registration status;
- View information on upcoming elections;
- Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;
- View a sample ballot;
- Request and track an absentee ballot;
- and much more.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more. Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>  
Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

TOWN OF BRANDON  
 WARNING FOR EVENING MEETING  
 MARCH 6, 2017

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Square, Brandon, VT on Monday, March 6, 2017 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 2017-2018. This budget and appropriations will be voted by Australian Ballot on March 7, 2017 at the Brandon Town Hall, Basement Meeting Room, 1 Conant Square, Brandon, VT.
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?
4. To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

TOWN OF BRANDON  
 AUSTRALIAN BALLOT  
 FOR MARCH 7, 2017

The legal voters of the Town of Brandon, Vermont are further notified and warned to meet at the Brandon Town Hall, Basement Meeting Room, 1 Conant Square, Brandon, VT on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. to vote by Australian Ballot on the following matters:

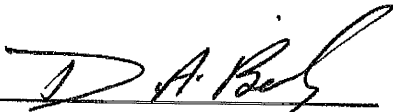
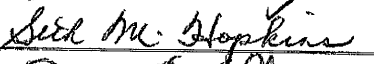
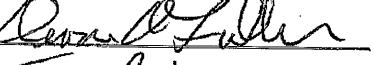

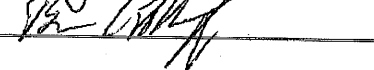
1. To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year:
 

Moderator .....	One for one-year term
Selectman.....	One for three-year term
Selectman.....	Two for one-year term
Town Clerk.....	One for three-year term
Town Treasurer.....	One for three-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
2. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate the sum of Two Million, Nine Hundred Ninety Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty Six Dollars (\$2,999,986) for the FY 2017-2018 budget year, of which the sum of Two Million, Five Hundred and Nine Thousand, Sixty Six Dollars (\$2,509,066) is to be raised by property taxes?
3. To see if the voters of Town of Brandon will appropriate an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for paving North Street, Furnace Road and other paving projects identified by the Public Works Director, to be raised by property taxes?
4. 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, to be raised by property taxes?
5. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$1,000 for the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce, to be raised by property taxes?
6. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$20,735 for the Brandon Area Rescue Squad, to be raised by property taxes?
7. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$85,500 for the Brandon Free Public Library, to be raised by property taxes?
8. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$6,000 for the Brandon Independence Day Celebration Committee, to be raised by property taxes?



9. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$13,500 for Brandon Senior Citizens Center, Inc, to be raised by property taxes?
10. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$550 for RSVP & The Volunteer Center, to be raised by property taxes?
11. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$10,200 for the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice, to be raised by property taxes?
12. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$750 for Rutland County Humane Society, to be raised by property taxes?
13. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$6,624 for Rutland Mental Health Services, to be raised by property taxes?
14. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$2,400 for Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, to be raised by property taxes?
15. To see if the voters of the Town of Brandon will appropriate \$2,500 for the Stephen A. Douglas Community Center, Inc, to be raised by property taxes?

Select Board  
Signed and Certified January 23, 2017

Douglas Bailey	Signed <u></u>
Seth Hopkins	Signed <u></u>
Devon Fuller	Signed <u></u>
Tracy Wyman	Signed <u></u>
Brian Coolidge	Signed <u></u>

Adopted and approved at a duly warned meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Brandon called, noticed and held on January 23, 2017. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Brandon on January 24, 2017.

**TOWN OF BRANDON DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**SELECT BOARD**

In 2016, the Town of Brandon experienced in earnest the benefits of the dramatic personnel changes of the previous year. Our town leadership team largely spent 2016 following through on voter-approved projects and board-directed policy changes. At the same time, they prepared for the major reconstruction of US Route 7 through the center of the village by securing required rights-of-way. The Select Board wishes to thank Town employees, volunteers, and taxpayers for coming together: we have laid the foundation and are actively working to improve our Town.

We are delighted that our Town employees are again serving the public from a restored and refurbished 49 Center Street. Residents being able to do Town business while running other errands nearby is a key element of Brandon's vibrant village center. The work on the historic Town Office was accomplished, thanks to efforts by the Town and volunteers, using grant money and insurance proceeds, not Brandon tax dollars.

The Cobb Hill and Wood Lane culvert replacements are in, construction of the Neshobe River overflow culvert continues apace, the Champlain Street Wastewater Pump Station is out to bid and paving will continue in the spring to complete the "12 streets" work done in conjunction with the Fire District's waterline project. We appreciate the participation and cooperation of the voters and taxpayers on all of these projects.

As we look toward the imminent first construction season of the Segment 6 / Route 7 reconstruction in 2017, all of us will need to be patient and careful. Our merchants are relying on us to make an extra effort to patronize their establishments and keep our neighbors working and our downtown storefronts pleasantly full.

Our Town Manager, David Atherton, has successfully used payment plans and the annual tax sale process in his role as delinquent tax collector. The amount of delinquent property and sewer taxes owed to Brandon have been reduced by 80%: from a high of \$1,069,240 in 2014 to \$219,737 as of the end of 2016. Efficient property tax collection puts Town finances on surer footing and lessens the burdens on all taxpayers.

As we created the proposed FY2018 Town budget with department heads and the budget committee, we have noted the tight control of expenses our employees strive for. Employee-related health insurance costs continue to exert undue pressure on the Town budget, however, as we work to maintain staffing levels that ensure quality service to the public. This is our first budget year with income from the Town-owned lot which has been leased to Green Lantern Solar, as well as the first year we will have revenue from the 1% local option tax to help with some of our capital expenses. Both of these are revenue sources that will lessen, a bit, the burden of the property tax.

We look forward to seeing many of you for the informational night of Town Meeting, Monday, March 6, 2017, at 7PM, returning after a hiatus of many years to the (heated) upstairs of the Brandon Town Hall at 1 Conant Square.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Bailey, Chair, Seth Hopkins, Vice-Chair, Tracy Wyman, Clerk, Devon Fuller, Brian Coolidge

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**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

We have been able to take many steps forward this year in completing many projects throughout the Town. Some of the major projects are as follows:

The first major accomplishment was completing the renovation of the Town Office at 49 Center Street and moving back in on April 1. This project was funded by a Community Development Block Grant and did not require any local tax money to complete. It definitely has deserved the front cover spot on this year's Town Report.

The Route 7 Segment Six project Right-of-Way negotiations have been completed and we are moving forward with the utility line placement. We are in the process of final plan approval and hope to start construction in the spring of 2017.

We finished our last two Tropical Storm Irene FEMA projects by replacing the culvert on Cobb Hill Road and the property buyout at 107 Newton Road which brought it back to natural floodplain.

We have implemented a new tax policy to collect delinquent property and sewer taxes. The policy includes holding a tax sale on an annual basis. This process has proved to be quite successful in greatly reducing the amount of delinquent taxes.

Over the last few years voters have expressed concern over declining revenue and that something needed to be done to see that amount increase. This year we were able to build a solar array on Town owned land in which the Town would be able to increase revenue by annual lot rent and collecting taxes on the solar array. It also saves us 15% on electricity costs which decreases our expenses. We also started to collect the 1% local option tax which will give us funds to use specifically for capital projects.

In the coming year we are looking at finally starting construction on the Route 7 Segment Six Project, completing a grant funded bridge replacement on Churchill Road, finishing a grant funded sidewalk project on Union Street and finishing a grant funded town wide storm water master plan. The identification of project necessity and funding will continue to be our goals with infrastructure improvements.

We have again made many positive steps forward this year and look forward to making it happen again in the coming year.

Sincerely, David J. Atherton, Town Manager

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### BRANDON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Brandon Police Department has seen a change of personnel this past year with the departure of two officers, and the hiring of two new officers. Typically this change would result in drastic shift reductions as hiring a new officer is generally an 18 month process from date of hire to actually working the road. We were fortunate enough to be able to hire two full time certified officers to fill the vacancies. Both Officers, Katrina Ducharme and Jonathan Butterfield are becoming familiar with the town and actively engaging with the community.

This past year has been difficult for law enforcement officers around the country and in some areas of the United States relationships between police and the communities they serve have been strained and divisive. We are fortunate in Brandon and Vermont that there is a mutual respect between law enforcement and our community, and we are grateful for the supportive relationship our Department has from our citizens in Brandon. This relationship does not happen by accident, but as a result of the officers who interact within our community. To that end, officers receive training in Fair and Impartial Policing, and Implicit Bias. These are two extremely important core values in policing in order to ensure everyone's rights afforded to them by the constitution, and that they are applied equally. Officer awareness in these areas is critical to maintain and enhance our community relations.

During this past year the Department took advantage of a buyback program to trade in the old Department issued weapons which had been purchased in 2002. Best practices and manufacturers suggestions for replacement cycles for duty weapons is ten years. Using budgeted funds the Department replaced all duty weapons, holsters and magazines.

The Department also entered into a five year replacement contract with Taser which provides for new Tasers at the end of five years at no cost. The five year budget allows for spreading out the cost of the weapons. Utilizing grant funds, the Department paid off the five year contract so that budgeted funds will not be required for at least five years. Grant funding also paid for the purchase of a two way radio for use in a cruiser. Most other equipment used in a police cruiser is acquired through highway safety equipment grants that the Department participates in.

The Department is also in the process of having the addition to our building of a two bay garage with upstairs storage completed. This addition should easily support all needs of the Department for many years to come. This addition was part of the original plan for our building when the Town moved the Police Department to our location. Permits were granted but the garage was cut due to the costs as designed by the architect. Several factors over the year allowed Department Heads to conserve funds in areas of budgets which provided the funding for the addition. The addition was warned at a Board meeting and approved by the Board. The addition is being completed at no additional cost to taxpayers and is an investment in the Town's infrastructure.

As of December 2016 the Department has handled 3895 calls for service. The Department conducted 846 traffic stops resulting in 668 warnings and 425 traffic violations. The Brandon Police Department made 115 arrests resulting in 144 criminal charges. Officers also responded to 69 alcohol related calls, 39 mental health related calls, and conducted 1137 property watches of businesses and residences during late night hours.

Policing has become a much larger task than just enforcing the law over the years. It demands equal treatment of all individuals, and interaction and respect with all who we encounter each day. Many agencies in Vermont including the Brandon Police Department subscribe to and work to incorporate the overarching goals of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing report issued by the President's task force. It is not a project to complete but an ongoing process to work on and evaluate. I feel very fortunate to work with officers who dedicate themselves each day to serving the community, realizing the sacrifices they must make each

day in order to do so. Information on the President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing can be found at:  
[https://cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce\\_finalreport.pdf](https://cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf)

As always I am grateful for the support our Department receives from the community, our Select Board and Town Manager. Our ability to accomplish goals is directly attributed to the support we receive from everyone. We realize our job would be much more difficult without that support.

Respectfully, Chief Christopher Brickell

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## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Segment Six. This project consists of 1.2 miles of Route 7 starting at the Fire House south of Town and ending at Steinberg Road north of Town. This project consists of new overhead utilities from the Fire House to the Library and from the Mobil Station downtown to Steinberg Road. From the Library to the Mobil Station will be all underground utilities. There will be no overhead wires. This project will also replace all sewer mains and water mains in the project area. New sidewalks and curbing will be done in the project area along with an all new storm drain system. All of the cement base on Route 7 will be removed and replaced with gravel and new asphalt. There have been 146 right of ways procured and an all clear right of ways has been issued by VTrans. The right of way easements were done in record time due to Town Manager David Atherton's paralegal experience. This project has an engineered construction estimate of 20 million dollars and an estimated time frame of 2½ years for completion.

A Mack Tandem Dump Truck was purchased. The tandem is a great asset to the fleet as it can haul the equivalent of two single axle loads.

All FEMA projects, including Cobb Hill have been completed.

A precast structure was installed on Wood Lane. Several streets have been paved in conjunction with the Fire District Project. The Churchill Road Bridge Grant has been procured through FLAP (Federal Land Access Process). This bridge will go out to bid in February 2017. Construction is to be completed in 2017.

We have applied for a structures grant for the Arnold District Road Culvert. This project is to be done in 2017.

The Overflow Culvert Project that is in process downtown will be completed before the Segment Six project starts.

Respectfully submitted, Daryl Burlett

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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 Vermont 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.

Olivia's Croutons is an example of how working with all of the above named organizations, we were able to get a company to choose Brandon as the place to move and expand their business. We must continue to create an environment that supports local entrepreneurs and current business owners. These community partners and organizations have worked hard to provide the supports that are needed to realize this goal of sustainable small businesses. More can (and will!) be done to stimulate the smart growth needed. Brandon's Revolving Loan Fund can be leveraged with support from the REDC to provide more in the way of start-up and expansion funding.

This year will see a revision of the Brandon Land Use Ordinance (BLUO). I look forward to helping the Planning Commission create a BLUO that reflects the goals outlined in the Brandon Town Plan with regard to economic development.

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      email: [bmoore@townofbrandon.com](mailto:bmoore@townofbrandon.com)  
<http://townofbrandon.com/departments/economic-development>

Respectfully submitted, Bill Moore, Economic Development Officer

## ZONING / RENTAL / HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

This was a busy first full year in the Zoning Department and the first in many years that combined Zoning, Rental and Health into one position. As Brandon's Code Enforcement Officer, I encourage compliance with established regulations and ordinances. This report is intended to give a brief overview of the activities for the year for the three combined positions during the fiscal year 2015-2016. (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016)

### Zoning Department

The following statistics encompass the fiscal year. All things considered it was a busy year for Zoning.

- Applications Approved 79
- Applications Denied 3
- Applications Withdrawn 2
- DRB Appeal Hearing 0
- DRB Conditional Use Approved 4
- DRB Variance Approved 3
- DRB Variance Denied 1
- DRB Local Act 250 Approved 1

I have also continued training, through webinars, seminars, and trainings, to deal with development in Special Flood Hazard Areas and Fluvial Erosion Hazard areas. This training has assisted me greatly in application of the Flood Hazard regulations regulated in the Brandon Land Use Ordinance.

It is my pleasure to welcome new businesses and homeowners to our community. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that land development and/or construction within the Town of Brandon will likely require a land use permit. Permits are necessary for most new businesses as well as for new business signage. My door is always open and I am happy to meet with applicants to assist with the permitting process.

### Rental

The Town of Brandon Rental Housing Code states that a rental inspection and issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy is required for all non-owner occupied dwelling facilities and for all owner-occupied housing facilities wherein two or more rooms are rented. A new Certificate of Occupancy is required whenever there is a change of tenants.

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 which must be signed by the tenant. New this year is an annual \$25 per unit fee which must be submitted with the yearly Compliance Request form.

### Health

On the health front, there have been a few issues with dumping and accumulation of household garbage. Improperly stored and an accumulation of garbage and waste can affect others in the area by attracting rodents and other vermin creating an unhealthful situation.

Health care providers are required to report to the Town Health Officer within 24 hours the name, age, and address of any person who has been bitten by an animal that could be subject to rabies. The Health Officer must determine the animal's rabies vaccination status and will require that the animal be confined and observed for 10 days to determine whether the animal is healthy.

The State Health Department continues testing mosquitoes in our swamp areas for EEE and West Nile Virus. Remember the best defense against these diseases is to reduce exposure to mosquitoes when they are most active and to use repellants; ones that contain Deet are the most effective.

Please feel free to contact me at 247-3635, Ext. 202, or email [ascheck@townofbrandon.com](mailto:ascheck@townofbrandon.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

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

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## ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The Assessor's office processed 146 property transfers from April 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016. Grievance hearings were held May 27, 2016 with 26 grievances heard resulting in minor adjustments.

Presently there are 55 properties enrolled in Current Use (Land Use Program), with over 4 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 of \$30,000 for each exemption.

The Town re-appraisal account is presently at \$182,162.76 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 Assessors - NEMRC, Dolores Furnari, Administrative Assistant

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## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### Recreation Participant Numbers

Youth Wrestling	53
Snow Bowl Ski Lessons	15
Baseball/Softball	137
Summer Baseball/Softball	32
Summer Wrestling Camp	41
Field Hockey Camp	7
Swimming Lessons (Session I & II)	51
Pre-Season Football Camp	23
Pre-Season Soccer Camp	12
Fall Soccer	119
Middle School Football (7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	28
Flag Football (5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	31
Flag Football (3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	15
Youth Basketball	125
Adult Basketball	23
Youth Cross-Country Running	14
Brandon Ski Club	3
Boot Camp	8
Brandon Ballet	4
Youth Theatre	30
Adult Cornhole League	51
Kids Can Cook (Session I & II)	16
Glass Fusion	9
March Mayhem	15
Clay Club	12

### New Programs

Set-Building with Mr. B	9
NFL Flag Football (1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade)	18
Odyssey of the Mind (7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade)	11

### "Rested" Programs

Tone-ally Awesome Music Camp, Adult 3 on 3 League, Youth 3 on 3 League, Lego Club, Hip-hop Dance Summer Camp, Cheerleading Camp

### Discontinued Programs

Kripalu Yoga with Alison, OCC Pre-Season Basketball, NIA Dance, Adult Volleyball, Winter Cornhole, Teen Dances

### Special Events

4 Bus Trips (Casino, NYC, Rockettes, Boston Celtics)  
Flagship Cinema Booklets (Yearly fundraiser)

In addition, we also collaborated on special events:

- Winter Carnival (Neshobe PTO, National Bank of Middlebury)
- MLB Pitch Hit Run (MLB Collaboration)
- Safety Day (Neshobe PTO, Fire Department, Brandon Area Rescue Squad)
- Independence Day Family Games (Brandon Independence Day Celebration Committee)
- Rockin' with The Rec (SOAR Collaboration)
- British Soccer Camp (Challenger Soccer)

- NFL Pass, Punt, Kick (NFL, Otter Valley Union High School)
- Harvest Fest (Neshobe PTO, Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce)
- Spooksville (Brandon Area Toy Project)
- Breakfast with Santa (Neshobe PTO)
- Pancakes and a Movie (Brandon Area Toy Project)

**Where to go?** While our numbers in nearly all of our programs have increased, our number of recurring offerings (classes, programs, camps) remained steady. I introduced a new category of rested programs. These represent mostly summer camps that we would hold at Otter Valley or Neshobe schools, both of which were unavailable due to their extensive heat and energy efficiency work planned for the summer months. This year those programs along with an expansion of our summer offerings (including a month long series of camps at a yet to be determined location), will help to better serve the youth in July and August. Our winter offerings will be expanded. Thanks to the work of the Friends of the Town Hall and our SUPERintendent of Public Works, Daryl Burlett, the beautifully restored Town Hall has heat upstairs! Look for more winter offerings in the heart of downtown Brandon with concerts, movies, dances and more!

**Infrastructure:** Like much of the rest of the town infrastructure, catching up on deferred maintenance has been focus of the Recreation Department as well. Being budget conscious means collaborating and coordinating with volunteers whenever possible. In the spring, Otter Valley's community service day had students working on projects at Estabrook, Seminary and the Wheeler parks. Of tremendous help was a new relationship formed with YouthWorks, a faith-based summer camp whose youth perform community service mission work. They spent two days a week for six weeks this summer improving the parks and other spaces here in Town. Projects included: staining the deck at Kennedy Park / Thomas Overlook, painting the structures at Estabrook, extensive brush removal at Estabrook, and painting the dugouts and backstops at Neshobe. We look forward to coordinating with them for future projects and trail work that has been proposed for Estabrook Park. The Estabrook playground and tennis court upgrades are still being explored, but there is a new focus on the creation of a pavilion for performances, on the heels of the wildly successful reboot of the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce Summer Concert Series. Estabrook can and will become a destination!

**Volunteers and Sponsors:** Without volunteers and sponsors, our Recreation Department would cease to exist. Local businesses continue to provide support through team sponsorship and donations of cash, goods and services. Volunteer coaches provide hundreds of hours of youth instruction, guidance and support. Special thanks this year goes out to Barry "Duke" Whitney. A volunteer coach for baseball and wrestling, Duke's position as football commissioner has seen our program grow to new heights. In 2011, we had 23 kids in a middle school program that was to serve as a feeder program for Otter Valley. Our equipment costs were high and there was no program for elementary youth. This 2016 year saw 92 kids in grade K-6 playing football. Duke's energy, enthusiasm, knowledge, hard work and fundraising acumen has helped to make football and wrestling more accessible, safe and fun for so many area youth. Thank you Duke for serving your community so well!

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

	2016	2015	2014	2013
<b>BIRTHS</b>	36	44	38	35
<b>DEATHS</b>	51	44	38	47
<b>CIVIL MARRIAGES</b>	35	35	39	54

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.

**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.

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**DOG LICENSES 2015-2016**

TYPE	# SOLD	FEE	TOTAL
NEUTERED	423	\$4.00	\$1,692.00
UN-NEUTERED	47	\$8.00	\$ 376.00
NEUTERED AFTER 10/1	8	\$2.00	\$ 16.00
UN-NEUTERED AFTER 10/1	0		
KENNEL/SPECIAL	3	\$30.00	\$ 90.00
LATE FEES			\$ 215.00
TOTAL PAID TO TOWN			\$2,389.00

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**PLANNING COMMISSION**

2016 has been a year of transition for the Brandon Planning Commission. There has been a substantial turnover in Commissioners. The Commission is now made up of Phyllis Aitchison, Stephanie Jerome, Michael Lufkin, and myself. We have one vacancy. All letters of interest for this position should be sent to David Atherton, Town Manager, for review and selection by the Select Board.

Accomplishments to date have been the moratorium of the sign ordinance as it relates to the construction area of Segment 6 effective now through the completion of the project. Next, the identification of the appropriate revision of the Brandon Land Use Ordinance (BLUO) needing the Select Board approval. This BLUO is the one the previous Commission rewrote to match the current Brandon Town Plan. Next, the Planning Commission has reviewed the Statutes awarding them their duties and responsibilities, which includes the Capital Budget. There has not been a Capital Budget published in Brandon since 1999-2000. The Planning Commission has participated in the formal Budget Committee process as a full partner at the table this year. Discussions have been productive with the Select Board, the Town Manager, Department Heads and the Committee members. The goal of the Planning Commission is to work up a formal budget in the subsequent budget process to present to the Town voters.

Additionally, the Planning Commission voted to no longer pursue the Brandon Based Code. Instead, the Commissioners decided that the Town Plan and BLUO needed updates to include the new legislation on Energy and Agriculture, and the many areas where these documents do not reflect alignment with the practices of Brandon today. The Commissioners will continue their training to keep up with the latest initiatives. Our hope is to update the Town Plan making it more of a marketing tool for economic development in addition to its judicial and legislative requirements. A more up-to-date Town Plan should help in the attraction of economic development which Brandon continues to pursue for future survival.

As always, please contact any one of us if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at my Town email address of [mammatusa@townofbrandon.org](mailto:mammatusa@townofbrandon.org).

Respectfully submitted, Maria R. Ammatuna, Chair



## 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. 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; Tom Bohler; Amber Lee

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## REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER

The Brandon Fire Department had another busy and demanding year. This past year members responded to 146 calls for various types of emergency assistance. The thirty three members provided over 3,000 hours of their time to the communities that we serve. In addition to responding to calls the members also logged over 1,200 hours of training. Be it for a difficult accident extrication, an hours-long structure fire, or a middle of the night alarm activation, the members left their homes and family members to respond to calls. In addition the members also provided coverage for events like parking for fireworks at the Independence Day Celebration, participation in parades and community activities like Safety Day and fire prevention activities at our schools.

As Chief Engineer I would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of some of the members of the department. Randy Disorda and Cody Taylor joined the department this year. Cheyenne Reed is currently enrolled in the Firefighter 1 program to be completed this spring after 200 plus hours of training. Nick Audet, Kyle Hutchins, Jason Martin and John Wyman have completed the Firefighter 2 course which entails another 100 plus hours of training. Not only does our membership continue to grow but we have dedicated members who continue to train to become better at the jobs that they do.

The end of January 2016 saw an untimely and unexpected occurrence. During an apparatus evaluation and repair process being done by a recognized fire apparatus repair company numerous critical deficiencies were discovered with Engine 1. This is our "first out" apparatus that responds to all major calls. These deficiencies were of a nature that the apparatus could no longer be operated safely. Due to the age of the apparatus and the cost to make the needed repairs the Prudential Board decided that the truck needed to be replaced. This had not been planned for in the annual budget that had been approved by the voters in the beginning of January. Through the diligent work of the Prudential Board and the officers of the fire company a suitable replacement was acquired. The truck though not built specifically for the Brandon Fire Department and known as a "demo" model had the features needed and was available at a very reasonable price. The new Engine 1 will provide fire protection for a significant number of years.

The costs involved with providing fire protection continue to grow exponentially. The budget being proposed has increased. The reasons for these increases are many. The most significant of these reasons is that for us to be able to continue to provide fire protection and to do it in a way that provides for the safety of residents and fire personnel items within the budget must be adequately funded. The fire service is subject to rules and regulations that are in place to ensure safety. These rules are set forth by governmental agencies like NFPA, ISO, VOSHA as well as others. Noncompliance can be extremely expensive. Above all the increases are meant to help keep our fire fighters and the public safe. I cannot put a price tag on sending our fire fighters home to their families safely.

To be able to do the job as Chief Engineer I rely heavily on the assistance of not only the officers and members of the Brandon Fire Department but others as well. I would like to acknowledge our working partnership with the Brandon Area Rescue Squad and the Brandon Police Department. Also the help and support that is received from the officers and members of the Pittsford Fire Department and our other mutual aid companies can best be described as priceless. Lastly the help and support of the Prudential Board and Ray Counter make all of this possible. They are the people behind the scene that make it all happen. The Fire Department is always looking for new members. Please stop by the fire station to discuss becoming a member. We are here on the second and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. 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

## THE FRIENDS OF THE TOWN HALL

The past 12 months have been very successful. We are on course to duplicate or pass the 2000 volunteer hours from last year and attendance figures are well above last year with over 8500 patrons. The downstairs lobby and meeting room had over 100 events/rentals.

We opened our 2016 season in May with over 450 in attendance for 5 events. There are already 25 planned events including Moonlight Madness for 2017. This does not include the maintenance days held at the Town Hall for clean up, landscaping, plant watering, painting, etc. All events, before during and after the event are covered by our volunteer Board Members and all events have been sponsored by community members and businesses. We will again be asking the community to help support our programming by sponsoring an event in whole or part. There will be no Annual Campaign because our biggest expense, the repair and restoration of the building has been taken over by the Town.

The Town of Brandon realizes that the Town Hall is an important part of the history of Brandon and a focal point for community and tourists. They have committed to taking on the repair, restoration and maintenance of the building. They have installed a heating system in the upstairs hall so Town meeting can finally return to the Hall and the voting took place in the downstairs area. This has lifted a large financial burden off the Friends of the Town Hall who will now only be responsible for programming, concession and interior restoration instead of trying to maintain the entire building. Any monies collected over the past two years specifically for the repair/restoration of the roof have been given to the Town to assist them in the annual repairs needed to keep the roof free from leaks and broken or loose slate.

We are committed to finishing and paying for the contracts we signed prior to the Town taking on this responsibility which includes: repairing slate, hooks and molding on the roof and replacing the ridge cap, repairing and restoring the 12 large windows on the upper floor through a matching grant from Historic Preservation, building and installing screens in the bottom of each of those windows, cleaning the ceiling above the portico, painting the outside trim of all 12 windows, the front doors and area above the doors, and the 8 large columns around the portico. In addition we have purchased and installed room darkening shades on all main hall windows. We have upgraded, improved and replaced many of the stage lights, light board, and sound equipment which were lost due to a lightning strike during a concert in August. Outside lighting, an automatic handicap accessible entry downstairs and painting floors and walls in the upstairs and downstairs lobby and lift were also completed in 2016. The total cost for all these projects and more has been/will be approximately \$38,000. The Friends have raised over \$900,000 over the years thanks to the generosity of the Brandon Community. Many projects remain before the Town Hall will be restored to its full capacity and that could add another \$900,000 which will be shared by the Town and FOTH.

Future programs include the resurgence of the Brandon Town Players as the resident Community Theater group of the Town Hall, a variety of new and old musical presentations, a performance by Drum Journey and Shakespeare on Main Street's presentation of Hamlet. The Friends, along with the Brandon Recreation Department, continue to look for programs for teens and the younger generation. Jeff Rapsis and his extremely popular Silent Movies will be back along with our Talent Show and local community performances. Educational and Health workshops were also presented in the downstairs meeting room.

We look forward to another successful year, more improvements, upgrades, repairs, etc. We have become a focal point for the Town and with the Gateway to Brandon campaign up and running we look forward to hosting many more events with year round use, increased attendance from community members and tourists which will help all the businesses in town financially. Thanks to an incredible Town Hall Board of Directors, our Town Select Board, the Town Manager and the Recreation Director, we will continue in our quest to bring the Town Hall back to its original place in the history and future success of the Town.

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

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES as of January 10, 2017

**Property Owner**

ATWOOD KELLY A  
AYER ROBERT A & GERALDINE  
BAILEY MICHELE & BROWN JOSEPH  
BARNES RENEE  
BIERWIRTH JOHN H III  
BIRD EDITH  
BOVEY LINWOOD L & CHERYL  
BOYD DAVID  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRIJA JORI-LYNNE  
BROWN CHRISTINE & DAVID  
BUNNELL ROBERT J  
BUSHEE PAUL S & JEAN G  
BUSHEY TINA  
COBB JO ANN  
CRAM WALTER & SMITH SHERRY  
CUMMINGS LINDA  
DANLEY CHERYL  
DINN GEORGE  
DOUSKEY ADAM JR & IONA  
DRAKE MICHAEL J & KATHERINE  
EUBER CHRISTINA & JAMMIE  
FREDERICK KENNETH  
FREDETTE HEATHER  
GEROW MICHAEL A & SADIE  
GRIFFIN BENONI S & ANNIE  
GYDUS WILLIAM JOSEPH & ROBERT  
HANCSARIK CHRISTOPHER & ALICE  
HANFIELD WILLIAM & ROBIN  
HANFIELD WILLIAM B  
HANFIELD WILLIAM B  
HANFIELD WILLIAM B  
HAYES RANDY S  
JOHNSON DONNA

**Property Owner**

KERR ROBERT K  
KEY SUSAN A  
LAMOUREUX CHARLES  
LAMOUREUX RAYMOND  
LANGLOIS JAMES  
LAROCK CHRISTINE & MAURICE  
LEAVITT ALLAN M  
LOVELETTE MICHAEL & MARY  
LUTHER RODNEY F & FRANCES  
LUTZ JOHN T & VALARIE  
MAHONEY HAROLD P  
MARCOUX RAYMOND & THOMASINA  
MARTELL ALEISHA  
MARTIN WANDA A  
MUNUKKA RANDALL  
MUNZBERG WALTER & MARILYN  
NEWTON JENNIFER L & JEFFREY  
PALSHAN ROBERTA  
POCKETT JONATHAN E  
PULSIFER ALLEN R S  
REED GREGORY  
RUDOLPH WILLIAM A  
SARWALSTU CORPORATION  
SARWALSTU CORPORATION  
SARWALSTU CORPORATION  
SAUDER JAMES N  
SMITH KEVIN  
STONE CLIFFORD B & DELORES  
TATRO LISA  
TULIANO PATRICIA M  
WARSHAUER TREV  
WHEELER SHIRLEY  
WHITE NEAL & ELISABETH  
WOOD ROLLIN EST

**Total Delinquent Taxes Due:**  
(includes penalty and interest)

**\$178,421.44**

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

DELINQUENT SEWER LIST as of January 10, 2017

**Property Owner**

ALBARELLO ANTHONY & CARRIE  
ATWOOD KELLY A  
BAILEY MICHELE BROWN JOSEPH  
BARON KENNETH ENGLE SARA  
BAUSSMANN KEVIN & JESSICA  
BOVEY LINWOOD & CHERYL  
BOYD DAVID & TINA  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BRESETTE JOSEPH  
BROUILLARD MARK T & WENDY G  
BROWN CHRISTINE & DAVID  
BUSHEE PAUL S & JEAN G  
COBB JO ANN  
COOK KATE C & DAVID R  
COOMBS MICHAEL & CHRISTINA  
CUMMINGS LINDA E  
CYR MARIE M  
DENIS ANTHONY & CHRISTINE  
DICKERMAN SHEILA  
DILORETO DIANE  
DINN GEORGE  
DRISCOLL MICHAEL & TERESA  
DULAURENCE TARA  
EUBER CHRISTINA & JAMMIE  
FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE  
FOLAN MARY L DECICCO JOHN J  
FRASIER MARK & LISA  
FREDETTE HEATHER  
GEROW MICHAEL A & SADIE E  
GRIFFIN BENONI S & ANNIE  
HAHN CHRIS

**Property Owner**

HALLETT RANDALL & TAMMY  
HANCSARIK CHRISTOPHER & ALICE  
HAYES RANDY  
HAYES RANDY  
KENYON DEAN PAGE LISA  
LADD JEFF & DALLAS  
LAMOUREUX CHARLES & SUSAN  
LAMOUREUX FRANKLIN STREET TRUST  
LOVELETTE MICHAEL & MARY  
LUTHER RODNEY F & FRANCES  
LUTZ JOHN & VALERIE  
MAHONEY HAROLD P  
MANCHESTER LUCAS & BETH  
MARCOUX RAYMOND & THOMASINA  
MARTELL ALEISHA  
MINER LAURIE  
MOSELEY DAMON R  
NEWTON JENNIFER L & JEFFREY  
PULSIFER ALLEN  
QUENNEVILLE MATTHEW & URSO MORGAN  
RAYMOND DOREEN  
REED GREGORY  
SCOTT TIMOTHY & BILLIE ANN  
SHEPARD FAIE  
SMITH KEVIN  
SUNDSTROM BOBBI-JO PISCOPO  
TATRO LISA  
TELEPHONE OPERATING CO OF VT  
WEDGE BILLY & JENNIFER  
WHIPPLE BARBARA  
WILLIAMS MELANIE  
WOOD PAUL

**Total Delinquent Sewer Due: \$68,907.93**  
(includes penalty and interest)

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

TREASURER'S TAX REPORT

TAXES FOR 2015-2016	TAX RATE	X GRAND LIST =	TOTAL RAISED
NON-RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION	\$ 1.4788	\$ 1,379,913	\$ 2,040,616
HOMESTEAD EDUCATION	\$ 1.3705	\$ 1,941,769	\$ 2,661,194
MUNICIPAL			
TOWN	\$ 0.7388	\$ 3,299,129	\$ 2,437,396
FIRE DIST	\$ 0.0757	\$ 3,299,129	\$ 249,744
LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE, MUNI	\$ 0.0107	\$ 3,299,129	\$ 35,301
LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE, SCHOOL	\$ 0.0101	\$ 3,299,129	\$ 33,321
APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 0.0928	\$ 3,299,129	\$ 306,159
TOTAL TAXES BILLED			\$ 7,763,732
ABATEMENTS/ADJUSTMENTS			\$ (43,479)
TOTAL TAXES COLLECTIBLE			\$ 7,720,252
TAXES PAID BY 5/15/16		\$ 7,445,610	
DELINQUENT TAXES		\$ 274,642	
TOTAL TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR			\$ 7,720,252
TAXES PAID TO:			
BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT		\$ 2,250,841	
OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL		\$ 1,636,622	
BRANDON FIRE DISTRICT #1		\$ 249,390	
TOTAL			\$ 4,136,853
STATE PAYMENTS		\$ 957,949	
NON-RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION BILLED		\$ 2,040,616	
HOMESTEAD EDUCATION BILLED		\$ 2,661,194	
BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ED TAX PAID		\$ (2,250,841)	
OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL ED TAX PAID		\$ (1,636,622)	
		\$ 814,347	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BILLED AND PAID
STATE PAYMENTS		\$ 957,949	
		\$ 143,602	variance, to STATE PAYMENTS
STATE PMTS TO MUNICIPALITY		\$ (152,729)	
MUNI LATE FILING FEES		\$ 360	
.225 OF 1% RETAINED BY MUNI - HOMESTEAD		\$ 4,176	
.225 OF 1% RETAINED BY MUNI - NONRESIDENTIAL		\$ 4,591	
		\$ (143,602)	
Variance		\$ (0)	

SUSAN GAGE, TOWN TREASURER

STATE PAYMENTS TO THE TOWN OF BRANDON DEPT. OF FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT  
JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

Name	2015/2016
Railroad Tax	\$ 52.54
AOT - Class 1,2,3 Roads	\$ 148,715.89
Judiciary-Municipal/Civil Fines	\$ 2,075.00
Judiciary-Annual VTTC Refund	\$ 2,837.50
Liens/Releases	\$ 782.00
VT Housing & Comm Development	\$ 488,327.11
VT Crime Victims Service Center	\$ 432.00
Dept. of Children and Families	\$ 50.00
Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation	\$ 500.00
PILOT & Current Use/Hold Harmless	\$ 47,671.76
Dept. of Public Safety/Grant Funds	\$ 100,916.60
Lister Reappraisal & Equalization	\$ 18,943.00
AOT- Grants/Other HW Projects	\$ 736,980.90
AOT - Sewer Payments	\$ 150.22
Municipal Property Tax Adjustment	\$ 136,200.96
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$ 1,684,635.48</b>

**Grant Status Report**  
**July 1, 2015 -June 30, 2016**

Grant Name	Program Administrator	Total received 2014/2015
Police DUI & OP Enforcement	VT Agency of Transportation	\$ 5,221.59
Police Equipment Incentive	VT Agency of Transportation	\$ 2,500.00
Route 7 Segment 6	VT Agency of Transportation	\$ 210,256.42
Bridge #114	VT Agency of Transportation	\$ 77,313.75
Overflow Culvert	HMPG DR 4022	\$ 100,916.60
Town Office Grant	CDBG	\$ 474,390.00
Maple / Union St Sidewalks	VT Agency of Transportation	\$ 22,069.41
Green Park	FEMA	\$ 75,864.29
Kennedy Park - Sewer	FEMA	\$ 90,262.22
Wood Lane Culvert	VT Agency of Transportation	\$ 79,856.10
Town Hall-Preservation Grant	Historic Preservation Grant	\$ 12,100.11
Planning Grant	VT Housing & Comm Development	\$ 1,837.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>\$ 1,152,587.49</b>

## BRANDON TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Beginning Balance Lake Sunapee NOW Checking Account - July 1, 2015 \$ 5,643.81

Receipts:

Interest Income Deposited	\$	0.23
Fee Refund from closed Merrill Lynch Investment Account		3.70
Transfer from Morgan Stanley Investment Account		10,000.00
Transfer from Morgan Stanley Investment Account		1,000.00
Transfer from Morgan Stanley Investment Account		9,000.00

Total Receipts 20,003.93

Total Cash Available 25,647.74

Expenditures:

Brandon Senior Citizen Center - New Roof	\$	4,000.00
Foxcroft Farm Harvest Program: '14-15 & '15-16 Contribution-Vehicle		10,000.00
Brandon Senior Citizen Center - Removal underground oil tank		1,000.00
Town of Brandon - Mosquito Control District 2015-206 contribution	\$	9,250.00

Total Expenditures 24,250.00

Ending Balance Lake Sunapee NOW Checking Account - June 30, 2016 \$ 1,397.74

Composition of Fund as of June 30, 2016

Lake Sunapee NOW Account #177244060	\$	1,397.74
Morgan Stanley Investment Account		
Cash Balance		8,995.71
Equities		403,601.49
Fixed Income		228,933.87
Total Fund Value at June 30, 2016		\$ 642,928.81

Five Year Historical Record of Fund Value

Year ended June 30, 2012	\$	605,269.29
Year ended June 30, 2013	\$	643,605.57
Year ended June 30, 2014	\$	699,105.94
Year ended June 30, 2015	\$	677,965.01
Year ended June 30, 2016	\$	642,928.81

The following outstanding fund commitments existed as of June 30, 2016  
 Foxcroft Farm Harvest Program - Final payment of \$1,000.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Tanner Romano (2017) - Carolyn Whittaker (2018) - Sharron Kenney (2019)

Town of Brandon 2016 Employee Wages

Employee	Gross	Employee	Gross
ATHERTON DAVID J.	79,573.21	NICKLAW RICHARD R.	3,000.00
BAILEY DOUGLAS A.	1,260.00	PHELPS LOUIS D.	6,977.50
BAKER RICHARD A.	3,597.50	PULSIFER RODNEY D.	64,601.71
BANDY ANNE MARIE F.	22,153.43	SAVELA JACOLYN R.	40,702.40
BRICKELL CHRISTOPHER	73,104.10	SCHECK ANNA	50,409.49
BRYANT CHARLENE	4,455.00	SMITH ELAINE	42,588.00
BURLETT DARYL F.	70,000.06	SMITH PETER K.	72.00
BUTTERFIELD DAVID B.	57,470.02	SWIFT ETHAN H.	800.00
BUTTERFIELD JONATHAN	25,925.64	THOMAS JOAN A.	875.00
BUTTERFIELD PAULA S.	8,206.39	WHITE RICHARD A.	275.00
CAPEN JOHN T.	35,721.14	WHITTAKER TOM S.	350.00
CIJKA STEPHEN	54,917.37	WILLIAMS JASON H.	2,068.00
CLIFFORD SETH R.	190.00	WINKLER MICHAEL T.	51,158.10
COLBURN FRED W.	55,270.42	WYMAN TRACY R.	1,215.00
COOK ADELBERT A.	380.00		-----
COOK SALLY A.	145.00	Total 2016 Wages:	\$ 1,186,042.93
COOLIDGE BERTRAM D.	175.00		
COOLIDGE BRIAN J.	400.00		
CRAM JUSTIN V.	3,000.00		
DAVIS HANFORD R.	80.00		
DENIS MICHAEL	42,129.38		
DICK WILLIAM A.	800.00		
DUCHARME KATRINA R.	41,805.38		
FAIVRE LOUIS E.	572.50		
FULLER DEVON D.	1,200.00		
FURNARI DOLORES	8,385.27		
GAGE SUSAN M.	56,758.00		
GRAZIANO LINDA B.	37,760.01		
HERRICK BENJAMIN C.	4,891.14		
HOPKINS SETH M.	1,280.00		
HUFF CHANTALLE K.	720.00		
JACOBS M. JAKE	560.00		
KILPECK BRIAN S.	180.00		
KINGSTON TIMOTHY J.	44,737.91		
MARTIN TYLER J.	5,585.05		
MATHIS WILL	243.75		
MERKERT LUANNE J.	34,876.88		
MERKERT MARIAH A.	1,125.00		
MONDLAK JANET	3,705.51		
MOORE WILLIAM III	42,385.38		
MUNGER MARJORIE D.	782.50		
MURACH ADAM R.	54,146.44		
NICKLAW RICHARD C.	40,296.35		



# ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND STAFF

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

**Justices of the Peace**

Maria Ammatuna 2019  
 Doug Bailey 2019  
 Seth Clifford 2019  
 Del Cook 2019  
 Sally Cook 2019  
 Bud Coolidge 2019  
 Wendy Rowe Feldman 2019  
 Bill Moore 2019  
 Marge Munger 2019  
 Laura Peterson 2019  
 Joan Thomas 2019  
 Richard White 2019

**Library Trustees**

Beth R. Carr 2017  
 Sharron Kenney 2018

**Moderator**

Bill Moore 2017

**Otter Valley Unified Union Board**

Greg Bernhardt (at large)  
 Debbie Boyce  
 Lisa Kenyon  
 Linda Kokinis (at large)  
 James Rademacher (at large)  
 Michelle Rawls (at large)  
 Richard White

**Select Board**

Doug Bailey 2017  
 Brian Coolidge 2017  
 Devon Fuller 2019  
 Seth Hopkins 2017  
 Tracy Wyman 2018

**Town Agent**

Jeffrey P. Guevin 2017

**Town Clerk & Treasurer**

Sue Gage 2017

**Town Grand Juror**

Jeffrey P. Guevin 2017

**Trustees of Public Funds**

Sharron Kenney 2019  
 Tanner Romano 2017  
 Carolyn Whittaker 2018

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

**Animal Control**

Justin Cram

**BLSG Insect Control District Rep**

Wayne Rausenberger 2017

**Budget Committee**

Carol Bertrand 2017  
 Janet Coolidge 2017  
 Anthony Peduto 2017  
 Doug Sawyer 2017

**Development Review Board**

Tom Bohler 2019  
 Robert Clark 2018  
 Eric LaRock 2017  
 John Peterson 2019  
 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**

David Atherton

**Fence Viewers**

Cindy Bell 2017  
 Seth Clifford 2017  
 Todd Nielsen 2017

**Fire Warden**

Linwood Bovey 2019

**Deputy Fire Warden**

Gene Pagano 2019

**Friends of the Town Hall**

Doug Bailey ~ Richard Baker  
 Bruce Brown ~ Missi Case  
 Jan Coolidge ~ Deb Jennings  
 Dennis Marden ~ Will Mathis  
 Kathy Rausenberger ~ Dave Rowden  
 Mary Shields

**Green-up Day Coordinator**

James Leary 2017

**Health Officer**

Anna Scheck 2017

**Deputy Health Officer**

Dolores Furnari 2017

**Historic Preservation Commission**

Richard Baker 2018  
 Blaine Cliver 2018  
 Lance Mead 2018  
 Jeff Stewart 2018

**Independence Day Committee**

Suzanne Bennett ~ Debbie Boyce  
 Marie Bradbury ~ Jes Bryant  
 Derrick Cram ~ Jean Lamarre  
 Nichole Lopinto ~ Bill Moore  
 Susan Stone ~ Bobbi Torstenson

**Inspector of Lumber**

John M. Reynolds 2017

**Planning Commission**

Phyllis Aitchison 2017  
 Maria Ammatuna 2019  
 Stephanie Jerome 2018  
 Michael Lufkin 2019

**Revolving Loan Fund Committee**

Stephanie Jerome 2019  
 Karen Lynch 2019  
 Frank Spezzano 2018  
 Catherine Wall 2017  
 Tom Whittaker 2018

**Rutland Region**

**Transportation Council Rep**

Richard Baker 2017  
 David Atherton, alt. 2017

**Rutland Regional**

**Planning Commission Rep.**

Anna Scheck 2017  
 David Atherton, alt. 2017

**Solid Waste District Rep**

Gabe McGuigan 2017

**Tree Committee**

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

**Tree Warden**

Wayne Kingsley 2017

**Weigher of Coal**

Lou Faivre 2017

**Zoning Administrator**

Anna Scheck 2018

\*\*\*\*\* EMPLOYEES \*\*\*\*\*

**Development Review Board Clerk**

Hillary Knapp

**Economic Development Officer**

Bill Moore

**Police Department**

Christopher Brickell - Chief  
 Anne Bandy ~ David Butterfield  
 Jonathan Butterfield  
 Katrina Ducharme ~ Linda Graziano  
 Adam Murach ~ Rodney Pulsifer  
 Jason Williams ~ Michael Winkler

**Public Works Department**

Daryl Burrett - 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

**TOWN OF BRANDON MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
FEBRUARY 29, 2016**

Moderator Skip Davis called the Annual Brandon Town Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Attending the meeting were Select Board members Tracy Wyman, Devon Fuller, Ethan Swift, Seth Hopkins, and Doug Bailey, Town Manager Dave Atherton, Town Clerk Susan Gage and 89 registered voters of the Town of Brandon. Moderator Davis introduced Cub Scout Pack 123, Boy Scout Troop 10 and Girl Scout Troops 30033 and 30067 who presented the colors and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Davis directed those present to the Town Report. Select Board Chair Doug Bailey addressed the Dedication of the Annual Town Report to Terry and Dottie Kline, who were present and accompanied by family members. Mr. Bailey introduced the Klines and thanked them for their many years of civic and professional contributions to the Town of Brandon. Mr. Bailey also acknowledged the Memoriam to Wilda Harris, Brandon's Town Clerk and Treasurer for 25 years who passed away in January of 2016.

Moderator Davis directed the assembly to the warning in the Annual Town Report.

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

Moderator Davis asked for a motion to accept the reports as printed in the Town Report. Motion by Seth Hopkins, seconded by Seth Clifford. Motion passed.

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.

A motion to take up Article 2 was made by Larry Rogers and seconded by Charlie Jakiela. The motion was approved. Chair, Doug Bailey recapped events over the past year, and thanked the assembly for their votes of confidence at last year's Annual Meeting. Following Town Meeting last year, the Select Board hired a new Town Manager and a new Public Works Director. A Union contract was signed, with a 1.7% COLA increase and a 10% health insurance contribution from employees. There were many road repairs made over the summer, and Tropical Storm Irene was finally put behind us.

Mr. Bailey then provided a synopsis of the current year budget, which shows a 1.4% increase in budgeted expenditures and includes the first year payment on the proposed bonds in Article 3. The amount to be raised by taxes shows a 2.1% increase due to a decrease in budgeted revenues. This translates to an annual increase of \$10.80 on a \$100,000 home, and an annual increase of \$18.36 on an average home value of \$170,000. These estimated municipal tax numbers assume the passage of the budget and all appropriations.

Mr. Bailey acknowledged some changes in the budget presentation due to reclassifying accounts. Mr. Bailey also stated that the lease payments in the budget have decreased and it includes the purchase of a new grader and highway truck. The grader has been purchased already, and we will be purchasing a tandem truck which will allow the road crew to save travel time. We have fully staffed the Highway Department and are now managing the Route 7, Segment Six project in-house.

Bob Gearwar asked what happened to the old grader. Mr. Bailey stated that we traded the old grader in for the new one. William Claessens asked for clarification about Police Department car replacement since we cut funding from a car and half to just half a car. Mr. Bailey stated we were able to purchase three new vehicles this year with FEMA funds, so we can push off future purchases, but the half a car will fund a sinking fund for upcoming police cars.

Phyllis Reed offered a number of comments. She is happy with the Select Board, Town employees and Dave Atherton. All are doing a great job. She would like to see some budget figures with more detail, especially around salaries and benefits. She would also like to see items recorded in accounts which are clearer, and asterisks identifying delinquencies that are in payment plans, and asterisks identifying individuals in the Union. She asked whether there was any plan for an Economic Development Director. She feels Bill Moore has a lot on his plate with both the Recreation Department and Economic Development.

Doug Bailey addressed delinquent taxes stating that the Town has a policy to take delinquent tax and sewer accounts to tax sale. He also stated that there is no plan for a separate individual to take over Economic Development.

Larry Rogers asked where delinquent tax revenues show up in the budget. Treasurer, Sue Gage explained that these show up as current tax revenue. Mr. Claessens asked if we budget any delinquent tax revenue. Sue Gage stated that we do not, and that it is not common practice.

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.

Motion to take up Article 3 by Dolores Furnari, seconded by Seth Clifford. The motion was approved.

Select Board member Devon Fuller explained why we are requesting both an infrastructure bond and a waste water bond, Bond Article I and Bond Article II. Mr. Fuller explained the projects that these funds will support. He also noted that a USDA grant of 45% of project cost is possible for the Waste Water project but we can only apply after a positive bond vote. Mr. Fuller went on to explain that the Waste Water project will be funded by sewer users only, not taxpayers.

Martha Thurston asked why the sewer budget is not included in the Town Report. It is difficult to approve a financial item in a budget that the public isn't seeing. Seth Hopkins explained that the sewer budget is adopted annually by the Board of Sewer Commissioners at a public meeting and is a public document. Seth Hopkins also addressed the need to put money away for future infrastructure in the waste water system.

Doug Bailey stated that we need to look at the total going into infrastructure. We are getting over \$5 million in activity and paying \$816,430.

William Claessens asked for clarification on the bond amount. Doug Bailey explained that it is an estimate only. We will only bond for what we need and only up to \$835,200. William Claessens asked for more clarification about the waste water bond. Mr. Bailey suggested that we allow Jason Booth from the engineering firm of Aldrich & Elliot to address Mr. Claessens' questions. Dolores Furnari moved to allow Mr. Booth to speak, seconded by Dawn Bailey. Motion was approved. Mr. Booth explained the new pump station and necessary infrastructure that needs replacing in our aged waste water system.

Cindy Bell asked if these projects will begin this year. Devon Fuller stated that they would indeed happen this year. The Overflow Culvert and Bridge 114 construction will happen this year. Ms. Bell asked if all property owners have signed off on the right-of-ways for the Route 7, Segment 6 project. Mr. Fuller explained that we are nearly complete.

William Claessens expressed concern about the bond payment in ensuing years. We have budgeted for the \$20K in fiscal year 2017, but there will be another \$40K in the following year. He urged the Select Board to make other cuts to offset this. Doug Bailey stated that we may use some money from new revenue sources such as local options tax to offset this increase. We will also have a new solar field which will be a source of revenue as well. The Board is looking at new revenue to cover the bond payments.

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?

Motion to take up Article 4 by Dolores Furnari, seconded by Dawn Bailey. The Select Board asked for a Motion to allow Mark Kelley of Efficiency Vermont to speak about Article 4. Motion was made by Steve Carr and seconded by Larry Rogers. Motion passed.

Mr. Kelley explained that becoming a designated PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) district creates a vehicle for homeowners to obtain financing for energy efficiency improvements. This program stems from an act passed by the legislature in 2009. Improvements are funded and the funding is attached to the property through a municipal assessment. There is no impact to the Town budget. The Town could bond and run the program ourselves, but no Town has done this so far. The funding comes from the National Bank of Middlebury and Efficiency Vermont manages the program, through an affiliate credit union. The Town does not incur additional work. The structure of the lending is such that the debt may stay with the property in a sale, and the new owner would pick up the monthly payment, hence it is attached to the property as a lien. If someone were to default, it would be turned over to the town to be collected through a tax sale process.

Bill Moore wanted clarification about how this program differs from a regular loan from a bank. It allows a homeowner to make an investment in energy efficiency and then pass the loan along to a new homeowner should they sell the property.

Jeff Wallin asked if the payments go through the town assessment. Mr. Kelly answered that the payments and management are handled by their affiliate credit union. Mr. Wallin then asked how it would get added to an individual tax bill and whether that would be advantageous as someone could deduct the entire payment as a tax deduction. Mr. Kelley acknowledged that this has been done by others.

Marty Feldman asked how this would be transferred in a home sale. Mr. Kelley answered that it is up to the individuals negotiating the sale. The loan could either stay with the property and be picked up by the new homeowner, or the selling owner could pay it off at closing.

Marylou Webster asked about the interest rates on these loans. Mr. Kelley answered that the current market rate is 6% but is adjusted for poverty levels. This program can be a lending vehicle for low and moderate income individuals to make efficiency upgrades.

Art Doty wondered who to call if something goes wrong with the efficiency upgrades. Mr. Kelley stated that they have a list of recommended contractors but homeowners may contract with anyone they like.

Anna Scheck asked whether the Town would have to take homeowners to tax sale if someone defaults on their loan. Mr. Kelley stated that there hasn't been a default yet. Theoretically it could be sold at tax sale. Town would not bear any liability or cost. Any costs the Town incurs would be reimbursed to the Town. Probably not talking about a lot of money.

Seth Hopkins clarified that this program is established to make funding available only. The Town is involved only to get access to the PACE program and funding for efficiency improvements.

Martha Thurston asked who determines eligibility for the different loans. Mr. Kelley stated that eligibility was laid out by the Legislature. It is very specific qualified energy work. It also allows homeowners with bad credit to obtain a loan.

Erin Gallivan moved to call the question, seconded by Bob Ripley. Vote was called.

Article 4 was passed.

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

Select Board member Ethan Swift provided some additional information on Article 17, 18 and 19. Article 17 is an appropriation request for \$100,250 to pave 12 streets in conjunction with Fire District #1. The Town has been working closely with the Fire District and their bonded improvements. As the water department makes its infrastructure improvements, we will fund the paving of the other half of the street to more efficiently get 12 streets paved during the Fire District's bonded improvements.

Mr. Swift explained that Article 18 is not additional funding but rather a re-appropriation of funds approved last year. The Select Board determined that funds originally voted for redesign of the Wheeler Road Bridge. They have changed the priorities and would like to put the \$24,000 into a new culvert on Wood Lane, which needs replacing this summer. The Department of Public Works has secured emergency structure grant funding of \$93,000 and the \$24,000 would serve as matching funds.

Mona Rogers complimented the Town on all the paving done last year, but is still discouraged by the condition of Park Street. She questioned whether Park Street will be repaved. Mr. Swift answered that Park Street would be a whole road reclamation, and that we will not be able to do this in the upcoming year. Some of this work will be completed with the Route 7 project. It would be a very costly project. It is still a priority, but not on the calendar at this time.

Mr. Swift explained that Article 19, an allocation of \$18,000 from the Town Farm Fund, would provide matching funds for the Maple and Union Street sidewalk project begun several years ago. The \$18,000 allocation would allow us to begin the project and would prevent us from having to pay back the grant funds we obtained in the amount of \$78,000. The Town Farm funds would also not affect the tax rate.

Erin Gallivan asked what the Town Farm Fund is and asked how much is in this fund. Mr. Swift explained that the Town Farm Fund are funds the Town obtained after selling the Town Farm. We currently have \$113,000 in an account. These are funds restricted for infrastructure and can be used only after voter approval. Ms. Gallivan asked when we last accessed these funds. Richard Baker answered that in 1998 voters approved the use of \$80,000 for sidewalks in conjunction with the Route 7 project.

Dick White asked what the status of the original \$78,000 grant. Mr. Swift answered that these funds have already been spent on engineering the project.

Marylou Webster asked if the \$18,000 is for actual construction. Mr. Swift answered that these funds would be used for construction. Voters approved Public Works Director Daryl Burlett to speak about the project. Mr. Burlett stated that total cost

of the project would be around \$190,000 total. There is about \$78,000 left on the construction budget for Maple and Union Street sidewalks. Mr. Bailey explained that we are trying to do some construction on this project so that we do not have to pay back the \$78,000 engineering grant.

Pam Douglass asked whether we are committed to the whole project, and will this project be completed with these funds. Mr. Swift stated that once we begin construction we would be eligible for other grants to finish the project. Martha Thurston would love to see a sidewalk on Union Street and Maple Street.

Bill Claessens asked whether there was an accounting of other funds in the Town Report. Mr. Swift stated that there is no detail on the other funds in our Town Report, but that it is a point well taken.

Judy Bunde explained that her understanding is that the Fire District bond is paying for infrastructure improvements that would affect one half of the street and that the \$100,000 in Article 17 would be used to pave the other half of the street. She feels this is a good bargain for the Town.

Steve Carr commented that the Town lost many things through inertia, and that has changed dramatically this past year.

Devon Fuller thanked the budget committee for their time and hard work. Mr. Fuller also recognized local organization Brandon Cares, a coalition dedicated to the education, treatment and prevention of opioid addiction, and shared their contact information.

Doug Bailey also thanked the Budget Committee for their time and efforts.

Art Doty asked about the status of the Town Office building. Mr. Fuller stated that we are anticipating a March 15<sup>th</sup> completion date, after which the public will be invited for an open house.

Seth Clifford moved to recess the meeting, seconded by Dawn Bailey. The meeting was recessed at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Skip Davis, Moderator

Lou Faivre, BCA Chair

Susan Gage, Clerk

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## **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 ending 6/30/2016 conducted by Morrison & Bradley CPAs, P.C. is available in the Town Offices located at 49 Center Street. 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 Brandon Leicester Salisbury Goshen Insect Control District

#### MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE AND LARVICIDE CONTROL PROGRAM REPORT FOR THE BLSG DISTRICT

We thank the citizens of BLSG District for their support during the 2016 season. Joint multi-town efforts are economical and efficient for all.

Communication and cooperation with property owners, residents and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, are critical components in our effort to reduce and control mosquito populations.

Your Board has been hard at work for the past few years advocating for a state grant to purchase an amphibious vehicle (ARGO), to expedite larvae sampling and treatment. Thanks to the expeditious expertise of Jay Micheal, a Board member of Lake Dunmore-Fern Lake Association, the state approved a cost-sharing grant for this vehicle. It was purchased in June of this year. The District greatly appreciates the generous contributions to aid in the purchase of the ARGO by the Board of Camp Keewaydin and the Lake Dunmore-Fern Lake Association. The BLSG also welcomed the addition of the Town of Pittsford to our District. The ability to sample and treat flood plains along Otter Creek between Otter Valley Union High School and Pittsford, should greatly enhance the enjoyment of outdoor events at the school as well as for the residents of Pittsford.

The mission of the BLSG Insect Control District is to prevent the emergence of adult biting mosquitoes. This is accomplished by providing larvae and adult surveillance, larvicide and adulticide applications (when appropriate) during the months from April through August. This year the BLSG crew under the direction of Will Mathis, performed numerous site visits and found minimal mosquito larvae throughout the District. Early and minimal flooding, followed by rapid drying and a very dry summer helped to reduce the mosquito breeding habitat in the District.

The BLSG Insect Control District is dedicated to improving the quality of our efforts through training, program development and dissemination of public information. Larviciding is one of the most economical and environmental funded ways to control mosquito populations. The BLSG is able to target certain areas with larvicide applications, rather than spraying miles of road for adult mosquitoes. For the 2016 season, our staff is evaluating the efficiencies of other new application techniques including the use of an Argo and hand tools.

The BLSG again thanks the citizens of the District for their support and reminds them to take the necessary precautions against mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes transmit pathogens that cause some of the worst diseases known, including malaria, yellow fever, dengue fever, zika and encephalitis. Take precautions against mosquito bites by wearing Deet and long sleeves when outside. Please visit our improved website; Google BLSG Insect Control District.

Respectfully submitted,  
Will Mathis, BLSG Larvicide Coordinator; Benjamin Lawton, Chairman BLSG

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

Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD), known as "The Bus" is in its fortieth 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 644,000 rides this past year. MVRTD provides 65 jobs year round, with upwards of 80 during the winter peak season.

MVRTD provided over 2,400 rides to Brandon on the Middlebury Route, a commuter service with stops at the American Legion, Brandon Center Gazebo, 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 3,283 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

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## RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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

We enjoyed working with the Town of Brandon last year, especially with Anna Scheck, who represented your Town on our Regional Board of Commissioners; and with Daryl Burlett, Bill Moore, and Ray Counter whom we assisted with the Town's purchase of a GPS and a plotter printer.

Town of Brandon made numerous planning strides in 2016 with help from RRPC, most notably readopting the Town Plan, which RRPC granted regional approval. As a part of this Town Plan work, RRPC helped the Town create new maps of the downtown for State Downtown Designation. Also, RRPC was heavily involved in Brandon's transportation planning by conducting field work for road erosion inventory, providing a letter of support for transportation assistance/bicycle and pedestrian funding, assisting with a Better Roads Grant, and by providing maps for transportation related grants.

*Here's more about what RRPC does:*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## RUTLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

FY2016 was a year of major strategic shifts for REDC, premised on the fact that Rutland County's future business growth will likely come from the success and expansion of existing small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Strategic outcomes:

- Established broader mission and vision.
- Launched partnership with Castleton University to leverage the expertise and talent represented by the university and its students.

- Established an Entrepreneurship Committee.
- Combined REDC and Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce Marketing Committees.

Strategic investments:

*Entrepreneurship and business support*

- Lending capital committed to Rutland-area businesses: \$364,000.
- Grant money secured for Rutland-area businesses: \$104,141.
- Supported launch of Greater Rutland Makerspace with strategic planning, \$50,000 capital grant, and three years' free rent of 7,800 sq. ft. space in REDC's building on Quality Lane in Rutland.
- Hosted business pitch competition in partnership with Road Pitch.
- Hosted Rutland Mini Make Faire® in coordination with Sidewalk Sale Days in Downtown Rutland.

*Regional marketing*

- Supported grassroots Killington Valley regional marketing campaign.
- Supported 2nd annual Young Professionals Summit of Vermont, a statewide conference on Vermont's future held in Rutland.
- Marketed available commercial properties through [rutlandeconomy.com/property](http://rutlandeconomy.com/property).
- Marketed Rutland County as a place of career opportunities to students and alumni through [rutlandeconomy.com/careers](http://rutlandeconomy.com/careers).
- Supported creation of a county-wide strategic plan for marketing the Rutland Region.

*Public Policy and long-term planning*

- Revived joint REDC-Chamber Policy Committee and engaged with Vermont Futures Project.
- Co-hosted legislative luncheon series with Rutland Regional Chamber of Commerce.
- Established working group to create strategic plan for continued development of the Southern Vermont Regional Airport in Clarendon, Vermont.

REDC also proudly hosts free business advising and technical assistance through the Vermont Small Business Development Center and Vermont Procurement Technical Assistance Center, and congratulates Rutland business advisor Brian DeClue on being honored as 2016 Vermont State Star, a peer-selected award for excellence.

Sincerely,

Lyle Jepson, Executive Director

[lyle@rutlandeconomy.com](mailto:lyle@rutlandeconomy.com) or (802) 773-9147

**GREEN UP DAY**

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

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

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

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

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



# DEFEAT RABIES - Fight with Facts

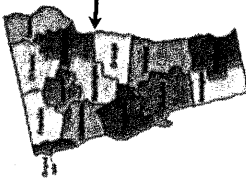
## Rabies Kills

animals and people!

Around the world



25-50 animals/year positive for rabies



Vermont

Rabies kills 1 person every 10 minutes

**PREVENT RABIES**

**RECOGNIZE RABIES**

VT rabies cases since 2011:

Vaccinate your animals!

Avoid any weird-acting animals - then tell an adult!

TALK to your doctor if you get bitten by an animal or wake up to find a bat in your house.

# 2017 HHW RURAL COLLECTION SCHEDULE

APRIL 1	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM		
APRIL 8	SWAC	RUTLAND TOWN 8:00AM - 11:30AM	CHITTENDEN 12:00PM - 3:00PM
APRIL 15	SWAC	PAWLET 8:00AM - 9:30AM	MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS 10:30 - NOON
APRIL 22	SWAC	TIMACUTH 8:00AM - 10:00AM	Fair Haven/West Haven 11:00AM - 1:00PM
APRIL 29	KILLINGTON 8:00AM - 11:00AM		
MAY 6	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM PROCTOR 12:00 - 3:00 PM		
MAY 13	BRANDON	PITTSFORD 12:00PM - 3:00PM	
MAY 20	DANBY/MT. TABOR @ DANBY T.S 8:00AM - 10:00AM WELLS 11:00AM - 2:00PM		
MAY 27	Memorial Day Holiday		
JUNE 3	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM		
JUNE 10	WALLINGFORD	CLARENDON 11:00AM - 1:00PM	
JUNE 17	CASTLETON	POULTNEY 12:00PM - 3:00PM	
JUNE 24	MT. HOLLY	8:00AM - 12:00PM	
JULY 1	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM		
JULY 8	BRANDON	PITTSFORD 12:00PM - 3:00PM	
JULY 15	CASTLETON	POULTNEY 12:00PM - 3:00PM	
JULY 22	IRA	WEST RUTLAND 10:30 AM - NOON	
JULY 29	DANBY/MT. TABOR @ DANBY T.S 8:00AM - 10:00AM WELLS 11:00AM - 2:00PM		
AUG 5	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM		
AUG 26	WEST RUTLAND	8:00AM - 11:00AM	
SEPT 3	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM		
SEPT 9	MT. HOLLY	SHREWSBURY	12:30 PM - 3:00PM
SEPT 16	SWAC	BENSON	8:00AM - 12:00PM
	SWAC	SUDBURY	10:30 AM - NOON
SEPT 23	SWAC	RUTLAND TOWN	8:00AM - 11:30AM
		KILLINGTON	12:00PM - 2:00PM
OCT 7	GLEASON ROAD HHW DEPOT OPEN 7:00AM - 3:00PM PROCTOR 12:00 - 3:00 PM		
OCT 14	WALLINGFORD	CLARENDON 11:00AM - 1:00PM	
OCT 21	CASTLETON	POULTNEY 12:00PM - 3:00PM	
OCT 28	BRANDON	PITTSFORD 12:00PM - 3:00PM	

## 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.

- We were representative payee for about 60 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 483 people. A newsletter goes out to invite all members and interested parties on the mailing list (approximately 490 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 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 few self advocates joined VT Adaptive Ski and Sport for a canoe ride.
- 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. Some walkway in the Buddy Walk.

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 15 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 2016, there were a total of 39 residents in Brandon and 1147 residents in the greater Rutland Arc area who took advantage of all the opportunities we offered.

Our 2017 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 need to contact us for these wonderful services or want to volunteer, please call 775-1370. Be sure to check out our website at [www.arcutland.org](http://www.arcutland.org).

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 that was such a huge success this year, Great Brandon Auction, Yard Sale Day, Make Your Own Leaf Person, Memory Tree, Moonlight Madness, Holiday Decorating contest, and March Magic sales days. In 2016, we contributed to the Toy Project, awarded a scholarship to an outstanding OVUHS graduating student, lit Central Park in December, and sponsored or participated in informational meetings for area businesses and residents covering many topics. We partnered with the Town in efforts to minimize the negative impact of the ongoing culvert work in the downtown for both the residents and businesses in Brandon. The Chamber also organizes the Meet the Candidates Night each year.

We continue to support the activities and operations of our wonderful museum, visitors 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 and will be an important communication vehicle during the Segment 6 work over the next two years.

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!

Wendy Bizzarro, 2016 President      Bernie Carr, Executive Director

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

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#### **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 26 volunteers, one full time Operations Chief and five 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 2015/2016- 653 calls in Brandon/Forest Dale.
- Total call volume of 696 calls for 2015/2016.
- B.A.R.S. responded to 14 calls for mutual aid for neighboring towns.
- Total Volunteer Hours- Over 25,000 hours of time for On Call shift, 2nd or 3rd 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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#### **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 2017 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 from 2016.*

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, direct donations, 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 full-time and three part-time librarians as well as cleaning and maintenance personnel. The doors are open more than 42 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, DVDs, programming, magazines, daily newspapers, audio CDs, interlibrary loan, Friday film series (every Friday at 1:30pm), and Brandon Sits, a mindful meditation (Wednesdays 12:30 -1:30pm).

#### 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 hours on Tuesdays (9:30am) and Fridays (3:00pm), 'Magic the Gathering' drop-in gaming on Wednesdays (3:30pm).

#### 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, Al-Anon, local mental health organizations, tutors, VT Council on Reading, 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 e-books), and Universal Class (non-credit Continuing Education classes) at no cost to our patrons.
- Print, Copy and Fax machine for public use.
- Personalized computer help: free one hour sessions by appointment.
- Free Wi-Fi.

#### Non-traditional Services

- The Seed Library offers free seeds, education, and workshops. Online at: [bfpseedlibrary.org](http://bfpseedlibrary.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, VT Precision Museum, Shelburne Museum, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Wonderfeet Museum.
- Depository site for twice 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. The Library is often one of the few links someone might have to the community.
- Various free and accessible programs geared to older populations.
- Free rides to the polls.

Funds from the towns 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. 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](http://brandonpubliclibrary.org).

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

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

## 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 4<sup>th</sup>. This past year the parade was held on July 2, and was one of our best, according to veteran spectators. The Friday night street dance had to be postponed, however, because of rain, but spirits weren't dampened, and when we held it the following Friday night it still drew a huge crowd. This year the street dance will be the last day of June, since the parade will be held on July 1. We recognize that the entire Celebration will be subject to last minute changes due to the Segment 6 construction. Nevertheless, our activities will still include:

- Friday night street dance and food vendors in Central Park
- Friday and 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 Neshobe 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 Porta 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 provides the magical ending to the most memorable event of the summer.

Debbie Boyce, Chairman and Susan Stone, Treasurer

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

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## BRANDON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, INC. ~ 1591 Forest Dale Road ~ 247-3121

The Board of Directors continues to improve the building. In 2016, we were informed by the State of Vermont that all underground tanks had to be removed and oil tanks needed to be placed under cover. As a preemptive measure, we decided to replace the aging tank before it became a problem. 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 replacing the worn out linoleum kitchen floor. Although we had to dismantle and move everything out of the kitchen (except for the industrial stove and dishwasher), for the contractor to install the floor, it was worth our effort, as the new updated floor looks and cleans fantastic.

We have strived to open up the building to a myriad of social events. Bone Builders meet every Monday and Wednesday, followed by Meals on Wheels. The free community lunches seem to be a hit for folks to have a nourishing meal while the monthly sponsored dinners continue to raise funds for our never ending projects. The comfortable atmosphere, which has been created, lends itself to folks wanting to stay and socialize, play cards, knit, put together a jigsaw puzzle or the take part in our newly established coloring club. We have been approached to begin Tai Chi classes, which should be an exciting adventure.

WIC clinic is held every month and RAVNAH Toe Nail Clinic is held every other month. A foot "spa treatment" has been added, for those interested during the cold winter months. We would like to thank Foxcroft Farms, the Harvest Program, for installing three more 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 extend our thanks for their support in our Friday Community Lunch Program, as well as our bake sales.

The Center continues to be "green" by recycling. Thanks to Foxcroft we have added two composting bins, to be used in our gardens. 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**

## 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. Many RSVP volunteers throughout our region stepped up along with their neighbors to assist after the damage from Irene this past summer.

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, Vermont 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 2016, 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, RAVNAH 's dedicated staff made more than 126,780 visits to 3,281 patients. In the Town of Brandon, we provided 7,379 visits to 204 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 Carrie Allen, 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 2016, 28 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 2016, Rutland Mental Health Services provided 43,749 hours of services to 190 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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## SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Brandon in 2016:

*Senior Meals:* The Council helped provide 7,423 meals that were delivered to the homes of 51 elders in your community. This service is often called "Meals on Wheels". In addition, 82 Brandon elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 1,548 meals were provided.

*Case Management Assistance:* SVCOA case management staff helped 71 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**

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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 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](mailto:info@brandon.org)

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

**Appropriation Request - \$2500**



**Budget Summary**

Account	Actual -2016	Budget - 2017	Proposed - 2018
<b>Total Revenue</b>	619,927.30	459,888.00	490,920.00
<b>Expenses</b>			
Town Administration	387,964.46	420,125.00	378,800.00
Assessor	26,397.46	35,245.00	39,760.00
Code Enforcement	82,280.48	90,425.00	85,700.00
Town Clerk	156,874.19	155,325.00	189,400.00
Police Dept.	738,130.58	808,900.00	848,400.00
Highway	790,077.39	771,035.00	802,810.00
Intergovernmental	57,103.75	66,778.00	67,375.00
Recreation	124,364.75	110,780.00	110,418.00
Debt Service	223,848.17	254,850.00	253,000.00
Economic Development	-	18,280.00	33,623.00
Bldgs. & Grounds	111,424.26	214,967.00	190,700.00
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	2,698,465.49	2,946,710.00	2,999,986.00
	<b>Actual -2016</b>	<b>Budget - 2017</b>	<b>Proposed - 2018</b>
<b>Net Municipal Budget</b>	<b>2,078,538.19</b>	<b>2,486,822.00</b>	<b>2,509,066.00</b>

% change from Budget 2017 to Proposed 2018 -- 0.89%

\$ change from Budget 2017 to Proposed 2018 -- \$22,244.00

TOWN OF BRANDON Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018

<b>Account</b>	<b>Actual FY-2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	<b>Proposed FY - 2018</b>
Duplication Revenue	513.00	400.00	400.00
Administrative Services	30,000.00	32,000.00	-
Vendor Permit Revenue	125.00	200.00	200.00
Misc. Revenue	4,929.26	-	-
Insurance Recovery Rev.	3,500.00	-	-
Misc./Revenues Assessor	1,994.00	-	-
Assessor Education	-	400.00	400.00
Misc Zoning	-	500.00	500.00
Land Use Permit Revenue	7,808.00	4,184.00	5,000.00
Rental Code Compliance	-	6,000.00	10,000.00
Pilot/CU	47,952.30	47,174.00	48,000.00
Administrative Services	-	-	30,000.00
Liquor License Revenue	1,620.00	1,800.00	1,650.00
Land Records	32,050.00	31,500.00	28,000.00
Vault Time	4,363.70	3,500.00	4,200.00
Misc. Clerk Revenues	2,882.83	1,250.00	3,500.00
Marriage Licenses	320.00	450.00	350.00
Hunting/Fishing Licenses	52.50	50.00	55.00
Vital Statistics	3,376.00	3,000.00	3,400.00
Dog License Revenue	2,394.00	2,100.00	2,400.00
Records Preservation	3,570.00	3,500.00	7,000.00
Interest Revenue	10,251.29	15,000.00	10,000.00
Penalty & Int. Revenue	65,448.58	45,000.00	55,000.00
State Traffic Ticket Reve	4,912.50	5,500.00	5,500.00
Parking Fine Revenue	50.00	100.00	100.00
Court Fines/Costs Revenue	375.00	-	-
PD WAGE REIM REVENUE	188.70	-	-
Misc. Police Revenues	3,346.53	500.00	500.00
Bravo Fees	42.00	-	-
Police Grants	2,436.00	-	-
SRO Officer	36,740.92	36,000.00	38,000.00
Clicket or Ticket Campaign	5,221.59	3,000.00	3,000.00
DOCUMENT REIM. REQ. PD	3,330.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Misc./Extraor. Rev.	676.50	-	-
Access Permit Revenue	410.00	200.00	200.00
Excavation Permit Revenue	150.00	200.00	200.00
Patched Paving rev/Reim	300.00	-	-
State Highway Revenue	148,715.89	148,000.00	148,715.00
Over Weight Permits	490.00	500.00	500.00
GAIN ON EQUIPMENT TRADE I	49,000.00	-	-
Transfer In-other funds	54,476.82	-	-
Mosquitos-Trustees Reim.	9,250.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
Rec Programing Rev	57,684.62	46,880.00	51,750.00
Mixed Recyclables	2,014.37	-	-

TOWN OF BRANDON Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018

Account	Actual FY-2016	Budget FY - 2017	Proposed FY - 2018
TS Rent	6,600.00	7,000.00	8,400.00
EWM Deposits	(1,891.78)	-	-
misc.	180.00	-	-
Solar Lease Payments	-	-	10,000.00
Town Hall Grants	4,578.75	-	-
RCSW Surcharge Revenue	7,498.43	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES \$</b>	<b>619,927.30</b>	<b>\$ 459,888.00</b>	<b>\$ 490,920.00</b>
<b>Town Administrator</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	257,879.98	277,650.00	250,800.00
Travel & Expenses	1,845.04	1,500.00	2,000.00
Personnel Recruitment	-	250.00	1,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	5,344.00	6,625.00	6,000.00
Professional Development	1,441.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Legal Services	21,496.37	25,000.00	25,000.00
Auditors	12,500.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
Office Supplies	8,017.40	10,000.00	10,000.00
Service Contracts	5,856.73	10,000.00	8,000.00
Postage Expenses	8,040.09	8,000.00	6,000.00
Technical Support	1,373.86	4,000.00	4,000.00
Legal Advertising	1,218.54	2,200.00	2,000.00
Town Report	4,116.94	5,000.00	5,000.00
Telephone Exp. Admin.	5,901.04	5,000.00	5,000.00
Health Insurance Reim.	7.91	-	-
Interest Short Term	-	2,000.00	-
Town Admin. Insurance	32,314.72	12,300.00	12,000.00
Insurance Claim Deduct.	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Unemployment Ins.-Admin	2,806.34	3,500.00	3,000.00
Workers Comp. Admin.	11,013.31	6,600.00	7,500.00
Economic Development	2,091.80	-	-
Tax Sale Legal /Misc Exp.	4,699.39	4,000.00	5,000.00
Animal Control Expenses	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Capital Improvements	-	15,000.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Town Admin</b>	<b>387,964.46</b>	<b>420,125.00</b>	<b>378,800.00</b>
<b>Assessor</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	8,214.09	9,695.00	11,210.00
Travel & Expenses	-	100.00	100.00
Dues & Subscriptions	263.81	250.00	250.00
Continuing Education	125.00	200.00	200.00
Mapping	-	-	3,500.00
Legal Fees Assessor	-	500.00	500.00
Property Assessor	17,579.56	17,500.00	18,000.00
Professional Supplies	-	1,000.00	500.00
Office Equipment	215.00	1,000.00	500.00

TOWN OF BRANDON Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018

Account	Actual FY-2016	Budget FY - 2017	Proposed FY - 2018
Reapp Acct.-Transfer out	-	5,000.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Assessor</b>	<b>26,397.46</b>	<b>35,245.00</b>	<b>39,760.00</b>
<b>Code Enforcement</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	76,141.32	81,350.00	80,925.00
Travel & Expenses	1,394.41	1,200.00	1,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	-	350.00	300.00
Continuing Education	360.00	750.00	800.00
Mapping	2,834.68	3,500.00	-
Professional Services	-	500.00	500.00
Legal Services - zoning	-	1,500.00	1,000.00
Professional Supplies	373.31	225.00	225.00
Planning/Zoning Postage	229.23	-	-
Legal Advertising	947.53	950.00	950.00
Printing	-	100.00	-
<b>Total Code Enforcement</b>	<b>82,280.48</b>	<b>90,425.00</b>	<b>85,700.00</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	132,235.59	139,825.00	172,300.00
Travel & Expenses	125.50	350.00	150.00
Dues & Subscriptions	127.50	350.00	150.00
Professional Development	495.00	500.00	500.00
Elections	2,073.50	5,000.00	3,000.00
Dog License Expense	161.49	-	-
Office Supplies	593.74	500.00	800.00
Records Preservation	20,277.87	3,500.00	7,000.00
Office Equipment	784.00	-	-
Insurance VLCT	-	5,300.00	5,500.00
<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>156,874.19</b>	<b>155,325.00</b>	<b>189,400.00</b>
<b>Police</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	577,923.53	644,800.00	667,400.00
Travel & Expenses	2,338.01	2,000.00	2,500.00
Clothing Allowance	5,577.19	5,500.00	5,500.00
Dues & Subscriptions	1,089.82	1,400.00	1,500.00
Professional Development	3,140.36	5,500.00	5,500.00
Radio Maintenance	2,460.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
MDT/Aircards	2,502.06	3,000.00	3,000.00
Legal Services	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Office Supplies	3,287.43	3,000.00	3,000.00
Professional Supplies	1,614.93	4,000.00	4,000.00
Service Contracts	7,085.40	9,500.00	9,500.00
Postage Expenses PD	143.65	200.00	200.00
Office Equipment	-	3,000.00	3,000.00
Legal Advertising	-	200.00	200.00
Community Police	-	250.00	250.00
New Equipment - Vehicles	2,810.63	2,500.00	2,500.00



TOWN OF BRANDON Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018

Account	Actual FY-2016	Budget FY - 2017	Proposed FY - 2018
Fuel - Vehicles	15,937.46	22,000.00	22,000.00
PD Maint. Supplies-Vehicle	-	250.00	250.00
PD Vehicle Maintenance	10,122.96	9,000.00	9,000.00
PD Telephone Service	4,137.27	3,000.00	4,200.00
PD Heating Fuel	1,189.01	-	-
PD Water Fees	159.67	-	-
PD Electric charges	3,280.95	-	-
PD Bldg. Maintenance	4,241.15	-	-
PD Insurance VLCT	40,916.05	37,350.00	37,350.00
PD Unemployment	2,605.42	3,300.00	2,800.00
PD Workers Comp.	43,067.63	31,650.00	47,250.00
Reimburse Equip Grants	2,500.00	-	-
Capital Improvements	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
<b>Total Police</b>	<b>738,130.58</b>	<b>808,900.00</b>	<b>848,400.00</b>
Highway			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	339,708.04	393,325.00	416,800.00
Travel & Expenses	284.74	750.00	500.00
Clothing Allowance	2,896.44	2,700.00	3,500.00
Dues & Subscriptions	78.15	100.00	100.00
Continuing Education	70.00	350.00	500.00
Engineering	1,244.48	-	-
Contractors	9,182.16	6,000.00	10,000.00
Equipment Rental	3,850.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Office Supplies	343.89	500.00	500.00
New Equipment-Misc. Tools	451.50	2,000.00	1,500.00
Safety Equipment	1,600.32	750.00	1,500.00
Fuel - Vehicles HW	14,775.17	30,000.00	20,000.00
Oil - Vehicles	1,690.75	2,000.00	2,200.00
HW Maint. Supplies-Vehicle	14,177.96	15,000.00	15,000.00
HW Tires - Vehicles	3,151.96	5,000.00	5,000.00
HW Outside Maint. - Vehicle	10,402.40	9,000.00	9,000.00
HW Telephone	2,185.84	2,500.00	2,300.00
Heating Fuel - Bldg.	2,093.56	-	-
Electric - Town Barn	1,731.38	-	-
Bldg. Maintenance	2,737.36	-	-
Ditching	1,405.25	-	1,000.00
Roadside Mowing	516.31	5,800.00	1,000.00
Tree Removal/Planting	1,402.50	2,000.00	2,500.00
Guardrails	-	2,500.00	-
Street Sweeping	-	5,500.00	5,500.00
Street Lights	37,717.83	-	-
Signs & Posts	3,773.50	2,500.00	2,000.00
Line Painting	5,006.99	5,000.00	5,500.00
Paving Roads	15,000.00	10,000.00	25,000.00

TOWN OF BRANDON Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018

<b>Account</b>	<b>Actual FY-2016</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2017</b>	<b>Proposed FY - 2018</b>
Cold Patching	2,170.35	4,500.00	4,000.00
Culverts	1,450.50	3,500.00	2,500.00
Gravel	34,310.26	32,000.00	35,000.00
Chloride	17,082.60	20,000.00	20,000.00
Road Salt	40,053.81	50,000.00	60,000.00
Winter Sand	26,613.44	35,000.00	35,000.00
HW VLCT Insurance	20,355.89	14,000.00	13,000.00
HW Unemployment	1,720.30	1,950.00	1,650.00
Workers Comp	23,062.94	23,300.00	32,250.00
Fixed Assets-Carryover funds	7,900.00	-	-
Paving-Carryover funds	4,902.00	-	-
Leased Equipment	132,976.82	66,010.00	66,010.00
Grant Match	-	10,000.00	-
Capital Improvements	-	5,000.00	-
<b>Total Highway</b>	<b>790,077.39</b>	<b>771,035.00</b>	<b>802,810.00</b>
<b>Intergovernmental</b>			
County Tax	22,652.70	28,000.00	28,000.00
Rut. Regional Commission	951.05	925.00	925.00
Green-Up Day	-	300.00	300.00
Public Transit	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
REDC	500.00	500.00	500.00
Rut Nat Resources Conserv	-	250.00	250.00
Mosquito Control	29,500.00	33,303.00	33,900.00
<b>Total Intergovernmental</b>	<b>57,103.75</b>	<b>66,778.00</b>	<b>67,375.00</b>
<b>Recreation</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	52,640.21	63,720.00	57,223.00
Travel & Expenses	465.77	300.00	300.00
Dues & Subscriptions	233.40	250.00	120.00
Advertising/Recruitment	-	3,836.00	4,000.00
Rec Contractors / Mowing	4,028.45	2,000.00	2,400.00
Rec Program Exp total	59,143.48	34,524.00	37,000.00
Office Supplies	13.99	200.00	-
Professional Supplies	24.23	150.00	-
Recreation Telephone	333.41	500.00	500.00
Parks Maintenance	509.82	500.00	1,500.00
Recreation Insurance	3,745.08	1,950.00	3,200.00
Recreation Unemployment	531.08	350.00	425.00
Recreation Workers comp	2,695.83	2,500.00	3,750.00
<b>Total Recreation</b>	<b>124,364.75</b>	<b>110,780.00</b>	<b>110,418.00</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>			
RT 7 Town Share	192,699.46	204,350.00	202,000.00
PD Bond Payment	31,148.71	30,500.00	31,000.00
Debt. Service Principal	-	20,000.00	20,000.00
<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>223,848.17</b>	<b>254,850.00</b>	<b>253,000.00</b>

TOWN OF BRANDON Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018

Account	Actual FY-2016	Budget FY - 2017	Proposed FY - 2018
<b>Economic Development</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	-	10,780.00	24,623.00
Travel & Expenses	-	500.00	500.00
Economic Development	-	7,000.00	8,000.00
Hist. Preservation Comm.	-	-	500.00
<b>Total Economic Development</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,280.00</b>	<b>33,623.00</b>
<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds</b>			
Salaries/taxes/benefits	7,123.74	14,570.00	19,250.00
Rental	18,900.00	-	-
License & Fees	180.00	300.00	300.00
Testing/Monitor Fee	4,055.60	5,000.00	6,000.00
Heating - Propane	-	7,500.00	15,000.00
Heating Fuel	6,173.20	17,000.00	17,000.00
Bldgs. & Grounds Water Fee	504.50	900.00	1,900.00
Bldgs. & Grounds Electric	7,905.46	56,000.00	52,000.00
Highway Bldg. Maint	-	8,000.00	8,000.00
PD Bldg. Maint.	-	25,000.00	3,000.00
Town Office	2,703.81	8,000.00	9,000.00
Cemeteries	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Municipal Mowing	12,211.28	14,500.00	1,500.00
Recreation Field Maint.	178.35	5,500.00	4,000.00
Town Clock Maint.	300.00	500.00	500.00
Town Hall Repair/Maint.	18,167.65	20,000.00	20,000.00
Parks Maint.	9,074.65	10,000.00	6,000.00
Trash costs-Transfer Stat	3,209.56	2,500.00	2,000.00
Maint. Supplies Bldgs.	1,607.54	3,000.00	4,000.00
Bldg. Repairs	6,563.36	-	-
Generator Maint	-	-	2,500.00
Bldg. & Grounds Insurance	1,516.00	15,697.00	17,500.00
Unemployment	52.44	-	250.00
Green-Up day	300.00	-	-
RCSWD/Recycling	10,697.12	-	-
<b>Total Buildings &amp; Grounds</b>	<b>111,424.26</b>	<b>214,967.00</b>	<b>190,700.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses \$ 2,698,465.49 \$ 2,946,710.00 \$ 2,999,986.00</b>			



**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

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 PM or as needed at the Brandon Town Hall

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:00 PM or as needed at the Brandon Town Hall

**OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED**

**UNION BOARD**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 PM at the Otter Valley UHS Library

**RNESU SCHOOL BOARD**

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 PM at the RNESU Central Office

**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 Gene Pagano at 236-5397

**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. A \$25 per unit fee is due annually by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**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 please contact Chief Roman Wdowiak at 247-6476 or speak with any member of the Fire Department

**RESCUE SQUAD (BARS)**

To volunteer please contact Andy Jackson at 247-3231





## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear Residents of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting

Welcome to the newly formed Otter Valley Unified Union School District. After a successful vote to consolidate on January 19, 2016, we opened our doors on July 1, 2016 and have spent much of our first few months transferring properties and ensuring our systems have caught up with the new changes. While we work on our budget for 2018, we are looking at equity of opportunity for our students, seeking efficiencies within our new structure and the Board is working on a school choice policy and a long term Capital Plan to meet our facility needs. This is an exciting opportunity to redesign our system to meet the needs of our students, their families and our faculty and staff.

Otter Valley Unified Union is now its own school district within Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union; thus, it will have its own Annual Meeting, replacing the OVUHS Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend the first annual OVUUSD meeting on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 6:30 PM at Otter Valley Union High School. Prior to that meeting, all relevant budget materials and information about the schools you are used to reading in your town report will be collated and sent to you in a separate report, mailed out by OVUUSD before the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual OVUUSD Meeting on March 1. If you have any questions, please email me at [jcollins@mesu.org](mailto:jcollins@mesu.org) or use the *Let's Talk* link on any school website.

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### RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION BOARD Annual Report

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely, Richard A. White, Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union Board Chair

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### OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD Annual Report

The newly formed Otter Valley Unified Union School District Board assumed responsibility for the Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury, Whiting and Otter Valley schools on July 1, 2016. The Board immediately organized into three committees: Student Achievement, Finance/Building and Grounds and Policy and Advocacy. It spent much of its first few months getting to better know individual schools and the programs schools offer to our students. During the fall and winter, the Board held its meetings at individual schools.

School choice, a topic often discussed during the Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union consolidation discussions, was one of the first policies developed by the Policy and Advocacy committee. The opportunities afforded by school choice will be available to parents beginning in September 2017.

In January, the Board adopted its first consolidated budget. This budget will be explained in detail at the Otter Valley Unified Union School District annual meeting to be held on Wednesday March 1, 2017 at 6:30 PM at Otter Valley Union High School. During budget development, it was necessary to make difficult reductions in order to reach a responsible level of spending. It is clear to the Board that our communities are in difficult fiscal times. The development of future budgets will require us to be ever more collaborative and creative as we strive to offer to all students the educational opportunities that will prepare them well to be engaging and productive citizens.

We encourage all residents of our six member towns to actively participate in the activities of the board. If you are unable to attend a meeting but have a question to ask, idea to share or concern to raise, please use the *Let's Talk* link on any school website or email me at [b.bourne@mesu.org](mailto:b.bourne@mesu.org).

Bonnie Bourne, Chair for the OVUUSD Board

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**BRANDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 29, 2016  
NESHOBIE SCHOOL – FOREST DALE**

Moderator Skip Davis called the annual Brandon Town School District Annual Meeting to order at 8:52 P.M. Attending the meeting were school board members Lisa Kenyon, chair, Erin Gallivan, Debbie Boyce and Devon Fuller. Also present were Superintendent, Jeanne Collins, Principal Judi Pulsifer, Clerk Susan Gage and Brandon voters. The following business was then transacted:

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

Motion was made by Seth Hopkins and seconded by Doug Bailey to accept the reports as printed in the annual book. Motion was approved.

Article II. To hear a presentation by the School Board of its recommended budget for FY2016/2017.

Motion was made by Seth Hopkins and seconded by Dick White to allow the motion. Motion was approved. Lisa Kenyon, board chair, asked everyone to introduce themselves. Lisa then explained the reason for multiple budget warnings. She stated that the budget to focus on is the Act 46 Unified Union budget.

Board member Erin Gallivan then explained how the education tax rate is derived. She stated that Brandon will be seeing a decrease in taxes for the fiscal year being voted.

Board member Deb Boyce spoke about teachers and salaries. Board member Devon Fuller restated that voters should focus on Article VIII, the Unified Union budget article. Deb Boyce explained the makeup of the new Unified Union board.

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

Motion to fix the compensation of the Brandon Town School District Officers by Dick White, seconded by Richard Baker. Motion approved.

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

Dick White moved to authorize the Brandon Town School District Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, seconded by Richard Baker. Motion approved.

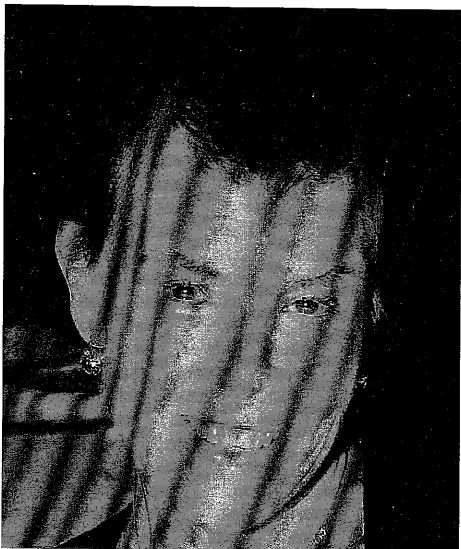
Article V. To do any other business proper to be done when met.

Art Doty moved to recess the meeting, seconded by Devon Fuller. Motion approved. Meeting was recessed at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Skip Davis, Moderator, Lisa Kenyon, Chair, Susan Gage, Clerk

## IN MEMORIAM

Late in 2016, Brandon lost two exemplary community citizens. We memorialize them here as exemplars of lives well lived.



### JUDYEVE BROWN

JudyEve Brown left us in November of 2016 after courageously living with cancer for several years. She and her husband Tom delighted countless Brandon residents and tourists who experienced their one-of-a-kind gift shop, Browns of Brandon, where she was an ambassador for Brandon. A family-centered outdoor enthusiast, JudyEve taught her family and friends how to balance work and life, and to face complications with courage and class. JudyEve managed her illness as she did her life, courageously open-minded, disciplined, and seeking and sharing knowledge "... I'm not a fighter, but I'm aggressive

about knowledge. The more you can learn about the illness and how to make your inner terrain healthier, the more empowered you are. Knowledge is power, no matter what it's about." Always caring about others, JudyEve shared what she learned and encouraged all around her to listen to their bodies and learn about themselves. We thank Tom and their children Kristi, Todd and Megan for sharing Judy with our town, and offer them sincere condolences.

### DAVID ROWDEN

Dave Rowden served Brandon in a number of ways during the years he and his family made their home here. He was a United States Navy veteran and made his career as a Vermont Game Warden. At different times in his life, he was a Brandon police officer, a firefighter, and a member of the rescue squad, all fields of service which require self-sacrifice to make life better for others. Somehow he also found time to support the American Legion, the Lions, the Friends of Town Hall, and his faith community, the Life Bridge Christian Church. We offer heartfelt sympathy to his wife Sally, son Scott, daughter Jennifer and family.



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**Music in Central Park, Summer 2016**  
Photo by Seth Hopkins