

Annual Report



**Town of Chester, Vermont
Calendar Year 2015**

TRIBUTE TO GEORGIA EITHER

This Annual Report is dedicated to Georgia Ethier. Georgia and her husband Gerry moved to Chester in 1995 from Townshend, VT. Georgia worked for the Town of Chester from July 1995 to September 2005. Over the ten years that Georgia was with the town of Chester she was Secretary for the Town Manager, Police Department, Select Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board. Up until 2015 Georgia also assembled the Town Report every year and maintained the Town's website. She still does the ambulance billing for the Chester Ambulance Service.

Before coming to work for the Town of Chester Georgia had 27 years of experience in municipal government in positions ranging from a junior clerk to secretary to the city manager. She has worked in the States of Washington, California, Massachusetts and then the Town of Chester was lucky enough to have her come to work here from 1995 to 2005.

Georgia is very active in her church, the Chester-Andover Family Center and monthly senior organizations. Georgia loves helping others, lighthouses, the beach, traveling, sewing, gardening, going out to eat, a good book, a good laugh and finding the perfect gift for someone special. She loves spending time with her two sons, seven step-children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She has endless energy and sees the best in everybody. If Georgia is your friend, you have a special treasure.



ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AUDITORS

OF THE TOWN OF

CHESTER, VERMONT

AUDITORS

J.H. CABLE

E.W. SPAULDING

P.D. JEWETT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 2015

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BREAKDOWN OF GRAND LIST

Total Education Listed Value	\$418,293,845
Total Listed Value of Real Estate for Taxation	\$420,492,305
Total Listed Value of Nonresidential Real Estate for Schools	\$226,809,445
Total Listed Value of Homestead Real Estate for Schools	\$191,484,400
Cable Company	\$849,200
Veterans Exemptions (21 x's \$40,000)	\$840,000
Current Use Exempt Amount (177 Properties)	\$21,911,495

There are 4 Properties that are 5 year voted exemptions and 45 properties that are tax exempt per Vermont law.

ANNUAL GRAND LIST INCREASE

2007	2,033,891
2008	3,990,394 Townwide Reappraisal
2009	4,059,405
2010	4,076,502
2011	4,158,567
2012	4,177,428
2013	4,172,950
2014	4,164,907
2015	4,204,923

COMPARATIVE TAX RATE TABLE

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Homestead School Tax Rate	\$1.3228	\$1.3898	\$1.2365	\$1.2001	\$1.2062
Nonresidential School Tax Rate	1.3823	1.4753	1.3530	1.8906	1.3471
Municipal Tax Rate	.6900	.6359	.5976	.5828	.5684

ELECTIVE TOWN OFFICES - MARCH 3, 2015

	TERM EXPIRES		TERM EXPIRES
MODERATOR		AUDITORS	
William E. Dakin, Jr.	2016	E.W. Spaulding	2018
		Phyllis Jewett	2016
TOWN CLERK		John H. (Jack) Cable	2017
Deborah J. Aldrich	2017		
LISTERS		CTSD DIRECTORS	
Wanda C. Purdy, Chairman	2018	Marilyn Mahusky	2018
Deborah Trent	2016	Alison DesLauriers	2016
Barry Fowler Appt./Resigned		Michael Leonard resigned	2016
open position	2017	Heather Chase appointed	2016
		open position	2017
SELECTMEN		CAES DIRECTORS	
Thomas Bock	2016	Marilyn Mahusky	2018
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas	2016	Jacob Arace	2016
Heather Chase	2018	Jeffrey M. Hance	2016
William L. Lindsay	2016	Tonia Fleming	2017
John DeBenedetti, Chairman	2017		
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS		GMUHS DIRECTORS	
Shirley A. Barrett	2018	Deb Brown	2018
Erron J. Carey	2016	Alison DesLauriers	2016
Sandra K. Walker	2017	Kelly Kehoe	2016
		Michael Leonard resigned	2016
		Bruce Parks appointed	2016
		open position	2017
TOWN GRAND JUROR		BUDGET COMMITTEE	
John DeBenedetti	2016	Mariett Bock	2016
TOWN TREASURER		2014 JUSTICES OF THE PEACE	
Deborah J. Aldrich	2017	Kenneth D. Barrett	
AGENT TO DEFEND SUITS		Patricia G. Benelli	
Jo-Anne DeBenedetti	2016	Patricia Budnick	
		Robert Crawford	
TRUSTEES OF WHITING LIBRARY		Ruth Douglas	
Mariette Bock	2016	Tom Elgan	
David A. Lord	2016	Cheryl LeClair	
Mary Lou Farr	2017	Bruce Parks	
Kathy Pellett	2017	Colleen Truax	
John Holme	2018	Heather Chase	
Charlene Huyler	2018	Susan Kibbe	
Carrie King	2018		

OFFICERS APPOINTED

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>		<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER		PLANNING COMMISSION:	
Chief of Police	March, 2016	Thomas Bock, Chairman	March, 2018
		Naomi Johnson	March, 2018
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD		Harry S. Goodell	March, 2016
Amy O'Neil, Vice Chairman	June, 2018	Tom Hildreth	March, 2017
Carla Westine, Chairman	June, 2018	Randall Wiggin	March, 2017
Don Robinson (Deceased)	June, 2018	Claudio Veliz, Alternate	March, 2018
Harry Goodell	June, 2016		
Philip Perlah	June, 2016	POUND KEEPER:	
Ken Barrett, Alternate	June, 2018	Chief of Police, Richard Cloud	March, 2016
Mark Curran, Alternate	June, 2018		
		REGIONAL PLANNING REP:	
CEMETERY SEXTON		Thomas Bock	March, 2016
Jeffrey Sheldon	March, 2016	Derek Suursoo (resigned)	March, 2016
		ROAD COMMISSIONER:	
CLERK TO SELECTMEN		Town Manager, David Pisha	March, 2016
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas	March, 2016		
		SECRETARY TO SELECTMEN:	
CONNECTICUT RIVER TRANSIT		Julie Hance	March, 2016
AUTHORITY			
Vacancy		BOARD OF WASTEWATER DISPOSAL	
		Board of Selectmen	
SENIOR SOLUTIONS - COUNCIL		SOLID WASTE DISTRICT REP:	
ON AGING		Derek Suursoo	March, 2016
Linda Stowell	March, 2016		
		TOWN MANAGER:	
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		David Pisha	August, 2016
Town Manager, David Pisha	March, 2016		
		TOWN SERVICE OFFICER:	
FENCE VIEWERS:		David Pisha	March, 2016
Frank E. Balch	March, 2016		
J. Leon Spaulding	March, 2016	TRANSPORT. ADVISORY COUNCIL REP.	
Tony Weinberger	March, 2016	Arne Jonynas	March, 2016
FIRE WARDEN:		TREE WARDEN:	
Jeffrey Holden	June, 2019	Joseph Epler	March, 2016
FIRST CONSTABLE:		WATER COMMISSIONERS:	
Jeffrey Holden	March, 2016	Board of Selectmen	
GREEN UP DAY CHAIRMAN		WEIGHER OF COAL	
Frank Kelley	March, 2016	Tony Weinberger	March, 2016
		ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	
INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES AND WOOD		Michael Normyle	March, 2017
AND WOOD			
Tony Weinberger	March, 2016		

APPOINTED BY TOWN MANAGER

Police Chief - Richard H. Cloud
Fire Chief - Matthew S. Wilson
Ambulance Coordinator - Daniel J. Cook
Public Works Director - Graham D. Kennedy
Water/Sewer Superintendent - Jeffery C. Holden
Recreation Director - Matthew McCarthy

APPOINTED BY STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Health Officer - Leslie Thorsen (term expires: 03-16)

ELECTED BY DIRECTORS OF TWO RIVERS SUPERVISORY UNION

Superintendent of Schools - A. Bruce Williams

OFFICERS' SALARIES

	2014	2015
TOWN MANAGER		
David Pisha	\$ 74,640.37	\$ 76,180.29
TOWN CLERK		
Deborah J. Aldrich	\$ 46,788.53	\$ 48,192.28
TOWN TREASURER		
Deborah J. Aldrich	\$ 2,909.90	\$ 2,997.17
SELECTMEN		
Tom Bock	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00
John DeBenedetti, Chairman	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00
William Lindsay	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00
Derek Suursoo, Vice Chairman	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 0.00
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00
Heather Chase		\$ 1,100.00
LISTERS		
Wanda C. Purdy	\$ 11,606.30	\$ 11,113.13
Deborah Trent	\$ 4,380.61	\$ 3,783.77
Catherine Hasbrouck	\$ 156.75	\$ 0.00
Carol Balch		\$ 205.00
Barry Fowler		\$ 770.00
AUDITORS		
John H. (Jack) Cable	\$ 1,406.72	\$ 1,205.22
Phyllis A. Jewett	\$ 976.41	\$ 1,171.11
E. W. Spaulding	\$ 1,412.51	\$ 1,259.23
HEALTH OFFICER		
Leslie Thorsen	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Report of the Select Board

The past year was an active and productive one for the Select Board. The most significant accomplishment for the Town was the Water Project. The voters approved the first phase of much needed improvements to the Town water system, including a new second water tank on the south side of Town, along with much needed water main replacement along a portion of Route 103 south of Route 11, as well as Breezy Lane. These improvements will certainly help provide a safe, reliable, and sustainable water system for years to come.

The Solar Farm on the Town property along route 103, opposite Trebo Road (the site of the Town well) has been completed and is currently operating. Necessary contract documents were signed during the past year, and financial benefit in the forms of rent, taxes, and credits toward Town electric usage through net metering will now be recognized.

Another substantial accomplishment was negotiating with VELCO (Vermont Electric Company), and contracting for a new communications tower adjacent to the existing tower at the Pinnacle. The new tower will be built by VELCO, and provide increased strength and capacity for their needs and all of the existing carriers on the tower. It will also allow Town antennas to be placed at better locations to increase coverage range for our Public Safety Services, as well as Public Works. Once the new Tower is completed, the old tower will be removed.

As in previous years, the Board continued to work on several Town regulatory documents. We reviewed and adopted new Fire Department Policies. A yearly Memorandum of Understanding with our neighboring town of Andover was established to outline fees and procedures for Fire and Ambulance services. Necessary adjustments were made to both the Hazard Mitigation Plan and local Emergency Operations Plan, and a National Incident Management System was reviewed and put into place for the Town. Finally, after previously amending our Financial Policy, we were able to conservatively invest our Chester Development Funds to maximize the investment income potential.

Since the State accomplished a significant paving program in the Town this past year, we were able to use our budgeted paving monies to have the State include that Town portion of Depot Street from the Jiffy Mart corner up to the intersection of Route 103. In addition, by using a portion of the Chester Development Fund, paving along the green was completed.

In closing, the Board once again would like to thank the Planning Board and the Development Review Board for all their hard work. We would also like to thank all the elected and appointed officials, and our dedicated police, fire and ambulance workers who serve the Town. And finally, thank all the Town employees for their continued hard work and dedication.

Respectfully submitted,

John DeBenedetti, Chairman
Thomas Bock
William L. Lindsay
Heather Chase
Arne Jonynas

REPORT OF THE TOWN AUDITORS

The Auditors have examined the accounts of the Town of Chester for the year ending December 31, 2015, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 1681-1689, Title 24, Vermont Statutes Annotated. We have met each quarter during the past year to examine all bills, sample payroll records, review fund balances, and reconcile the cash. We have attended auditing seminars sponsored by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns thus keeping abreast of our responsibilities.

DELINQUENT TAXES:

The Delinquent Tax Collector received on September 22, 2015 from the Town Treasurer, one (1) warrant for 2015 totaling Six Hundred Nineteen Thousand Twenty Dollars and Eighty Two Cents (\$619,020.82) in real and personal property taxes, including penalties and interest, for collection. The total uncollected taxes as of December 31, 2015 is Five Hundred Thirty Two Thousand Six Hundred Seventy One Dollars and Forty Six Cents (\$532,671.46) including penalties of Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two Dollars and Sixty Nine Cents (\$36,162.69) and interest of Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Nine Dollars and Fifty Nine Cents (\$48,509.59).

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS:

The Trust Department of People's United Bank provides the Trustees of Public Funds investment advice, custodial service, and periodic reports relative to the assets held in the name of the various funds. The Trust Department's year end investment advisory account report and other reports as prepared by the Trustees have been reviewed.

WHITING LIBRARY:

The portion of funds managed by the town was verified as well as revenues and expenditures processed by the Town Office.

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT:

RHR Smith & Company performed an audit of town records for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014 and will be performing the 2015 audit. The Annual Report is compiled by your Auditors, relying on various financial data and related reports prepared by town administration and town organizations. The natural process of examining and adjusting town records creates interruptions for the Town Manager and office staff. We therefore, we sincerely wish to thank David Pisha, Deborah Aldrich, Julie Hance, Priscilla Mathews and Amy O'Brien for their professionalism and patient assistance during the year. A special thanks to Georgia Ethier for her 20 years of service in helping to prepare the Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,
John H. (Jack) Cable
Phyllis A. Jewett
E.W. Spaulding

MANAGER'S REPORT FOR 2015

There were many projects completed throughout Chester during the past year.

The section of Popple Dungeon that had been slated to be moved away from the river was finally completed. This work was done by the Town's staff and equipment which provided a significant savings.

The Cavendish culvert was replaced. This was the last job still remaining from Tropical Storm Irene.

The State paved both Route 11 and Route 103 in the center of town. They intend to return in the spring of 2016 to complete work on the railroad crossing. While the paving was underway, the Town asked if the junction of 103 and 11 could be widened to allow for better truck turning access. The State agreed and the corner is now much improved.

The water project was approved by the voters in August. This will provide significant benefits for years to come. A second water tank will provide back-up in the event the first tank must be taken off-line. Water pressure throughout the system will be improved which will in turn add to fire safety throughout the area covered by the hydrants. Construction is scheduled to start in 2016.

The loan to pay for the water project has a negative 1 ½ percent interest rate. This means Chester will literally save hundreds of thousands of dollars in repayment costs over the life of the bonds.

The State is moving to implement more stringent Clean Water rules. This could mean extra ditch work. With the possibility of a Town owned gravel operation on the property bought for the water project, future savings are very possible since this ditch work can also require the need for additional gravel.

Two solar projects; one on private property and the other on Town property became operational during the year. The one on Town land is currently privately owned but the Town has an option to buy it in the future. In the meantime, Chester will collect taxes, as well as an annual rent and save approximately 10% on its electrical bills.

During 2015, VELCO approached the Town about adding communication equipment to the existing tower at the Pinnacle. Since the facility was nearing capacity, the Selectboard declined their request. After that happened, VELCO returned and offered to build a new tower capable of holding all the current equipment, the equipment they were requesting to add as well as provide additional capacity for future use. This new tower would be built solely at their expense. When it is completed, they will turn ownership over to Chester and begin paying rent in 10 years, after they have recovered their construction costs.

I would also urge you to read the departmental reports contained herein. They offer details on many other activities that happened during the past year.

This year you will be voting on the Capital Plan at Town Meeting and the proposed Bond Plan the next day. Please see the following pages for more information on these plans.

David Pisha
Town Manager

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN

Revenues	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Beginning Balance	\$123,608.07	\$1,819.18	\$7,384.37	\$24,524.56	\$66,853.94
General Fund Transfer In	\$330,000.00	\$327,576.19	\$297,105.19	\$290,794.38	\$296,227.20
Public Works Transfer In					
Interest	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Library Trustees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grant Fund Contribution	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Andover Contribution	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00
Total Funds	\$454,143.07	\$329,930.37	\$305,024.56	\$315,853.94	\$363,616.14

Expenditures	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Public Works	\$133,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$130,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$160,000.00
Other Public Works	\$69,046.00	\$104,046.00	\$55,000.00	\$77,500.00	\$55,000.00
Sidewalks	\$54,166.89		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emergency Equip	\$100,611.00	\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00	\$17,000.00
Police	\$39,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$44,000.00	\$0.00	\$46,000.00
Recreation/Cemetery	\$16,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facilities	\$40,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Total Expenses	\$452,323.89	\$322,546.00	\$280,500.00	\$249,000.00	\$298,000.00
Carry-Forward	\$1,819.18	\$7,384.37	\$24,524.56	\$66,853.94	\$65,616.14

Purchases by Year of Acquisition and Type of Payment

		Capital Plan			
Public Works	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck
Other PW	Loader Lease	Loader Lease \$49.6K			
	Pick-Up Truck \$20K			Pick-Up Truck \$22.5K	
	Excavator	Excavator Loan 55K	Excavator Loan 55K	Excavator Loan 55K	
Sidewalks	Sidewalks				
Emergency Equip	Fire Truck Lease \$8K	Air Paks	Air Paks	Air Paks	Air Paks
	Pagers \$7.5K				
	Compressor \$8K				
Police	Cruiser	Cruiser	Cruiser		Cruiser
Recreation	Fence \$6.5K				
	BB Court \$10K				
Facilities	Library Renovation Town Hall	Library Renovation 20K Town Hall	Library Renovation 20K Town Hall	Other Town Buildings	Other Town Buildings

An Explanation of the Capital & Bond Plans

CAPITAL PLAN

The Capital Plan is very similar to what has been used successfully for years.

There have been some slight modifications to the Capital Plan that should be explained. Each year still shows what will be acquired under the overall plan. This includes all the items purchased for cash as well as the fire engine lease that will be paid for in 2016. There is an excavator that will be purchased in 2016 with the proceeds from a loan. The reason it is not leased like the fire truck is the first payment will not be due until 2017. This change was made to retain a positive ending balance in the Capital Plan for the year ending December 31, 2016.

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
\$65,616.14	\$37,865.95	\$3,814.39	\$33,751.39	\$44,286.39	\$62,821.39
\$256,714.81	\$257,913.44	\$286,902.00	\$335,000.00	\$335,000.00	\$335,000.00
\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00
\$322,865.95	\$296,314.39	\$291,251.39	\$369,286.39	\$379,821.39	\$398,356.39

\$145,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$170,000.00	\$160,000.00	\$165,000.00
\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$17,000.00	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,500.00
\$48,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$52,000.00	\$54,000.00	\$56,000.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
\$285,000.00	\$292,500.00	\$267,500.00	\$325,000.00	\$317,000.00	\$324,500.00
\$37,865.95	\$3,814.39	\$33,751.39	\$44,286.39	\$62,821.39	\$73,856.39

Dump Truck					
Air Paks					
Cruiser	Cruiser		Cruiser	Cruiser	Cruiser
Other Town Buildings					

BOND PLAN

The Bond Plan shows a series of different bond issues. The first one is listed as Series 1 and includes the items shown on the Bond Plan spreadsheet. The items listed will go to a variety of departments as shown. The next bond the voters will be asked to approve this year is for a variety of future paving projects.

These projects all would have required a substantial increase in the transfer made to support these purchases and improvements. That in turn would have caused taxes to rise as well. In order to not have this potentially large increase in the transfer, the Bond Plan was created.

TRANSFERS INTO THE PLANS

While the plans are separate, they are still coordinated. The major area is in the General Fund's contribution going into the plans. As pointed out above, the amount being transferred is \$330,000 per year. This amount is allocated between BOTH plans. There is NOT additional money raised from taxes to fund the Bond Plan; each year's annual contribution to the Bond Plan reduces the amount going into the Capital Plan by an equal amount so the total transfer remains at \$330,000. Even so, the Capital Plan remains solvent and able to continue to provide for many of the Town's capital needs.

BOND PLAN

Revenues	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
General Fund Transfer	\$713.68	\$2,423.81	\$32,894.81	\$39,205.62	\$38,772.80
Public Works Transfer	\$1,134.00	\$4,987.00	\$52,840.00	\$100,092.00	\$145,522.00
Sewer Transfer	\$515.66	\$1,751.31	\$21,751.31	\$21,478.05	\$21,165.32
Water Transfer	\$162.43	\$551.66	\$6,851.66	\$6,765.59	\$6,667.07
Total Revenues	\$2,525.77	\$9,713.78	\$114,337.78	\$167,541.26	\$212,127.19

Expenses	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bond Bank Series 1	\$1,391.77	\$4,726.78	\$58,706.78	\$57,969.26	\$57,125.19
Fire Dept Pumper			\$2,791.00	\$9,480.00	\$9,480.00
Bond Bank Paving	\$1,134.00	\$4,987.00	\$52,840.00	\$100,092.00	\$145,522.00
Total Expenses	\$2,525.77	\$9,713.78	\$114,337.78	\$167,541.26	\$212,127.19

Bond Amount	Bond Bank					
\$289,900.00	Bond Bank Series 1	Interest	Interest	Interest	1st Payment	2nd Payment
\$400,000.00	Fire Pumper Bond			Interest	Interest	1st Payment
\$220,000.00	Paving/Bridges 1	Interest	Interest	1st Payment	2nd Payment	3rd Payment
\$220,000.00	Paving/Bridges 2		Interest	Interest	1st Payment	2nd Payment
\$220,000.00	Paving/Bridges 3			Interest	Interest	1st Payment
\$220,000.00	Paving/Bridges 4				Interest	Interest

The new fire department pumper will be purchased in 2018 but the first actual Paving projects will be based on the Road Surface Management plan the Tow

SERIES 1		Bond	Capital Plan	Reason for Request
Cemetery	Mower	\$8,500.00		Replacement
Recreation	Fence	\$0.00	\$6,500.00	Upgrade to Coblelgh Field
	Pool	\$45,400.00		Replace Worn Pool Deck Carpelng
	BB court	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	Resurfacing and repainting
Fire	Compressor	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	Old equipment being refurbished
	Hose	\$40,000.00		Hose no longer in age compliance
	Air Paks	\$18,500.00		Standard replacement cycle
	Pagers	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	Final upgrade for compabilty
	Washer/Dryer	\$11,000.00		Safety Compliance
	Thermal Camera	\$15,000.00		Replacement
Highway	Fire Truck		\$85,111.00	Lease Payment
	Dump Truck		\$133,000.00	Normal replacement cycle
	Excavator			Replacement of older equipment
	Loader Lease		\$49,046.00	Next to the last payment
	Pick-Up Truck		\$20,000.00	Normal replacement cycle
	Sidewalks		\$54,166.89	
Facillties	Town Hall		\$20,000.00	Partial Renovation
	Library Renovation		\$20,000.00	First of three annual payments
Police	Cruiser		\$39,000.00	Normal replacement cycle
Sewer	Pump Station	\$70,000.00		Aging pump station
	Pick-Up Truck	\$30,000.00		Replacement with Snow Plow
Water	Hydrants	\$31,500.00		Replacement based on recent report
		\$269,900.00	\$452,323.89	

Public Works also transfers money into the Bond plan in the exact amount necessary to pay the Paving bond portion of the plan. I have included four series of paving bonds but that can be changed in the future; only three series need to be issued, for example.

The transfer coming from Public Works grows slowly at first during the first two years and only reaches \$100,000 after four years. This latter transfer is essentially equal to what is being spent annually on paving at the current time.

As the transfer grows larger, the Town's gravel operation could be underway and provide savings to the Town that can support the larger transfer without having an undue impact on the taxpayers in future years.

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
\$78,285.19	\$77,086.56	\$48,098.00	\$47,310.00	\$46,454.00	\$45,530.00
\$187,458.00	\$184,536.00	\$137,284.00	\$90,720.00	\$44,931.00	\$0.00
\$20,813.00	\$20,423.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$6,556.10	\$6,433.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$293,112.29	\$288,478.92	\$185,382.00	\$138,030.00	\$91,385.00	\$45,530.00
\$56,174.29	\$55,121.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$49,480.00	\$48,821.00	\$48,098.00	\$47,310.00	\$46,454.00	\$45,530.00
\$187,458.00	\$184,536.00	\$137,284.00	\$90,720.00	\$44,931.00	\$0.00
\$293,112.29	\$288,478.92	\$185,382.00	\$138,030.00	\$91,385.00	\$45,530.00

3rd Payment	4th Payment	5th Payment			
2nd Payment	3rd Payment	4th Payment	5th Payment	6th Payment	7th Payment
4th Payment	5th Payment				
3rd Payment	4th Payment	5th Payment			
2nd Payment	3rd Payment	4th Payment	5th Payment		
1st Payment	2nd Payment	3rd Payment	4th Payment	5th Payment	

payment will not be made until 2020; in 2018 and 2019 only interest on the bond will be paid
 n already has in place and will also be used when the State provides 2-for-1 grant money to pave Class II roads

The Water & Sewer departments also transfer money into the Bond Plan. The amounts they transfer is equal to each department's share of the overall cost.

The Public Works, Water & Sewer transfers are shown in the Bond Plan each year for added reference.

SUMMARY

The two plans work in coordination with each other. The Capital Plan acquires equipment and upgrades to facilities with cash, leases and/or loans. The payment options allow for the cash-flow to be smoothed out so the tax rate is not unnecessarily affected in any one year.

The Bond Plan was created to allow for the purchase of additional equipment being requested in the current budget. It also was created to provide funding for future road/infrastructure projects. It allows for principal payments to be delayed for up to three years, during which time interest is still being paid. Interest rates are very low at the present time so the cost of these bonds remains low.

Use of the Bond Plan further helps smooth out the cash-flow. The president of the Vermont Bond Bank has said he wished more Vermont towns would take advantage of this type of financing. He cautioned they should only do it if they have a long-term plan for the use of the money and how it will be paid back. I believe that Chester's Capital Plan and Bond Plan both fit his vision for their use.

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

General Fund

REVENUES

Taxes	\$7,688,132.78
Licenses/Fees	\$13,178.65
General Government	\$37,075.53
Public Safety	\$193,381.71
Public Works	\$315,027.64
Culture & Recreation	\$34,354.69
Other Income	\$490,908.58
TOTAL REVENUES	\$8,772,059.58

EXPENDITURES

Selectmen/Manager	\$86,520.89
Administration	\$267,251.02
Listers	\$23,634.72
Taxes	\$5,559.25
Planning	\$36,446.12
Insurance	\$638,877.50
Police	\$432,782.03
Fire	\$125,828.89
Ambulance	\$98,387.32
Communications	\$17,882.80
Highway	\$1,070,529.69
Solid Waste	\$25,309.40
Health & Welfare	\$1,000.00
Recreation Programs	\$60,614.24
Parks & Cemeteries	\$51,232.29
Library	\$87,026.16
Town Hall	\$46,422.85
Academy Building	\$550.00
Recreation Facilities	\$31,104.24
Capital Expenditures	\$739,077.29
County Tax	\$29,827.79
Voted Articles	\$41,590.00
CTSD Assessment	\$4,693,370.86
Grant Fund Transfer	\$32,450.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,643,275.35

Excess of Revenues over Expenses	\$128,784.23
Public Works Surplus	(\$115,312.00)

General Fund Surplus	\$13,472.23
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BUDGET SUMMARY**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Revenues		
2015	2016	
\$252,250.00	\$252,250.00	
Expense		
\$1,050,112.02	\$1,155,276.50	
Net		
<u>(\$797,862.02)</u>	<u>(\$903,026.50)</u>	

PUBLIC SAFETY

Revenues		
\$177,850.00	\$178,600.00	
Expense		
\$705,270.50	\$760,265.00	
Net		
<u>(\$527,420.50)</u>	<u>(\$581,665.00)</u>	

PUBLIC WORKS

Revenues		
\$253,936.00	\$378,301.00	
Expense		
\$1,151,000.00	\$1,088,800.00	
Net		
<u>(\$897,064.00)</u>	<u>(\$710,499.00)</u>	

CAPITAL & TRANSFERS

Revenues		
\$0.00	\$0.00	
Expenses		
\$330,000.00	\$330,000.00	
Net		
<u>(\$330,000.00)</u>	<u>(\$330,000.00)</u>	

CULTURE & RECREATION

Revenues		
2015	2016	
\$37,691.00	\$31,080.00	
Expenses		
\$296,907.00	\$293,087.40	
Net		
<u>(\$259,216.00)</u>	<u>(\$262,007.40)</u>	

HEALTH

Revenues		
\$0.00	\$0.00	
Expenses		
\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
Net		
<u>(\$1,500.00)</u>	<u>(\$1,500.00)</u>	

GRANTS

Revenues		
\$2,158,384.89	\$0.00	
Expenses		
\$2,185,631.89	\$35,000.00	
Net		
<u>(\$27,247.00)</u>		

OTHER & VOTED ARTICLES

Revenues		
\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	
Expenses		
\$29,828.00	\$39,900.00	
Net		
<u>(\$27,628.00)</u>	<u>(\$37,700.00)</u>	

SUMMARY OF CONTINUING OPERATIONS		
	2015	2016
Revenues	\$723,927.00	\$842,431.00
Expenditures	\$3,564,617.52	\$3,703,828.90
GF Surplus/Deficit	\$37,467.00	\$13,472.23
Pre Surplus Total	(\$2,873,140.52)	(\$2,861,397.90)
To Be Collected	(\$2,835,673.52)	(\$2,847,925.67)
Difference	\$242,225.64	\$12,252.15

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER'S OFFICE REPORT

The Town Clerk/Treasurer's Office had many changes in 2015. New shelving, from Dupont Storage Systems Inc., was installed in the vault. The shelving system extends the capacity another 50 years plus, without having to enlarge the vault (See photos). The total cost of the shelving was \$17,741.00; \$7,500.00 was paid in 2015 and the remainder of \$10,241.00 will be paid in 2016. With the renovation of the vault came new renovations in the office to make more room for researches coming in to do title searches and genealogic work. Julie Hance became Administrative Assistant to David Pisha, Town Manager and Amie O'Brien was hired as a part time Assistant Town Clerk.

In 2015 the State of Vermont launched an all new Vermont Elections Management System (VEMS). All Town Clerks were required to participate in three and a half days of training.

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

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

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

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

This year there are three elections: March 1, 2016 is Town Meeting and Presidential Primary Voting, August 9, 2016 is Primary Election Voting and November 8, 2016 is General Election Voting. The polls are open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor. You can call the Town Office or go to the new VEMS website to request an absentee ballot for any of these elections.

The project of putting our land records, cemetery records, and birth, death and marriage records into our computerized records system is still ongoing. Significant progress, putting the land records into the system, has been made this year with the hiring of Amie O'Brien.

All dogs must be registered by April 1, 2016. The costs are as follows: Neutered/Spayed = \$9.00, Non Neutered/Spayed = \$13.00. After April 1: Neutered/Spayed = \$11.00, Non Neutered/Spayed = \$17.00. There will be a Rabies Clinic on Saturday, March 12, 2016, from 10:30 to 12:00, at the Chester Highway Garage. Dog licenses will be available at the Rabies Clinic.

Some of the things that are available at the Town Clerk's Office are: Dog Licenses, which are due by April

1st, Motor Vehicle Renewals, accompanied by the renewal form that you receive from the State and we can do the current month and two previous months, Fish & Game Licenses, which are now computerized, Springfield Recycling Center tickets, Civil Marriage Licenses and Voter Registration. Our office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. However, staff is available outside of these hours if prior arrangements are made.

Property taxes will be due September 15, 2016 and Water/Sewer billing is done quarterly.

If you have any questions please give us a call at the Town Office. (875-2173)

I would like to thank our Office Staff, Amie O'Brien, Assistant Town Clerk; Cil Mathews, Bookkeeper; Julie Hance, Administrative Assistant and David Pisha, Town Manager, Highway and Water/Sewer Departments, Police Department and Fire and Ambulance Services and the citizens of Chester for your dedication and hard work to the Town of Chester.

Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk/Treasurer



LISTER'S REPORT

2015 has been a typical year for the Listers. The number of sales has increased slightly but we have not seen the rebound we had hoped for. Values for higher end properties have remained the same and in some cases have risen. Middle to lower end properties are still stagnant. We added 5 new homes, several additions, some shed and porches in 2015. But we had several structure fires in 2014 so the additional value of the new homes makes us about even on the Grand List.

The number of grievances was lower this year and we only had one go on to the Board of Civil Authority and this was settled amicably.

In March the Listers do their property visits to finish up their new valuations on property for the 2016 Grand List. During April we figure the new values, do new values for Current Use, review eligibility for Veterans exemptions and process new property transfers. We send out changes in value in early May and usually have grievance at the end of May or early June.

The Board would like to thank Debbie Trent for her 5 years of service to the Town of Chester. She will not be rerunning for her position on the board. Therefore, there will be 2 openings for Lister in March of 2016. Anyone interested should stop in the office and see what the job entails and take out a petition.

Respectfully submitted:

Wanda C. Purdy, Chairman
Debbie Trent



Full Moon over Chester

Zoning Department

The Zoning Administrator's (ZA) position remains a part time role here in Chester, with office hours on Tuesday from 8am – 5pm. I am often available other times of the week by appointment, and the Ladies in the Town Hall know how to contact me as needed.

As a reminder, all public hearings are open to the public. They may not be exciting, yet I believe it is safe to say that all the citizens who attended the public hearings have a better appreciation for the **process now.**

As a reminder, generally speaking all new construction needs a permit. The lone exception(s) would be when an existing structure is torn down, and a new one replaced in the same footprint. In this case there will be no fee, although we still recommend an updated building permit application to keep your records up to date.

New Unified Development By-Laws (UDBs) The Planning Commission continues to hold meetings to review and consideration modifications to these UDBs. Input from citizens at the Planning Commission meetings, whether it is pro or con, is vital. We encourage your involvement and input.

A few quick notes on the activity in 2015 There were 40 building permits, including 3 new homes. In addition there were 4 minor sub-divisions, 1 boundary line adjustment, 4 conditional use applications and one waiver request.

Note of caution As our grandmothers told us, two wrongs do not make a right. If you have a question regarding zoning, it is always best to give me a call or send me an email via mnormyle@vermontel.net. If I had a dollar for every time I was told “my neighbor, or my Real Estate Agent or the old owner” told me it did not need a permit, I could buy us both a nice dinner.

Enforcement The Select board and Town Manager have fully supported these efforts, and I have spent more time this year reviewing properties and documenting good and bad examples of sign, lights setback conditions, etc.

The agendas for upcoming meetings, along with the Development Review Board decisions are being posted on the new Chester web site for your information. You may also review the current zoning and sub-division regulations via the new www.chestervt.gov. In my absence from the office, the various forms may be picked up Monday through Friday from 8am -4pm.

Thank you,

Michael Normyle
Chester Zoning Administrator
875-2173 mnormyle@vermontel.net

General Government 2016

REVENUES

Taxes		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-318-01	Railroad Taxes	\$478.17	\$478.17	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00
1-318-02	Tax Sale Redemption	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-318-03	Land Use	\$133,491.00	\$141,604.00	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00
1-318-06	Pilot Program	\$2,327.38	\$3,987.42	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
1-319-02	Penalties/Interest	\$87,263.76	\$86,111.75	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
		\$223,560.31	\$232,181.34	\$209,400.00	\$209,400.00
Licenses, Permits & Fees					
1-321-01	Liquor Licenses	\$1,340.00	\$1,570.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
1-321-03	Fish & Game	\$162.50	\$171.50	\$250.00	\$250.00
1-321-04	Dog Lic	\$1,354.00	\$1,389.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-321-05	Other Lic	\$2,507.00	\$1,679.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00
1-321-06	Rabies	\$1,216.00	\$1,151.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
1-321-07	Motor Vehicle	\$295.00	\$462.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
		\$6,874.50	\$6,422.50	\$6,700.00	\$6,700.00
Planning & Zoning					
1-321-02	Permits	\$5,332.93	\$6,756.15	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
General Government					
1-341-11	Recording Fees	\$25,281.74	\$26,129.25	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
1-341-12	Admin	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-341-17	911 House Numbers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
1-341-19	Misc.	\$15.00	\$472.60	\$700.00	\$700.00
1-341-41	Tax Sale	\$5,850.00	\$4,600.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-341-51	Interest	\$2,293.49	\$1,731.07	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-341-53	Interest	\$1,415.50	\$1,895.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-341-61	Audit	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
01-341-69	Effiecc. VT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-341-73	Payroll Reimb	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$37,255.73	\$37,228.27	\$31,150.00	\$31,150.00
Total General Gov		\$273,023.47	\$282,588.26	\$252,250.00	\$252,250.00

General Government 2016

EXPENSES		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-411-10	Selectmen	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$7,500.00
1-411-70	Selectmen Expenses	\$1,029.97	\$4,614.25	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-412-10	Town Manager	\$74,640.37	\$76,180.29	\$78,280.00	\$79,000.00
1-412-16	Mgmt Consultant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-412-40	Manager Expenses	\$10.39	\$226.35	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
		\$81,180.73	\$86,520.89	\$88,280.00	\$91,000.00

Administration

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-413-09	Elections	\$3,814.62	\$975.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,500.00
1-413-10	Election Payroll	\$650.00	\$970.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
1-415-10	Payroll	\$128,367.89	\$139,154.17	\$145,000.00	\$151,500.00
1-415-11	Treasurer	\$2,909.90	\$2,997.28	\$3,090.00	\$3,190.00
1-415-17	911 House Numbers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
1-415-20	Office Supplies	\$10,896.82	\$12,752.72	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
1-415-21	Town Hall Renovation	\$0.00	\$7,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-415-22	Equipment	\$18,075.44	\$22,096.95	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
1-415-33	Notices	\$1,046.00	\$1,455.47	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-415-34	Telephone	\$4,963.13	\$5,207.47	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-415-35	Postage	\$6,622.22	\$9,540.42	\$6,500.00	\$7,000.00
1-415-36	State Treasurer	\$4,026.00	\$2,274.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
1-415-40	VLCT	\$4,230.00	\$4,350.00	\$4,350.00	\$4,419.00
1-415-41	Training	\$946.93	\$3,470.96	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
01-415-55	Chamber of Comm.	\$125.00	\$145.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
1-415-56	Legal	\$4,078.46	\$15,110.79	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00
1-415-57	Town Auditors	\$3,795.64	\$3,635.56	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
1-415-58	Outside Audit	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00
1-415-59	Computer Service	\$8,344.26	\$6,546.27	\$6,500.00	\$6,000.00
1-415-60	Service Charge	\$2,107.09	\$1,712.30	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-415-62	Town Report	\$1,166.00	\$1,222.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00
1-415-63	Record Rstrtn.	\$6,551.91	\$7,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$17,750.00
01-415-77	Legal Environmental	\$67.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-415-79	Unclassified	\$40.00	\$41.60	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-415-80	Scanning Station	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-415-90	TAN Interest	\$9,108.55	\$8,064.51	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00
	Propane Tank Purch	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,250.00
	Bond Anticipation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00
	FEMA Loan Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals		\$234,933.51	\$267,422.47	\$256,665.00	\$289,334.00

General Government 2016 (Continued)

Listers

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-416-10 Salary	\$16,143.66	\$15,871.90	\$25,500.00	\$25,500.00
01-416-21 General Expenses	\$6,387.89	\$5,758.71	\$7,000.00	\$7,500.00
01-416-22 Training	\$250.00	\$645.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
01-416-23 Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-416-74 Travel	\$1,456.17	\$1,359.11	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-416-75 State Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$24,237.72	\$23,634.72	\$36,100.00	\$37,100.00

Taxes

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-417-20 Tax Billing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-417-21 General Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-417-22 Abtment	\$0.00	\$265.25	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-417-24 State Appeals	\$0.00	\$606.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
01-417-30 Tax Sale Service	\$538.65	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-417-33 Advertising	\$7,843.00	\$4,688.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
01-417-56 Legal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$8,381.65	\$5,559.25	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00

Planning & Zoning

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-418-10 Salary	\$10,924.51	\$13,430.49	\$12,500.00	\$13,500.00
DRB Salaries	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
01-418-21 Notices	\$1,475.00	\$4,299.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
01-418-22 Grant Funding	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-418-23 Enforcement	\$0.00	\$656.26	\$5,000.00	\$3,500.00
01-418-38 Town Plan/Zoning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-418-56 Legal	\$5,142.47	\$9,654.76	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
01-418-62 Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-418-64 Training	\$0.00	\$465.01	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-416.65 Computer	\$0.00	\$1,998.10	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-418.66 Regional Planning Dues	\$3,942.50	\$3,942.50	\$3,942.50	\$3,942.50
01-418.95 Economic Development	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
	\$23,984.48	\$36,446.12	\$34,142.50	\$38,642.50

Insurance & Deductions

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-419-15 Social Security	\$96,235.79	\$102,887.58	\$108,500.00	\$108,500.00
1-419-16 Unemployment	\$1,879.04	\$1,370.71	\$2,600.00	\$2,700.00
1-419-17 Workers Comp	\$47,538.73	\$70,449.15	\$47,500.00	\$76,000.00
1-419-18 Medical	\$189,102.81	\$198,540.23	\$207,509.52	\$290,500.00
1-419-19 Life	\$2,454.97	\$2,105.40	\$3,400.00	\$2,500.00
1-419-20 Retirement	\$57,149.35	\$61,682.34	\$60,000.00	\$65,000.00
1-419-50 Property/Casualty	\$76,617.00	\$82,486.00	\$78,915.00	\$85,000.00
1-419-52 Co-Insur	\$121,173.72	\$119,359.65	\$120,000.00	\$62,500.00
	\$592,151.41	\$638,881.06	\$628,424.52	\$692,700.00

Total General Government	\$964,869.50	\$1,058,464.51	\$1,050,112.02	\$1,155,276.50
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Officers of the Chester Police Department have worked diligently dealing with burglary issues in and around our community during 2015. Four individuals were apprehended and cited to appear in court for thefts reported in West Windsor, Weathersfield, Springfield, Ludlow, Andover, Cavendish and Chester. Area wide, more than 29 cases were generated; more than 26 victims reported theft and more than 11 victims purchased stolen goods. Much of the stolen property involved were tools which the offenders sold and some were later seized. Approximately \$40,000, worth of tools were stolen. Due to the vast area of this crime, Chester Police Officers worked with other municipal and state agencies to pull together the facts leading up to the arrests. Much appreciation goes to Chester Police Officers Currie and Woodell along with Vermont State Police and municipal officers from Weathersfield, Springfield and Ludlow Police Departments for their hard work and efforts.

STATISTICS

In 2015, Officers from the department responded to 1,591 calls for service. Arrests totaled 106 bookings of 79 offenders, who committed a total of 169 criminal offenses. Four offenders were apprehended on Arrest Warrants. These incidents involved 91 cases. Officers issued 380 Vermont Civil Violation Complaints and 491 Traffic Warnings.

This affects an increase of 204 calls; an increase of 66 arrests, an increase of 151 traffic violations and an increase of 237 traffic warnings compared to prior year 2014. Officers investigated 117 traffic hazards and motor vehicle crashes of which 15 crashes involved injuries, 95 involved property damage and 10 involved hazards. Investigations of 140 Suspicious Person/Circumstances and 22 Burglaries brought results to the area wide thefts previously noted.

TICKETS / TRAFFIC CONTROL

Of the 380 Vermont Civil Violation Complaints (VCVC) issued, 228 were speed related infractions. The 491 Written Traffic Warnings comprised of 259 speed related infractions, 90 condition of vehicle warnings along with various warnings to include delinquent registration and inspections. The Community Oriented Radar Enforcement (C.O.R.E.) Program remains in effect having an increase from prior year. Of the 380 tickets issued, 52 were C.O.R.E.; of the 491 warnings issued, 30 were C.O.R.E. Addition of the 5th Full Time Officer aided in this increase. Revenue from the Judicial Bureau for paid VCVC tickets totaled \$14,987. an increase of approximately \$3,886. from prior year.

Chester Officers continue to assist Okemo Mountain Resort with traffic control. Their efforts help the flow of traffic into and out of the area during the peak travel times on weekends, vacations and holidays during the ski season of December through March. This is a paid service by Okemo, based on a state mandated police officer traffic control.

TRAINING

Chester Police Officers are required to attend a minimum of 25-30 training hours annually. Their training included crash investigation, domestic violence, REID Technique of Interviewing & Interrogation, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, hazardous materials, active shooter response, firearms training, death scene investigations, and alcohol and drug enforcement. Officers received first-aid and AED-CPR refresher training and blood borne pathogen training.

COMMUNITY POLICING

Chester Andover Elementary School (C.A.E.S.) 5th grade students participate in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) training provided by Chester Police Department. Students learn more than just drug prevention education; it teaches students good decision making skills to help them avoid high-risk behavior to ensure they grow up healthy, safe and secure. Chester Officers also accompany the C.A.E.S. students to a Dartmouth Hockey game each year.



Chester Police initiated the program “Coffee with a Cop” in July. This is an old fashioned way of doing policing by getting out of the car and actually conversing with people and not waiting for them to call for an emergency. It is held the last Tuesday of each month at *The Country Girl Diner*, a local restaurant. This allows for relaxed, informal one-on-one interactions in a friendly atmosphere.

Photo at left is Officer Caleb Currie who heads up “Coffee with a Cop”

Officer Currie filled the new 5th Full-Time Officer position this past July. He came to Chester Police Department from Brattleboro Police Department. There are five full-time Officers within Chester Police Department: Richard Cloud/Chief; Mark Phelps/Sergeant; Matthew Wilson/Detective; Caleb Currie/Officer; and Adam Woodell/Officer. Part-time Officers are Officer Jeffery Holden, Officer John S. Cenate and Officer Jillian Cenate.

Chester Police Department continues to manage a FaceBook Page. Look for us at ***Chester, VT Police Department*** and **LIKE** us to receive police updates and notifications about your community.

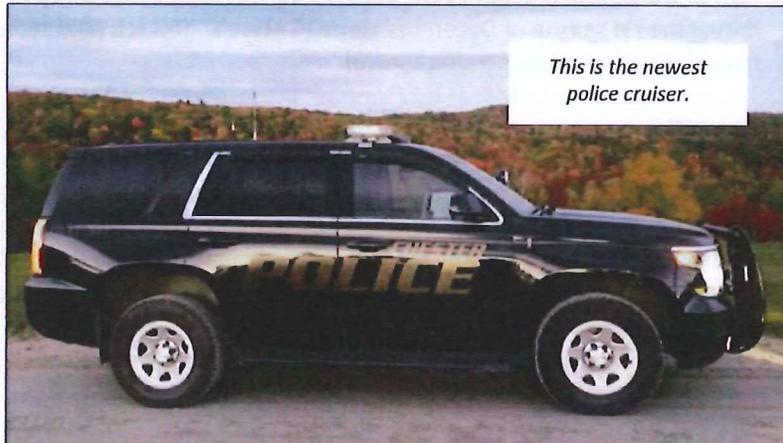
GRANT FUNDING / DEPARTMENT UPGRADES

The prior year 2014 Grant of \$9,090 to upgrade the Mobile Data Computers resulted in acquisition of new computers for the police cruisers in 2015. A 2015 Grant of \$20,959. was acquired to upgrade radios to digital and a 2015 Grant of \$8,065. was awarded to acquire ProTech Tactical Vests for the Officers. Additionally, a replacement printer/fax/scanner/copier was leased for the department and an additional surveillance camera was added to the current surveillance system. The Town of Chester upgraded the cell phones for various departments of which Chester Police received cell phones for each of the three police cruisers.

As always, I welcome questions, comments or suggestions and look for feedback on how members of the Chester Police Department can improve the quality of life for the residents of Chester. Our efforts will not stop and we will continue working toward a safer community.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard H. Cloud
Chief of Police
Chester Police Department

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:
Emergency: 911
875-2233
Office: 8am – 4pm Mon-Fri.
875-2035



Public Safety Revenues & Expenses 2016

POLICE

Revenues

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-342-11 Court Fees	\$12,940.25	\$12,735.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
01-342-12 Ski Payroll Reimbur	\$16,850.00	\$16,932.50	\$21,000.00	\$18,000.00
01-342-13 Paving Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$29,445.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-342-15 Other	\$1,121.94	\$5,815.91	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
01-342-19 START	\$1,956.90	\$1,339.29	\$4,250.00	\$2,500.00
01-342-25 Other Payroll	\$280.00	\$260.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$33,149.09	\$66,527.70	\$56,750.00	\$52,500.00

Expenses

1-421-10 Payroll	\$299,501.81	\$312,949.11	\$345,000.00	\$340,000.00
1-421-11 Overtime	\$20,692.47	\$25,412.97	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
1-421-14a 2014 Storm	\$146.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-421-12 Ski Traffic	\$11,862.40	\$13,803.52	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
1-421-13 Traffic Control	\$0.00	\$21,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-421-15 CORE	\$274.00	\$2,157.38	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-421-16 SIU PR	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-421-19 GHSP Payroll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-421-20 Special Detail	\$2,256.22	\$338.14	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-421-20 Supplies	\$6,168.85	\$6,962.21	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
01-421-22 START Payroll	\$378.00	\$1,039.50	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-421-23 Equipment	\$8,850.30	\$8,992.54	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
1-421-24 DARE	\$761.64	\$662.69	\$750.00	\$750.00
1-421-25 Equipment Grant	\$218.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-421-34 Telephone	\$3,659.99	\$5,013.68	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-421-36 Training	\$1,842.60	\$7,913.11	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
1-421-40 Police Asso	\$305.00	\$545.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
1-421-68 Vehicles	\$9,087.02	\$8,000.60	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
1-421-69 Gasoline	\$13,019.74	\$10,765.93	\$22,000.00	\$17,500.00
1-421-74 Travel	\$836.86	\$107.35	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
1-421-75 Uniforms	\$2,120.94	\$3,131.30	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
01-421-76 Attorney	\$7,080.70	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
01-421.77 MDC	\$2,168.00	\$3,072.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
01-421-78 Watch Guard	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Totals	\$392,331.77	\$432,767.03	\$472,250.00	\$462,750.00

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

The Chester Fire Department responded to the following calls in 2015:

Structure Fires Chester	9	Swift Water/Flooding/Ice Rescues...	1
Structure Fires Andover	0	Snow / ATV Woods Rescue/Recov...	3
Structure Fires Mutual Aid	11	Landing Zones (DHART).....	1
Rekindle Fires	1	Missing/Lost Person	3
Room/Contents Fires	2	Public Services	3
Building Electrical Fires.....	5	Fireworks Detail	1
Chimney Fires	8	Fire Safety Education	1
Vehicle Fires	1	Storm Crews	2
Appliance Fires	0	Natural Disasters	0
Oven Fires	0	Power lines down	8
Oil/Wood/LP Burner Fires	0	Power Transformer Fires	2
Trash/Rubbish Fires	1	Assist CPD / VSP	3
Dumpster Fires	1	Medical Assist	8
Gas Grill Fires	0	Cover Assignment / Mutual Aid	6
Illegal Fires	10	Smoke Alarms	3
Forest/Brush/Grass Fires.....	8	Fire Alarms	8
Brush/Grass Fires Mutual Aid	3	Smoke Investigations	7
Water Leak Hazards	1	(LP) Propane Leaks	6
Motor Vehicle Crashes	41	Carbon Monoxide Calls	8
Low/High Angle Rescues	0	Hazmat Incidents	6
		<u>Total Calls 182</u>	

Chester Fire Department continued to get busier this year and went from 166 Calls in 2014 to 182 calls for 2015. This increase also consist of two multi day events that both occurred in the town of Andover who contracts with the town of Chester for their fire protection. The first call was a Forest fire that lasted for 2 ½ days burning 26 acres of forest land and one structure. The 2nd multi day event lasted 5 days which was for a missing dementia patient. We worked/assisted Vermont State Police Search and Rescue and sadly we never found her. Crews searched hundreds of miles on foot. Vehicles, ATV's, and Helicopters were also utilized in this effort. I want to commend my men and women on all our calls but especially these two. Our firefighters took days away from their families sleeping on the ground at times and getting very little sleep over the course of both events. They also took days away from their full-time jobs. Thank you all so much!

Our firefighters are now training at a minimum of 3 times a month which is an increase from twice a month. In an effort to keep budgets down the firefighters are volunteering their time for the third training of the month. They also volunteer countless hours in fundraising as members of the Yosemite Engine Company which is our non-profit organization that raises money to buy equipment for the fire department. Without this organization donating equipment yearly to the Chester Fire Department I would estimate a minimum of a \$25,000.00 increase in the Equipment Budget.

This year we raised money to buy Harnesses and Bailout Kits which are utilized for Rescue and most importantly self-rescue if something goes wrong and you can't get out of a burning building. These items allow us to jump out a window with little to no injury. We were able to raise enough money to buy the harnesses and hope to raise another \$10,000.00 this year to buy the Bailout kits.

In my continued effort to raise our safety standards and to come into compliance with state, federal and NFPA standards I am asking for funds in 2016 budget to replace our hose and buy a washer and dryer. Per NFPA standards all fire hose that is dated 1973 or earlier must be taken out of service. This is about 95% of all of our hose. NFPA and Osha state how fire gear must be cleaned after every call to help prevent the ever increasing amount of cancers that firefighters are now getting. In the past fire gear was washed at the local laundry mat but for lack of time was not being done when needed. Now with new standards you can no longer wash in a public washing facility because of all the toxins on the equipment. For these reasons I ask for your support in 2016 Fire Budget to help raise our safety standards and continue to keep my men and women safe.

Chester Fire Department has worked hard again this year reaching out to the community and hosted our second annual Halloween night at the fire department where children could come in their costumes for a safe place to trick or treat. We continued with our Fire Safety Education in the

schools which is always fun. Our Chester Fire Department Facebook Page seems to be a success and tends to grow on a monthly basis. I would recommend that you like our page and this will help keep you all informed on what the Fire Department has going on.

I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to former Chester Fire Chief Harry Goodell! Harry retired from the Fire Department in April with about 46 years of service to the Chester Fire Department. Thank you for your service sir and enjoy the quiet nights! With Harry's retirement came a huge gift of \$26,000.00 donation of new fire gear in honor of Harry's retirement from his full time Employer Raymond Dalio a property owner in Chester. Mr. Dalio also helped us with dedicating one of our trucks to Harry in his honor.

I would like to thank the Yosemite Engine Company which is our private organization made up of current and past members of the fire department that raise money to buy and donate equipment to the Fire Department to help keep the cost of business lower for tax payers.

Most importantly I would like to thank all my Firefighters and their families. Robert MacAllister, Ben Whalen, George Niesuchouski, Andrew Sheere, Steve Vertefeuille, Eric Richarson, Mark Verespy, Thomas Cutler, Bruce Savery, Amber Wilson, Timothy Tassinari, Matthew Goyette, Daniel Lamson, Taylor Wilson, James Ravlin, Ashley Kenyon and our three new members Nicholas Trask, Lucas Trask and Jamie Klezos. These men, women and children give up so much to make all homes and lives safer in this town. You are all truly heroes.

I would like to end this year's annual report by asking for your consideration in supporting a new Fire Station. We are definitely working in a facility that no longer works for us and we cannot fit our equipment. In this last fire truck purchase we had to have a truck specially made to fit into the station and this truck does not have the safety features that I would like to see provided and is only a single cab instead of a custom crew cab as it should be. I intend to propose a bare bones necessity Building in this coming year and would greatly appreciate your support. Anyone wishing to take a tour of our current facility can reach out for me at any time and I would be happy to show you around. Thank you for your consideration and thank you all for your ongoing support of the Chester Fire Department.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew S. Wilson
Chester Fire Chief

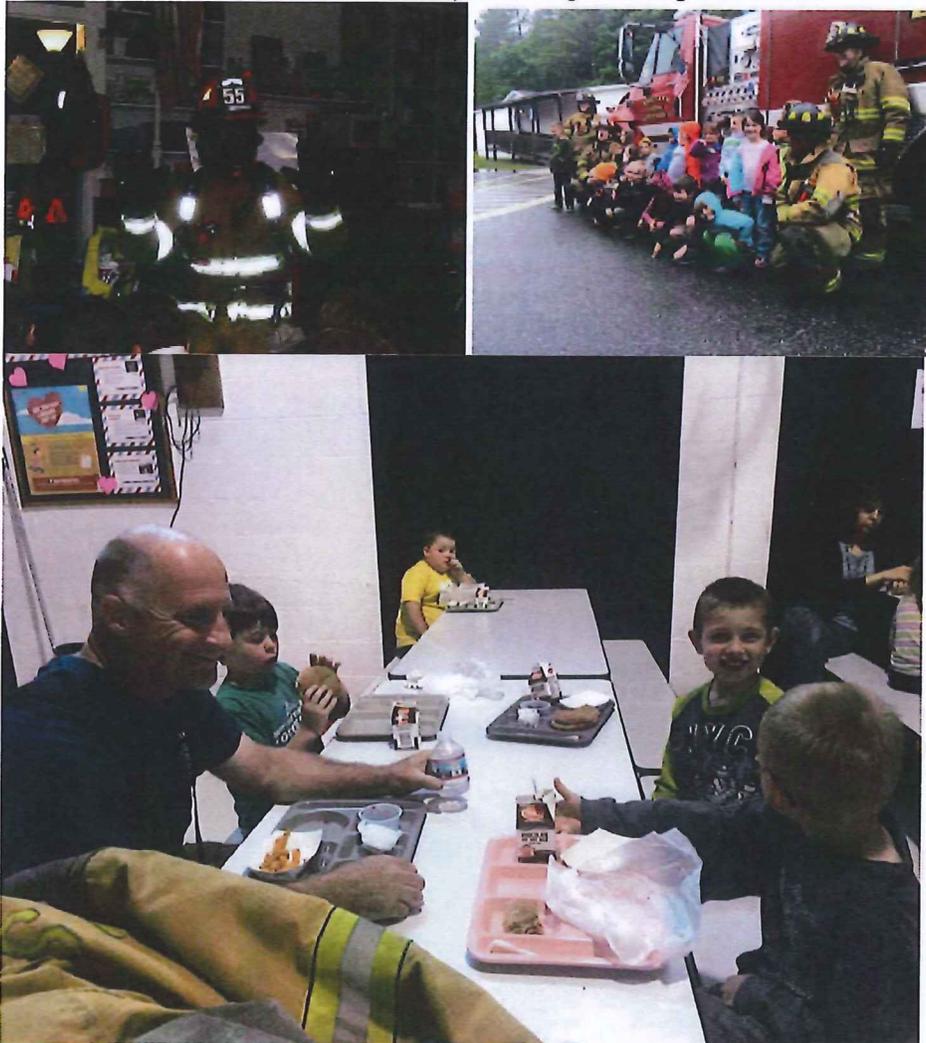
Chester Firefighters New Gear with Harry Goodell



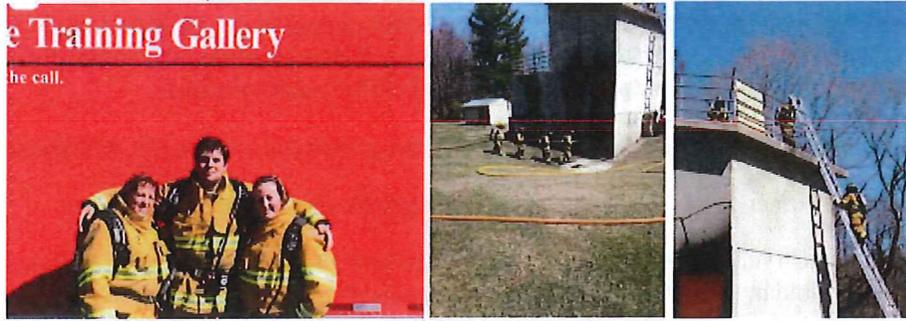
Current Fire Officers with Retired Chief Harry Goodell



Ben, George, Steve, Mark and Taylor Teaching and having lunch at CAES



Amber, Tim, Taylor after over 200 hours of Training get their VT Firefighter 1 Certification



2 ½ Day Forest Fire in Andover



Appreciation BBQ Hosted by Chief Wilson after 2 ½ Day Forest Fire in Andover



Report of the Chester Ambulance Service

The ambulance service responded on 294 calls out of a total 353 dispatched during 2015 resulting in 310 patients being seen within the towns of Chester (250), Andover (33), Ludlow (18), Springfield (2), Cavendish (2), Rockingham (2), Proctorsville (2) and Windham (1) as a result of the following incidents:

167 Medical Emergencies 40 MVC's (Motor Vehicle Crashes including motorcycle, ATV and snowmobile)

60 Traumatic Incidents by other cause 11 Stand-By at fire scenes, etc. 16 Public Assists

Although we currently staff 4 Advanced EMT's, 7 EMT's, 4 Drivers and 3 Trainees; legal transport crews of 2 medical licenses are required by statute, which places response necessity on 11 out of the 18 total. In addition, 9 of our licensed 11 hold out of town full time jobs further limiting response availability to only 2 of us during weekdays with our response also not always possible due to full time obligations. As a result, Mutual Aid was requested a total of 76 times during 2015 with Golden Cross, Springfield, Ludlow and Londonderry fulfilling those requests pending location (59 times for no availability and 17 with only one available acting as first response).

Our transition from Springfield PD to Hartford Dispatch during late June went as smooth as possible with only a few expected complications. I think I can speak for everyone involved when I say that we have had no regrets and currently experience professional services with a few added perks now possible. Active 911 is an alerting method utilizing mobile phones that complements our traditional paging system with built in GPS giving each responder turn by turn directions. We now receive per call dispatch logs permitting more reliable collection of data and the Repeater Association through Hartford is now looking into simulcast which will allow radio transmissions through multiple frequencies at the same time reducing the need to manually switch channels for best reception pending location.

Replacement pagers became a necessity during 2015 with a few purchased a couple at a time throughout the year. As breakdowns persisted and the fact that the model we have been using is no longer manufactured or even repaired, the purchase of upgraded models had become essential with ambulance and fire even considering a combined request for release of over \$20,000.00 from 2016 capital. Thanks to a generous donation though, a majority of these pagers were actually purchased during late 2015 leaving just a few additional to now be acquired during 2016.

Programming of communications equipment at an hourly rate by our dealer can be costly, so a decision was made to purchase all necessary components needed to allow all future programming to be done in house at a onetime cost approximate to each dealer visit. This alternative includes the ability to program equipment within each department and has never been done previously as it was an option not extended to users until recently released.

Our 12 lead Monitor/Defibrillator has now been in service for 16 months. This unit has been an asset allowing more accurate ECG interpretations of cardiac abnormalities providing hastier judgements towards needed interventions and resources encompassing all prehospital care as well as giving immediate direction towards definitive care decisions.

When I began my EMS profession during 1988, our ambulance responded on annual calls totaling about 150 utilizing medical personnel of numbers approximate to our current total. By the early 2000's we had retained medical personnel of numbers in the upper teens responding on an average of 250 calls per year and have since returned "full circle" to numbers of medical personnel that are concurrent with my early years, but now try to maintain with dispatch totals reaching an additional 200.

I have also witnessed considerable change affecting many other aspects of the service we provide. While most adjustments have proved to be commendable with results worthy of intent to include equipment improvements, added prehospital procedures and quality of training to name a few, but some have not followed suit. Whether good or bad, simple or extensive, most have required State and National revisions to rule and protocol which have ultimately caused further disrupted traditions. As we struggle with escalating family obligations while trying to maintain required training and cover call volumes that continue increase plus deal with courses that have again

Report of the Chester Ambulance Service

lengthened; recruitment and retention of EMS volunteers has become challenging at best creating many difficulties nationwide.

We do continue recruitment efforts and I am hopeful that pursuit of volunteers will eventually prove productive, but gain has yet to outweigh loss. The trend remains constant of having at least two trainees on our roster at any given time, but licensure can take months. Even though all current trainees are enrolled in courses due to end soon, those currently licensed have been trying to maintain with fewer personnel. Fatigue is rapidly taking over and now two additional members (one Advanced EMT and one EMT) are contemplating retirement after many years of service. If their decisions hold, we will once again begin a new year with no respective gain plus endure further effect to weekday coverage as one is currently the second license needed during times as previously stated.

As our situation has slowly declined to no one's fault, I couldn't help think about where would stand each year. We have been trying enthusiastically to turn things around, but it just hasn't happened. Therefore, discussions have ensued about a full time alternative leading us now to a new chapter. New for 2016 you will find added funding within our salary line for addition of that position to allow coverage during our most dire times of weekdays. Although it will be filled by only one EMT, it should however guarantee a second for transport when I can be available plus give immediate help as first response during those few times I can't. We will affect a few adjustments within our current structure and with added savings by discontinuing a possible contract with another service plus the added revenue we should bring in; I believe that we can make this work as cost effective as possible.

We would like to thank all town departments of Chester and Andover including all officials and Select Board members; the members of the Chester Volunteer Rescue Squad, Chester Fire Department and Yosemite Engine Company, Springfield Dispatch, Hartford Dispatch, the emergency room staff at Springfield Hospital and all surrounding mutual aid organizations. It is with continued support from all, including the taxpayers of Chester and Andover that enables continued operation at our current level of care.

I would also like to thank all current members of our service as well as thank their respective loved ones for gracious acceptance of any subsequent loss of family time throughout the year. They are an awesome group of individuals with dedication that preserves our ability to continue.

EMT Meghan Austin, EMT Maryann Bonneville, EMT Laurie Cloud, Driver Greg Gomo, Driver Paul Gustafson, AEMT Jeff Holden, EMT Jeff Knisely, EMT Ken Markwell, EMT Eric Martens, AEMT Rebekah Martens, EMT Irwin Post, Trainee Hannah Potter, AEMT Eric Richardson, Driver Bruce Savery, Trainee Charles Storey, Trainee Meghan Thomas, Driver Marie Tyrrell and our Billing Secretary Georgia Ethier.

Again, we continue pursuit of new recruits, especially individuals that can be available weekdays. Please consider joining if you are one of those individuals and contact Dan Cook at 875-3134(H), 802 558-9972(C) or dcookaemt@comcast.net.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel J Cook, Coordinator

FIRE**Revenues**

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-342-22	Andover Income	\$9,300.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$19,000.00
01-342-21	Other Income	\$403.00	\$2,906.75	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-342-24	Hazmat Income	\$46,557.68	\$5,344.85	\$0.00	\$0.00
		<u>\$56,260.68</u>	<u>\$22,251.60</u>	<u>\$14,500.00</u>	<u>\$19,500.00</u>

Expenses

1-422-10	Salary	\$49,863.92	\$66,677.05	\$48,750.00	\$67,500.00
1-422-22	Physicals	\$1,520.00	\$1,683.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-422-23	Equipment	\$14,590.23	\$18,746.91	\$15,000.00	\$18,500.00
1-422-34	Ipad/Data Link	\$529.00	\$124.40	\$750.00	\$400.00
1-422-36	Training	\$3,163.49	\$3,850.15	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-422-37	Contract Services	\$148.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-422-40	Assoc Dues	\$2,091.85	\$1,800.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,500.00
01-422-56	Legal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-422.67	Building Maintenance	\$0.00	\$615.61	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
1-422-68	Vehicle Maint	\$5,180.22	\$5,466.42	\$4,500.00	\$5,500.00
01-422-76	Utilities	\$5.71	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
01-422-69	Fuel	\$1,767.94	\$1,997.63	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00
01-422-70	Radio Maintenance	\$892.45	\$2,413.64	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00
	Foam	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
	Uniforms	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
1-422-79	Transfer to Water	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
01-422-81	Hazmat Incidnet	\$23,707.35	\$2,454.08	\$0.00	\$0.00
		<u>\$123,460.91</u>	<u>\$125,828.89</u>	<u>\$102,350.00</u>	<u>\$133,650.00</u>

AMBULANCE

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-342-31	Service Fees/ Reimburse	\$71,758.39	\$69,711.52	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
01-342-33	Other Income	\$0.00	\$90.89	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-342-34	Andover	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
		<u>\$77,758.39</u>	<u>\$75,802.41</u>	<u>\$76,000.00</u>	<u>\$76,000.00</u>

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-423-10	Salary	\$74,303.58	\$77,741.96	\$80,000.00	\$97,500.00
1-423-21	Supplies	\$5,720.66	\$5,845.30	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1-423-22	Medical Expenses	\$555.33	\$190.96	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-423-23	Equipment	\$7,071.90	\$6,818.39	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
1-423-24	Intercept	\$1,875.00	\$1,875.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-423-36	Training	\$711.13	\$1,421.71	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-423-68	Veh. Maintenance	\$142.82	\$501.55	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-423-69	Fuel	\$1,476.19	\$1,131.85	\$2,500.00	\$1,500.00
	Golden Cross	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-423-70	Billing Expense	\$2,613.86	\$2,860.60	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
		<u>\$94,470.47</u>	<u>\$98,387.32</u>	<u>\$109,500.00</u>	<u>\$126,000.00</u>

COMMUNICATIONS

Revenues

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 budget	2016 Budget
1-343-20	Tower Rent	\$27,600.00	\$25,800.00	\$27,600.00	\$27,600.00
1-343-21	Andover Dispatch Fee	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	V-Tel Rent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		<u>\$27,600.00</u>	<u>\$25,800.00</u>	<u>\$27,600.00</u>	<u>\$27,600.00</u>

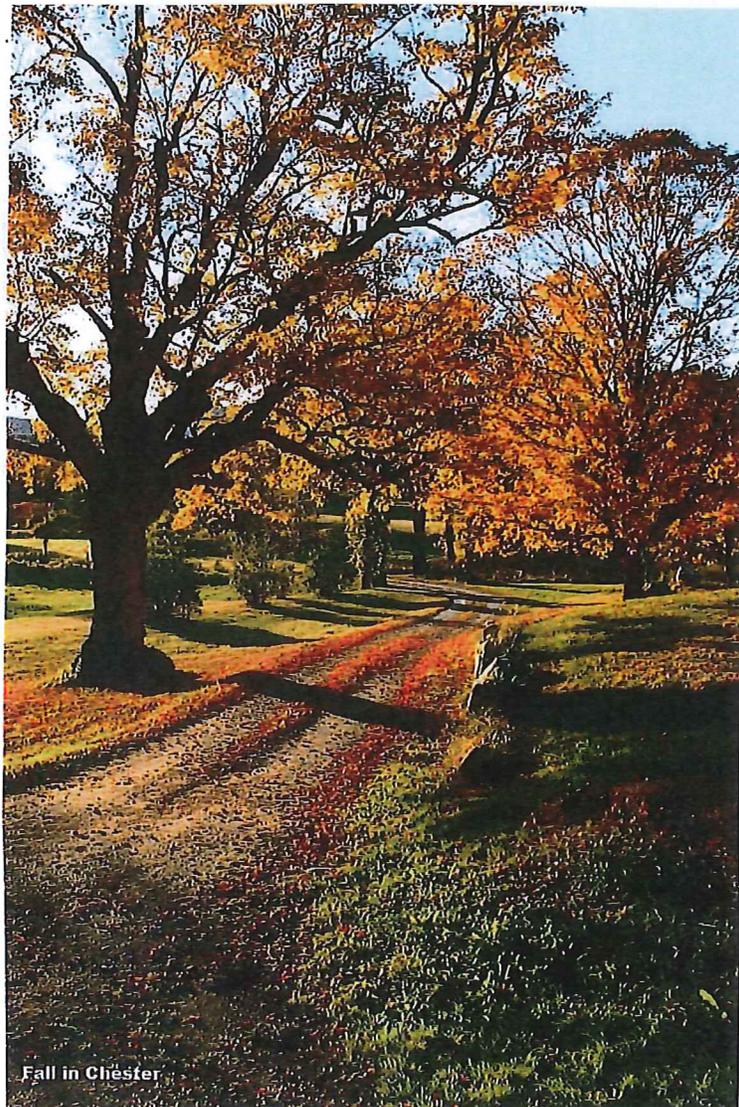
Expenses

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 budget	2016 budget
1-426-10	Dispatching	\$20,000.00	\$8,645.00	\$10,405.50	\$21,000.00
1-426-34	Telephone	\$1,612.25	\$1,678.01	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00
1-426-35	Radio Maint	\$497.36	\$372.74	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00
1-426-36	Cell Phones	\$4,998.78	\$7,187.05	\$5,250.00	\$11,350.00
		<u>\$27,108.39</u>	<u>\$17,882.80</u>	<u>\$21,155.50</u>	<u>\$37,850.00</u>

Town Constable

01-427-36	Training	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
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Total Public Safety	Revenues	<u>\$194,768.16</u>	<u>\$190,381.71</u>	<u>\$174,850.00</u>	<u>\$175,600.00</u>
	Expenses	<u>\$677,806.80</u>	<u>\$674,881.04</u>	<u>\$695,770.50</u>	<u>\$760,265.00</u>



Highway Department Report for 2015

The Chester Highway Department had a very busy year in 2015. I would like to thank the Highway Crew for their hard work during this past year. Thank you also to the town folks for their patience and cooperation during this past year, not only during the winter months at the beginning of the year, but during the many construction projects that took place. The Highway crews were out over 45 times plowing, sanding or both.

Since 2005, the Highway, Fire and Ambulance building has been heated with an outdoor wood boiler approximately 45 cord of wood is burned. The town has only purchased wood once in 2005 with an average savings of approximately \$20,000.00 a year in heating oil.

There were two sites on the Williams River that were rip-rapped this year. In addition, 11 culverts were replaced.



During the storms of 2014, there were 5 large culverts that were severely compromised in the west end of Chester. The town has received an Emergency Highway Grant through the State of Vermont Agency of Transportation to fund the engineering and construction of these large structures. Engineering is ongoing with a hope to complete construction in 2016.

Also in 2015, the Town of Chester underwent a large repaving of Vermont Route 103 in the center of town. In addition to paving Route 103, the town also hired the retained contractor to pave Depot Street and The Green. In the long term, this saved the town money by utilizing the State contracted company to complete this work. While the Agency of Transportation was present, we also were able to widen the corner of Route 103 by the Catholic Church. Thank you to Charlie Record and Val Record for giving the town the land necessary to complete this expansion. Trucks are able to make this corner easier without delaying traffic.

The Town of Chester undertook a huge road relocation project in Popple Dungeon this past year. Thanks to a grant from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Project, approximately 900 feet of roadway was relocated. This relocation has been a project that has been in the works for many years. Water runoff has been causing deterioration of the road bed and washing portions of the road into the Williams River each year. I would like to thank the Huffer family as well as the Quazzo family for their donation of land to the town so that the road could be relocated. This is a huge project finally complete!



2016 is promising to be another busy year for the Highway Department. If the Paving Bond is approved in March, the town will finally be able to begin catching up on much needed paving throughout the town. We are hoping to be able to continue these efforts over the next several years.

The State Legislature has adopted and enacted Act 64 which is a clear water act throughout the State of Vermont. This Act will require the town to perform various erosion control measures throughout the town. Through the Better Backroads Grant, the Regional Planning Commission and the town updated the town's bridge and culvert inventory. At this time, the town identified its high, medium and low risk erosion control needs. One of the first projects to be completed will be the replacement of a very large culvert on Popple Dungeon Road – possibly replacing with a bridge. We are hopeful that another grant will be secured to help pay for this project.

The State of Vermont has identified that Bridge 62 located on Thompson Road will need to be replaced. Due to its location, the town may need to relocate this bridge. This will be a large project for the town once it has been engineered.

The replacement of the stone culvert on Reservoir Road, as well as the three large culverts on Potash Brook Road is expected to take place the summer of 2016. All four of these culverts were damaged during the 2014 storm that hit West Chester. It is likely that these four culverts will become box culverts in an attempt to avoid replacement again in the near future.

Graham Kennedy
Public Works Director

SNOWFALL

Snowfall is presently measured at Dian Circle, elevation 760 feet above sea level. Some areas of town exceed 1,800 feet in elevation; therefore, snow totals there may be higher. Steadman Mountain at 2,300 feet is the highest elevation in Town while the Missing Link Road, between Peck Road and Green Mountain Turnpike, at 530 feet above sea level is the lowest elevation in Town.

Shown in Inches

SEASON	OCT.	NOV	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	TOTAL
1984-85	0	10	16.25	7	11	13	5	62.25
1985-86	0	11.5	14.5	27	18	8.5	8.5	88
1986-87	0	18	23	54.5	1	9	4	109.5
1987-88	4	11	15	19	36	7.5	1	93.5
1988-89	0	0	9.5	7.5	15.5	9	6	47.5
1989-90	0	5	15.5	38	27	6	0	91.5
1990-91	0	1	13.5	21	10.5	8.5	0	54.5
1991-92	0	2	20.5	5.5	8.5	5	7.5	49
1992-93	0	3	5.5	26.5	40	26	7	108
1993-94	0.5	0	13.5	46	13	22	0	95
1994-95	0	5	6	7	15	4	0	37
1995-96	0	8	29.5	32	9.5	22.5	11	112.5
1996-97	0.5	4	19.75	30	22.75	22	8	107
1997-98	0	19	13	25.5	7	15	0	79.5
1998-99	0	1.5	6	34	9.5	19	0	70
1999-00	0	0.5	2.5	20.25	26.5	15	1	65.75
2000-01	0.5	1	16	6	27.5	53	0	104
2001-02	0	0	8	30.5	5.5	20.5	2	66.5
2002-03	7	18.75	31.5	27.5	17.5	5	15.5	122.75
2003-04	0.5	5	30.75	10	14.5	12.25	0	73
2004-05	0	0	11	29.75	16.25	22	0	79
2005-06	1	4.5	17.5	21.5	13.5	0	0	58
2006-07	0	0	4	4.25	24.25	25.25	18.75	76.5
2007-08	0	2.5	40	17.5	38	12	1	111
2008-09	0	2	35	35	13.5	6.5	0	92
2009-10	0	0	22	13	31.25	0	0	66.25
2010-11	0	Trace	16	34.5	37.5	10	2.2	100.2
2011-12	8.75	10	2	15.25	3.5	15	0	54.5
2012-13	0	0	22	9.75	25	15.75	0	72.5
2013-14	0	0.75	24.75	12.5	34	12.5	0	84.5
2014-15	0	9.75	13	17.25	38.25	3.5	1	82.75
2015-16	0	0	5					5
AVERAGE	0.71	4.80	16.31	22.10	19.70	13.72	3.21	78.72

PUBLIC WORKS

REVENUES

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-344-11 Diesel Sales:				
Ambulance	\$1,630.68	\$1,131.85	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
Fire	\$2,470.16	\$1,997.63	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00
Police	\$14,927.36	\$10,615.93	\$20,000.00	\$17,500.00
School	\$60,175.87	\$38,695.46	\$55,000.00	\$45,000.00
Sewer	\$1,892.27	\$1,139.66	\$2,000.00	\$1,250.00
Water	\$2,164.80	\$1,305.29	\$2,000.00	\$1,250.00
Other Income	\$815.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-344-12 Material Sales				
01-344-13 State Aid	\$194,430.58	\$194,288.23	\$194,488.00	\$194,488.00
01-344-14 Other Income		\$2,934.15		
01-344-25 Prior Year Surplus			(\$24,052.00)	\$115,313.00
01-344-26 Popple-Dungeon Fd				
01-344-27 2 For 1 Grant				
01-344-29 Storm Damage	\$116,287.61			
01-344-30 Insurance Reimbur	\$0.00	\$62,919.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<u>\$394,794.43</u>	<u>\$315,027.64</u>	<u>\$253,936.00</u>	<u>\$378,301.00</u>

EXPENSES

		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-431-10	Payroll	\$402,873.54	\$420,422.74	\$455,000.00	\$420,000.00
1-431-12	Overtime	\$50,835.47	\$41,337.86	\$0.00	\$50,000.00
1-431-13	2014 Storm	\$83,018.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-431-20	Equipment	\$1,087.73	\$2,519.00	\$6,500.00	\$5,500.00
1-431-21	Supplies	\$7,057.43	\$8,117.54	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
1-431-23	Tools	\$2,136.30	\$990.30	\$6,500.00	\$5,000.00
1-431-24	Salt	\$70,448.06	\$48,603.02	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
1-431-25	Sand	\$59,336.90	\$57,868.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
1-431-26	Gravel	\$53,979.67	\$56,493.39	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
1-431-27	Hot Mix	\$3,767.42	\$5,368.24	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-431-28	Paving	\$108,050.24	\$59,117.79	\$95,000.00	\$46,000.00
1-431-29	Cal cholride	\$2,766.25	\$6,289.85	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
1-431-30	Culverts	\$3,947.94	\$4,227.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-431-31	Rip Rap	\$1,690.00	\$5,508.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1-431-32	Bridges	\$11,939.27	\$297.50	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-431-34	Communications	\$1,234.83	\$2,150.52	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-431-36	Training	\$233.00	\$158.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
1-431-37	Contract Serv	\$15,987.15	\$9,116.75	\$13,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-431-38	Mowing	\$10,470.50	\$10,947.50	\$13,000.00	\$12,500.00
1-431-55	Sidewalk Repair	\$0.00	\$867.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
1-431-66	Blades/Chains/Plows	\$15,291.09	\$19,783.98	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
1-431-67	Diesel/Gas	\$175,343.26	\$125,735.16	\$130,000.00	\$115,000.00
1-431-68	Vehicle Maint	\$55,152.78	\$48,625.50	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
1-431-69	Street Lights	\$25,214.91	\$22,770.69	\$23,500.00	\$23,500.00
1-431-75	Uniforms	\$7,145.91	\$9,042.98	\$9,000.00	\$7,500.00
1-431-76	Garage Utilites	\$6,925.95	\$5,850.86	\$9,500.00	\$6,500.00
1-431-77	Garage Water	\$1,223.65	\$1,148.43	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
1-431-78	Fuel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
1-431-79	Garage Maint	\$4,364.42	\$742.09	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
	Truck	\$0.00	\$96,430.00	\$0.00	\$2,300.00
1-431-82	Power on the Green	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$1,181,522.40	\$1,070,529.69	\$1,124,750.00	\$1,062,550.00

SOLID WASTE**Solid Waste**

Expenses		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-432-37	Eager Beaver	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00
1-432-38	Transfer Station	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
1-432-39	Green Up Day	\$520.60	\$309.40	\$200.00	\$200.00
		\$25,520.60	\$25,309.40	\$26,250.00	\$26,250.00

Total Expense **\$1,207,043.00** **\$1,095,839.09** **\$1,151,000.00** **\$1,088,800.00**

Report of the Chester Recreation Department

2015 was a big year for the Chester Recreation Department and for its facilities. Many projects were started and completed that greatly improved the appearance and safety of our facilities.

One of the big projects was at Cobleigh field, which is the playing field for our grades 1-6 girls' softball teams. Cobleigh received a makeover in early spring. After speaking with coaches and others we raised close to \$3000 in just a few days from local property owners and businesses. Within one week we had new dugouts built and an outfield fence. Thanks again to Jim Ravlin, Don Jewett, Abram Crossman, Record Concrete and several other volunteers who came together and performed the construction on this project. During the fall we also did more work to make the field better and safer. The workers from the town garage dug out the existing infield and replaced it with 100 tons of baseball/softball field infield mix. To further this project, I put \$6200 in to the capital budget for 2016 to have metal fencing put up down the first and third base lines to enclose the field and to cover the dugouts.

This year we received a matching grant to tear out the old liner at the Chester Town Pool and replace with a new one. RenoSys Corporation out of Indiana won the bid and they will start the process in the spring of 2016. I have also put in the capital plan for 2016; \$7500 to replace the carpet on the decking of the pool and have it replaced with a more appropriate material for pool decks. Also in the capital plan for 2016 is \$8200 to refurbish the outdoor basketball courts at the Pinnacle. As of now it is just an asphalt court with a lot of cracks where grass and weeds continually grow.

Also on the agenda for 2016, is the first year that the Recreation Department will run the Chester Winter Carnival. Many thanks to Chester Hardware and its volunteers for the past work they have put in to making the Winter Carnival a great success. This year we will have many of the same activities and volunteers. The dog sled rides will be replaced by a horse drawn sleigh ride at the Pinnacle. We also will have a dinner and movie night at CAES to be assisted by the CAES PTG.

This past year was huge for donations to the Recreation Department. In addition to the donations for Cobleigh, we were invited to the Annual Hot Dog Contest at the Stone Hearth Inn and received a generous check in the amount of \$1250. Shaw's Supermarkets in Ludlow donated \$500 to the youth sports programs. We also did our annual Chester Recreation Night at a GMUHS varsity basketball game and raised over \$500 from raffling off 3 sets of Red Sox tickets. With this money, the Recreation Department purchased new basketball jerseys for our 5th & 6th grade girls' basketball team.

2015 was very successful for our recreational sports teams and programs. We continue to run many programs for children ages 3 and up. We offer adult programs such a Zumba at the Chester Town Hall. The pool was a success this summer, being packed daily with children and adults from the area. The CAES summer camp used the pool 3 times a week along with other local organizations.

I would also like to take this time to thank all of the volunteers who spend countless hours coaching and assisting with the programs so they can succeed and the school department for their continued support of facilities for the Chester Recreation Department. I would also like to thank the Chester Town Garage and Town Hall employees who are always there to assist with projects for the Recreation Department.

Matthew A. McCarthy Recreation Director Town of Chester, VT (802) 875-3603
<http://www.chester.govoffice.com/> Join us on Facebook: Chester, VT Recreation Dept.



Recreation Revenues & Expenses 2016

Revenues	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	
Revenues					
01-346-09	Town of Andover	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00
01-346-23	Pool Income	\$3,927.00	\$4,589.40	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
01-346-27	Donations	\$25.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-28	Food Commisssion/Sales	\$1,082.00	\$585.75	\$1,800.00	\$1,200.00
01-346-29	Pavillon Rental	\$0.00		\$225.00	\$225.00
01-476-33	Other Income	\$500.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
01-346-35	Men's Basketball	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
01-346-36	League Fees	\$425.00		\$425.00	\$0.00
	Non-Program Revenues	\$9,334.00	\$8,975.15	\$9,425.00	\$8,825.00
Seasonal Sports & Camps Revenues					
01-346-10	Smart Start Camps	\$160.00	\$290.00	\$160.00	\$160.00
01-346-11	Sports for Squirts	\$100.00	\$60.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-12	Spring Baseball	\$2,670.00	\$3,105.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-346-13	Black Fly Baseball Camp	\$1,300.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
01-346-15	Softball Camp	\$325.00	\$230.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
01-346-16	Fall Soccer	\$2,555.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
01-346-17	Flag Football	\$180.00	\$90.00	\$210.00	\$150.00
01-346-17	Soccer Camp	\$1,670.00	\$965.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00
01-346-18	GM Sports Camp	\$1,205.00	\$665.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-346-19	Winter Basketball	\$1,500.00	\$1,415.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
01-346-20	Dance Camp	\$450.00	\$720.00	\$270.00	\$270.00
01-346-20	Hip Hop Dance	\$367.00	\$960.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
01-346-21	Golf Camp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00
01-346-22a	Girls Basketball Camp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$125.00
01-346-22b	Boys Basketball Camp	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-346-24	Baseball Camp	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-25	Summer Program	\$5,384.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$0.00
01-346-29	Tennis Camp	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
01-346-30	OWLS Adventure Camp	\$1,425.00	\$105.00	\$600.00	\$400.00
01-346-33	Babe Ruth Baseball	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
01-346-51	Climbing Team	\$0.00	\$330.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
	Sports & Camps Revenues	\$20,071.00	\$13,360.00	\$17,390.00	\$11,805.00
	Total Revenues	\$29,405.00	\$22,335.15	\$26,815.00	\$20,630.00

Recreation Programs		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
Expenses					
01-451-10	Payroll	\$44,927.03	\$46,188.71	\$46,680.00	\$48,080.40
01-451-11	Snack Shack Payroll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
01-451-12	Babe Ruth Baseball	\$285.00	\$340.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
01-451-13	Veh. Expense	\$3,820.60	\$3,687.38	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00
01-451-14	Start Smart Camp	\$0.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
01-451-15	Sport for Squirts	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
01-451-16	League Fee	\$823.00	\$200.00	\$825.00	\$825.00
01-451-17	Fall Flag Football	\$84.00	\$98.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
01-451-18	GM Sports Camp	\$711.00	\$613.75	\$800.00	\$800.00
01-451-20	Hip-Hop Dance	\$0.00	\$720.00	\$320.00	\$320.00
01-451-21	Golf	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$0.00
01-451-23	Dance Camp	\$817.00	\$310.00	\$220.00	\$220.00
01-451-30	OWLS Adventure	\$745.00	\$60.00	\$500.00	\$200.00
01-451-36	Black Fly Camp	\$1,066.43	\$1,339.75	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-451-37	Baseball	\$1,610.02	\$1,809.25	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
01-451-38a	Spring Softball Camp	\$150.00	\$142.50	\$160.00	\$160.00
01-451-39	Tennis	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-451-40	Fall Soccer	\$1,357.29	\$1,700.09	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
01-451-41	Weight Room	\$440.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
01-451-42	Soccer Camps	\$947.95	\$945.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
01-451.43a	Girls Basketball Camp	\$0.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
01-451-43b	Boys Basketball Camp	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-451-44	Basketball	\$727.15	\$1,268.20	\$900.00	\$900.00
01-451-47	Summer Program	\$4,198.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-451-51	Wall Climbing Camp	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-451-77	Pool Water & Sewer	\$781.57	\$866.61	\$400.00	\$400.00
	Winter Carnival				\$2,000.00
	Total Expenses	\$63,561.29	\$60,614.24	\$61,495.00	\$65,275.40

Recreational Facilities		2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-458-11	Lifeguards	\$16,223.57	\$14,733.83	\$15,500.00	\$16,000.00
01-458-12	Lifeguards Expense	\$0.00	\$119.80	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-458-20	Pool Improvement	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-458-21	Supplies	\$3,874.41	\$8,151.69	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-458-22	Concession Expense	\$1,132.97	\$437.64	\$1,300.00	\$1,000.00
01-458-41	Skating Rink Maint	\$247.03	\$212.07	\$300.00	\$300.00
01-458-68	Pool Maintenance	\$2,588.56	\$2,044.56	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
01-458-75	Water & Sewer	\$251.69	\$182.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-458-76	Utilities	\$5,530.03	\$4,684.42	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
01-458-77	Equipment Repair	\$554.87	\$75.93	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-458-78	Facility Repair	\$5,767.98	\$462.30	\$800.00	\$1,000.00
		\$36,261.11	\$31,104.24	\$29,900.00	\$32,300.00

Report of the Chester Cemetery Department

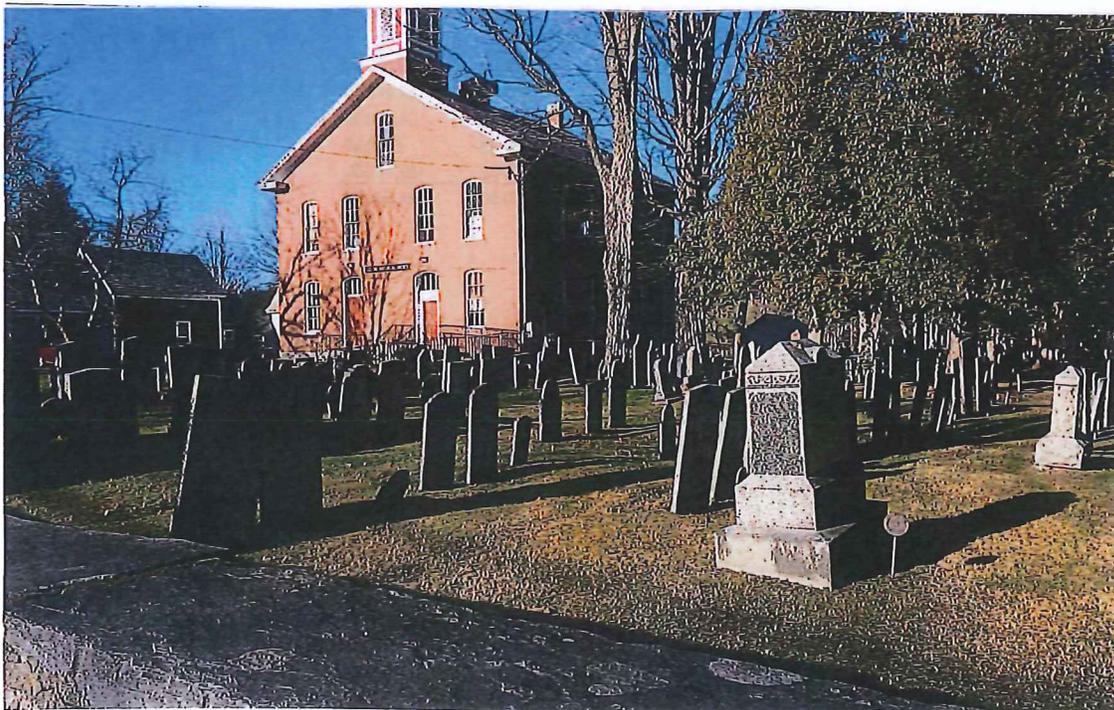
The Chester Cemetery Department consists of a two person team. The responsibilities of this department include mowing, trimming, and maintaining seven (7) cemeteries which includes: Pleasant View Cemetery located off of High Street; North Street Cemetery located in the Stone Village; Brookside Cemetery located on Main Street; Simmsbury Cemetery located off of Adams Road; Spoonerville Cemetery located off of Trebo Road; Smokeshire Cemetery located off of Cemetery Road; and Poplar Grove Cemetery located off of Popple Dungeon Road. The Cemetery Department also maintains the grounds at the Pinnacle Recreation Area, Cobleigh Field, property behind and in front of the Academy Building, the Green, the Whiting Library, the park across from the Soapshed Laundromat, the Town Garage, Town Hall, and a piece of property off of First Avenue with the old apple tree. We also take care of the trash receptacles placed at certain areas in Chester's Village. We are responsible for the selling of cemetery lots, placement of markers, and installation of cornerstones which are mandatory for all new lots. We prep all burials, whether full burial or cremation. We try to maintain the old stones that have fallen or become damaged due to age or the elements. In the fall we pick up the leaves from each area that we maintain in the summer.

This past summer the Cemetery Department had 23 burials, 4 full burials and 19 cremations. There were 12 new monuments installed, 6 sets of Corner markers, and 8 new lots sold. For this coming summer we are looking forward to breaking ground in the field behind the Academy Building. We are in the process of surveying this property for the laying out of new lots as well as the creation of an in-town hiking trail on the Brookside land behind the river. The new section of cemetery will have walking paths so not to disturb the lots as well as roads to meander through the Cemetery.

I want to thank the Highway Department for helping to fill and grade the land at the Pleasant View Cemetery. This will allow a future expansion of this cemetery as well.

I would like to remind the owners of lots in Chester cemeteries to please remove all summer seasonal arrangements from the lots by October 31 and fall/winter arrangements by April 15. Please note that flower pots and plastic arrangements will be disposed of by the Cemetery Department on or about November 1st. Also the planting of trees and shrubs is not allowed in the cemetery lots.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Sheldon, Cemetery Sexton





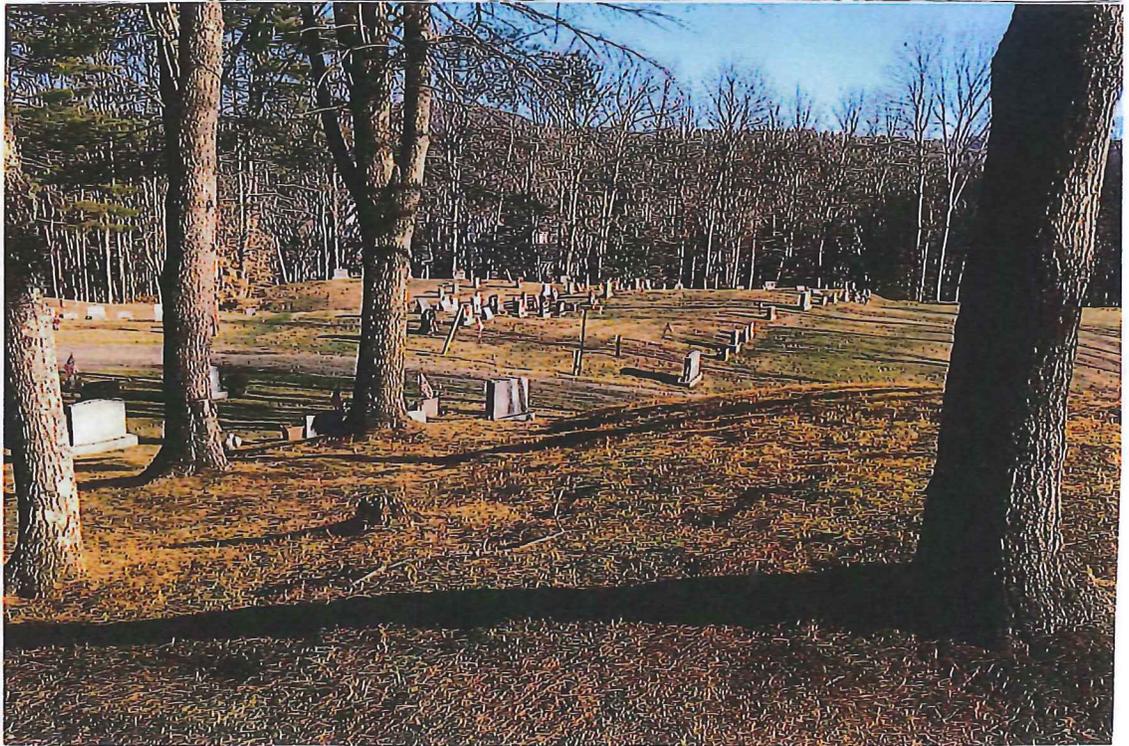
Spoonerville Cemetery



Smokeshire Cemetery



North Street Cemetery



Pleasantview Cemetery



Simsbury Cemetery



Poplar Grove Cemetery

Parks & Cemeteries

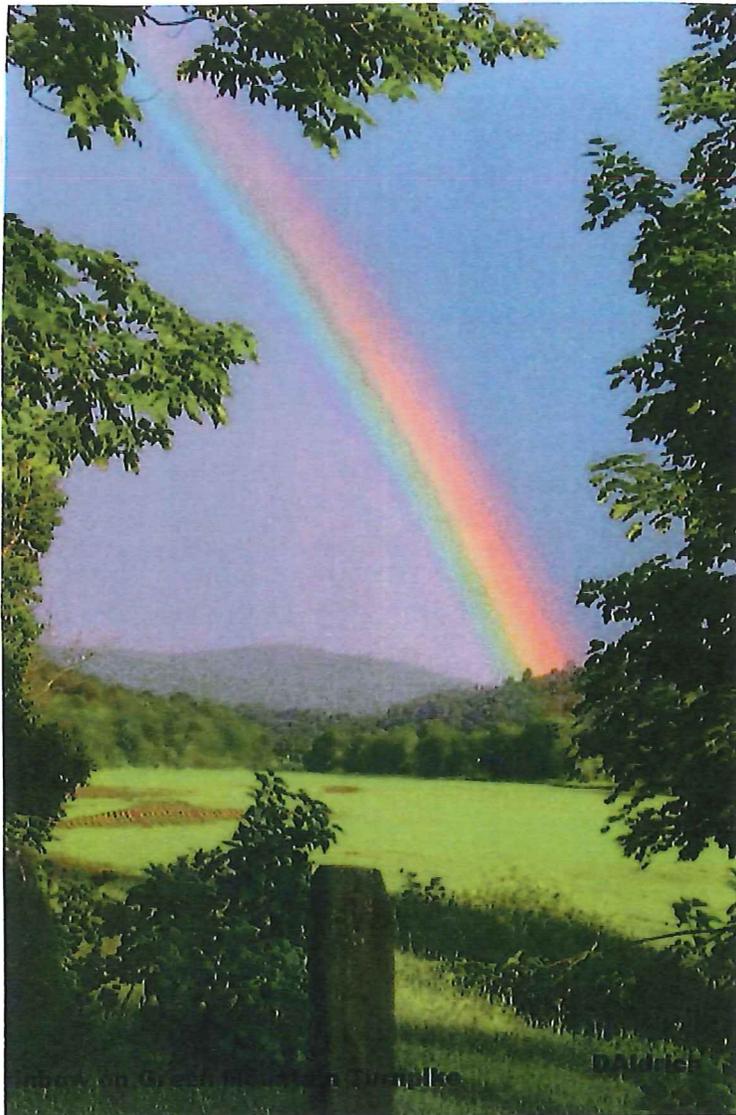
	Revenues	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-347-21	Sale of Lots	\$450.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-347-22	Grave Preparation	\$5,497.00	\$5,994.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
1-347-23	Cemetery Funds	\$1,717.63	\$2,078.04	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
1-347-25	Perpetual Care	\$750.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-347-26	Other Income	\$175.00	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
1-347-40	Town Hall	\$702.00	\$672.50	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-347-41	Town Hall; Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$9,291.63	\$12,019.54	\$10,450.00	\$10,450.00

Parks & Cemeteries

	Expenses	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-452-10	Payroll	\$37,497.07	\$38,376.57	\$49,440.00	\$49,440.00
1-452-21	Supplies	\$3,254.72	\$3,011.72	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
1-452-23	Equipment	\$4,671.59	\$5,005.00	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
1-452-38	Contract Labor	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-452-39	Trees	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,672.00	\$6,672.00
1-452-40	Perpetual Care	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
1-452-76	Water	\$200.00	\$324.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
1-452-77	Memorial Day	\$750.28	\$375.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
1-452-82	Power on the Green	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$47,623.66	\$51,232.29	\$71,512.00	\$67,512.00

Library

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
1-455-11 Janitorial Services	\$1,190.00	(\$1,190.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-455-20 Architectural Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-455-21 Library Expense	\$67,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00
1-455-68 Maintenance	\$11,803.84	\$4,018.66	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-455-76 Utilities	\$4,304.73	\$4,034.32	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
1-455-77 Water/Sewer	\$493.32	\$655.90	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-455-78 Fuel	\$8,451.58	\$7,507.28	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
	\$93,243.47	\$87,026.16	\$89,500.00	\$89,500.00

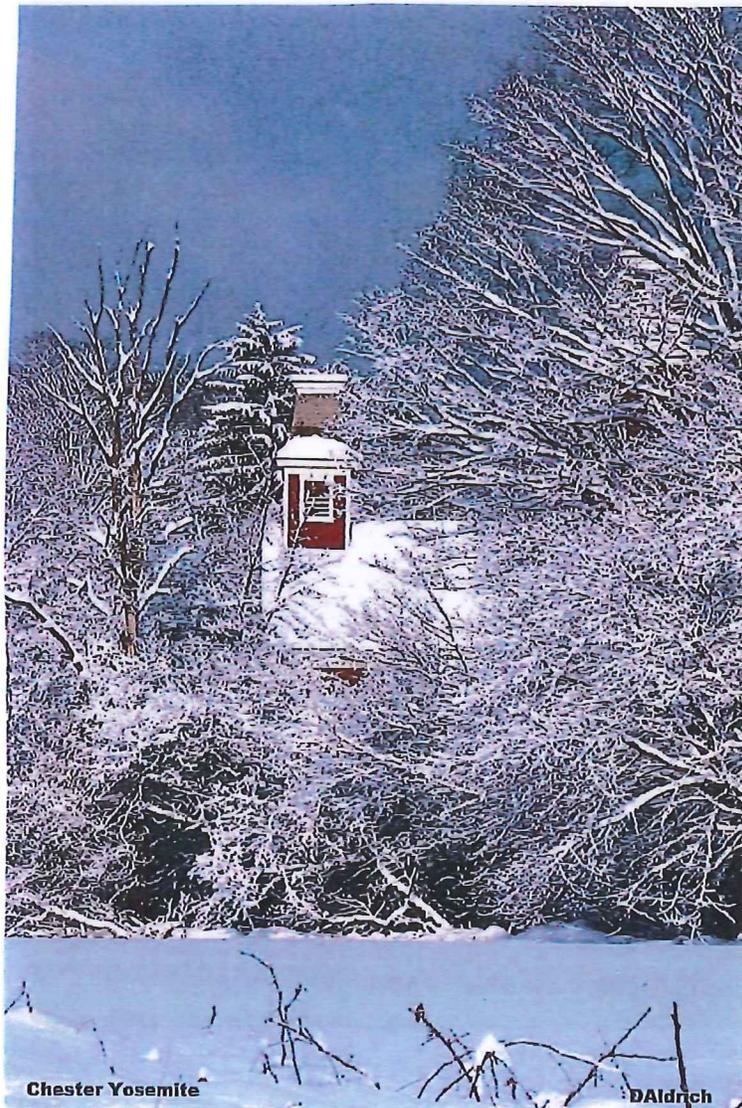


Town Hall

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-456-11 Cleaning Service	\$5,635.00	\$5,720.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
1-456-21 Supplies	\$420.73	\$544.78	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-456-68 Repair/Maint	\$4,628.60	\$5,688.38	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1-456-76 Utilities	\$8,698.67	\$19,896.24	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
1-456-77 Water/Sewer	\$646.08	\$760.83	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-456-78 Fuel	\$8,107.78	\$11,009.62	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
1-456-79 Trash	\$2,748.00	\$2,803.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	\$30,884.86	\$46,422.85	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00

Historic Facilities 2012

1-457-68 Academy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-457-69 Other Town Structures	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00



Other income & Expenses

Other Income

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
01-349-11 Poor Funds	\$403.56	\$486.23	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-350-12 Cyprus Minerals	\$899.61	\$1,083.88	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
01-389.15 VLCT Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-432-15 Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-350-13 School Refund	\$98,617.01	\$79,338.47	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-350-14 Land Purchase Loan	\$0.00	\$410,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-350-15 State Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-350-16 Net FEMA Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$99,920.18	\$490,908.58	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00

Other Expenses

01-450-15 School Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-475-61 County Tax	\$36,212.02	\$28,827.79	\$29,828.00	\$29,900.00
Land Purchase	\$0.00	\$409,077.29	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Total	\$36,212.02	\$437,905.08	\$29,828.00	\$39,900.00



DAldrich

CAPITAL

Bridges & Roads

01-461-30 Land Purchase	24,000.00
Total - Bridges & Roads	<u>24,000.00</u>

TRANSFERS

01-470-90 Capital Plan Fund	330,000.00
01-470-91 Grant Fund	32,450.00
Total - Fund Transfers	<u>362,450.00</u>

Capital Projects

01-473-34 Land Purchase	385,077.29
Total - Capital Projects	<u>385,077.29</u>

Total - Capital 771,527.29

Other Govt. Expenditures

01-475-61 County Tax	29,827.79
Total - Other Govt. Expenditures	<u>29,827.79</u>

Transfer Accounts

01-480-28 CTSD Assessment	4,693,370.86
Total - Transfer Accounts	<u>4,693,370.86</u>

Voted Articles

01-481-21 Visiting Nurses	13,807.00
01-481-22 Health Care & Rehab	3,044.00
01-481-23 Council on Aging	1,200.00
01-481-25 CT River Transit	2,250.00
01-481-26 Meals & Wheels	2,700.00
01-481-27 Family Center	3,000.00
01-481-28 RSVP	400.00
01-481-32 Windsor County Partne	800.00
01-481-34 SEVCA	3,040.00
01-481-36 Women's Freedom Cente	900.00
01-481-87 Community Cares	1,800.00
01-481-89 SRDC	8,649.00
Total - Voted Articles	<u>41,590.00</u>

Total General Fund Expenses 8,643,450.36

Municipal Grants Managed
during 2015

Type of Grant	Purpose	Amount	Year Awarded	Current Status
Municipal Planning	Town Plan Review and Rewrite	\$ 9,313.00	2014	Work is underway
Comm. Dev. Block	Cavendish Road Culvert	\$ 104,000.00	2014	Work has been completed
Homeland Security	Mobile Data Units for Police Cruisers	\$ 9,090.00	2014	Mobile Data Units installed and operating
USDA	Library Restoration	\$ 41,900.00	2014	Contracts have been awarded; construct in 2016
Emergency Highway	Storm Damage from July	\$ 561,990.00	2014	Engineering work completed; bid in spring 2016
Vtrans	Sidewalk upgrades	\$ 274,760.00	2012	Construction in 2016
Vt. Emergency Mgmt	Popple Dungeon Road relocation	\$ 167,317.50	2012	Construction completed
Vt. Emergency Mgmt.	Property Buyout with FEMA	\$ 458,748.16	2012	Grant completed.
Dept. of Forest & Park	Replacement of Pool Liner	\$ 25,000.00	2015	Bids awarded; construction in 2016
Homeland Security	Police mobile radios	\$ 20,958.96	2015	Mobile radios purchased
VLCT	Police tactical vests	\$ 2,618.34	2015	Vests purchased and in use
Vtrans	Engineering of repairs to Route 35	\$ 36,000.00	2015	Engineering being performed
Better Back Roads	Inventory update of culverts, bridges and erosion	\$ 4,000.00	2015	Inventory completed
Vt. Emergency Mgmt.	Property Buyouts with FEMA	\$ 382,600.00	2015	Agreements being signed
	TOTAL	\$ 2,098,295.96		

2016 Grant Budget

Grant Name	Total Project Cost	Grant Award Amount	Town Match Required
Grants that have been			
FEMA Buyout - Parizeau	\$ 288,175.89	\$ 288,175.89	\$ -
Storm Damage, July	\$ 619,536.00	\$ 561,990.00	\$ 57,546.00 Capital
Sidewalk Grant	\$ 343,450.00	\$ 274,760.00	\$ 68,690.00 Capital
CDBG Cavendish Road Culvert	\$ 106,000.00	\$ 106,000.00	\$ -
Municipal Planning	\$ 9,960.00	\$ 9,313.00	\$ 647.00
Recreation	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Police - Communications Grant	\$ 20,958.96	\$ 20,958.96	\$ -
PACIF	\$ 5,236.68	\$ 2,618.34	\$ 2,618.34
Route 35 Engineering	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Library Grant	\$ 119,820.00	\$ 41,900.00	\$ 77,920.00 Capital
Total Grants Received	\$ 1,603,137.53	\$ 1,366,716.19	\$ 236,421.34
award:			
DeFoe Buyout	\$ 222,400.00	\$ 222,400.00	\$ -
Rosati Buyout	\$ 170,200.00	\$ 170,200.00	\$ -
Total Grants Applied For	\$ 392,600.00	\$ 392,600.00	\$ -
Grants:			
PACIF	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Master Plan	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$5,000.00
Recreation	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Total Seed Money:	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$35,000.00
Grand Totals	\$ 2,105,737.53	\$ 1,834,316.19	\$271,421.34
Raise in Taxes		\$ 271,421.34	
Less Surplus roll over		\$ 12,377.68	
from 2015 expense		\$ 19,887.66	
sources:		\$ 204,156.00	
Net to raise in Taxes		\$ 35,000.00	

**Grant Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2015**

	<u>Dec 31, 15</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Grant Fund	97,391.88
Total Checking/Savings	<u>97,391.88</u>
Other Current Assets	
Due From General Fund	23.00
Due to/from CDBG - DR Fund	50.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>73.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>97,464.88</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>97,464.88</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	55,502.22
Net Income	41,962.66
Total Equity	<u>97,464.88</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>97,464.88</u></u>

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Due
2008	\$ 129.83	\$ 144.21	\$ 10.39	\$ 284.43
2009	\$ 1,567.77	\$ 1,492.86	\$ 125.46	\$ 3,186.09
2010	\$ 294.95	\$ 225.43	\$ 23.60	\$ 543.98
2011	\$ 1,961.42	\$ 1,176.88	\$ 156.94	\$ 3,295.24
2012	\$ 10,388.49	\$ 4,882.46	\$ 831.10	\$ 16,102.05
2013	\$ 20,361.16	\$ 6,723.77	\$ 1,647.67	\$ 28,732.60
2014	\$ 98,620.07	\$ 19,581.82	\$ 7,840.96	\$ 126,042.85
2015	\$ 314,675.49	\$ 14,282.16	\$ 25,526.57	\$ 354,484.22
Total:	\$ 447,999.18	\$ 48,509.59	\$ 36,162.69	\$ 532,671.46

PROCEDURES FOR TAX SALE

The Tax Sale process will begin on a property at the moment that a property becomes two-years delinquent. Tax Sales for the Town of Chester are conducted twice per year - November and May. The November tax sale is for those properties who have accumulated two years of delinquencies. The May tax sale is generally for those properties who have not maintained their accepted agreement with the Town.

A tax sale is a remedy available to a municipality to ensure collection of its local property tax. The right to sell real estate to satisfy taxes is a wholly statutory right. The first step is to have the Tax Collector "extend" his Warrant on the property in question.

The next step is to advertise such property for sale at public auction, both publicly on the notice board and in a local newspaper. In addition, Notices of Tax Sale are sent directly to the property owner by registered mail. All mortgage and lien holders are sent the same notice.

After three successive weeks of advertising, and at least ten day from the last advertisement, the property is sold at public auction if the taxes remain unpaid. The owner of a property may redeem the property within one year by paying to the Tax Collector the tax due, together with 1% interest per month plus all associated charges. The Tax Collector then returns the funds to the purchaser and releases the property from the Tax Sale Lien.

When the time for redemption (i.e. one year) has passed, and the property has not been redeemed, the Tax Collector will execute and deliver to the purchaser a Quit Claim Deed.

The Town of Chester may become the purchaser at a Tax Sale, if a bid equal to the tax and costs is not made at such Sale. Property so acquired may be held, leased, sold and conveyed like other real estate belonging to the Town of Chester. The redemption period of one year also applies to the Town.

**2016 PROPERTY TAXES DUE
September 15, 2016**

After this date, all Delinquent Taxes have an 8% penalty plus interest of 1% per month for the first 3 months and 1 1/2% per month thereafter.

Town Notes

GENERAL FUND

Line of Credit:

TAN Current Expense Note/ Line of Credit
Dated 01/02/2015 People's United Bank \$ 950,000.00 Due 10/16/2015

TAN Current Expense Note/Line of Credit
Dated 06/05/2015 People's United Bank \$ 200,000.00 Due 10/16/2015

Borrowed/Paid:

TAN Current Expense Note/ Line of Credit
Dated 1/02/2015 People's United Bank \$ 815,000.00 Paid 09/18/2015

TAN Current Expense Note/ Line of Credit
Dated 06/05/2015 People's United Bank \$ 200,000.00 Paid 09/18/2015

Hurricane Irene Flood Damage Fund
Statement of Revenues Expenditures
 January through December 2015

SUMMARY

Earned Income 2015	\$53,480.39
Incurred Expenditures 2015	\$116,573.40
	<u>-\$63,093.01</u>

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	\$864.61
Due from General Fund	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	<u>\$864.61</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u><u>\$864.61</u></u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Due to General Fund	\$64,500.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$64,500.00</u>
Retained Earnings	-\$542.38
Net Income	-\$63,093.01
Total Equity	<u>-\$63,635.39</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>\$864.61</u></u>

RECONCILIATION OF CASH

Hurricane Irene Fund Balance January 1, 2014	\$ 39.12
Cash Receipts - Reimbursement Missing Link Bridge	\$ 53,480.39
Due to General Fund 2015	\$ 63,918.50
Expenses - Annual Payment of #2 of 3	\$ 8,083.27
Expenses - Highway Bridge Repairs - Cavendish Road Culvert	\$ 108,490.13
Hurricane Irene Fund Balance Dec 31, 2015	<u>\$ 864.61</u>

REPORT of WATER and WASTEWATER DEPARTMENTS

2015 has been a very busy one for the Chester Water Department. We have had several meetings and votes for the users to approve a \$4,050,000 Water Project for the system which is badly needed. I would like to thank the voters for allowing us to go ahead and make these much needed improvements. With an increasing need for adequate fire flows, a need for redundancy and an increasing need for additional water storage capacity, we will be installing another 330,000 gallon Water Tank on the south end of Town. This will be located on property that is behind Drew's All Natural. With mandates that we can see coming in the very near future, the Chester Water Department would have been forced to complete this project in 2017. Fortunately, we had foresight of this and started working on these things a couple of years ago. With the assistance of Naomi Johnson of Dufresne Group we had much of the preplanning done to take advantage of some of the programs that assisted us with much of the savings. The town conducted a *Medium Household Income Survey* which placed the town in a position to receive a negative interest rate loan on the total project. If the project costs \$4 million, the town will pay back \$3.2 million, thereby providing an overall savings of \$800,000. By purchasing land that is better suited for the project and shortens the length of pipe required to be installed and shortens the distance that we have to build road to the new Tank site; we have saved an estimated 1 million dollars. The second tank will also assist in relieving some of the stresses of water hammers to the system, therefore less damage and need for repairs to the system, i.e. less general maintenance cost. The second Tank will on most occasions, reduce the number of people that might be without water during a major event, such as a water break, repairs and will help stabilize pressures during Fire flows. This will correct the deficiencies that were outlined by the State of Vermont Water Supply Division with pressures in the system during Fire Flows.

We have also included in the project's scope, replacement of a section of 10 inch AC (Asbestos Cement) water main that runs from the junction of VT RTE 103 North and VT RTE 11 East to the Green Mountain Union High School. This pipe has a number of minor leaks at present with major leaks showing up periodically that require emergent need for repair. Due to the material that this pipe is made of it is difficult to locate the pipe as well as the locations of the minor leaks. However, it has been determined that there is a significant amount of leakage from this pipe all along its length. As you can imagine this causes us to pump more water than is used just to maintain the system, thus increasing operating cost year round. When replacing this main we will increase the size to 12 inch ductile Iron pipe and upgrade the valves and hydrants at the same time.

A lot of time was spent in 2015 with the paving project and working with Pike Paving and the State Engineers locating obstacles such as water line gate boxes, curb stops, sewer manholes and drop inlets for the drainage system. All of the manholes and catch basins in the scope of the project were rehabbed and improved during this time. This has decreased the amount of ground water infiltration that was getting into the wastewater system. This required us to treat it at the wastewater plant, adding to our cost of operations. Also all of the sidewalk approaches were updated within the project area.

Last winter was hard for both of these departments with the Water Department experiencing more freeze ups than I can remember in 27 years in the department. We had 14 water service lines freeze, 2 sewer services and ten water meters. At least two fire hydrants froze at a very inconvenient time of having a structure fire when it was minus 20 degrees. This year we had 4 major water main leaks to repair with 12 service line leaks repaired. We also replaced, repaired or installed 23 curb stops, i.e. service line valves to individual properties.

All of the above was done with all of the ongoing general duties that are required, in both water and wastewater departments such as daily checks and maintenance, property inspections for changes in conditional use permitting, mowing and trimming, flushing, leak detection, quarterly meter reading, over 80 water on or offs for residential service repairs or winterizations, brush hogging and the general maintenance of all of the grounds for the departments. As our man power is limited to three for these two departments we are often required to assist each other, as well as Highway personnel, at times such as pulling pumps for repair or during major water breaks as well as lesser repairs to water or sewer line repairs.

I also need to mention that after almost 3 years, the Solar Project at the Jeffery well station property came on line. I have witnessed reduced bills for the power in both the Water and Wastewater departments. While it remains to be seen, the cost saving estimates range from \$20,000 to \$24,000 dollars annually for the Town as a whole.

Engineering was also completed for a pump station repair/upgrade at the Pleasant Brook Pump Station. This has been an ongoing problem station for some time and has caused many extra hours of maintenance due to illegal discharges of grease and especially rags that plug the pumps and prematurely wear out the cutters and pumps.

2016 is going to be another very busy year for both departments. The water project is anticipated to go out to bid in February with the hopes of starting construction in April. The line replacement will begin after school is out for the summer. Also this year, are plans for the existing water tank on Reservoir Road to be rehabbed and cleaned and the exterior painted. We are looking to replace as many as 14 Fire Hydrants with the project as well as some additional ones that are becoming unreliable. I am hoping to start on a program for GIS mapping all of our underground utilities, water mains, sewer mains and our ground water drainage system. This will include all tees, elbows, gate valves, manholes and drop inlets. This program has been recommended by the State Water Supply Division for some time. It will be at a minimal cost but will require some time on our part to do the GIS mapping and locating of all of our underground utilities and infrastructure. When completed, it will be of great assistance to all of the towns departments for numerous reasons, primarily the ability to quickly locate the existing utilities and use the information for future planning for any new projects.

We have hired a new person to work with us in the Water and Wastewater departments as our Chief Operator at the Wastewater Plant; Barry Goodrich is retiring as of February 1st of 2016. Dwayne Nichols, our current Assistant Chief Operator will be stepping up to the position of Chief Operator. We have hired a new person, Christopher Hughes that will be training to be certified in both departments.

There will be more continuing work done, again by mandate of the Agency of Natural Resources on the ground water separation program. There are several areas of town where the sump pumps in the basements of the residence or buildings are pumped into the wastewater system. Not only is this expensive and counterproductive to treat this excess water through the wastewater treatment plant, it is considered illegal discharge into the system. We expect that this will take several years to complete. It will involve additional drainage systems and rehab of more of our sewer Manholes in those areas. This is intended to remove the ground water on the roadways more efficiently and help keep it out of the wastewater system.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeff Holden; Water/Sewer Superintendent

WATER

	2014 Cash	2015 Budget	2015 Cash	2016 budget
03-311-01 Water Fees	\$125,746.67	\$150,000.00	\$145,120.83	\$160,000.00
03-311-02 Delinquent	\$27,089.96	\$22,500.00	\$21,002.65	\$20,000.00
03-311-03 Penalty	\$2,807.06	\$3,000.00	\$2,466.44	\$3,000.00
03-311-05 Connection	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
03-311-07 Interest	\$128.91	\$100.00	\$124.04	\$100.00
03-311-06 Hydrant Fees	\$21,800.00	\$20,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$20,000.00
03-311-09 Other Income	\$958.50	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total Income	<u>\$181,031.10</u>	<u>\$195,700.00</u>	<u>\$195,713.96</u>	<u>\$203,200.00</u>
03-411-10 Labor	\$63,575.69	\$66,950.00	\$66,850.36	\$69,000.00
03-411-15 Benefits	\$13,074.46	\$12,500.00	\$13,411.30	\$13,500.00
03-411-23 Tools	\$1,133.68	\$1,500.00	\$1,364.56	\$1,500.00
03-411-24 Meters	\$1,290.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
03-411-25 Collection System	\$7,312.65	\$3,000.00	\$3,572.78	\$3,500.00
03-411-28 Paving	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
03-411-29 Chemicals	\$11,000.20	\$14,000.00	\$9,953.60	\$14,000.00
03-411-32 Hydrants	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
03-411-36 Training	\$164.74	\$750.00	\$301.61	\$750.00
03-411-37 Contract Serv	\$9,218.10	\$7,500.00	\$25,325.40	\$7,500.00
03-411-38 Well Repair	\$1,490.92	\$3,000.00	\$3,145.29	\$3,000.00
03-411-39 Testing	\$964.09	\$2,500.00	\$1,274.00	\$2,500.00
03-411-50 PACIF Insurance	\$2,913.00	\$3,060.00	\$0.00	\$3,060.00
03-411-56 Legal Services	\$684.08	\$500.00	\$3,647.75	\$1,000.00
03-411-58 Computer	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$961.00	\$2,000.00
03-411-59 Audit	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
03-411-60 Serv Charge	\$935.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,105.28	\$1,100.00
03-411-61 State Fees	\$2,172.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,836.12	\$3,000.00
03-411-68 Veh Maint	\$143.50	\$1,000.00	\$1,052.96	\$1,500.00
03-411-69 Gasoline	\$2,164.80	\$2,500.00	\$1,305.29	\$2,500.00
03-411-76 Utilities	\$19,909.69	\$22,500.00	\$15,984.93	\$20,000.00
03-411-77 Telephone	\$108.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
03-411-78 Gas	\$512.81	\$1,000.00	\$860.79	\$1,000.00
Loan Interest	\$1,663.65	\$8,902.00	\$38.65	\$0.00
Loan Repayments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,140.00
Land Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$530.00
03-411-94 System Maintenance	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$1,100.00	\$10,000.00
03-411-95 Water Bond Reimbur	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,328.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$141,231.06</u>	<u>\$177,412.00</u>	<u>\$156,219.67</u>	<u>\$174,130.00</u>
Net	<u>\$39,800.04</u>	<u>\$18,288.00</u>	<u>\$39,494.29</u>	<u>\$29,070.00</u>

03-101-11 Water Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2015

	<u>Dec 31, 15</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
03-101-11 Water Fund	58,464.58
06-101-16 Water Reserve	<u>31,313.46</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>89,778.04</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>89,778.04</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>89,778.04</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	50,283.75
Net Income	<u>39,494.29</u>
Total Equity	<u>89,778.04</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>89,778.04</u></u>

SEWER

		2014 Cash	2015 Budget	2015 Cash	2016 Budget
04-311-01	Sewer Fees	\$298,124.53	\$425,000.00	\$363,037.26	\$420,000.00
04-311-02	Delinquent Fees	\$61,642.61	\$57,500.00	\$51,097.75	\$50,000.00
04-311-03	Penalty & Interest	\$6,523.56	\$7,500.00	\$6,232.21	\$6,000.00
04-311-05	Connection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,500.00	\$2,500.00
04-311-07	Interest	\$51.72	\$100.00	\$92.60	\$100.00
04-311-08	Excess BOD Charge	\$8,930.70	\$2,500.00	\$16,333.11	\$5,000.00
04-311-08	Fines	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$12,050.00	\$3,000.00
04-311-09	Other Income	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Revenues	\$375,323.12	\$504,600.00	\$459,342.93	\$486,600.00
04-411-10	Payroll	\$99,526.78	\$103,000.00	\$102,175.53	\$100,000.00
04-411-15	Benefits	\$51,209.40	\$45,000.00	\$48,166.46	\$40,000.00
04-411-20	Sewer Line Repair	\$25.92	\$0.00	\$5,767.92	\$0.00
04-411-22A	Generator	\$348.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-411-23	Tools	\$914.34	\$1,250.00	\$1,268.54	\$1,500.00
04-411-24	Lab Equipment	\$421.79	\$1,000.00	\$19.65	\$1,250.00
04-411-25	Plant Maint	\$4,823.25	\$6,000.00	\$4,043.60	\$5,000.00
04-411-26	UV Disinfection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$57.36	\$1,200.00
04-411-28	Sludge Disposal	\$25,345.35	\$25,000.00	\$23,470.50	\$25,000.00
04-411-29	Chemicals	\$9,954.90	\$9,000.00	\$14,588.85	\$13,500.00
04-411-32	Pump Stations	\$1,427.16	\$15,000.00	\$2,446.33	\$12,500.00
04-411-33	Pumps	\$3,286.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-411-35	Training	\$169.00	\$750.00	\$665.93	\$500.00
04-411-36	Collection System	\$2,616.63	\$12,500.00	\$1,948.21	\$10,000.00
04-411-37	Contracted Serv	\$5,477.74	\$6,000.00	\$6,944.32	\$6,000.00
04-411-39	Testing	\$2,216.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,698.00	\$3,500.00
04-411-40	Uniforms	\$1,511.85	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
04-411-50	PACIF Insurance	\$6,129.00	\$6,500.00	\$0.00	\$6,500.00
04-411-56	Legal	\$2,225.59	\$1,000.00	\$1,910.88	\$1,000.00
04-411-60	Serv. Charge	\$1,033.28	\$1,000.00	\$1,085.70	\$1,000.00
04-411-61	State Fees	\$332.50	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
04-411-68	Veh Maintenance	\$785.63	\$2,000.00	\$1,518.56	\$1,000.00
04-411-69	Gasoline	\$1,892.27	\$3,000.00	\$1,139.68	\$1,250.00
04-411-76	Utilities	\$49,183.80	\$45,000.00	\$37,332.48	\$37,000.00
04-411-77	Audit	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
04-411-78	General Fund Loan	\$0.00	\$64,244.00	\$0.00	\$66,440.50
	General Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
04-411-79	Interest	\$2,293.49	\$0.00	\$25,915.12	\$0.00
04-411-97	Capital Plan Transfer	\$135,991.10	\$136,000.00	\$111,651.21	\$136,000.00
	Storm Damage 2014	\$2,833.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		413,575.38	490,344.00	397,414.83	476,240.50
Net		(\$38,252.26)	\$14,256.00	\$61,928.10	\$10,359.50

**04-101-11 Sewer Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2015**

	Dec 31, 15
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
04-101-11 Sewer Fund	37,758.70
04-411-12 Sewer Reserve	10,025.46
Total Checking/Savings	47,784.16
Other Current Assets	
Return Check	360.00
Total Other Current Assets	360.00
Total Current Assets	48,144.16
TOTAL ASSETS	48,144.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
04-411-16 Due to General Fund	77,760.95
Total Other Current Liabilities	77,760.95
Total Current Liabilities	77,760.95
Total Liabilities	77,760.95
Equity	
Retained Earnings	-91,544.89
Net Income	61,928.10
Total Equity	-29,616.79
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	48,144.16

2014 - SEWER DEPARTMENT NOTES

Sewer Bonds (Wastewater Treatment Plant)

In December 2011 the two 20 year bonds held by the USDA for the Wastewater Treatment plant were combined and transferred to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank at the lower rate of interest of 3.93%, to be retired in 2026. The new payment schedule for this refinanced bond is listed below:

\$1,481,290.67 (3.93%) Payment Schedule

No.	Date	Amount	Principal	Interest	Remaining
5	5-15-15	\$ 24,339.90	\$ 0.00	\$ 24,339.90	\$1,157,838.62
6	11-15-15	\$ 111,651.21	\$ 87,311.31	\$ 24,339.90	\$1,070,527.31
7	5-15-16	\$ 22,624.33	\$ 0.00	\$ 22,624.33	\$1,070,527.31
8	11-15-16	\$ 113,366.87	\$ 90,742.64	\$ 22,624.23	\$ 979,784.67

Expense Note General Fund Loan

2013 Sewer Fund borrowed \$92,000.00 from General Fund; 2014 Sewer Fund borrowed from General Fund \$47,000.00 to finance bond payment. The Sewer Department will pay the General Fund over 8 quarterly payments at 1.65% to be completed at the end of 2016. The payment schedule for this loan is listed below:

No.	Date	Amount	Principal	Interest	Remaining Balance
1	12/31/14	\$12,862.89	\$10,569.40	\$2,293.49	\$128,430.60
2	03/15/15	\$16,061.22	\$15,687.92	\$ 373.30	\$112,742.68
3	06/15/15	\$16,061.22	\$15,596.16	\$ 465.06	\$ 97,146.52
4	09/15/15	\$16,061.22	\$15,660.49	\$ 400.73	\$ 81,486.03
5	12/15/15	\$16,061.22	\$15,725.09	\$ 336.13	\$ 65,760.94
6	03/15/16	\$16,610.12	\$16,338.86	\$ 271.26	\$ 49,422.08
7	06/15/16	\$16,610.12	\$16,406.25	\$ 203.87	\$ 33,015.83
8	09/15/16	\$16,610.12	\$16,473.93	\$ 136.19	\$ 16,541.90
9	12/15/16	\$16,610.14	\$16,541.90	\$ 68.24	\$ 00.00

2014 - WATER DEPARTMENT NOTES

Five-Year Expense Note- Chester Economic Development Loan

Dated 10/20/2010 Loan Amount \$80,000.00

18 Quarterly Payments

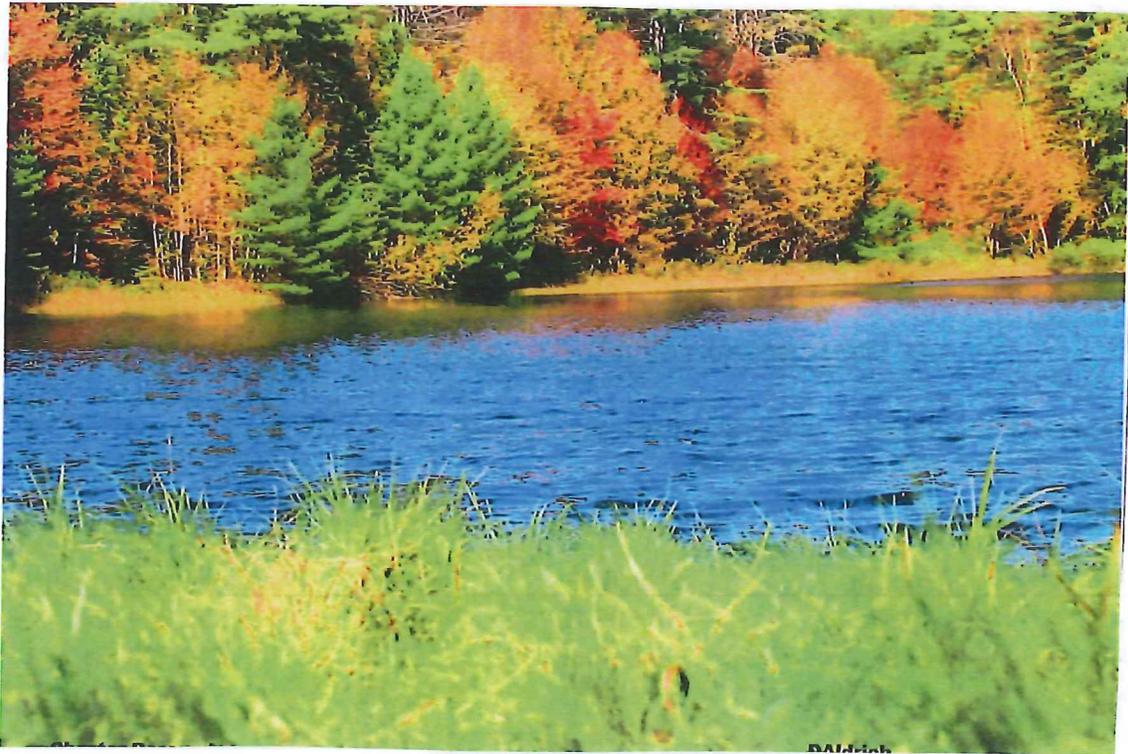
No.	Date	Amount	Principal	Interest	Remaining Balance
13	03-31-14	\$ 4,795.36	\$4,605.21	\$ 190.15	\$22,943.45
14	06-30-14	\$ 4,795.36	\$4,642.63	\$ 152.73	\$18,300.82
15	09-30-14	\$ 4,795.36	\$4,680.35	\$ 115.01	\$13,620.47
16	12-31-14	\$4,795.36	\$4,718.37	\$ 76.99	\$ 8,902.10

This loan was completely repaid in the first half of 2015

DELINQUENT WATER/SEWER REPORT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015

	CURRENT	OVER 30	OVER 60	OVER 90	OVER 120	TOTAL
SEWER	\$ 17,227.60	\$ 111.55	\$ 119.03	\$ 4,143.70	\$ 6,014.52	\$ 27,616.40
WATER	\$ 7,299.37	\$ 66.63	\$ 69.50	\$ 1,704.35	\$ 4,134.89	\$ 13,274.74
TOTAL	\$ 24,526.97	\$ 178.18	\$ 188.53	\$ 5,848.05	\$ 10,149.41	\$ 40,891.14

The town has adopted a stricter delinquent water and sewer collection procedure. Once a billing is sent out, it is due in 30 days and becomes delinquent in 31 days. The account will be allowed to be delinquent for 30 days before the shut off process begins. At that time, the user has the opportunity to make a payment arrangement with the requirement that all future current billings remain current. Should this not occur, shutoff will occur with further charges being assessed. We are hopeful that this stricter collection policy will help reduce the delinquencies in these funds, thereby reducing the need for rate increases.



ACADEMY FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	3,508.33
Interest	\$	0.24
Income	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	3,508.57

LISTER TRAINING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2014	\$	2,284.65
State Payment	\$	401.69
Expense	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	2,686.34

CAPITAL BUDGET RESERVE		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	108,882.07
Interest	\$	42.94
General Fund Transfer	\$	330,000.00
Trustee of Public Funds Donation	\$	-
Expenditures	\$	(320,315.98)
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	118,609.03

POLICE COMMUNITY RESOURCE		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	1,282.00
Interest	\$	0.64
Donations	\$	150.00
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	1,432.64

CDBG-DR Fund		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	-
Due to General Fund	\$	80,400.00
Due to Grant Fund	\$	50.00
Cavendish Gulf Road Expense	\$	(80,406.06)
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	43.94

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	11,624.89
Donations		
Interest	\$	1.48
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	11,626.37
Money Mkt Balance 12/31/15	\$	5,697.50

CHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	310,602.97
Interest	\$	2,014.84
Loan Payments Received	\$	19,643.59
Expenditures - The Green Paving	\$	(31,497.09)
Transfer to Investment account	\$	(297,424.87)
New Loans	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	3,339.44
People's Investment Balance 12/31/15	\$	299,860.79

REAPPRAISAL FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	187,535.76
Interest	\$	301.64
2015 State of Vermont Payment	\$	17,353.81
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	205,191.21

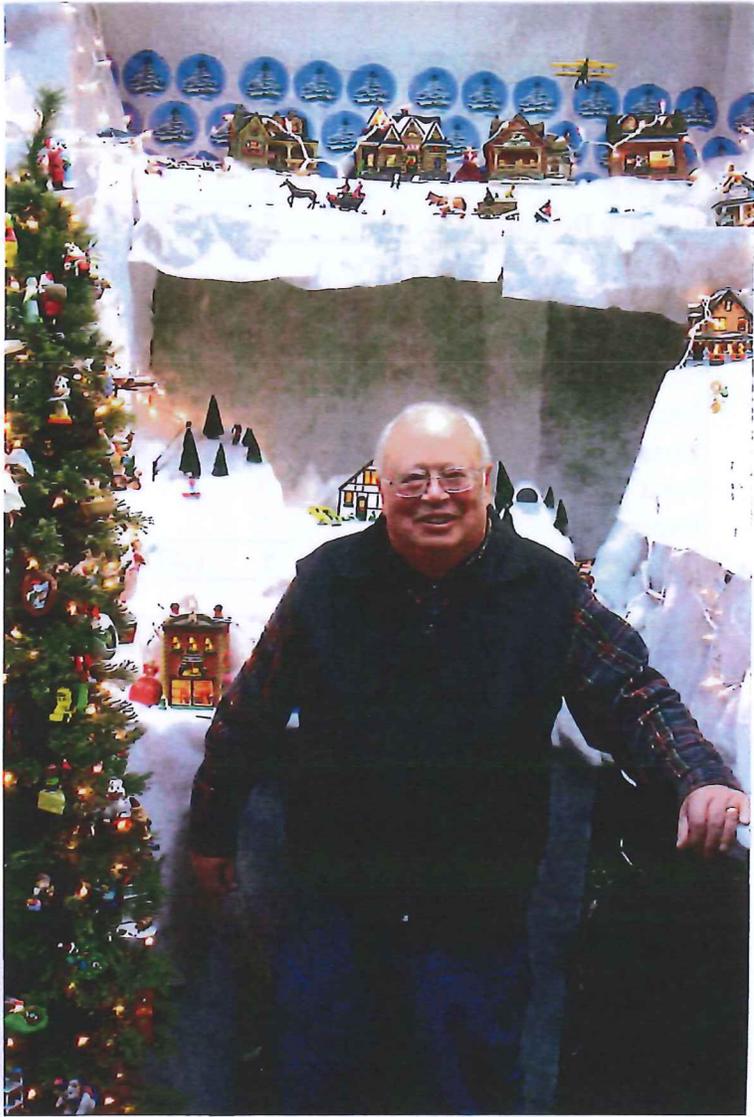
EMS BUILDING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	31,223.37
Interest	\$	31.24
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	31,254.61

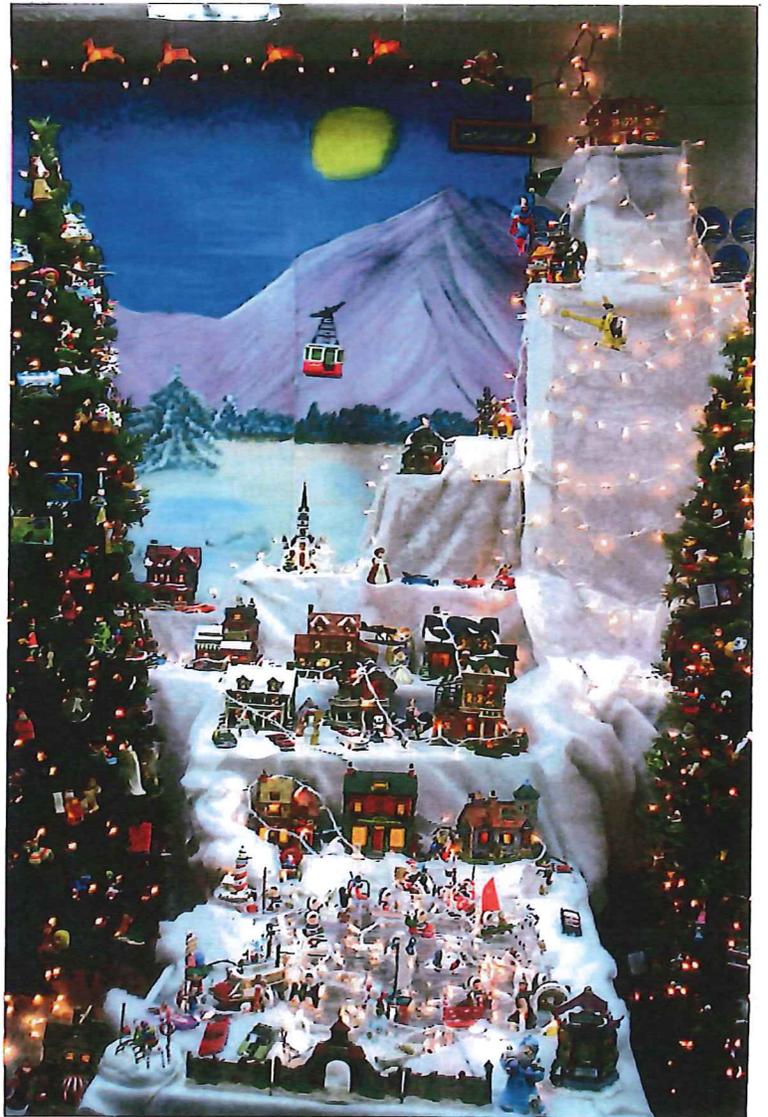
RECREATION DONATION FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	2,518.42
Interest	\$	-
Donations	\$	8,669.50
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	(5,234.73)
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	5,953.19

FORFEITURE FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	12,764.60
Interest	\$	-
Income	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	(257.48)
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	12,507.12

SAM ADAMS POOR FUND		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	1,610.41
Interest	\$	1.31
Income	\$	-
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	1,611.72

HEARSE HOUSE DONATIONS		
Balance January 1, 2015	\$	3,000.00
Donations	\$	15,900.00
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2015	\$	18,900.00





TOWN OF CHESTER LAND AND BUILDING ASSETS

DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE	VALUATION
Adams Family Aquifer	30.53	\$ 90,800
Bouchard Land, (Smokeshire Road)	.12	19,200
Cemeteries:		
Adams Road	1.00	6,500
Brookside	3.80	44,900
North Street	5.74	46,500
Pleasant View	8.90	93,400
Poplar Grove (Popple Dungeon Road)	.42	2,700
Smokeshire	.49	1,200
Spoonerville (Trebo Road)	.28	1,800
Colbeth Land (Grafton Road)	.12	16,200
Dodge Land (Reservoir Road)	9.08	57,200
Emergency Services Land	4.04	95,400
Flamstead Acres (Lot 45)	.11	13,600
Green, The	1.50	57,500
Hadley Land (Main Street)	14.10	66,300
Hammond Park (Depot Street)	.55	41,000
Historical Society Building	3.86	481,800
Jeffrey Well Site (Rt. 103 North)	17.0	834,900
Library Building	.43	623,300
McNally Land (Rt 11 West)	2.00	12,000
North Street Bridge Field	.50	32,000
Peck Land (Reservoir Road)	4.00	42,000
Perry/Pierce Land (Reservoir Road)	501.35	855,900
Quimby Land (School Street)	1.10	25,800
Recreation Area (The Pinnacle)	37.28	739,200
Salt Shed, Henry Land	.63	28,300
Suojanen Land (Reservoir Road)	.20	700
Town Garage	6.12	717,000
Town Hall	.41	580,900
Wastewater Treatment Plant	13.45	2,752,900
Water Tank Site (GMUHS)	1.00	20,000
Weatherby Farm Land (Reservoir Road)	40.00	105,000
Well Site (Canal Street)	3.00	125,800
Wiley Land (Cobleigh Street)	3.00	73,600
TOTAL	715.01	8,708,900

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
AND BOARD OF TAX ABATEMENT

In the year 2015, the Board of Civil Authority and Tax Abatement met several times to conduct business before them. One appeal for lower property assessment was brought before the Board of Civil Authority and carried through the process of review. That appeal resulted in a small reduction in the appellant's assessment as a result of concerns over access to the property.

There were six appeals this year to the Board of Tax Abatement. Two requests for abatement based on inability to pay were denied after the appellants failed to prove inability to pay to the full satisfaction of the Boards. Two appeals from the Tax Collector seeking abatement for taxes deemed uncollectable were granted; one a mobile home removed and destroyed and another as a result of a business no longer in operation. Two small abatements were granted for properties lost by fire.

The Boards of Civil Authority and Tax Abatement thank the Listers for their hard work and expertise in setting assessments and handling grievances. Their dedication makes our work much easier. Also, the relatively small number of tax abatement requests reflects awareness of how few grounds or abatement are permissible under Vermont Law.

The Board of Civil Authority conducted the biennial review of the voter checklist as required by law. The review must be done by September 15 in each odd numbered year. This means going through the entire check list, page by page (58 pages), name by name (2,238 names), identifying names of those we knew were no longer here, either by moving away or deceased, and having the Town Clerk send inquiries whenever anyone on the Board of Civil Authority had reason to ask whether the name was still properly on the list.

The only election in 2015 was the Town Meeting election. The purchase of an electronic scanner/tabulator some time ago eliminates most of the need for hand counting of ballots. However, Union District budget ballots still must be counted by hand as ballots from individual district towns must be co-mingled before counting can begin. In 2015 there were also three different votes for water system improvements.

There will be three elections in 2016. There will be the Town Meeting election, the State Primary Election and the General Election. PLEASE GET OUT AND VOTE!! There are other options for voting besides coming to the polling place on Election Day. Call the Town Office for other options.

We thank the Town Office staff and Listers for doing all of the preparation and work that makes our job so much easier.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Barrett, Chairman
Board of Civil Authority and Tax Abatement

REPORT OF THE CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Chester Historical Society had a busy year in 2015. Foremost for the Society was the Merritt Edson Day celebration and dedication of a new monument on The Green on August 15, 2015. Highlights of the day included a parade, monument dedication, distinguished speakers and a flyover by vintage aircraft. A special thank you goes to the many volunteers that helped make the day go smoothly. Thank you to Ron Patch who devoted countless hours over a span of several years putting the day together. A total of over \$22,000.00 was raised entirely by private donations to make the event happen.

The Historical Society is entirely a volunteer organization relying on dues, donations, calendar sales and yard sales to meet our expenses. General operating expenses amount to \$5,000.00 per year. We thank everyone for their donations this past year whether financial, or donations to our collection of Chester's history as well as donations of time. The Society also needs to acknowledge and thank Fran Provost, a master gardener, for maintaining the perennial beds in front of the building and between the front lawn and Brookside Cemetery.

The Society was honored by SAPA TV with its People's Choice Award for top TV documentary. The award winning program was on bridges. Ron Patch was also honored as SAPA TV's volunteer of the year.

The year 2016 marks the sesquicentennial of Chester. The Chester Historical Society was founded as a result of the Bicentennial celebration in 1966. This year marks the anniversary of the Society. 2016 faces new challenges for the Society as a new leadership team must be put in place due to resignations. Fundraising must continue and decisions must be made concerning the future of the Yosemite Engine House. Also there are necessary projects to be done within the Historical Society building itself. The archiving of our extensive collection needs to continue.

The photograph on this page is from the Edson Day Celebration of August 15, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Barrett



FOR 2015 TOWN OF CHESTER ANNUAL REPORT

CHESTER TOWNSCAPE

In spring of 2015, the Chester Beautification Committee changed its name to Chester Townscape [CT] to reflect its broader mission of beautification, civic support, and historic restoration. It then joined forces with the Green Mountain Festival Series and the Chester Economic Development Committee to form a new three-committee, tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization entitled Chester Community Alliance, Inc. [CCA] to benefit the Town's history, character, culture, and the arts with specific goals of educational and cultural enrichment, community building, historic preservation and beautification, and maintenance and development of a strong economy. Newly able to accept tax-exempt contributions through CCA, Chester Townscape continued to garner support and make progress on a broad spectrum of projects in 2015. It also secured a website through the Town of Chester at www.chestervt.gov/chester-townscape to provide the public with CT contacts on specific projects and to direct financial support. Contributions should be sent to CCA at PO Box 561, Chester, VT 05143, with the pertinent Chester Townscape project noted in the memo line.

Hearse House/Public Tomb Restoration. In early spring of 2015 the slate roof and granite walls of the Public Tomb were repaired. Funds were raised through a luncheon hosted by the Free Range Restaurant and through public appeals that allowed required funds to be placed with the Town so a contract could be signed for the carpentry work to realign and repair the wooden Hearse House by June 15, 2016. The historic cast-iron fence between the two buildings was removed in the fall for repair and refurbishment over the winter months of 2015-2016. Plans for the design of the Hearse House's educational foyer and informational components will take place in the early months of 2016, along with research on hearse houses and funeral customs in Chester, Vermont, and the nation. The public is encouraged to contact Hearse House Committee members Suzy Forlie and Lillian Willis with information, pictures, and mementos to further the information to be included. Bids are being solicited to paint the building in 2016 and to provide electricity and other services. Additional funds will be solicited in 2016 to complete the project and create an endowment for continued maintenance.

New Chester Walking Tour for Historic Chester Village. In early summer 2015, Chester Townscape published "Take a Walk along Main Street in Historic Chester Village" – a self-guided tour with 16 stops that describe historic buildings typical of life in Chester during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The tour begins at the Brookside Cemetery entrance with the Hearse House and Public Tomb. The walk continues west to Lovers Lane and returns to finish at The Common, Chester's business area across from the Village Green.

Edited by Nancy Chute, with graphic design by Lew Watters, and printed by NewsBank, Inc., the brochure features black-and-white drawings by local artists Henry Crocker, Dan Hofer, Lily Nader, I.J. Nichols, and Lew Watters. The brochure was created to encourage visits to the town by historians, artists, and scenic travelers and to further appreciation of Chester's history and character by local residents and businesses. Available free to local retailers, inns, and restaurants, the brochure has seen a number of reprints since its publication. Tax-deductible contributions to help defray ongoing printing costs are encouraged and may be sent to Chester Community Alliance, Inc. For orders, please see CT's website.

Civic Beautification. Daffodils planted in the Hearse House/Public Tomb/Brookside Cemetery area in fall of 2014, made a splendid show in spring 2015. After fading, those flowers were followed by the planting of impatiens that provided blooms all summer into fall. CT volunteers watered the impatiens and flower pots they had planted that graced public and private locations. Flower boxes were built and installed on the Route 103 bridge from Chester Depot to the Stone Village, and new fall displays replaced summer flowers in the public pots and planters. On December 1 evergreen wreaths were positioned in public places to celebrate Christmas and winter. A fall 2015 bulb campaign garnered donations that allowed additional public plantings that will provide color at the two gazebos, Whiting Library, Family Center, and other public places in spring 2016.

Additional beautification projects resulted in the repair and painting of the two gazebos and the pruning of trees in the Village Green area. In spring 2016, an additional coat of paint will be added to the gazebos, and new architectural shingles will repair their roofs.

Chester Townscape is grateful to several groups for specialized help: John Donarum, School-to-Work Coordinator at Green Mountain Union High School, and students from the Opportunities Program who dug trenches that sped up the bulb-planting process; Instructor John Harmer and horticulture students from River Valley Technical Center in Springfield for multiple pruning sessions to trees in the Village Green area; and Town of Chester workers for chipping the pruned branches.

Community Support. Financial support was given to fund additional tree lights at the Village Green by the Overture to Christmas Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Townscape Committee

Mariette Bock, Nancy Chute, Jane Davis, Suzy Forlie, Carol Gilbert,
Cheryl LeClair, John McAweeney, Chris Meyer, Nancy Rugg,
Lynn Russell, Rosann Sexton, Tory Spater, Barb Westine, Lillian Willis

Photo captions:

The Hearse House, across from Chester's Village Green, sports a banner signifying that the campaign has begun to complete the restoration of the building and the creation of its educational/informational center. Contributions are needed and should be sent to Chester Community Alliance, Inc. Anyone with pertinent photos or historical items or data is urged to contact Suzy Forlie at 875-3634 or Lillian Willis at 875-1340.

Here nine of eleven participating Chester Townscape volunteers are shown planting flowers in 42 pots for public and private locations in 2015 as part of CT's beautification program.





Yosemite Engine Company
End of Year Report

It has been an eventful year for the Yosemite Engine Company. In 2015 we were able to donate more than \$38,000 worth of equipment to the town of Chester. This equipment includes 17 sets of turnout gear, boot Ice cleats, and a swift water rescue boat. In addition to that we also were able to outfit five more members in dress uniforms, making it so almost all members are now outfitted.

We have had continued success with our Christmas tree sales, as well as the Sale on the Green. That said we also continue to have a lot of Christmas trees stolen. If I had to guess this year we had somewhere in the range of 20-30 trees (\$500-\$750) taken without being paid for. We keep our prices low, and make very little profit off of each tree so PLEASE pay in full. We use the honor system when we aren't manning the trailer and hope to continue selling trees in the years to come. If you aren't able to afford a tree please reach out to us instead of taking one, and we will ensure you have a tree for Christmas.

We were also very fortunate as far as donations this year. We had several sizable donations, including one that paid for almost all of the turnout gear we donated to the town. This donation was made in honor of Retired Fire Chief Harry Goodell. Without these donations, large or small, we wouldn't be able to give back to the community in the manner we do.

The Yosemite Engine Company would like to personally thank all those who have supported us and the Chester Fire Department through the years. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by sending cash or check to The Yosemite Engine Company – PO Box 631, Chester VT, 05143. Those in need of our EIN# for donations, please reach out to us and we will provide it to you.

Yosemite Engine Company
President- Ben Whalen

RABIES ALERT

Rabies is a disease that can kill animals and people.



- * Vermont law requires rabies shots for all CATS and DOGS.
- * Rabies shots help protect pets and pet owners from rabies.
- * Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance. Remember, rabid animals have been found in all Vermont counties.



Questions? Call the Vermont Rabies Hotline
1-800-4-RABIES (472-2437)

Vermont Department of Health • Health Surveillance Division
P.O. Box 70, Burlington, VT 05402 • 863-7260 or 1-800-640-4374

2016 DOG AND CAT RABIES CLINIC CHESTER, VERMONT

Saturday, March 12, 2016, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Chester Town Garage

Licenses are available for Chester residents only

Reminder to renew dog licenses by April 1

Neutered: \$9; Non-Neutered: \$13

After April 1

Neutered: \$11; Non-Neutered: \$17

Report of the Health Officer

Dear Fellow Chester Residents,

Greetings from the Chester Town Health Officer, as per usual I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. There were no big town issues this year that involved the health officer other than the usual phone calls concerning rental housing codes and some issues of improper waste disposal. Some of the mosquitos in the state of Vermont have tested positive for West Nile Virus, so when we are lucky enough to welcome the arrival of spring, be sure to cover up and use natural bug repellent, also do not have standing water that can be avoided as that is where mosquitos lay their eggs.

I would like to talk a little about drug abuse and addiction. As you are all aware we are in the midst of a continuing opioid epidemic. What started as prescription opioids has branched out into heroin use and abuse. What we all need to understand is that it does not take a long period of time to become physically and mentally addicted to any type of opioid. Many addictions start off with people who have an illness or surgery. If you are having surgery and you are prescribed a narcotic beware. In as little as 2 weeks time on a prescription narcotic you can become physically addicted. Withdrawal symptoms include shaking, headache, nausea, and flu-like symptoms. The cure is to take another pill. One of the known main side effects of narcotics is they are physically addicting. There is no human out there who will not experience physical addiction if taking a narcotic long enough. The labels on these bottles have no warning that states this well known fact. If you are prescribed a narcotic, use as needed and sparingly. When you no longer need this medication, dispose of it. These narcotics left in medicine cabinets can and do fall in to the wrong hands. Ask your pharmacist the best way to dispose of these highly addictive medicines. The overprescribing of these medications did fall into the wrong hands and created a younger population with a narcotics addiction. These medications were sold in our very community including in the high school. This is a nationwide problem as well, and opened the door for heroin to come to our country as it was a lot cheaper to buy on the street than what the prescription drugs were sold for.

What can we do to fight opioid addiction? Awareness is step one. Don't leave narcotics in your medicine cabinet. Don't take any narcotic if you can substitute Advil, aspirin or Tylenol. Support treatment programs any way you can. Do not judge, as with any addiction it is a disease. Report to the police any suspicious behavior, and support legislation that does not treat drug addicts as criminals if they are nonviolent offenders. We need to work as a community and as a society to make people feel valued and that all lives matter. If you suspect your child is having addiction problems go online and order a urine drug testing kit. They are relatively cheap, and the urine doesn't lie!! The earliest intervention can save a life and can prevent others from becoming addicted due to peer pressure. We must fight this as a community and as a society so that the quality of life is better for all.

Also, if you have questions for the town health officer please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted
Leslie M Thorsen RN BBA

REPORT OF TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS 2015

The annual meeting of the Trustee of Public Funds was held in January 2016 with the Wealth Management Trust Officers of Peoples United Bank. The economic conditions of 2015 were discussed regarding the investment of funds and periodic reports relative to the assets held in the mutual and equity funds.

The Chester Beautification Committee presented an informative request for funds to restore the Hearse House, fence and public tomb for the Brookside Cemetery. After their presentation and discussion it was decided to release \$5000.00 from the Cemetery funds for this restoration.

Anyone may donate funds to the Town of Chester for a specific project . The Trustees of Public Funds would require a letter with your donation and instructions of the disbursement for the life of the funds.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley A. Barrett
Erron J. Carey
Sandra K. Walker

STATEMENT OF TRUST FUNDS
HELD BY THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2015

INVESTMENTS	MARKET VALUE
Net Income	\$ 8,036.11
Principal Money Market Fund	\$47,369.77
Mutual Funds Fixed Income	\$238,181.76
Equity	\$335,619.76
Real Assets	\$ 7,642.18
 Total Investments	 \$636,849.58

\$8036.11 to be disbursed to the Town of Chester

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS
PAYABLE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015

Due to the Town of Chester	\$6,748.29
Due Chester Town School District Abby Ingalls School Fund	16.51
Due Chester Schools	1,271.31
 TOTAL	 \$8,036.11

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS 2015**

	Receipts		Disbursements			Invested Principal
	Income	Principal	To Town	To Schools	To Cemetery	
Cemetery Fund	\$ 2,555.06		\$ 2,555.06			\$ -
Campbell for Poor	216.20		216.20			
Samuel Adams Cemetery	0.66		0.66			
Howe-Peabody	1,250.76		1,250.76			
Fullerton Cemetery	10.76		10.76			
Samuel Adams Poor	674.97		674.97			
Salter Poor Fund	16.52		16.52			
Cyprus Minerals	2,023.36		2,023.36			
Abbie Ingalls School	16.52			16.52		
Williams School Fund	1,271.31			1,271.31		
Capital Gains Distributions		9,877.17				\$9,877.17
	<u>\$ 8,036.11</u>	<u>\$ 9,877.17</u>	<u>\$ 6,748.29</u>	<u>\$ 1,287.82</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$9,877.17</u>
Ino MMkt Bal 12/31/15	\$ 8,036.11					

12/31/2015 Year- End Market Value	Contribution Amount	Total
\$636,849.58		\$636,849.58

	Old %		New %
Cemetery Fund	32.320%	\$202,484.66	31.79%
Campbell for Poor	2.670%	\$17,133.39	2.69%
Samuel Adams Cemetery	0.010%	\$52.10	0.01%
Howe Peabody	15.450%	\$99,120.97	15.56%
Fullerton Cemetery	0.130%	\$853.09	0.13%
Samuel Adams Poor	8.330%	\$53,490.55	8.40%
Salter Poor Fund	0.200%	\$1,308.94	0.21%
Cyprus Minerals	24.990%	\$160,347.93	25.18%
Abbie Ingalls School	0.200%	\$1,308.94	0.21%
Williams School Fund	15.700%	\$100,749.01	15.82%
	100.00%	\$636,849.58	100.00%

Whiting Library
2015 Annual Report

Providing books to the community remains the foundation of Whiting Library's mission. To stimulate imagination and sustain learning using all resources are the goals of Whiting Library. The traditional oak shelves are filled with 8360 adult books, 4750 juvenile and teen books, and thirty-seven magazine subscriptions. For entertainment beyond the page there are also 1100 DVDs and 430 audios. The Vermont Room holds both historical items for research, and access to Newsbank databases, donated to the Library for historical research. William Dakin, Esq. graciously donated the newest additions to the Vermont Room, the "Acts and Resolves of the General Assembly, 1888," which includes the act creating Whiting Library.

In addition there are fifty other databases available from any computer, two telescopes, a microscope, cake pans, garden tools, knitting and crochet supplies, puppets and a collection of minerals, as well as free and reduced passes to museums and parks.

In 2015 the Library was open 1560 hours, had approximately three hundred visitors per week, and circulated nearly 17,000 items. Three hundred items were borrowed from other libraries for our patrons and fifty items sent for the benefit of others. There are seven public computer stations, used by thirty-five people each week. The Library currently has 1450 registered borrowers.

Whiting Library offered twenty-four adult programs (245 attendees) and sixty-six programs for children (553 attendees) during the year. Our book discussion group read *Call of the Wild*, *East of Eden*, *Jane Eyre*, *Treasure Island*, *Agincourt*, *Seabiscuit*, *Wolf Hall*, *In God We Trust-All Others Pay Cash*, *Light Between Oceans*, *Last Night in Twisted River*, *The Known World*, and *Round House*.

Interesting and educational programs included the Art of Zentangle conducted by Jennifer Fraser, Book Binding with Malcolm Summers, a Fleece to Yarn demonstration, Planning for College by Wendy Hayward, Windows 10, Windows File Systems and The Language Of Digital Gestures by Cathy Hasbrouck, and two programs offered by The Nature Museum of Grafton on invertebrates and skeletons. There was a well-attended Steve McQueen film series for cabin fever sufferers held in the dark early months featuring the Magnificent Seven, Bullitt, The Great Escape, The Reivers and Papillon.

Continuing art shows brightened the Library walls and inspired many with the paintings of Denis Chasse, paintings and colored pencil works of Maria Formoso, travel photos of Charlea Baker, botanical watercolors of Stephanie Whitney-Payne, and landscapes from the travels of Wendy Hayward.

The Library took part in the state-wide Passport to Vermont Libraries Program offered by the Vermont Library Association. Our local winners were Lily and Noah Jones who each visited

seventeen libraries with their mother Amy. Noah also won a special prize from the VLA. The Library proudly hosted "Vermont Homestead," the winning entry from the Saint Luke's Episcopal Church Lego contest, by fifth-grader Jacob Thayer, and received a generous donation from this popular fund-raising event.

The annual Summer Reading Program "Every Hero has a Story" attracted a core group of eighty-one children, who read 550 picture books and 116 chapter books. 105 kids and adults attended special events and programs following a Super Hero theme. They created Super Hero capes and "flew" over buildings in a photo booth. We were visited by Lazlo the service dog who does therapy with veterans, while the kids made dog bandanas and dog treats. We met Chester Police Officer Adam Woodell, who was a Super Star with the kids, and perfected special skills at Super Hero training camp, concluding with the annual tie-dye extravaganza. Incentive prizes and recreational supplies were funded, in part by the Kyrias Foundation. Programs and materials for the children of our community are also generously supported by Jack Carlock and Helene Linn.

The faded Library sign was replaced through a donation from the Vermont Country Store. The bright new sign was designed and painted by Southern Vermont Signworks of Manchester, VT. Daily volunteers gave the Library twelve hours each week throughout the year, and many more hours were given behind the scenes. Volunteers Kamryn Ravlin, Doris Hastings, Jonne Adler, Cindy Collins, Elizabeth Moulton, Daryl Gustafson, Chris Blodgett appeared each week. Carol Hoyt tended library gardens, Cathy Hasbrouck gave many hours of computer help and Mark Tanzer hauled all the recycling, Arlene Mutchler and Oreo offered their time and skills. These volunteers are cherished every day, and were honored in June with a breakfast gathering. The Library had a very successful fall foliage book sale with the assistance of Jessica Buchanan, Bruce Parks, John Donorum and Green Mountain Union High School students, the intrepid book-toting, tent-wrangling, envelope-stuffing, show shoveling crew who volunteer their time and energy through "School to Work Program."

Whiting Library Board of Trustees, Kathy Pellett, David Lord, Mariette Bock, and MaryLou Farr welcomed new trustees John Holme, Charlene Huyler and Carrie King. We offer many thanks to Lynda Tallarico, Bruce Parks and Suzy Forlie who ended their terms on the board. Theone Wallace, Youth Services Librarian ended her service, Jeanne Waldren retired (again) to travel and Karin Fischer became the new Youth Services Librarian. Your Library assistants remain Richard Hoffmann and Willard Wilcox, Sharon Tanzer-Director.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Pellett, Chair of the Board of Trustees

Sharon Tanzer, Director

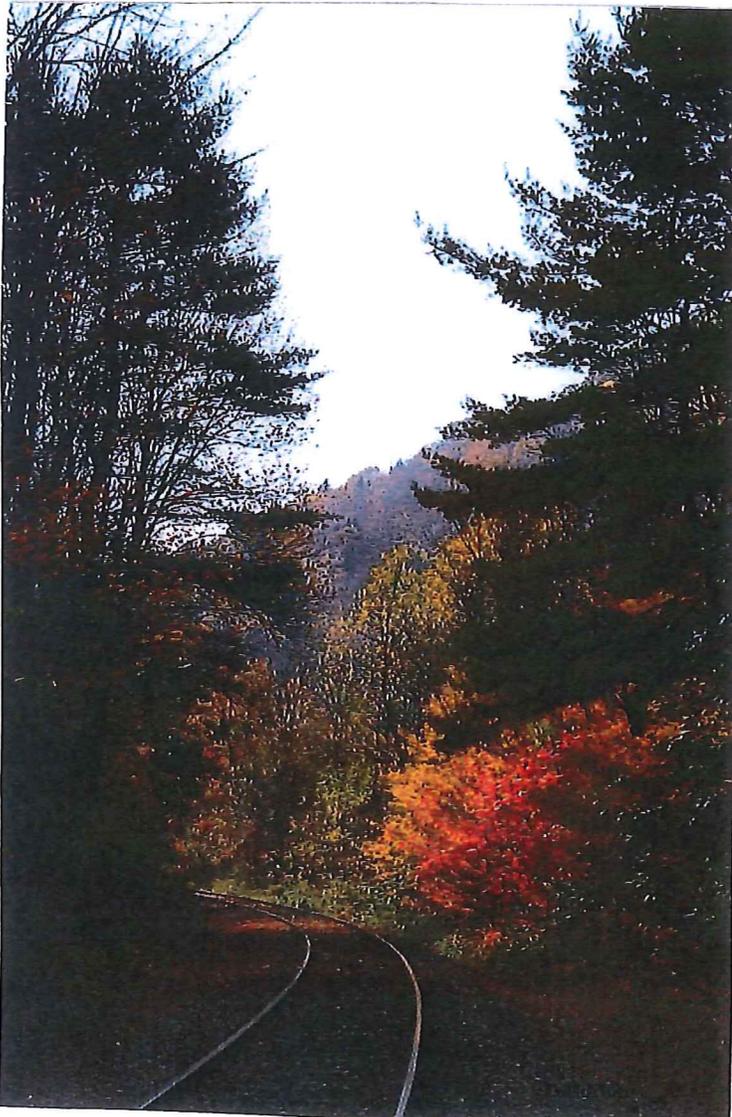


LIBRARY

	2014 Cash	2015 Cash	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
Revenues				
05-311-01 Dividends	\$2,446.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175.00
05-311-02 Interest	\$653.34	\$716.40	\$800.00	\$0.00
05-311-03 Town of Chester	\$67,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00
05-311-04 Grants/Programs	\$63.00	\$213.90	\$200.00	\$200.00
05-311-05 Fund Raising	\$17,344.00	\$14,471.95	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
05-311-06 Town of Andover	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
05-311-07 Raffles	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
05-311-10 Donations	\$2,888.05	\$3,366.65	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
05-311-11 Book Sales	\$2,200.68	\$2,760.11	\$2,200.00	\$2,400.00
05-311-12 Lost Items	\$373.88	\$319.84	\$200.00	\$300.00
05-311-14 Copier	\$791.17	\$803.61	\$800.00	\$800.00
05-311-15 Fines	\$1,859.49	\$1,820.79	\$1,500.00	\$1,800.00
05-311-17 Non-Resident Fees	\$330.00	\$375.00	\$195.00	\$255.00
05-311-25 Checking Acct Transfer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,930.00	\$4,073.00
	\$98,269.86	\$99,048.25	\$108,375.00	\$101,403.00
Expenses				
05-415-10 Payroll	\$69,052.14	\$70,766.43	\$75,460.00	\$69,431.00
05-415-11 Payroll Expense	\$5,931.58	\$6,078.85	\$6,415.00	\$5,902.00
05-415-20 Administration	\$428.40	\$640.47	\$800.00	\$800.00
05-415-21 Fund Raising	\$2,458.14	\$1,378.06	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
05-415-22 Professional Development	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
05-415-23 Travel	\$165.14	\$314.18	\$150.00	\$150.00
05-415-25 Books & Materials	\$10,519.58	\$10,887.08	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
05-415-30 Bank Charges	\$0.00	(\$122.09)	\$0.00	\$0.00
05-415-34 Programs	\$1,606.33	\$1,120.43	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
05-415-35 Postage	\$970.83	\$1,161.02	\$950.00	\$1,200.00
05-415-41 Supplies	\$3,945.45	\$4,085.85	\$3,500.00	\$3,700.00
05-415-56 Telephone	\$883.07	\$891.78	\$800.00	\$900.00
05-415-60 Copier	\$1,225.40	\$839.64	\$1,000.00	\$720.00
05-415-70 Equipment	\$840.28	\$647.51	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00
05-415-80 Repair & Maint	\$1,599.93	\$6,247.36	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
05-415-84 Proteus Grant Exp	\$409.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$100,086.16	\$105,001.57	\$108,375.00	\$101,403.00
Net Income	(\$1,816.30)	(\$5,953.32)	\$0.00	\$0.00

**05-101-11 Library
Balance Sheet
As of January 25, 2016**

	Jan 25, 16
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
05-101-11 Library - People's	81,274.65
Petty Cash Account	200.00
TD Bank Money Market	30,550.54
Total Checking/Savings	112,025.19
Other Current Assets	
People's Bank/Wealth Management	88,344.48
Vermont Community Loan Fund	20,313.97
Total Other Current Assets	108,658.45
Total Current Assets	220,683.64
TOTAL ASSETS	220,683.64
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Fund Balance - Whiting Library	87,277.27
Opening Bal Equity	50,424.79
Retained Earnings	83,710.84
Net Income	-729.26
Total Equity	220,683.64
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	220,683.64



Chester Town School District
Proposed Budget
FY 2016-2017

	Budget FY2015	Actual FY2015	Budget FY2016	Proposed FY2017
EXPENDITURES				
Pre-school Collaborative	126,245	114,370	121,114	134,212
Special Education				
EEE	60,794	65,919	62,784	75,132
Related Services	3,500	6,526	3,500	3,500
Supervisory Union Assessment	14,140	14,140	14,664	15,053
Bank Charges	35	0	35	25
Bank Interest	100	0	0	0
School Directors	75	75	75	75
Clerk Treasurer	500	500	500	500
Supplies	100	128	100	100
Audit Fee	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	205,489	201,658	202,772	228,597
REVENUES				
Prior Year Surplus (Deficit)	10,500	5,716	4,791	4,784
Abbie Ingalls Fund	0	16	0	16
Williams Fund	0	1,246	0	1,250
Interest	250	41	125	125
EEE State Grant	22,568	22,568	26,550	30,194
Merger Tax Incentive (one time)	0	0	0	0
Prior Year Assess't Refund	0	0	0	0
Education Spending Revenue	172,171	172,071	171,306	192,228
TOTAL	205,489	201,658	202,772	228,597

District: **Chester**
County: **Windsor**

LEA: **T047**
S.U.: **Two Rivers**

1. Local budgeted expenditures including any separate articles		228,597	1.
2. Act 144 expenditures		-	2.
3. Obligation to a regional technical center school district if any		-	3.
4. Obligation to repay a deficit per 24 V.S.A. § 1523(b)		-	4.
5. Obligation to repay difference between allowable and announced tuition		-	5.
6. Total Expenditures net of Act 144 dollars	(lines 1 + 3 + 4 + 5) - line 2	228,597	6.
7. Offsetting revenues (do NOT include revcode 3114, the on-behalf payment)		36,369	7.
8. Act 144 dedicated revenues	line 2 - line 8	-	8.
9. Act 144 expenditures to raise locally	line 7 - (lines 8 + 9)	36,369	9.
10. Offsetting revenues less Act 144 revenues		-	10.
11. Initial Education Spending	line 6 - line 10	192,228	11.
12. Capital debt hold-harmless aid	line 16, 'CDaid' page	-	12.
13. Education Spending	line 11 - line 12	192,228	13.
14. Equalized pupils		16.97	14.
15. Education spending per equalized pupil	line 13 / line 14	11,327.52	15.

Excess Spending Calculation - secs. 37 & 38 of Act 46, 2015

16. Per pupil figure to use for Excess Spending	line 15	11,327.52	16.
17. Per equalized pupil spending threshold for FY2017		11,035.62	17.
18. Per pupil spending above the threshold	line 16 - line 17	291.90	18.

19. Per pupil figure used for calculating District equalized tax rate	line 15 + line 17	11,619.42	19.
20. Property Tax Yield per \$1.00 of tax rate		9,870.00	20.
21. Equalized homestead tax rate to be prorated	11,619.42 / 9,870 (lines 19 & 20)	1.1772	21.
22. Percent of Chester equalized pupils not in a union school district		4.15%	22.
23. Portion of equalized homestead tax rate to be assessed by town	lines 21 x line 22	0.0489	23.
24. Common level of appraisal		115.87%	24.
25. Estimated actual homestead tax rate of district to be assessed	lines 23 / line 24	0.0422	25.
26. Equalized homestead rate from Green Mountain UHSD #35	MANUAL →	1.4376	26.
27. Percent of Chester equalized pupils at Green Mountain UHSD #35		51.59%	27.
28. Prorated equalized rate from Green Mountain UHSD #35		0.7417	28.
29. Estimated actual rate from Green Mountain UHSD #35 to be assessed	lines 28 / line 24	0.6401	29.
30. Equalized prorated rate from Chester - Andover UESD #29	MANUAL →	1.4615	30.
31. Estimated actual prorated rate from Chester - Andover UESD #29		44.26%	31.
32. Estimated actual prorated rate from Chester - Andover UESD #29	lines 32 / line 24	0.6469	32.
33. Total equalized homestead rate for Chester	lines 34 + 39 + 43	1.4375	34.
35. Total estimated actual homestead rate for Chester	lines 36 + 40 + 44	1.2406	35.
36. Equalized non-residential tax rate		1.538	36.
37. Estimated actual non-residential tax rate	lines 35 / line 24	1.3273	37.

38. Education spending	line 13	192,228	38.
39. Tech FTE's		-	39.
40. Base education amount for tech FTE's, paid on behalf of district (This is not a local revenue. It reduces the education spending a district is owed.)	line 39 x 9,870 x 87%	-	40.
41. Adjusted education spending due the district from Ed Fund	lines 38 - 40	192,228	41.
42. Amount to raise locally for Act 144	line 9	-	42.

43. Per pupil figure used for calculating District Household Income Percentage	line 19	11,619.42	43.
44. Income Yield per 2.0% of household income		11,065	44.
45. Chester household income percentage to be prorated	11,619.42 / 11,065 x 2.00% (lines 43 & 44)	2.10%	45.
46. Prorated income cap percentage for Chester education property tax if eligible	4.15% x 2.10% (lines 22 & 45)	0.09%	46.
47. Income percentage from Green Mountain UHSD #35	'FY17EstUnion', line 18 (%)	1.32%	47.
48. Prorated income cap percentage from Green Mountain UHSD #35	51.59% x 1.32% (lines 27 & 47)	0.68%	48.
49. Spending adjustment from Chester - Andover UESD #29	'FY17EstUnion', line 18 (%)	1.16%	49.
50. Prorated income cap percentage from Chester - Andover UESD #29	51.59% x 1.16%	0.51%	50.
51. Estimated income cap percentage for Chester education property tax		1.28%	51.

District: Chester County: Windsor		T047 Two Rivers		Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$9,870 of spending per equalized pupil
				9,870	1.00
				11,065	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income
Expenditures		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
1.	Budget (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 14 expenditures)	\$208,273	\$205,389	\$202,772	\$228,597
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-
4.	Locally adopted or warned budget	\$208,273	\$205,389	\$202,772	\$228,597
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-
7.	Total Budget	\$208,273	\$205,389	\$202,772	\$228,597
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	\$15,053
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
Revenues					
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$40,507	\$33,318	\$31,466	\$36,369
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenue (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-
13.	Offsetting revenues	\$40,507	\$33,318	\$31,466	\$36,369
14.	Education Spending	\$167,766	\$172,071	\$171,306	\$192,228
15.	Equalized Pupils <i>This town belongs to two unions and the Local Education spending is attributed to these equalized pupils per Business Manager</i>	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	16.97
16.	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$9,586.63	\$10,856.21	\$10,561.41	\$11,327.52
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	NA
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	NA
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	NA
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	NA
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	NA
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	NA
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	NA	NA	#N/A	NA
25.	plus Allowable growth per pupil spending threshold (secs. 37 & 38, Act 46, 2015)	NA	NA	NA	\$11,035.62
26.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	\$291.90
27.	plus Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$9,587	\$10,856	\$10,561	\$11,619.42
28.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	104,760% <i>based on \$9,151</i>	116,922% <i>based on \$9,285</i>	111,655% <i>based on \$9,459</i>	NA
Prorating the local tax rate					
29.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) (\$11,619.42 + (\$9,870.00 / \$1,000))	\$0.9847 <i>based on \$9.91</i>	\$1.1458 <i>based on \$9.99</i>	\$1.1054 <i>based on \$9.99</i>	\$1.1772 <i>based on \$1.00</i>
30.	Percent of Chester equalized pupils behind local SD costs	4.00%	3.75%	3.98%	4.15%
31.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (4.15% x \$1.18)	\$0.0394	\$0.0430	\$0.0440	\$0.0489
32.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	105.43%	102.69%	111.05%	115.87%
33.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.0489 / 115.87%)	\$0.0370 <i>based on \$9.94</i>	\$0.0419 <i>based on \$9.98</i>	\$0.0396 <i>based on \$9.99</i>	\$0.0422 <i>based on \$1.00</i>
<p>If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.</p>					
34.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) ((\$11,619.42 + \$11,065) x 2.00%)	1.89% <i>based on 1.80%</i>	2.10% <i>based on 1.80%</i>	2.01% <i>based on 1.80%</i>	2.10% <i>based on 2.00%</i>
35.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (4.15% x 2.10%)	0.08% <i>based on 1.80%</i>	0.08% <i>based on 1.94%</i>	0.08% <i>based on 1.94%</i>	0.09% <i>based on 2.00%</i>
36.	Percent of equalized pupils at Chester-Andover UESD	47.60%	45.76%	43.90%	44.26%
37.	Percent of equalized pupils at Green Mountain UHSD	48.40%	50.49%	52.12%	51.59%

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,955 for every \$1,000 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,157 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1,538. New and updated data have changed the proposed property yield to \$9,870 and the income yield to \$11,065.
 - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
 - The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

**Two Rivers Supervisory Union
FY 2017 Proposed Budget Summary**

	Budget FY 2015	Actual FY 2015	Budget FY 2016	Budget FY 2017
Central Office (Equalized Pupil)				
General Administration	440,339	427,867	431,129	384,259
Finance	178,358	174,967	191,527	200,615
Bookkeeping	231,745	226,934	232,716	231,114
Operations & Maint	100,250	106,944	106,580	106,503
SU Technology	105,605	106,703	103,684	111,983
English as a 2nd Language	13,896	12,634	12,919	26,809
Sub Total	1,070,193	1,056,049	1,078,555	1,061,283
Revenue Offsets				
Medicaid Reimbursement	43,053	28,224	28,193	35,921
Fund Surplus	0	0	15,000	0
Banking Interest	0	0	0	1,500
Misc Revenue	0	7,388	1,500	10,000
E-Rate Reimbursement	0	6,495	2,500	2,500
Sub Total	43,053	42,107	47,193	49,921
Central Office Total	1,027,140	1,013,942	1,031,362	1,011,362
Tech School Support (EqPup)				
Two FTE's and ENA; Various Programs	0	12,289	259,338	268,400
Less: E-Rate Reimbursement	0	0	91,200	91,200
Tech Support Total	0	12,289	168,138	177,200
Special Education (Child Count)				
Kindergarten-12th Grade	328,528	363,306	2,577,375	2,733,811
Early Essential Education in Schools	0	0	114,285	119,247
Early Essential Collaborative*	118,681	123,050	117,435	125,140
Special Ed Total	447,209	486,356	2,809,095	2,978,198
Preschool Collaborative*	250,849	239,765	238,005	262,552
*Preschool/EEE shared by Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish and Chester				
Grants (Estimates)				
IDEA-B	309,000	347,906	322,000	340,000
Title I	350,000	383,594	438,084	438,084
Title IIA	165,000	130,075	127,016	127,016
21st Century Grant (After School)	200,000	229,170	80,000	86,000
Grant Total	1,024,000	1,090,745	967,100	991,100
Summary				
Net TRSU FY17 Proposed Budget	2,749,198	2,843,097	5,213,700	5,420,412
Offsetting Revenues	43,053	42,107	138,393	141,121
Grand Total of Expense for Approval	2,792,251	2,885,204	5,352,093	5,561,533

Contact Christopher Adams, TRSU Finance Director, for budget details upon request at:
chris.adams@trsu.org or by phone at 802 875-6423

**SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD FIND NOTICE
TWO RIVERS SUPERVISORY UNION**

Two Rivers Supervisory Union is required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to locate, evaluate and identify all persons with disabilities between the ages of birth through 21 who may be in need of special education related services or accommodations in order to access a free appropriate public education and to provide such needed services for those ages 3 through 21. Services for children birth to 3 years are provided in conjunction with Part H Services of the Family, Infant and Toddler Project of Vermont. If you know of a person residing in the towns of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Mount Holly, or Plymouth you believe has such needs but is not currently receiving services, please contact the Director of Special Services at (802) 875-6428.

NON-DISCRIMINATION DISCLAIMER

The School Board recognizes its obligation to respect the legal rights of all students, parents, employees, and applicants, for admission or employment and those conducting business with the district. The Board will comply with all applicable federal and state non-discrimination laws including *Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act*, and will not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, handicapping condition and/or disability or sexual orientation. A process of referral, evaluation and placement of handicapped students exists in accordance with Section 504. The Superintendent shall notify appropriate persons of this policy and of the grievance procedure whereby claims of discrimination may be processed including the right to contact the Human Rights Commission in Montpelier and the Regional Office of Civil Rights in Boston. Information on these and other sources of assistance is contained in the grievance procedure.

SIZE OF THE TWO RIVERS SUPERVISORY UNION

<u>SCHOOL BOARDS:</u>	<u>DIRECTORS</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
Andover Town	3	1
Baltimore Town	3	1
Chester Town	3	1
Plymouth Town	3	1
Black River Middle High School	6	3
Cavendish Town Elementary School	5	3
Chester-Andover Elementary School	5	3
Green Mountain Union High School	7	3
Ludlow Elementary School	5	3
Mount Holly Elementary School	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>
	45	22

The Chester-Andover Elementary School Board has representation on the Supervisory Union Board in accordance with the Vermont Statutes.

FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDS AND PROGRAMS

Please see the Chester-Andover and Green Mountain Annual Reports

CONTINUED COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

Agendas and Minutes of the Two Rivers Supervisory Union School District Board meetings are posted at the respective Town Offices. They can also be viewed on the school website.

The Approved Budget FY 2016-2017 and the Audit Report FY 2014-2015 can also be viewed on the school website.
su.trsu.org

The public is invited and encouraged to attend meetings.

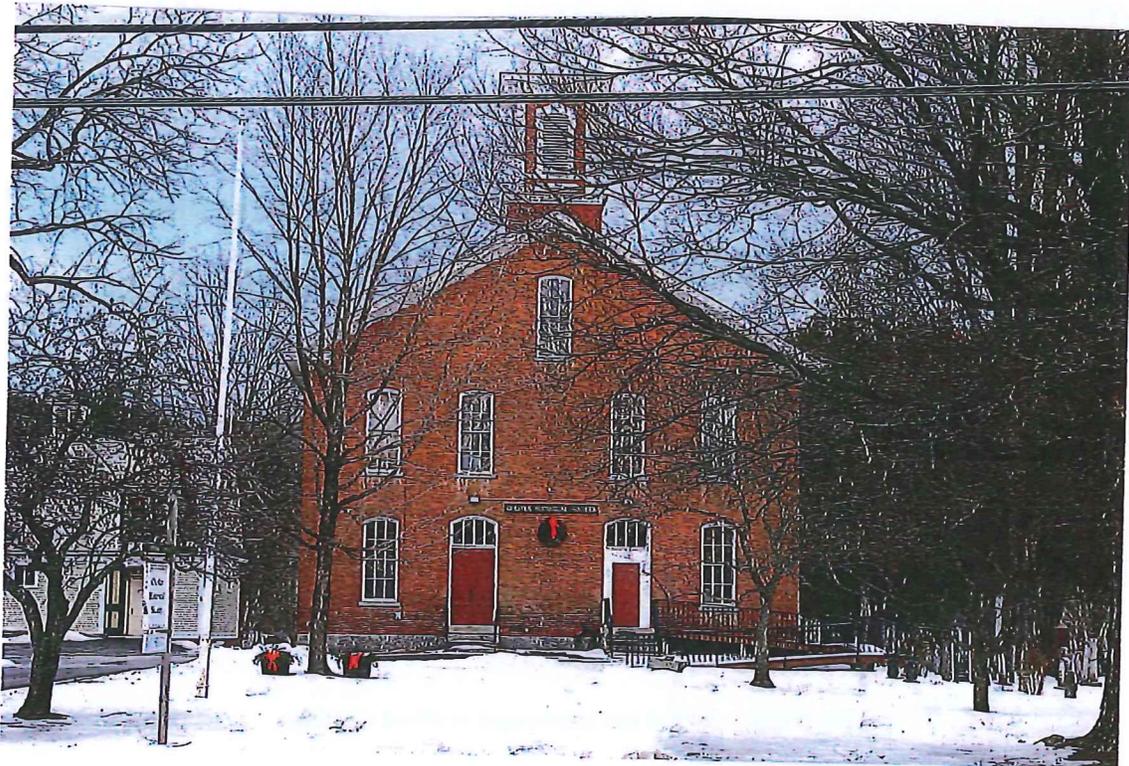
Two Rivers Supervisory Union School Boards meet regularly each month.

Please call Two Rivers Supervisory Union to confirm: 802-875-3365

ENROLLMENT

The following is the Chester Town School District K-12 grade enrollment of students attending Chester-Andover Elementary School and Green Mountain Union High School as of October 8, 2015:

	Pre K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
CAES	35	30	16	27	30	22	22	28							175
GMUHS									23	28	40	34	36	29	190
Total															365



2015 Annual Report

Recycle

The majority of fiscal year 2015 was spent in preparation for the first of several aspects of Vermont's new recycle law, act 148. For anyone who may have missed it, the State of Vermont banned various items from disposal in the landfill. The items banned are mostly packaging stuff, cans, bottles, boxes and the like. Also included in the ban is printed material, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, so on and so forth. There was much worry and consternation as to whether the increased volume of all this material would overwhelm our little recycling center.

I would like to tell you how all that worked out but it didn't happen in this fiscal year so I can't. Truth be told, I had all but finished the first draft of this thing when I realized that none of the stuff I had written about had. It's a shame too, some of the info would have been of more interest at the time of publication than it will be in the next report.

I had written about a growing need for more or better equipment. I had also written, with some pleasure, about our center, and the Waste Management District's participation in a program called Pedals for Progress. Each year that group collects both bicycles and sewing machines and sends them overseas where they can make a big difference for individuals and communities. For more info about this program have a look at www.p4p.org Springfield collected and shipped over 25 sewing machines the first time, (no room for bicycles) and have started collecting for next year, So if you have a working but unused sewing machine bring it at any time.

The search for something to write about, from the fiscal year, didn't yield much outside the norm. I do want to thank our highly prized volunteers starting with the women who maintain our garden space that seems to improve and grow larger every year. Also, of course, a big thanks to Andrea and her crew at the Second Chance store; without whom there would be no such resource here. Other volunteers work alongside the crew processing and stockpiling the recyclable. The cast and crew have also done a notable job managing the ever-increasing flow of materials.

The first draft ended with the Reuse / Recycle awards. Honorable mention went to the guy who modified a log splitter to squeeze apple cider. That was great! However, first prize goes to all the participants who made Springfield's Steam Punk Festival a success. The Recycle center would like to be seen as more a part of the community by supporting events like this. We may only be able to act as a collection point for some of the materials the artisans need. Perhaps a list could be posted in the local paper. For example, last year small metal gears from old wind up clocks were highly sought after.

In the big picture we are a part of the whole; at the time of this writing the world economy is in a down turn. It is felt here with some loss of income from the recycled materials. Ups and downs are the nature of the game, things will get better, so for generations unborn keep bringing your stuff.

Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission

The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) is an organization that serves ten towns in the southern Windsor County Region. Member towns are comprised of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Reading, Springfield, Weathersfield, West Windsor, and Windsor. SWCRPC's mission includes two major activities: assisting member towns with their planning and other community related activities, as well as promoting cooperation and coordination among towns.

During FY15, member towns contributed 3% to the Regional Planning Commission's annual budget of \$790,539. Town dues assessment of \$3,943 was determined on a \$1.25 per person based upon 2010 Census data. The remaining revenues were derived from federal and state funding sources. Federal funding supported transportation planning activities, the administration of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and the Southern Windsor County Brownfields Reuse Project. State funds were derived from the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) for environmental planning, and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) for land use planning and other related activities.

The Southern Windsor County Transportation Advisory Committee (SWCTAC) is an advisory committee of the Regional Planning Commission. SWCTAC's primary responsibilities are to make recommendations on regional transportation policies, review and provide comment on Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) projects, identify and rank town/regional transportation improvements for submission to VTrans, and provide input on regional transportation studies.

During FY15, the SWCRPC staff provided continued guidance and support with refining the Unified Development Bylaws; assisted with updating the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and provided guidance to assist in the sale of the armory building.

Annually, the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Chester appoints two individuals, a representative and an alternate, to serve on the SWCRPC. The SWCRPC board is responsible for developing regional policies, providing Act 200 review of town plans, and facilitating cooperation amongst member towns. In FY15, Tom Bock, represented the Town to the Regional Planning Commission with Derek Suursoo serving as the Alternate. For FY15, Arne Jonyrias was the Town's representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee. We thank them for their service.

Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission
Ascutney Professional Building
P.O. Box 320
Ascutney, VT 05030
website: www.swcrpc.org

SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
TOWN REPORT 2015
January 2016

We greatly appreciate the continued support of the Town of Chester in 2015 and have worked to continue to make “Great Things Happen Here” in the community as well as our region.

The largest specific effort was the completion of the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery project, for businesses and organizations that were impacted by Tropical Storm Irene. This grant, which has been a partnership with Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation, has provided funding for a number of Chester companies and groups, including within the last few months – Green Mountain Softball League, Jersey Girls Dairy and the American Legion, to name a few. The program became vastly more challenging after increased Federal rules associated with the funding that dramatically complicated the usage of the grants. We ended up racing the clock to get projects in Chester completed before the end of November, which did happen.

The normal work we perform involves connecting with existing companies as well as those looking to start a business. In Chester this past year, we received a \$15,000 Regional Economic Grant through the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services, which was subgranted to Drew’s All-Natural to assist with funding their pretreatment of wastewater before it enters the Town’s septic system. This has been a challenging subject for the company and the Town over the years and we were pleased to help facilitate what hopefully will be a solution that is tied to a small expansion of the current production facility.

In all, we have worked with 19 clients in Chester over the past year, including the larger employers as well as small companies, community organizations and folks looking to start or purchase a business. This includes our Small Business Development Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center staff.

Workforce Development continues as one of the most important issues for businesses in Southern Windsor County. SRDC remains closely involved in the River Valley Technical Center with the Executive Director currently serving as the Board Chair of RVTC and Co-Chair of the Workforce Investment Board. SRDC has been very active with facilitating Vermont Training Program grants for the area as well as promoting career awareness activities in our area schools.

SRDC is always grateful and appreciative of our relationship with the community. We work very closely with Chester Economic Development Corporation and Bill Dakin, the CEDC Chair, served this year as a member of the SRDC Board. We now will welcome Dale Williamson, of Newsbank, to our Board.

As always, we are ready and anxious to talk to any existing company or anyone looking to start a business venture. If you would like to know more about SRDC, please feel free to contact me at our offices at 14 Clinton Street, Springfield, 885-3061 or bobf@springfielddevelopment.org. You can also learn more about SRDC through our web site at www.springfielddevelopment.org or on our Facebook page!

Again, many thanks for your continued support. Working together, we will ensure that “Great Things Happen Here” for many years to come.

Bob Flint
Executive Director



Chester-Andover Family Center

P. O. Box 302
Telephone 802/875-3236
908 VT Route 103 South
Chester, VT 05143

Email: cafc302@gmail.com
Website: www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org

The Chester-Andover Family Center has been at its new location for three years. These three years have been a period of upgrading and equipping our building to better serve our community. Electrical service was upgraded to accommodate additional refrigeration needs in the Food Shelf and a cold room; lighting in the Thrift shop was improved. Some doors and windows were replaced for energy efficiency. New siding and roofing were installed. Many volunteer hours went into constructing and installing display boards, racks, and shelving. A local garden club installed flower gardens across the front of the building. Student volunteers and their teachers helped with many projects inside and out, including the creation and upgrades to a cold room. Several local businesses provided labor, materials, fixtures, and equipment at reduced costs.

Our three main programs continue to be the Thrift Shop, the Emergency Financial Assistance Program, and the Food Shelf. The Thrift Shop continues to bustle with many regular customers. Monthly Sales boosted the Thrift Shop income and were welcomed by our shoppers. Additional operating funds came from grants, fund raisers, and donations. Emergency Financial Aid distributed totaled \$20,011. Folks were informed about resources, benefits, and services for which they might be eligible.

The Food Shelf distributed an estimated 59,000 pounds of food and household products. There were 1,223 visits to the Food Shelf, feeding an accumulative total of 2,705 people. Food Shelf recipients were able to fill a grocery cart once a month with a variety of nutritious food as well as a snack or two. They could also come in every Friday to get additional produce. Cooking demos, food samples, and recipes were provided. Our efforts to increase access to fresh produce has been extremely successful thanks to the donations of Abundance Acres CSA shares by individuals, free produce from the VT Food Bank, our participation in the Healthy Harvest Network, and donations from local family gardens. We would encourage others to plant extra veggies to share next summer.

We continue to be a 100% volunteer organization. An estimate is that in 2015 there were 12,500+ volunteer hours at a value of \$250,000. Please consider volunteering. And check us out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/chesterandoverfamilycenter/>.

Respectfully submitted,
Delores Robinson
President, Board of Directors

Providing a Helping Hand to Persons and Families in Need

Southeastern Vermont Community Action

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965.

Our mission is to enable people to cope with and reduce the hardships of poverty; create sustainable self-sufficiency; reduce the causes and move toward the elimination of poverty. SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include: Head Start, Weatherization, Emergency Home Repair, Emergency Services (i.e., fuel / utility assistance, food, shelter), Micro-Business Development, Individual Development Accounts, Tax Preparation, VT Health Connect Navigation, Thrift Stores and Textile Recycling.

In the community of Chester we have provided the following services during FY2015:

- Weatherization:** 6 homes (8 people) were weatherized at a cost of \$63,441
- Emergency Heating Systems:** 7 homes (13 people) received repairs or replacements at a cost of \$13,496
- Head Start:** 21 families (70 people) received comprehensive child development and family support services valued at \$176,135
- Micro Business Development:** 2 households (4 people) received counseling, technical assistance and support to start, sustain or expand a small business, valued at \$4,190
- Tax Preparation:** 8 households (19 people) received services and tax credits totaling \$20,602
- Thrift Store Vouchers:** 8 households (15 people) received goods and services valued at \$445
- VT Health Connect:** 2 households (4 people) received assistance with enrolling in the Vermont Health Exchange, valued at \$323
- Family Services:** 66 households (152 people) received 493 services (including crisis intervention, financial counseling, nutrition education, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services) valued at \$3,517
- Fuel/Utility Assistance:** 62 households (146 people) received services valued at \$40,416
- Housing & Other Assistance:** 8 households (19 people) received services valued at \$12,370
- Emergency Home Repair:** 3 homes (7 people) received services to address health and safety risks, repair structural problems, and reduce energy waste, valued at \$6,569

Community support, through town funding, helps to build a strong partnership. The combination of federal, state, private and town funds allow us to not only maintain, but increase and improve service. We thank the residents of Chester for their support.

Stephen Geller, Executive Director
Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)
91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158
(800) 464-9951 or (802) 722-4575
sevca@sevca.org
www.sevca.org



Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT

Senior Solutions-- Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont offers support services to elders and their families. Our mission is to promote successful aging. This is a summary of services provided to **Chester** in the last year (2014-2015).

Information and Assistance: Our toll-free Senior Helpline answered **57** calls from your town. Callers were assisted with applying for benefits, health insurance problems, housing needs, fuel assistance and many other services. Extensive resources are also detailed at www.SeniorSolutionsVT.org

Health Insurance: We helped **15** residents with Medicare Part D or Advantage Plan enrollment.

Senior Nutrition: **9579** meals were delivered to seniors at home in partnership with Springfield Meals and Wheels. (We pass through to them federal and state funds that support the meals.) Our Registered Dietician is able to offer nutritional counseling when appropriate. Congregate community meals are held nearby in Springfield and Bellows Falls.

Transportation: Special arrangements are made for non- Medicaid seniors who require medical transportation.

Case Management & Advocacy: We provided **46** elder residents with in-home case management to enable them to remain living safely in the setting they prefer. Often a few well-chosen support services can prevent premature institutionalization.

Caregiver Respite: Through grants we provide respite assistance for family caregivers of those diagnosed with dementia or other chronic diseases.

Your contribution generates Federal matching funds to support our services. We do not charge for any of our services. Your town's support is greatly appreciated.

Submitted by Carol Stamatakis, Executive Director

VISITING NURSE & HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH
Home Health, Hospice and Maternal Child Health Services in Chester, VT

The Visiting Nurse & Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is a compassionate, non-profit healthcare organization committed to providing the highest quality home health and hospice services to individuals and their families. VNH provides care for people of all ages and at all stages in life, and delivers care to all, regardless of ability to pay.

VNH services reduce costs associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

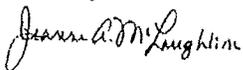
Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, VNH made 3,268 homecare visits to 140 Chester residents. We provided approximately \$116,900 in unreimbursed – or charity – care to Chester residents.

- **Home Health Care:** 2,258 home visits to 118 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Long-Term Care:** 698 home visits to 14 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in the home to avoid admission to a nursing home.
- **Hospice Services:** 233 home visits to 16 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Maternal and Child Health Services:** 79 home visits to 9 residents for well-baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

Additionally, residents made visits to VNH wellness clinics at local senior and community centers throughout the year, receiving low- and no-cost services including blood pressure screenings, foot care, cholesterol testing, and flu shots.

Chester's annual appropriation to the VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Jeanne McLaughlin, President & CEO (1-888-300-8853)

COMMUNITY CARES NETWORK
OF
CHESTER/ANDOVER, INC.

Town of Chester

Community Cares Network of Chester/Andover, Inc. (CCN,INC.) is in our 20th year in serving the senior citizens of Chester and Andover. Our mission is to help keep our Seniors in their own homes longer safely. We try to help them out by providing services for transportation that includes doctor and hospital appointments, record keeping, friendly visits and check ins, grocery shopping, library book delivery and also odd jobs. We also help with referrals to other agencies.

CCN,INC. started a low impact exercise group that meets every week. This is also supported by the medical personnel in the area. We have seen improvement in physical and social health among our clients due to this program.

We work closely with a number of other agencies. Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital has called us a number of times and we have coordinated transportation and support for our clients. We also have taken many trips to the VA in White River among many other places.

If a client has to be admitted to the hospital or a rehab CCN,INC. tries very hard not to forget them and will give them and their families the support that they may need.

CCN,INC. again sponsored a Symposium on "Managing Life's Final Decisions". We had 5 sessions on this very important topic. We were able to add one more session. This Symposium included : Opening the Conversation with a LICSW, Physician and Medical Director with VNHA and Social worker, Director of Vermont Alzheimer's Association, Funeral Director, Attorney, LLC, Wealth Management.

We have two big fund raising projects per year that involve both the volunteers and clients.

CCN,INC. has made our clients feel comfortable enough to just pick up the phone just to talk.

We also try to bring children and our clients together to work, laugh and entertain also to learn a craft, which included needle work, pie making etc.

With permission here is a note from a client: " I'm very appreciative of the services provided by CCN,INC. as I'm sure are all the other seniors you care for in our community. I don't know how I'd manage if not for all of you. All of you come with smiles !!! You are the best."

We have served over 506 clients
and have done over 776 services.

Respectively Submitted by:
The Community Cares Network of Chester/Andover, Inc.
Board

John Nunnikhoven
David Armstrong
John Martens
Erron Carey
Jacquelyn Griswold
Kathy Jo Martens
Deborah Armstrong

Contact:
Deborah Armstrong
875-6341

Chester Annual Report – January 2016

Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. has been serving meals to the elderly since 2000. The program serves the communities of Andover, Baltimore, Chester, Springfield and South Weathersfield. A hot meal is provided Monday through Friday with frozen meals available to those who qualify for weekends and holidays. We also have a cold breakfast option for those who qualify that we deliver along with the noon time meal.

During the past fiscal year, October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2015, volunteers from Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield delivered nutritious hot meals, breakfast, and frozen meals to approximately 30 private homes around the Chester area for a total of 7,406 meals provided to those in need in the community.

All this work was done with the help of 1 part-time and 1 full-time employee and many volunteers. Over the past year, Meals & Wheels engaged about 75 volunteers who came to us from community programs such as RSVP, the Springfield Schools, Lincoln Street, Mental Health Services and other community members who just want to volunteer out of the spirit of good will. Volunteers serve on our Board, deliver meals, wait on tables, assist in the kitchen, provide entertainment at the congregate meal site and help with fund raising. We strongly believe that our program gives back to our volunteers, as much as they give to the program. We provide an opportunity to be a part of a vital service and a chance for volunteers to connect with others and to become part of the community.

The most important role of our program goes far beyond meeting the nutritional needs of the seniors in the community. For many, the meal delivery volunteer may be the only contact they have for the day and seeing a friendly face can be the highlight of their day. At Meals & Wheels, we do our part in providing a safety net for many isolated seniors in our community.



Town Report for Chester FY17

Connecticut River Transit (CRT/The Current) has been southern Windsor and Windham County's public transit provider since 2003. Our mission is to provide a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life for the communities we serve.

In 2015 CRT consolidated with Deerfield Valley Transit Association (DVTA), The MOOVer, based in Wilmington and became Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc. (SEVT) and is now comprised of two divisions, The Current and The MOOVer. The consolidation has strengthened both companies and built a stronger foundation to improve transit service in southeastern Vermont. The consolidation has leveraged the strengths of each organization to improve service delivery and customer service; reduced duplicate tasks; and produce a stronger, more financially sustainable regional system.

The Current operates fixed route, Elderly and Disabled, and non-emergency medical transportation services through its fleet of 35 buses and network of over 70 volunteer drivers. Last year The Current provided 161,539 rides, over the course of 45,475 hours and 3,736,428 miles.

Chester residents received 5,625 rides at a cost of \$137,644. *Chester* is served by a Dial-A-Ride service which includes medical rides for the elderly, disabled and /or children and families who receive Medicaid and fixed route bus service to Ludlow and Springfield connecting to other regional routes.

We operate on a blend of federal, state, and local funding. *Chester's* \$2,250 contribution in 2015 was critical to providing the town our services because local funding allows us to draw down federal funds. We are asking *Chester* to please consider a \$2,250 contribution for 2016.

All existing Current services and routes will operate as they are now. There will be no change to *Chester's* service levels or the variety of transportation options The Current provides. *Chester's* contribution will stay local to support its residents and visitors. Guaranteed.

We thank the town for their previous support, and hope that you will support our 2016 funding request. Please contact us by email (rgagnon@crtransit.org); phone (802) 460-7433 x 201; or visit us at www.crtransit.org to let us know how The Current may improve service in your community. “



Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District

Andover • Athens • Baltimore • Cavendish • Chester • Grafton • Ludlow • Plymouth
Reading • Rockingham • Springfield • Weathersfield • West Windsor • Windsor

www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org

The District was chartered in fourteen Vermont towns. Each town appoints a representative and Board of Supervisors. Derek Suursoo.



1981 and currently serves Each member municipality an alternate to serve on the Chester's representative is

In 2015, District-wide, we sold 50 food scrap kitchen pails (\$5 each) and 44 backyard compost bins (\$50 each); we will have another sale in 2016.

Twenty-six Chester residents attended the household hazardous waste (HHW) collection in September 2014 and twenty-eight attended the May 2015 collection. The HHW events in 2016 will be held on Saturdays, May 14 and September 10 in Springfield. We will have two other collections but those dates and locations have yet to be determined.

You can bring unwanted paint to Bibens Ace Hardware or Sherwin-Williams year-round during regular business hours – for free. For more information, paintcare.org.



As of January 2016, Vermonters have been able to recycle alkaline batteries for free at participating locations; call2recycle.org for details.

The Universal Recycling law continues to be phased in. As of July 1, 2016, leaf, yard, and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill, and haulers must offer leaf and yard debris collection – for a fee. Many Chester residents have never sent leaves and twigs to the landfill but instead compost them or rake them over a bank. So that part of the law will not affect them.

Ham Gillett has been visiting schools, businesses, and town offices to give group presentations regarding the Universal Recycling law. If anyone in your town would like to schedule a presentation, or has a question about recycling or composting, please contact Ham at 674-4474.



Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy Mary T. O'Brien
District Manager Recycling Coordinator

Ham Gillett
Outreach Coordinator



Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a non-profit organization founded in 1987, serving the residents of Windham and southern Windsor County. We provide housing for residents of low and moderate incomes, preserve and revitalize neighborhoods, help residents acquire their own homes and generally improve the social, economic, and cultural health of communities of Windham and southern Windsor County.

WWHT's mission is *to strengthen the communities of Southeast Vermont through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for its residents.*

Homeownership Center

The **Home Repair Program** provides low cost loans to low and moderate income homeowners throughout Windham and Windsor counties to make critical home repairs. These include repairs necessary to bring a home up to code and make it a safe place to live. Our rehabilitation specialist inspects the home, determines which repairs are necessary, and works with the homeowner to plan and finance the project. We assisted 35 homeowners in 2015 with home repair projects.

One-to-one Counseling helps renters and homeowners understand and navigate their options and make smart financial decisions. The program is available to all residents in both counties. We provide homebuyer education, financial literacy training, credit counseling and delinquency counseling. In 2015, 55 of our clients were able to purchase a home.

The **Shared Equity Program** provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes. Grants are used toward the purchase price of the land underneath the home, lowering the cost to the homebuyer. Windham & Windsor Housing Trust retains ownership of the land and ensures long-term affordability through special ground lease provisions. 136 homes are in the shared equity program.

Rental Housing Development Program-In order to meet the diverse housing needs of a community, WWHT develops affordable rental housing opportunities. This takes the form of both rehabilitation of existing housing and the construction of new apartments. WWHT works with towns to plan for meeting local affordable housing and community development needs. In 2015, we added 33 new apartments and renovated 47.

Rental Housing Management Program-WWHT owns 667 rental apartments with over 1000 tenants. We manage the rental properties in and near Brattleboro and contract with Stewart Property Management Services for the properties in northern Windham and Windsor Counties. WWHT takes pride in the appearance of our multi-family housing and is committed to providing the staff and financial resources necessary to ensure long-term health and safety for our residents as well as preservation of property values. Although WWHT is a non-profit, we pay local property taxes on our properties and paid \$5,564 to the Town of Chester in 2015.

For more information, please visit us on the web at www.w-wht.org



An invitation to Serve your Community

Serving Bennington, Windham and Windsor Counties
160 Benmont Ave., Suite 90 Bennington, VT 05201
802-772-7875 | sleporati@svcoa.net | rsvpvt.org

Proudly Sponsored by Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

Chester Annual Town Report FY 2015

Green Mountain RSVP, part of the Corporation for National and Community Service- Senior Corps, is a nationwide program for people age 55 and older who want to contribute to their communities through volunteering. Volunteers donate their skills and knowledge, and provide meaningful services to programs and nonprofits in the local area. Green Mountain RSVP believes that our senior population is our most valuable asset in keeping our communities strong.

Green Mountain RSVP helps local non-profit and civic organizations by recruiting and matching volunteers to meet vital community needs. Our goal is to ensure that volunteers contribute their time and talents to programs that have a significant, positive impact on the quality of life in Windsor County. They address community concerns that are vital for our senior population and their neighbors they include: supporting Healthy Futures and Aging in Place through food pantry support, meal delivery, and transportation. In our companionship & wellness programs we offer 11 Bone Builder classes throughout Windsor County serving over 500 seniors around Southern Vermont.

Volunteers in Chester have served hours at area Chester/Andover elementary schools, Meals on Wheels, Springfield Hospital, Senior Centers, Whiting Library, and as Bone Builders leaders, as well as supporting numerous other community priorities throughout Windsor County. Green Mountain RSVP volunteers from Windsor County generously donated 4,846 hours this past year. Over 1,000 hours were served by Chester volunteers. The estimated value of the volunteers' service to the community is \$106,176. RSVP will continue to build programming around support of Aging in Place and Healthy Futures in Windsor County in the upcoming year. We always welcome new volunteers.

You are welcome to contact Corey Mitchell in our Windsor office at (802)674-1742 or speak to me directly in the Bennington Office at (802) 772-7875. We are more than happy to attend a town meeting to discuss the changes in our program and answer any questions that you may have. Thank-you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Sunny Leporati
Green Mountain RSVP Director

RSVP is
Supported in part by The Corporation for National and Community Service
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging



Windsor County Partners

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES THROUGH YOUTH MENTORING

PO Box 101, 54 Main Street, Windsor, VT 05089 • 802-674-5101
info@wcpartners.org • www.wcpartners.org

Town Narrative - Chester For July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Studies show that children's lives are vastly improved by consistent interaction with caring adult role models. Unfortunately, modern day lifestyles often limit children's interaction with adult mentors. Mentoring programs can help: teaching children new skills, improving school performance, and reducing risky behaviors.

Windsor County Partners (WCP) provides mentoring across the county. WCP creates partnerships where mentors are matched with a mentee (aged 8-17). These mentoring partnerships then meet 2 hours a week for at least a year, with many partnerships continuing on for additional years. Last year, WCP served and supported 28 community-based partnerships from 9 of the towns in Windsor County. Collectively, these partners spent over 2000 hours together. Mentored youth learn life skills, provide community service and participate in cultural and athletic activities.

Let's Do Lunch (LDL), our school-based program, currently serves youth ages 5-18 in the Springfield district, with measures underway to expand to other districts. LDL mentors meet with students to do crafts and play games or sports. In the most recent school year, 16 LDL partnerships spent more than 500 cumulative hours together.

To ensure the well-being of children and the success of mentoring matches, there are costs associated with creating and supporting each match. Town funding is critical to helping WCP stay viable. For more information on our mentorships, find us on Facebook, visit our website www.windsorcountypartners.org or contact us at ProgramsWC@outlook.com 802-674-5101. WCP thanks the voters of Chester for their support for the children of Windsor County.

Jennifer Grant
Executive Director

2015 VITAL STATISTICS

Federal regulations (Intelligence Reform Law and the Real ID Act) have been issued and one of the areas affected is accessibility to vital records. These regulations have resulted in a more stringent protocol for obtaining certified copies and a tracking system for those who request certified copies. States have been required to implement new security standards regarding accessibility to birth and death certificates.

With fraud and identity theft on the increase and for the protection of the public, statistical information only will be printed.

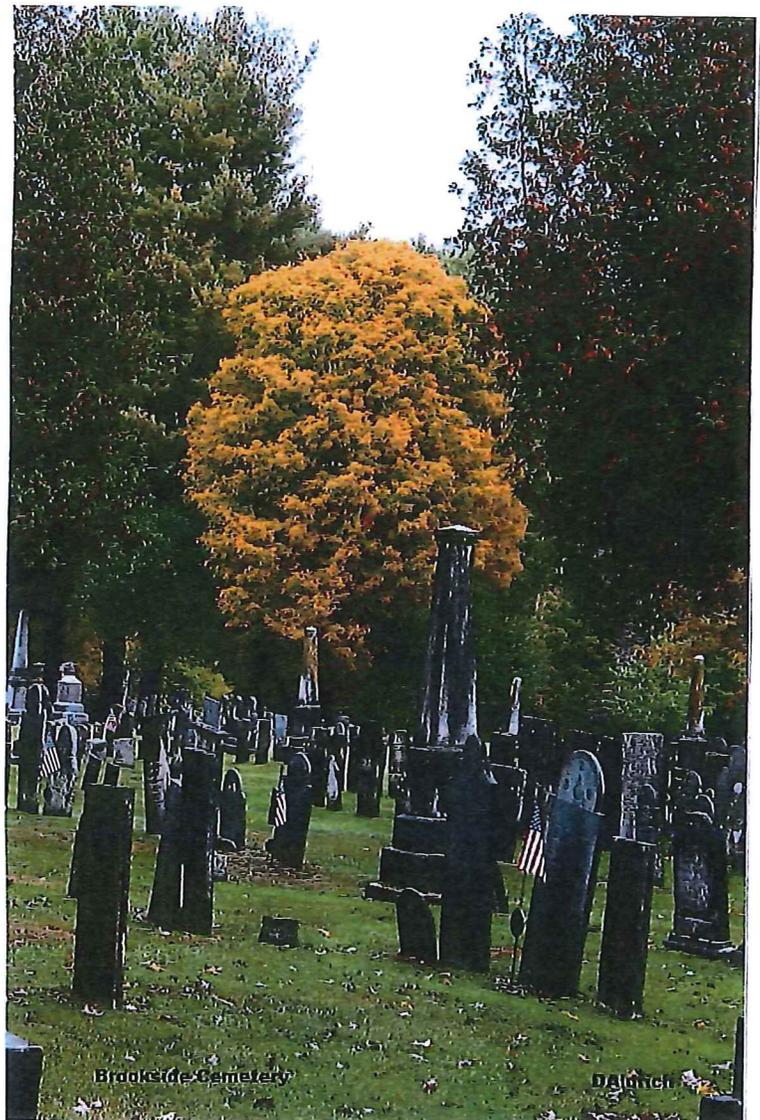
If you have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to give us a call or stop by the office.

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Aldrich
Town Clerk

Statistical information for 2015:

Civil Marriages - 29
Births - 17
Deaths - 25
Burials - 24



**TOWN OF CHESTER AND CHESTER TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2015**

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the Chester Town School District Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moderator Dakin asked the voters if there was any objection to non-voters speaking, if asked to. There was no objection.

Moderator Dakin introduced the Chester Town School Directors: Alison DesLauriers, Wanda Purdy and Marilyn Mahusky. Moderator Dakin then read the Chester Town School District Warning.

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT are hereby notified and warned to meet at Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. to act on the following Articles. Voting on Articles 1, 2 and 3 will be by Australian Ballot on March 3, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town School District Officers for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 2:** To elect Directors for Chester-Andover Elementary School for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 3:** To elect Directors for Green Mountain Union High School for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town School District will vote to raise money to pay current expenses and any part of the Town School District's indebtedness, if so, the amount, to whom paid, and when paid. Alison DesLauriers made a motion to raise \$202,722.00 to be paid to the Town Treasurer on September 15, 2105. Seconded by Wanda Purdy. Alison DesLauriers explained that this money is for Pre-K students, Early Essential Education students, which are early education programs, and children under five years old with special education needs. Marilyn Mahusky advised that there is an addition error in the report and the figure should be \$202,772.00. Alison DesLauriers and Wanda Purdy withdrew their motion. Alison DesLauriers made a motion to raise \$202,772.00 to be paid to the Town Treasurer on September 15, 2015. Seconded by Wanda Purdy. Article 4 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town School District will authorize the Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town School District's indebtedness. Richard Jewett moved Article 5 as printed. Seconded by Nora-Ellen Spaulding. Article 5 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 6:** To authorize the Town School District to accept payment from the State Department of Taxes under Act 68. Richard Jewett moved Article 6 as printed. Seconded by Christine Dyke. Article 6 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 7:** To act on the reports of the Town School District Officers for the year ending December 31, 2014. Alison DesLauriers moved Article 7 as printed. Seconded by Wanda Purdy. Tony Weinberger asked for an explanation of the figure, \$10,562.64, on page 68 line 15. Alison DesLauriers explained that figure is the per pupil spending, which are part time students, for the Chester Town School District. Green Mountain Union High School is about \$13,600.00 per pupil and Chester Andover Elementary School is \$14,511.00 per pupil. Alison DesLauriers also explained that on page 68 line 47 is the estimated homestead tax rate, which is down as much as five cents and the non-residential tax rate is down approximately eight to nine cents. Article 7 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 8: To transact any other business deemed proper when met. Richard Jewett made a motion to adjourn the Chester Town School District Meeting. Seconded by Nora-Ellen Spaulding. Chester Town School District Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Moderator Dakin explained that the Select Board would know take their seats.

Moderator Dakin called the Town Meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. He then asked the voters if there was any objection to non-voters speaking, if asked to. There was no objection.

Moderator Dakin then introduced the Town Clerk Deborah Aldrich, Town Manager David Pisha and the Select Board: John DeBenedetti, Tom Bock, Derek Suursoo, William Lindsay and Arne Jonynas. Moderator Dakin then read the warning.

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1 will be by Australian ballot on March 3, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont and citizens to serve on the Budget Committee (Australian Ballot).

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to accept gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Shawn Fletcher, \$250.00; Loren C. Cahill, \$250.00; Christine B. Copping, \$250.00. William Lindsay moved Article 2 as printed. Seconded by Don Robinson. Article 2 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise money to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness; if so, the amount, to whom and when paid. Julie Hance made a motion to raise the sum of \$2,837,470.52, to be paid to the Town Treasurer on September 15, 2015. Seconded by John Cable. Moderator Dakin advised that Town Manager David Pisha would make a presentation on the budget. (copy attached) Mr. Pisha explained that taxes should be relatively flat with the town tax rate going up and the school tax rate going down. Alden Blodgett asked why there was an increase in Fire Department calls. Fire Chief Matthew Wilson replied that there has been an increase in building fires and motor vehicle accidents. Article 3 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$452,827.89 to be allocated as follows: \$130,000.00 for the purchase of a new dump truck for highway; \$58,000.00 for a new Loader lease for highway; \$54,166.89 for sidewalk replacement; \$85,111.00 for the fire truck lease, \$16,650.00 for air packs for the fire department, \$17,500.00 for an Air Compressor Fill Station for the fire department, \$24,900.00 for the communications tower upgrades for ambulance, fire and highway; \$35,000.00 for bridge repairs; \$6,500.00 for the survey of Brookside Cemetery; \$5,000.00 for Hearse House renovations; \$20,000.00 for Whiting Library renovations; all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received. Amber Wilson moved Article 4 as printed. Seconded by Julie Hance. Robbo Holleran asked why is the Town leasing a Loader rather than buying one. Town Manager David Pisha explained that the cost of a new Loader is \$160,000.00 and to stabilize the Capitol Plan they decided to lease. Interest rates are low, making installments made more sense and there are other upgrades in other departments that are needed. Installment payments will be \$58,000.00 for three years and then we will own the Loader. Article 4 voted in the affirmative.

Representative Leigh Dakin explained some of the projects being worked on in Montpelier.

- ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$8,649.00 to the Springfield Regional Development Corporation. This article is by Selectboard request. Kathy Pellet moved Article 5 as printed. Seconded by Alison DesLauriers. Moderator Dakin read a letter from Mark Martins, from the Williams River House, in support of SRDC. Bob Flint, from SRDC, explained that SRDC has worked with 24 Chester clients over the past year and have helped to facilitate over \$300,000.00 in financing for businesses in the community. SRDC has also been involved with the auction and sale of the former Army Reserve Center, which will be the home of J & L Metrology. Robbo Holleran asked if SRDC was a private company or government funded. Bob Flint replied that SRDC is non-profit and is 40% State funded. Article 5 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of **THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000)** to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need. Sandra Vincent moved Article 6 as printed. Seconded by Nancy Lindsay. Delores Robinson, President of the Chester-Andover Family Center, advised that the Family Center's report could be found on page 79 of the Annual Report. Article 6 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 7:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of **ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00)** toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely. This article is by petition. David Armstrong moved Article 7 as printed. Seconded by John Holme. David Armstrong advised that the Community Cares' report could be found on page 86 of the Annual Report. Article 7 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 8:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807)** to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH. This article is by petition. Tony Weinberger moved Article 8 as printed. Seconded by Marilyn Mahusky. Tony Weinberger advised that the Visiting Nurse's report could be found on page 83 of the Annual Report. Article 8 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 9:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044)** to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc. This article is by petition. Kathy Pellet moved Article 9 as printed. Seconded by Patricia Benelli. William Lindsay asked if there was anyone at the meeting from HCRS. There was no one from HCRS at the meeting. Article 9 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 10:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040)** to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services. This article is by petition. John Cable moved Article 10 as printed. Seconded by Gladys Collins. Gladys Collins explained that she is on the Board of Directors for SEVCA and advised that the SEVCA report could be found on page 80 of the Annual Report. Article 10 voted in the affirmative.

- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of **NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900)** to the **Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town.** Marilyn Mahusky moved Article 11 as printed. Seconded by Patricia Benelli. Marilyn Mahusky advised that the group does a tremendous amount of work with women. Tom Hildreth advised that he had looked the Women's Freedom Center up on line and felt that this organization was not a group that he was comfortable supporting. Ben Whalen asked if the Chester Police Department ever used this group. Chief Richard Cloud advised that the Police Department does use this group. Article 11 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of **\$2,700 (two thousand seven hundred dollars)** to assist with the cost of operating the **Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot and cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Chester. This article is by petition.** Maria Contro moved Article 12 as printed. Seconded by Nancy Lindsay. Meals & Wheels report can be found on page 88 of the Annual Report. Article 12 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of **\$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars)** for the support of the **Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester. This article is by petition.** Kathy Pellet moved Article 13 as printed. Seconded by Nora-Ellen Spaulding. The Current's report can be found on page 89 of the Annual Report. Article 13 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 14:** To see if the town will appropriate the sum of **\$1,200.00 (one thousand two hundred dollars)** for the support of **Senior Solutions, the Council on Aging for southeastern Vermont, to serve elders. This article is by petition.** Melissa Post moved Article 14 as printed. Seconded by Nora-Ellen Spaulding. Melissa Post, member of the Board of Senior Solutions, advised that Senior Solutions' report could be found on page 82 of the Annual Report. Article 14 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of **\$800 (eight hundred dollars)** to support **Windsor County Partners, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. This article is by petition.** John Holme moved Article 15 as printed. Seconded by Cari Storm. Cari Storm, representative for Windsor County Partners, explained that they are a youth mentoring group. Windsor County Partners report can be found on page 81 of the Annual Report. Article 15 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of **\$400 (four hundred dollars)** to **Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service. This article is by petition.** Maria Contro moved Article 16 as printed. Seconded by Jean Penney. Green Mountain RSVP report can be found on page 85 of the Annual Report. Article 16 voted in the affirmative.
- ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will authorize the **Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.** William Lindsay moved Article 17 as printed. Seconded by Richard Jewett. Barre Pinski asked what the interest rate was on borrowed money. Town Manager David Pisha advised 2 ½ %. Article 17 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 18:

To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2014. Don Robinson moved Article 18 as printed. Seconded by Nora-Ellen Spaulding. Wanda Purdy asked why the Town was hiring a fifth Police Officer. Chief Richard Cloud advised that a couple of years ago the Select Board had a study done that said the Town could use two more full time Police Officers, the law is changing the authority that a part time Police Officer will have and for Officer safety. Mrs. Purdy asked if the Town would be buying another cruiser this year. Chief Cloud advised no. William Lindsay advised that the community is changing and the law is changing and that the Board decided to try it for only a year. John DeBenedetti advised that the Part Time Police Officers would be changed to Level 1 and another Full Time Officer could cover vacation schedules. Derek Suursoo explained that it was a split decision from the Board when this issue was decided. Don Robinson asked if the Police Department would be using less Part Time Officers. Chief Cloud advised yes. Marilyn Mahusky asked what would happen after a year if this was only a one year position. William Lindsay advised that the budget is looked at every year. Derek Suursoo explained that when a full time Officer is hired it will not be for just one year.

William Lindsay advised that the Town Report was dedicated to the Waldo's this year and thanked the Waldo's for their service to the Town of Chester. The dedication is on the inside cover of the Town Report.

Barre Pinske asked for an explanation of the School Assessment in the amount of \$5,170,098.76, on page 12 of the Annual Report. Town Manager David Pisha explained that is the amount that is transferred to the Schools from tax revenues. Article 18 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 19:

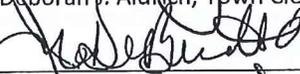
To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles. Nancy Lindsay requested applying for a grant to do repairs to the Town Hall. John Cable thanked the Highway Department for a job well done this winter. Fire Chief Matthew Wilson advised that Harry Goodell would be retiring from the Fire Department in April, after 45 years of service. Mr. Goodell received a standing ovation.

Don Robinson made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nora-Ellen Spaulding. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

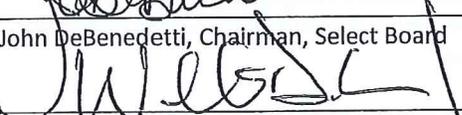
A true record.



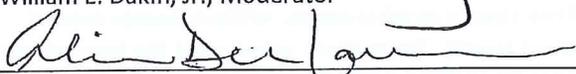
Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk



John DeBenedetti, Chairman, Select Board



William E. Dakin, Jr., Moderator



Alison DesLauriers, Chairwomen, Chester Town School District

TOWN OF CHESTER SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2015

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Moderator Dakin introduced the Select Board, Arne Jonynas, Heather Chase, William Lindsay, Tom Bock, John DeBenedetti; Town Manager, David Pisha; Town Clerk, Deborah Aldrich and Naomi Johnson, Engineer for the project, from Dufresne Group.

Moderator Dakin explained that this was an informational meeting for the purpose of discussing the proposed improvements and financing of the water project. There will be no decisions made, no amendments and no vote at this informational meeting.

Moderator Dakin then read the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE I: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$4,050,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of constructing a water storage tank and appurtenant water mains, including the purchase of land located on Route 103 South as a site for said storage tank, the estimated cost of such improvements being Four Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$4,050,000)?

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

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, May 18, 2015 at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Chester duly called, noticed and held on April 15, 2015. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Chester on April 16, 2015.

Moderator Dakin then turned the meeting over to Town Manager, David Pisha. Mr. Pisha welcomed everyone and explained that there would first be some housekeeping to take care of. An oversight was made relative to the noticing of the special meeting and bond vote for the water project. All legal requirements were met, with the exception of publishing the Warning itself in the official paper of record for three consecutive weeks. The Town has spoken with Paul Guilliani who is bond counsel for the State of Vermont as well as Jim Carroll, the Town Attorney. Since notice has been given to the public in many different forms and since all other noticing requirements have been met, Paul's advice is to proceed forward with the vote. Should there be a positive vote the Town will need to hold a ratification vote in the future. This ratification vote is, in essence, a statement from the voters that they know there was an error in the official posting of the original meeting, but they choose to affirm their vote. If the Town chooses to cancel the vote and start from scratch, the Town will lose its place in line for funding priority and may lose the money.

Mr. Pisha then turned the meeting over to Naomi Johnson, from Dufresne Group. Ms. Johnson thanked everyone for coming to the informational meeting. Copy of Ms. Johnson's water system improvements explanation is attached to these minutes.

Joe Brent asked who decides who pays for this project. Ms. Johnson explained that the Select Board would make that decision.

Doug Summerville asked if the Select Board had considered creating a fire district. Ms. Johnson explained that would have to go through legal counsel.

Ms. Johnson explained that the Town of Chester has risen to the top of the list for loan funding from the State Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

Joe Brent asked if the Town could expect grant funds. Ms. Johnson replied that right now the project would be 100% loan funded.

Mr. Pisha explained that there would be a Median Household Income Survey going out to all water users. It is very important to fill out the survey and return it to the Town. This income survey of the water system users is to optimize the State Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund funding package.

Tony Weinberger asked why the wording in the Article reads general obligation bonds for the Town of Chester and not Water obligations. Mr. Pisha explained that only the Town can bond. Mr. Weinberger asked for the opinion of the Select Board on who was going to pay for the bonds. Arne Jonynas explained that the Board has discussed this several times and agrees that the water users will be paying for this project. Mr. Weinberger explained that if there is income yielded from gravel extracted from the land it should be given to the users to pay down the bond.

Paul Dexter asked why the Town chose to buy 139 acres and is not using the one acre parcel they already own. Ms. Johnson explained that to use the one acre parcel it would cost the Town approximately one million dollars more. A longer access road would have to be built to the one acre site and longer water main lines.

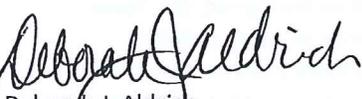
Margaret Straub asked what the tax revenue was on the 139 acre parcel. Mr. Pisha explained approximately \$6,000.00, \$1800.00 municipal and \$4200.00 education.

Michael Alon asked if this passes will the discussion end as far as sharing the cost with all tax payers. Mr. Pisha replied that the Bond Bank will segregate the purchase of the land and the water project improvements and then it will be up to the Select Board.

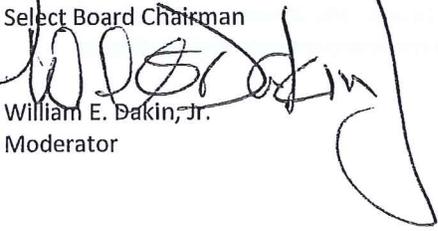
Tom Hildreth asked if the State Highway has been brought into the discussion. Ms. Johnson replied that they have looked at the preliminary plans.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

A true copy.


Deborah J. Aldrich
Town Clerk


John DeBenedetti
Select Board Chairman


William E. Dakin, Jr.
Moderator

Results of voting May 19, 2015
Yes = 112 No = 86 Total = 198

**TOWN OF CHESTER SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 29, 2015**

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Moderator Dakin introduced the Select Board, John DeBenedetti, Thomas Bock, William Lindsay, Heather Chase, Arne Jonynas, and Town Manager, David Pisha.

Moderator Dakin read the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester on Tuesday, June 30, 2015, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE 1

Shall the action taken at the special town meeting of the Town of Chester held on May 19, 2015 in spite of the fact that the Warning thereof was not published in full conformity with the statutory requisites, and any act or action of Town officers or agents pursuant thereto, be readopted, ratified and confirmed?

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

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, June 29, 2015 at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Chester duly called, noticed and held on May 28, 2015. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Chester on May 29, 2015.

Moderator Dakin then turned the meeting over to Town Manager, David Pisha. Mr. Pisha welcomed everyone and explained that this informational meeting and vote is a formality to ratify the vote that was done on May 29, 2015. This ratification vote is a statement from the voters that they know there was an error in the official posting of the original meeting, but they choose to affirm their vote.

Jean Osler asked what would happen if the vote tomorrow was no. David Pisha explained that the process would start over. The State has given Chester a dead line and we could lose funding and our place in line.

Derek Suursoo advised that he would like to hear from each board member how the financing would be handled. At the last meeting the intention was that the users would pay. Arne Jonynas replied that it was his opinion that the users would be paying for the project and any monetary gain from gravel would also go to the users. William Lindsay replied that he shares Arne's view point and supports the need for the project. The Water Commissioners need to have a meeting and vote on how the project will be paid for. Mr. Lindsay also stated that he believes that purchasing the land is a good idea and would be a cost

benefit to the town. He also stated that there are two phases to this project and that this is just phase one. Derek Suursoo asked if the financing was up in the air. Mr. Lindsay replied that he feels that the financing is still up in the air. He explained that there is an income survey that has gone out to water users, that is very important to fill out and return. John DeBenedetti explained that he is 95% in agreement with the Mr. Jonynas and Mr. Lindsay. The bond borrowing has to be a general obligation of the Town, because the Water "Enterprise" Fund cannot borrow the money. Mr. DeBenedetti also stated that he believes the purchase of the land should be an obligation of the General Fund. Tom Bock stated that he believes that purchasing the land is a good idea, because the Town is saving one million dollars on the construction cost. Heather Chase stated that she believes there are a lot of unknowns and the purchase of the land should be considered as the whole town. Derek Suursoo stated that he still has concerns because there is no distinctive plan.

Deb Baker stated that she had concerns about purchasing the 139 acres.

David Pisha explained that if the General Fund paid for the land the approximate cost to the Town for 20 years would be \$27,000.00 per year and for 30 years would be \$20,000.00 per year. He also explained that the cost of the project to the water user, at the highest, would be \$67.00 per quarter, at the lowest, \$36.00 per quarter and if the potential for gravel was used the low could be \$24.00 per quarter.

Doug Summerville advised that he feels that this project is an overall town improvement and should be paid for by all. He also stated that the Board should consider a rate differentiation.

Tom Bock stated that if the gravel piece falls into place he would like to see another informational meeting. Mr. Bock also stated that right now he feels the users should be the ones to pay. If in the future he sees a different benefit that may change.

Julie Hance explained if the Town chose to have the entire tax base pay for the bond there would be a town wide vote. This is what the Town did with the Sewer Plant Bond Vote.

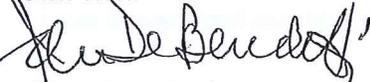
Larry Semones asked if the Town was going to sell gravel. David Pisha replied no.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

A true copy.


Deborah J. Aldrich

Town Clerk


John DeBenedetti
Select Board Chairman


William E. Dakin, Jr.
Moderator

**TOWN OF CHESTER SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015**

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moderator Dakin explained that there would be no action taken tonight and read the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE 1

Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$4,050,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of constructing a water storage tank and appurtenant water mains, including the purchase of land located on Route 103 South as a site for said storage tank, the estimated cost of such improvements being Four Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$4,050,000)?

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

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, September 28, 2015 at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Chester duly called, noticed and held on August 19, 2015. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Chester on August 20, 2015.

Moderator Dakin then turned the meeting over to Town Manager, David Pisha. Mr. Pisha and Naomi Johnson, from Dufresne Group, presented a power point presentation explaining the project. (copy attached)

Joe Brent asked what the State would do if the Town did not fix deficiencies in the water system by December, 2017. David Pisha replied they could refuse to give the Town a permit. Joe Brent also asked about a section of 8 inch pipe that was not being replaced by the High School. Naomi Johnson explained that section of pipe was replaced about 9 – 10 years ago. Michael Anderson asked if the 8 inch pipe would hold up with the 12 inch pipe. Naomi Johnson replied yes.

Paul Dexter asked why the Selectboard did not have an assessment done on the land. David Pisha replied that the Selectboard decided not to spend the money to have an assessment done on the land. Heather Chase advised that it would have been difficult to get an assessment done within the time period the Board was working with. Arne Jonynas advised that this project is saving us \$700,000 to

\$800,000 dollars. The price for the land was negotiated to the best possible price and there are other options for the land in the future.

Jeff Holden explained that this is the best site location, with the least amount of cost, for the water project.

Michael Anderson asked if the \$4,050,000 would be the total cost of the project. David Pisha explained that the \$4,050,000 was the maximum. Naomi Johnson explained that there was a contingency and there is an additional 12 months warranty after the project is finished. Ms. Johnson also explained that two years after the final completion is when the Town would start paying for the project.

Joe Brent asked if the existing tank was a 1 million gallon tank and the new tank would be 330,000 gallon tank and if the new tank would be sufficient. Jeff Holden answered yes, the 330,000 gallon tank would be sufficient.

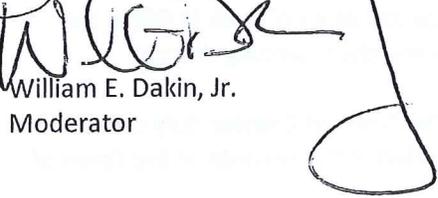
Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

A true copy.


Deborah J. Aldrich

Town Clerk


John DeBenedetti
Select Board Chairman


William E. Dakin, Jr.
Moderator

Results of Water Bond Vote September 29, 2015: Yes = 280
No = 121

Total Votes Cast = 401

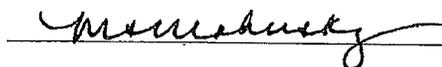
**WARNING FOR CHESTER
TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT are hereby notified and warned to meet at Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, February 29, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. to act on the following Articles. Voting on Articles 1, 2 and 3 will be by Australian Ballot on March 1, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town School District Officers for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 2:** To elect Directors for Chester-Andover Elementary School for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 3:** To elect Directors for Green Mountain Union High School for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$228,597.00 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2016, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town School District will authorize the Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town School District's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 6:** To authorize the Town School District to accept payment from the State Department of Taxes under Act 68.
- ARTICLE 7:** To act on the reports of the Town School District Officers for the year ending December 31, 2015.
- ARTICLE 8:** To transact any other business deemed proper when met.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 21st day of January, 2016.

 /s/ Alison DesLauriers, Chairman

 /s/ Marilyn Mahusky

_____ /s/ Heather Chase

**TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, February 29, 2016, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2 and 3 will be by Australian ballot on March 1, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont and citizens to serve on the Budget Committee (Australian Ballot).

ARTICLE 2: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$269,900.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$8,500.00 for the purchase of a mower for the Cemetery Department; \$45,400.00 for the replacement of the pool decking for the Recreation Department; \$40,000.00 for the purchase of replacement hose for the Fire Department; \$18,500.00 for the purchase of two air paks for the Fire Department; \$11,000.00 for the purchase of washer/dryer unit for the Fire Department; \$15,000.00 for the purchase of a thermal camera for the Fire Department; \$70,000.00 for the upgrades to an existing pump station on Elm Street for the Sewer Department; \$30,000.00 for the purchase of a pickup truck for the Sewer Department; and \$31,500.00 for the replacement of fire hydrants for the Water Department. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 3: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$220,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of paving approximately 5,300 feet of roadway. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Joyce A. Daniels, \$250.00; Gordon and Gloria Snide, \$250.00; Michael and Christine Copping, \$250.00; Delores Robinson, \$250.00; Gail Stewart, \$250.00; Donald R. Farrar Estate, \$250.00; Paul F. and Norma J. Ippolito, \$500.00.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise \$2,847,925.67 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2016, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$452,323.89 to be allocated as follows: \$6,500.00 for the purchase of fencing

for Cobleigh Field for the Recreation Department; \$10,000.00 for the resurfacing and repainting of the basketball court for the Recreation Department; \$8,000.00 for the refurbishing of the Compressor at the Fire Department; \$7,500.00 for the purchase of pagers for the Fire Department; \$85,111.00 for the lease payment for the Fire Truck; \$133,000.00 for the purchase of a dump truck for the Highway Department; \$49,046.00 for the payment of the loader lease for the Highway Department; \$20,000.00 for the purchase of a pickup truck for the Highway Department; \$54,166.89 for the payment of sidewalk renovations; \$20,000.00 for the first payment for the renovations to Whiting Library; \$20,000.00 for improvements to the Town Hall building; and \$39,000.00 for the purchase of a Cruiser for the Police Department all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received.

- ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Chester Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
- ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Green Mountain Softball League.
- ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Olive Branch Lodge.
- ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$8,649.00 to the Springfield Regional Development Corporation.
- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the **Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH**. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of **Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.** This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to **Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)** to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need. This article is by petition.

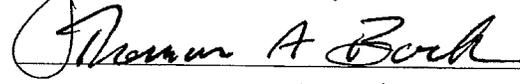
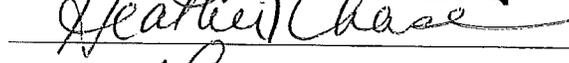
- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,700 (two thousand seven hundred dollars) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot and cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Chester. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Partners, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need. This article is by petition.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.

ARTICLE 23: To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 24: To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 20th day of January, 2016.

 /s/ John DeBenedetti, Chairman
 s/ Tom Bock
 /s/ William Lindsay
 /s/ Heather Chase
 /s/ Arne Jonynas

TOWN MEETING
February 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
In town Hall Second Floor

TOWN BALLOTING
March 1, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
In Town Hall Second Floor

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Telephone: (802) 875-2173

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
First and Third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
First and Third Monday at 7:00 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD MEETING
Second and Fourth Monday at 6:00 p.m.

FOR POLICE
Emergency: DIAL 911 or 875-2233
Business: 875-2035

FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE
DIAL 911 or 875-3200

FOR FIRE SERVICE
DIAL 911 or 875-3200

FOR HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE
875-2173

FOR TOWN FIRE WARDEN
(802) 384-3001 or 875-2173

FOR TOWN MANAGER
875-2173

FOR TOWN WEBSITE
www.chestervt.gov

Ellsworth Memorial Clinic
Stephen A. Saunders, D.D.S. 875-2878
Chester Family Medicine 875-2546
Robert J. Schwarts, MD
Gianina Kennedy, APRN

The cover of this year's Town Report is a pen and ink drawing of the Chester Town Hall by artist Lewis Watters of Chester

