

Town of Middlesex Vermont

**ANNUAL
REPORT
FOR THE
YEAR
ENDING
JUNE 30,
2021**



**DUE TO COVID-19, THERE WILL BE NO
“IN-PERSON” TOWN MEETING THIS YEAR.
ALL ACTIVE VOTERS ARE BEING MAILED
TOWN AND WCUUSD EARLY/ABSENTEE
BALLOTS. YOU CAN ALSO VOTE IN PERSON
FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022,
AT THE TOWN HALL, 5 CHURCH STREET**

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TOWN OF MIDDLESEX FEES

ZONING AND ACCESS PERMIT FEES

Zoning permits are required for erecting, constructing, enlarging or moving any buildings or structures, excavation or landfill, any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or extension of use of land.

Applications for Zoning Permits and Access Permits are at the Town Clerk’s Office or online at: www.middlesexvermont.org.

ZONING FEES:

Residential or alteration/addition/accessory structure under \$25,000	\$ 80.00
Single-family dwelling, garage or other construction over \$25,000	\$205.00
Commercial Project (new construction or alteration/addition)	\$330.00
Change of Use	\$ 80.00
Home Industry.....	\$130.00
Sub-Division Fees (per lot*)	\$150.00/lot
Boundary Line Adjustment (separate application required)	\$ 80.00

*“Per lot” means the altered original lot plus each newly created lot

(Above fees include a \$15.00 recording fee.)

**FEES DOUBLE FOR PROJECTS WHICH HAVE INITIATED CONSTRUCTION
PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT.**

Hearings:

Planning Commission Hearing	\$105.00
Board of Adjustment Hearing	\$105.00

Access Permits:

Access permits are required for the installation of driveways.

Access Permit Fees	\$35.00
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Dog Licenses:

All dogs 6 months of age or older must be licensed on or before April 1, 2022

Dog Fees for 2022	
Neutered/Spayed	\$9.00
Natural	\$13.00

If Registered After April 1, 2022

Neutered/Spayed	\$11.00
Natural	\$17.00

Marriage Licenses	\$60.00
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Certified Birth/Death/Marriage Certificates	\$10.00/each
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Recording Fees:

Land Records (per page)	\$15.00
Survey Maps (Mylar)	\$ 25.00

IMPORTANT NUMBERS - KEEP THEM HANDY

Middlesex Fire Department.....	Emergency.....	911
Middlesex Fire Department.....	Non-Emergency	802-223-5525
Middlesex Fast Squad.....		911
Montpelier Ambulance.....	Emergency.....	911
Vt. State Police.....	Emergency.....	911
Vt. State Police.....	K Troop (Non-Emergency)	802-229-9191
Zoning Administrator Kevin Thompson		802-595-3464
Fire Warden (Burn Permits) Jason Merrill.....		802-793-6069

TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Thursday. Closed Fridays.

Office.....802-223-5915

Fax.....802-223-1298

Clerk Email: clerk@middlesexvermont.org

Asst. Clerk Email: assistant.clerk@middlesexvermont.org

Treasurer/Tax Collector Email: treasurer@middlesexvermont.org

Website: www.middlesexvermont.org

LISTERS

Office Hours: Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to noon

Telephone: 802-223-5915 E-mail: listers@middlesexvermont.org

TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Town Shed, Shady Rill Road.....802-229-0838

Road Foreman: Shane Brickey.....802-522-0426

Email: shane.brickey@middlesexvermont.org

Road Commissioner Vic Dwire.....802-522-8271

Email: vic.dwire@middlesexvermont.org

STATE REPRESENTATIVE.....Kimberly Jessup

Cell..... 802-249-9306

Email.....jessupkimberly@gmail.com

MEETING SCHEDULES

Middlesex Select Board1st & 3rd. Tuesdays

Fire Department1^{sat} & 3rd. Tuesdays

Conservation Commission1^{sat} Thursday

Planning Commission3rd. Wednesday

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX CONTACTS

Animal Control Officer:

Erika Holm, 802-249-2127

Elizabeth Fortman (assistant), 802-249-1058

**Bandstand: Martha Pellerin & Andy
Shapiro Memorial Bandstand**

Elliot Burg, 802-272-4920

Delinquent Tax Collector: Vacant**Cemetery Contacts:**

Middlesex Cemetery Commission

(Carr Cemetery, North Branch Cemetery, and
Middlesex Village Cemetery) Evelyn Gant,
802-223-6488

Gary Lamell, 802-223-2710

Janet McKinstry, 802-223-5997

Middlesex Center Cemetery

(Lot Sales): Steve Martin, 802-371-8697

Central VT Regional Planning Comm.

Rep.: Ron Krauth, 802-229-5496

Central VT Solid Waste Management

Dist. Rep.: Dell McDonough, 802-229-
9874

Central VT Solid Waste Management

Dist. Office: 802-229-9383

CV Fiber Delegate:

David Lawrence: 802-249-0235

E-911 Coordinator:

Mitch Osiecki, 802-760-9674

Emergency Phone Numbers:

Middlesex Fire Department: 911

Montpelier Ambulance/Middlesex

FastSquad: 911

VT State Police (K-Troop): 911

Use these numbers for non-emergencies:

Fire Chief: Eric Metivier

802-752-5092

Fire Warden: Jason Merrill,

802-793-6069

Emergency Management Chair:

Margaret Schwartz, 802-578-5524

VT State Police (K-Troop): 802-229-9191

Food Shelf:

David Carkeet (Treasurer)

**Girls/Boyz First!! Community-
Based Mentoring Program:**

Wendy Freundlich, 802-224-6500

Green Up Day:

Lee Rosberg:

802-309-1629

GreenUp Vermont

802-229-4586

Health Officers:

Dr. Robert Penney, 802-734-6075

Elizabeth Fortman (assistant), 802-249-1058

Historical Society:

Patty Wiley, 802-272-8074

Sarah Seidman, 802-223-4828

Richard Alderman, 802-223-3953

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX CONTACTS (CONTINUED)

Justices of the Peace:

Dorinda Crowell, 802-223-7781
John Demeter, 802- 272-3548
Theo Kennedy, 802-223-4748
Chris McVeigh, 802-272-7871
Kate Olney, 406-438-5018
Jan Thouron, 802-793-1177

Listers:

Eric Young, 802-229 9908
Sarah Birgé, 802-689-0719

Moderator: Susan Clark, 802-223-5824

Recreation Director: Mitch Osiecki,
802-760-9674

Road Commissioner:

Vic Dwire, 802-522-8271

Road Foreman:

Shane Brickey, 802-229-0838
(w), 802-522-0426 (c)

Town Service Officer:

Liz Scharf, 802-223-9189

Wrightsville Beach Picnic Shelters

Reservations:

Collin O’Neal, Beach Manager, 802-223-
7774
Laurie Emery, Central VT Regional
Planning Commission, 802-229-0389

Middlesex Boards and Committees

Budget Committee

Randy Drury, 802-793-7635
Elias Gardner, 802-778-0899
Theo Kennedy, 802-223-4748
Mark Harris, 802-522-7362
Vacant

Conservation Commission

Matt Schley, Chair, 410-935-3519
Larry Becker, 802-229-0296
Ross Lieblappen, 781-424-7268
George Longenecker, 802-229-9787

Zoning Administrator:

Kevin Thompson, 802-595-3464

Planning Commission

Sandy Levine, Chair, 802-223-6875 Phil
Comen
Elias Gardner, 802-778-0899
Theo Kennedy, 802-223-4748
Mitch Osiecki, 802-760-9674

Select Board

Peter Hood, Chair 802-371-
8042
Phil Hyjek, 802-223-0521
Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair,
802-223-7123
Steve Martin, 802-371-8697
Liz Scharf, 802-223-9189
Sarah Merriman, Assistant, 802-223-5915

Town Clerk: Sarah Merriman,
802-223-5915

Town Clerk, Assistant: Cheryl Grandfield,
802-223-5915

Town Meeting Solutions

*Committee /What's Next
Middlesex?*

Susan Clark, 802-223-5824

*Wrightsville Beach Recreation District
Board:* Vacant

Zoning Board of Adjustment:

Charlene Bohl, 802- 229-9908
Stacey Skadberg, 443-812-
4343
Roger Hirt, 802-223-0531
Vacant

ELECTED OFFICIALS

OFFICE	NAME	EXPIRES	TERM
Moderator	Susan Clark	2022	1 yr.
Select Board	Peter O. Hood, Chair	2024	3 yrs.
	Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair	2022	3 yrs.
	Phil Hyjek	2023	3 yrs.
	Steven K. Martin	2023	2 yrs.
	Elizabeth Scharf	2022	2 yrs.
Budget Committee	Randy Drury*	2024	3 yrs.
	Elias Gardner	2022	3 yrs.
	Mark Harris*	2024	3 yrs.
	Theo Kennedy*	2023	3 yrs.
	Bill McManis	2023	3 yrs.
Listers	Sarah Birgé*	2023	3 yrs.
	Eric Young	2022	3 yrs.
	Vacant		
Town Clerk	Sarah Merriman	2023	3 yrs.
Treasurer	Dorinda Crowell	2022	1 yrs.
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Vacant	2022	1 yrs.
Cemetery Commission	Janet McKinstry	2024	3 yrs.
	Evelyn Gant	2022	3 yrs.
	Gary Lamell	2023	3 yrs.
Planning Commission	Sandy Levine, Chair	2024	3 yrs.
	Elias K. Gardner	2022	3 yrs.
	Theo Kennedy	2023	3 yrs.
	Mitch Osiecki	2024	3 yrs.
	Phil Comen	2022	3 yrs.

** Officials appointed by the Select Board until the March 2022 Town Meeting*

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Animal Control Officer.....	..Erika Holm
Assistant Town Clerk.....	Cheryl Grandfield
Board of Adjustment.....	Charlene Bohl, Chair Roger Hirt Peter Raymond Stacey Skadberg
Central VT Regional Planning Commissioner.....	Ron Krauth
Central VT Solid Waste Management District Rep.....	Dell McDonough John Udis, alternative representative
Conservation Commission.....	Matt Schley, Chair Larry Becker Ross Lieblappen (Vice Chair) George Longenecker Adrienne Magida Lee Rosberg Dave Shepard Jon Udis
E-911 Coordinator.....	Mitch Osiecki
Emergency Management Coordinator.....	Margaret Schwartz Shane Brickey Elizabeth Fortman Erika Holm Jeff Koonz Chris McVeigh Liz Scharf
Fire Warden.....	Jason Merrill
Health Officers.....	..Dr. Robert Penney (Asst.) Elizabeth Fortman
Recreation Director.....	..Mitch Osiecki
Road Commissioner.....	Vic Dwire
Town Service Officer.....	Liz Scharf
Wrightsville Beach Board Member.....	Vacant
Zoning Administrator.....	Kevin Thompson

TOWN MEETING BALLOT: MARCH 1, 2022

OFFICIAL BALLOT TOWN OF MIDDLESEX ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022		
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS • Use BLACK PEN or PENCIL to fill in the oval. • To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval <input type="radio"/> to the right of the name of that person. • To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or stick his or her name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval <input type="radio"/> to the right of the write-in line. • Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office. • If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.		
ARTICLE 1. To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year.	BUDGET COMMITTEE 1 YEAR OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than TWO	ARTICLE 2. Shall the Town of Middlesex authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, August 20, 2022; the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, November 20, 2022; the third installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, February 20, 2023, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, May 20, 2023, except if post marked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 VSA Sec. 4773)
MODERATOR 1-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	RANDY DRURY <input type="radio"/> THEO KENNEDY <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
TREASURER 1-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	CEMETERY COMMISSIONER 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	ARTICLE 3. Shall the Town of Middlesex charge an interest at the rate of 0.5% per month or fraction thereof on overdue tax installments from the applicable due dates? (32 VSA Sec. 5136)
DORINDA CROWELL <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	EVELYN GANT <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES 1-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	LISTER 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	ARTICLE 4. Shall the Town of Middlesex vote to accept a fiscal year 2022-2023 budget of \$1,503,408 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?
SELECT BOARD 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	LISTER 2 YEARS OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
RANDY DRURY <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	LISTER 1 YEARS OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
SELECT BOARD 2-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	PLANNING COMMISSIONER 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than TWO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
ELIZABETH J SCHARF <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	NICOLE D'AGOSTINO <input type="radio"/> JONATHAN LEIBOWITZ <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
BUDGET COMMITTEE 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
BUDGET COMMITTEE 2 YEARS OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than TWO	ELIAS GARDNER <input type="radio"/> MARK HARRIS <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

TOWN MEETING BALLOT: MARCH 1, 2022

<p>ARTICLE 5. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund? (By Select Board)</p>		<p>ARTICLE 14. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$4,767 to support the following organizations:</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>American Red Cross \$250.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Big Heavy World \$250.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$600 to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation?</p>		<p>CV Adult Basic Ed \$250.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>CV Council on Aging \$250.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Circle \$199.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$4,050 to Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice?</p>		<p>Community Harvest of CV \$250.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Family Center of Wash. Cty \$250.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Good Beginnings of CV \$250.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 8. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to Community Connections?</p>		<p>Good Samaritan Haven \$250.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Green Mt. Transit Agency \$249.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Green Up Vermont \$100.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to Girls/Boyz First Mentoring?</p>		<p>Montpelier Veterans Council \$250.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>MOSAIC (Sex Assault Crisis Team) \$250.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Our House of CV \$250.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$32,022 to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (By Petition)</p>		<p>People's Health & Wellness \$250.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>VT Association for the Blind \$249.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>VT Center for Independent Living \$195.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 11. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to the Montpelier Senior Activity Center?</p>		<p>VT Family Network \$250.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force \$100.00</p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>Wash. County Diversion \$250.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 12. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to the North Branch Nature Center?</p>		<p>Youth Service Bureau of Wash. County \$175.00</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 13. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$32,022 to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (By Petition)</p>		<p>ARTICLE 15. Shall the town authorize cannabis retailers in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863? (By Select Board)</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 14. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to the Montpelier Senior Activity Center?</p>		<p>ARTICLE 16. Shall the town authorize integrated licensees in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863? (By Select Board)</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 15. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to the North Branch Nature Center?</p>		<p>ARTICLE 17. Shall the Town Voters approve the Enhanced Energy Plan as an appendix to, and update of, the 2019-2027 Town Plan, thereby creating the Middlesex Town Plan and Energy Plan 2022-2030? Per 17 VSA §2641 and §2642 (By Select Board)</p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 16. Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to support the Waterbury Area Senior Center?</p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p>		<p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 1, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Middlesex are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Middlesex Town Hall, 5 Church Street, in the Town of Middlesex on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, between 7 o'clock (7:00 a.m.) in the forenoon, at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00 p.m.) in the afternoon, at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Articles of business pursuant to Section 2(a) of S.172 (2022). The Select Board will hold an Informational Meeting via Zoom* at 6 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022 concerning the Articles below, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680 (h).

ARTICLE 1: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year.

Moderator	1-year term
Treasurer	1-year term
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1-year term
Select Board	3-year term
Select Board	2-year term
Budget Committee	3-year term
Budget Committee	2 years of a 3-year term
Budget Committee	2 years of a 3-year term
Budget Committee	1 year of a 3-year term
Budget Committee	1 year of a 3-year term
Cemetery Commissioner	3-year term
Lister	3-year term
Lister	2 years of a 3-year term
Lister	1 year of a 3-year term
Planning Commissioner	3-year term
Planning Commissioner	3-year term

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town of Middlesex authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, August 20, 2022; the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, November 20, 2022; the third installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, February 20, 2023, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, May 20, 2023, except if post marked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 VSA Sec. 4773)

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town of Middlesex charge an interest at the rate of 0.5% per month or fraction thereof on overdue tax installments from the applicable due dates? (32 VSA Sec. 5136)

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 1, 2022

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town of Middlesex vote to accept a fiscal year 2022-2023 budget of \$1,503,408 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund? (By Select Board)

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$600 to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$4,050 to Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to Community Connections?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to Girls/Boyz First Mentoring?

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$32,022 to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to the Montpelier Senior Activity Center?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to the North Branch Nature Center?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to support the Waterbury Area Senior Center?

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$4,767 to support the following organizations:

American Red Cross	\$250.00
Big Heavy World	\$250.00
CV Adult Basic Ed	\$250.00
CV Council on Aging	\$250.00
Circle	\$199.00
Community Harvest of CV	\$250.00
Family Center of Wash. County	\$250.00
Good Beginnings of CV	\$250.00
Good Samaritan Haven	\$250.00

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 1, 2022

Green Mt. Transit Agency	\$249.00
Green Up Vermont	\$100.00
Montpelier Veterans Council	\$250.00
MOSAIC (Sex Assault Crisis Team)	\$250.00
Our House of CV	\$250.00
People's Health & Wellness	\$250.00
VT Association for the Blind	\$249.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$195.00
VT Family Network	\$250.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100.00
Wash. County Diversion	\$250.00
Youth Service Bureau of Wash. County	\$175.00

ARTICLE 15: Shall the town authorize cannabis retailers in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863? (By Select Board)

ARTICLE 16: Shall the town authorize integrated licensees in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863? (By Select Board)

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town Voters approve the Enhanced Energy Plan as an appendix to, and update of, the 2019-2027 Town Plan, thereby creating the Middlesex Town Plan and Energy Plan 2022-2030? Per 17 VSA §2641 and §2642 (By Select Board)

THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD:

Peter O. Hood, Chair

Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair

Philip Hyjek

Steven Martin

Elizabeth Scharf

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 1, 2021

Approved as warned agenda item at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Middlesex Select Board on January 18, 2022

I attest that this Warning for the March 1, 2022, Town Meeting was approved by the above Select Board members and recorded in the Middlesex town records or January 19, 2022.

Sarah Merriman, Middlesex Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7393380675>

Meeting ID: 739 338 0675

OR call 1-301-715-8592 and input Meeting ID#7393380675

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the Zoom link. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



2021 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS

Because there was no in-person town meeting in 2021, there are no minutes. The below serves as a reminder of results from 2021.

OFFICIAL BALLOT TOWN OF MIDDLESEX ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021		
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS • Use BLACK PEN or PENCIL to fill in the oval. • To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval <input type="radio"/> to the right of the name of that person. • To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or stick his or her name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval <input type="radio"/> to the right of the write-in line. • Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office. • If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.		
ARTICLE 1. To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year.	BUDGET COMMITTEE 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than TWO	ARTICLE 2. Shall the Town of Middlesex authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, August 20, 2021; the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, November 20, 2021; the third installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, February 20, 2022, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, May 20, 2022, except if post marked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 VSA Sec. 4773)
MODERATOR 1-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	653 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> 28 NO <input type="radio"/>
SUSAN CLARK <input checked="" type="radio"/>	CEMETERY COMMISSIONER 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	
<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	SARAH BIRGE 234 <input type="radio"/> JANET H. MCKINSTRY 334 <input checked="" type="radio"/>	
TREASURER 1-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
DORINDA CROWELL <input checked="" type="radio"/>	LISTER 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	ARTICLE 3. Shall the Town of Middlesex charge an interest at the rate of 0.5% per month or fraction thereof on overdue tax installments from the applicable due dates? (32 VSA Sec. 5136)
<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES 1-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	PLANNING COMMISSIONER 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than TWO	
DAVID W. SMITH <input checked="" type="radio"/>	SANDRA LEVINE 475 <input checked="" type="radio"/>	
<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	MITCH OSIECKI 351 <input checked="" type="radio"/> CHRISTOPHER THEROUX <input type="radio"/>	528 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> 152 NO <input type="radio"/>
SELECT BOARD 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	204 (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
VIC DWIRE 222 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
PETER O. HOOD 407 <input checked="" type="radio"/>	PLANNING COMMISSIONER 1 YEAR OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	
<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	PHILIP COMEN <input checked="" type="radio"/>	ARTICLE 4. Shall the Town of Middlesex vote to accept a fiscal year 2021-2022 budget of \$1,382,738 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?
SELECT BOARD 2-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
GARY LAMELL 274 <input type="radio"/>	569 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> 106 NO <input type="radio"/>	
STEVEN MARTIN 328 <input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
BUDGET COMMITTEE 1 YEAR OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE	TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING	
<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>		
BUDGET COMMITTEE 2 YEARS OF A 3-YEAR TERM Vote for not more than ONE		
WILLIAM MCMANIS <input checked="" type="radio"/>		
<input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>		

2021 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS

<p>ARTICLE 5.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex voters authorize the Select Board to purchase a new grader in an amount not to exceed \$290,000 to be financed over a period not to exceed 15 years? (24 V.S.A. § 1786a (c))</p> <p>569 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>113 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>ARTICLE 14.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to support the Waterbury Senior Center's Meals on Wheels program?</p> <p>516 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>156 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 6.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund?</p> <p>553 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>137 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>ARTICLE 15.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$5,017 to support the following organizations</p> <p>American Red Cross \$250.00</p> <p>Big Heavy World \$250.00</p> <p>CV Adult Basic Ed \$250.00</p> <p>CV Council on Aging \$250.00</p> <p>The Children's Room \$250.00</p> <p>Circle \$199.00</p> <p>Community Harvest of CV \$250.00</p> <p>Family Center of Wash. Cty \$250.00</p> <p>Good Beginnings of CV \$250.00</p> <p>Good Samaritan Haven \$250.00</p> <p>Green Mt. Transit Agency \$249.00</p> <p>Green Up Vermont \$100.00</p> <p>Montpelier Veterans Council \$250.00</p> <p>MOSAIC \$250.00</p> <p>(Sex Assault Crisis Team)</p> <p>Our House of Central VT \$250.00</p> <p>VT Association for the Blind \$249.00</p> <p>VT Center for</p> <p>Independent Living \$195.00</p> <p>VT Family Network \$250.00</p> <p>VT Rural Fire Protection</p> <p>Task Force \$100.00</p> <p>Wash. County Diversion</p> <p>Winooski Natural \$250.00</p> <p>Resources District</p> <p>Youth Service Bureau</p> <p>of Wash. County \$175.00</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 7.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$600 to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation?</p> <p>482 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>189 NO <input type="radio"/></p>		
<p>ARTICLE 8.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$4,050 to Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice?</p> <p>639 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>51 NO <input type="radio"/></p>		
<p>ARTICLE 9.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to Community Connections?</p> <p>517 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>161 NO <input type="radio"/></p>		
<p>ARTICLE 10.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to Girls/Boyz First Mentoring?</p> <p>543 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>141 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>575 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>111 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 11.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$29,801 to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library?</p> <p>473 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>215 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>ARTICLE 16.</p> <p>Shall the Town Voters authorize that all Special Articles requesting Town taxpayer funding, except the Annual Municipal Town Budget, be voted on by Australian ballot starting at the March 1, 2022 Town Meeting? (By Petition)</p> <p>338 YES <input type="radio"/></p> <p>338 NO <input checked="" type="radio"/></p>	
<p>ARTICLE 12.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to the Montpelier Senior Activity Center?</p> <p>544 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>140 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING</p>	
<p>ARTICLE 13.</p> <p>Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to the North Branch Nature Center? (By Petition)</p> <p>493 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>192 NO <input type="radio"/></p>		

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX ANNUAL AUDIT

On November 1, 2021, Batchelder Associates, PC of Barre, Vermont, issued its audit report of the Town's finances for the fiscal year running from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. At its November 16, 2021, meeting, the Select Board reviewed and approved the audit report which showed the Town's books are in good order and there were no weaknesses or deficiencies found.

In an effort to save resources along with printing and postage costs, we no longer print the full Audit Report in the Town Report. However, a copy is available for anyone's review at the Town Clerk's Office, 5 Church Street, Middlesex. In addition, a copy is available online at <http://middlesexvermont.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2021Audit-FINAL.pdf>

-Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the annual audit. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



SELECT BOARD REPORT

Thanks partly to issues caused by Covid-19, the Middlesex Select Board met for a record 35 times in 2021, two of which were informational meetings held in preparation of Middlesex's first ever Annual Town Meeting held entirely by Australian ballot.

Another first? The Board never gathered together once in person. Instead, every meeting was held by Zoom with the Town Hall open and staffed to welcome those who didn't have internet access. Due to Zoom's convenience, these Select Board meetings were unusually – and virtually – well attended by active participants.

It was an unexpected tragedy that shifted the Board's priorities earlier in the year when the historic United Methodist Church on Church Street was destroyed by a fire February 24th. After the smoke lifted, fire departments from Waterbury and Montpelier, the first to arrive at the scene, raised questions about the Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department's reliability as a mutual aid responder.

These concerns prompted the Board to hold several hearings with representatives of these municipalities and members of the MVFD to clear the air, so to speak, about the future of the volunteer fire department and whether it should be incorporated into the Town. Currently, the MVFD is a separate 501(c) 3 organization operating out of a Town-owned a building with Town-owned equipment and not, as is widely believed, a Town department.

The results were very positive: the Board encouraged the MVFD to increase the stipends they pay to firefighters, morale improved and the MVFD engaged in training offered by neighboring departments. In addition, the Board reserved a portion of its second monthly meetings for a joint meeting with MVFD representatives. By the end of the year, the Board and MVFD agreed to work toward a solution in 2022 that could involve merging the current fire department into a Town department. Both entities agreed that regular meetings have improved communication and warmed what has historically been, at times, an occasionally frosty relationship.

The Board would like to extend its deepest thanks to Doug Hanson who handed the reins of MVFD Chief to Middlesex resident Eric Metivier on January 1, 2022. Though he lives in Montpelier, Doug has been a loyal and steady presence in the Middlesex volunteer fire department for over a decade, directing them through countless fires, historic floods, car accidents and defective smoke/carbon monoxide alarms often on cold, wet, snowy, rainy or icy nights. Thank you, Doug, for your selfless service to our community!

SELECT BOARD REPORT (CONTINUED)

On the Town side, the Board dealt with labor shortages in the office and Highway Department, a strange ripple effect from Covid-19. In order to attract a qualified bookkeeper/Assistant Town Clerk, the Board had to readjust the employee pay scale mid fiscal year. Two Listers resigned mid-year and, on their recommendation, the Board agreed to pay for a professional appraiser to conduct property assessments with the appraiser reporting to the Listers. Another first.

In July, the Board set a Town Tax rate of 0.5269 per \$100 of assessed value – level funding from the previous fiscal year. The Board also approved a loan of \$280,500 to purchase a new grader per the voters' approval at the March 2, 2021 Town Meeting.

After proper notification, site visit and public hearing, the Board agreed to downgrade an 832-foot Class 4 section of Dolan Road to legal trail. The section was overgrown, rocky and inaccessible for Town equipment which meant it could not be maintained to Class 4 standards.

Select Board Member Steve Martin stepped off his role as long-serving Road Commissioner in January to avoid a conflict of interest with his son, Shane Brickey, when he was hired as Road Foreman. Vic Dwire accepted the job of Road Commissioner, and serves as a liaison between the Highway Department and the Board. Thank you, Steve, for applying your knowledge and experience to the job, as well as going the extra mile (not to pun - okay, maybe to pun) for our Town roads!

In March, a town resident asked the Select Board to place articles on the 2022 Town Meeting Warning asking voters if they would approve retail cannabis (marijuana) establishments in town. The Board considered the argument that selling legalized cannabis products could be a potential boon to the local economy, especially since abutting communities like Montpelier had authorized retail sales in 2021.

As a result, the Board has placed two articles on this Warning for voters' consideration: Article 15, if approved, would permit a cannabis retailer to operate in Middlesex. A "cannabis retailer" is a person licensed by the State Cannabis Control Board to sell cannabis and cannabis products to adults 21 years and older for off-site consumption.

Article 16, if approved, would permit integrated licensees to operate in Middlesex. An "integrated licensee" is a person licensed by the State Cannabis Control Board to engage in the activities of cultivator, wholesaler, product manufacturer, retailer and testing laboratory in accordance with state law.

If you have any questions about these articles, please attend the Board's Informational Meeting via Zoom 6 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022. (Please see

SELECT BOARD REPORT (CONTINUED)

instructions for logging in below.) The Board will also discuss the FY22-23 Town budget which Select Board Member Phil Hyjek analyzes here:

FY22-23 Select Board Budget Analysis

The preparation of the 2022 - 23 town budget was the most difficult budget that we have ever had to develop. There is no doubt that the pandemic has had a substantial financial impact on our town. Labor shortages, the rising cost of goods and materials, supply chain shortages, and increased utility costs have all contributed to budget increases.

We had several vacancies this year, and because of labor shortages our search process dragged on and we found ourselves needing to increase our wage rates and increase our benefits in order to hire qualified candidates. This had an immediate ripple effect on the cost of personnel as we raised the hourly rate for current employees so that they would not be making less than the new hires. The same held true for our employee benefit programs.

In this report, we'll point out areas where increases or decreases are substantial and discuss the reasons behind the increases. There are areas that show a large increase or decrease when expressed as a percentage, but the change is actually small when expressed in real dollars. In general, we'll ignore those line items unless there is something that bears discussion.

General Government increased by 7.45% due to the personnel issues stated above. Other increases, in this category, were minimal.

Administration As a result of having two unfilled Lister positions, we needed to contract with an Assessor who will perform those listers' functions. This change, and an increase in health benefits increased Administration by 5.05%.

Town Hall has decreased by 14.45% due to a decrease in the repairs line.

Public Safety shows a slight increase, 2.69%, because of a reduction in speed enforcement. For several years, we have not been able to get as much speed enforcement as we would like, so we have decreased this budget item until such time as the Sheriff's Department has adequate capacity.

The **Fire Department's** operational budget increased by 23.83% because stipends were woefully low. We have been working collaboratively with the fire department to increase membership and training opportunities, and as part of that initiative have increased the stipends.

The **Public Works** budget is, by far, the largest part of the town budget. Overall, the budget increased by 13.36%. Wage and benefit increases account for a substantial portion as explained above. Other changes reflect anticipated cost increases or realignment to reflect actual historical costs. The paving fund was purposely

SELECT BOARD REPORT (CONTINUED)

reduced because we have received a paving grant for work to be completed this summer and we won't need the additional funds to cover our match. In addition, roadside mowing was cut in half as a cost saving measure.

The **Recreation** budget increased by 51.04% due to the inclusion of \$5,000 for tennis court repairs.

Zoning The budget for Zoning and the Zoning Board of Adjustment increased by 23.19% primarily due to anticipated legal costs.

Planning Commission This budget decreased by 50% because of a decrease in the cost of consultants and the elimination of a grant match.

In **summary**, the Town's budget for 2022-23 increased by \$120,670.00, or 8.73%. It was difficult to balance the need to provide town services with an increase that taxpayers could afford. We do realize that some of you will find it hard to accept this budget increase, but faced with an inflation rate of 7% and the challenges of managing the town during this pandemic economy, we feel that we did the best that we could to find the balance between appropriate town services and affordability. We hope that you will agree.

Because the March 1, 2022 Town Meeting will be held via Australian ballot with no floor vote, the Board will hold an Informational Meeting via Zoom at 6 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022. To access this meeting (and all Select Board meetings) please click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7393380675>

OR call: 1-301-715-8592 and input the meeting ID # 7393380675

It's likely the Board will continue to hold its meetings via Zoom for the foreseeable future, even if it again meets in person. We hope you will attend and that you enjoy a healthy year ahead!

THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD

Peter O. Hood, Chair

Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair

Phil Hyjek

Steve Martin

Liz Scharf

Scanning this QR code will take you to the Zoom link above.

Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Some day in the not-too-distant future, sociologists likely will deconstruct the effects of a global pandemic on a small Vermont town. I can't help but wonder if a report like this will be part of their analysis. Did the pandemic join us or separate us or neither? Being so close to the raging virus – too close, since I write this with Covid-19 symptoms while waiting for (yet another) test result – I'm too deep in the weeds to tell.

I will say this though: the pandemic was great for real estate values, horrid for community confabulation, and a fascinating experiment with local democracy. Because Town and WCUUSD ballots for the March Town/School 2021 meetings were automatically mailed to every active, registered voter, 698 Middlesex citizens were able to vote for the first time on the Town budget and special articles which are normally decided upon by the 200 or so voters attending the annual meetings at Rumney School on Town Meeting Day.

(That said, in March 2020 - when the pandemic was just beginning to wind its way west - 692 people voted for Town officers by Australian ballot which, of course, did not contain the special articles or budget. So, make of that what you will.)

Holding Town Meeting via Australian ballot also had no effect on the articles' outcomes. Middlesex voters are historically generous and they passed all the articles except one – *ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town Voters authorize that all Special Articles requesting Town taxpayer funding, except the Annual Municipal Town Budget, be voted on by Australian ballot starting at the March 1, 2022 Town Meeting?* This controversial article, submitted by petition, ended in a tie! (The vote was 338 to 338 with 22 undervotes – or blank responses.) Tie votes are defeats.

For those who may be skeptical about voting machines, a recount of the article by hand and by machine produced the exact same result, except initially the hand count was less accurate. It wasn't until the Board of Civil Authority went through the ballots multiple times that an overlooked vote was found. In its emergency Covid-19 legislation passed this year, the Legislature banned traditionally floor-vote towns like ours from putting a question like Article 16 on the 2022 Australian ballot.

With the pandemic receding in the summer (remember that?), eager buyers enhanced the retirement nest eggs of many Middlesex residents by snapping up properties at anywhere from \$20,000 to \$100,000 over the Town-appraised value. Aided by low interest rates, there were 95 property transfers in 2021 vs 70 in 2020 and 69 in 2019.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The result was that our Common Level of Appraisal (roughly how close the Town's appraisals are to actual property sales) dropped to 89% in 2021, which may affect the education tax rate, but not the town portion of the tax rate in 2022.

The Town Clerk's Office experienced its own upheaval when the Assistant Town Clerk resigned his position as well as that of Lister and Collector of Delinquent Taxes in September. Overnight, we were dealing with the same abrupt labor shortage affecting so many businesses. Skilled employees were hard to find.

In November, Treasurer Dorinda Crowell and I hired Middlesex resident Cheryl Grandfield to work a full-time position as bookkeeper/Assistant Town Clerk. Cheryl is very familiar with grants, fund accounting and payroll and as a Middlesex resident knows many of you already. Please stop by and say hi! (Though you may have to wear a mask for the time being.)

As noted elsewhere in this report, the Annual Town Meeting will, again, be held strictly by Australian ballot. There will be NO in-person meeting on March 1, 2022, in Rumney School. Instead, by the time you receive this report you should have already received two absentee ballots in the mail. One is the Town ballot; the other is the Washington Central Unified Union School District ballot. You may vote on them at home and put them in the mail or drop them off at the Town Clerk's Office, 5 Church Street, Middlesex.

For all sorts of complicated reasons, the ballot asking whether the Central Vermont Career Center should be created as a separate entity with its own board members could not be included in with the Town and School mailings. Therefore, if you want to vote on that ballot absentee, please call our office at 802-223-5915 or email clerk@middlesexvermont.org. In addition, you may go to the VT Secretary of State's My Voter Page at <https://mvp.vermont.gov> and request a CVCC ballot online. You will need to provide your driver's license # or SSN.

Of course, you can always vote in person on Town Meeting Day between **7 AM and 7 PM, Tuesday, March 1, 2022**, in Town Hall, 5 Church Street.

PLEASE BRING THE BALLOTS YOU WERE SENT!! If you don't, you will have to fill out affidavits swearing that you have not already voted and that's a whole thing.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT (CONTINUED)

You will also need to wear a mask to protect those around you and the hardworking elections officials in Town Hall. If you don’t want to wear a mask, we will have to arrange for elections officials to bring you an absentee packet and affidavits that you’ll have to complete in your car. Early March can be snowy, rainy and yucky so if you want to vote in person, it’s so much easier (and drier) to simply wear the mask for the 15 minutes it takes to vote, right? As always, free candy on your way out.

But I don’t expect any problems because (aside from two cases, and they weren’t even Middlesex residents) our fellow townspeople have been patient, kind, understanding and good humored during this pandemic. We are truly lucky to have the go-along, get-along town we do. We may not always agree on every issue. We might be frustrated, feel we’re over taxed or under serviced or both, but Middlesexians (not a word; I made it up) are super people.

Thank you for letting me serve you for these past nine years, and thank you for paying my wages,

Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk

ROAD FOREMAN HIGHWAY REPORT

Last year started out busy for the Middlesex Highway Department with the hiring of Road Foreman (Shane Brickey) the resignation of Road Commissioner (Steve Martin) and the hiring of the new Road Commissioner (Vic Dwire). Vic has proven to be a great asset to the Road Crew with his knowledge of roads from years of working for VTrans. Through the onslaught of winter and a mediocre mud season and on into the always busy summer season the Road Crew prevailed. Thank you, Road Crew for your hard work!

The Highway Department had a strong construction season even with the excavator being down for 6 weeks, The Road Crew managed to ditch one mile of Shady Rill both sides of the road starting at Rt.12 to Government Hill. We then moved to McCullough Hill and finished the full service which was ditching 7/10th of a mile on both sides of the road and replacing 400' of culvert along with cutting brush then resurfacing the road. We also hired Dubois to ditch 1.3 miles of East Hill at the end of June. We also ditched a quarter mile of Woods Rd. We then moved to Bolduc Rd., ditching the entire 1.2 miles on both sides of the road, replacing 520' of culvert, brush cutting and resurfacing. Last but not least we ditched Tangle Town 4/10th of a mile on both sides, 40' of culvert replaced, and a lot of brush cutting, and resurfacing. The Road Crew did an awesome job!

The new road grader arrived in late June with the added feature of the Walk-N-Roll which packs the roads after grading, proving to be a great asset in helping maintain the roads. Grading was cut short in late fall due to the rains and threat of the early arrival of winter.

The Town of Middlesex would like to recognize and express gratitude upon the retirement of longtime employee Bruce Fitch. Bruce retired October 28th, leaving a tough void to fill. Bruce was a great asset to the town and will be sorely missed. We eventually found someone after a few months of searching as there is a shortage of experienced municipal workers. The new employee started November 29th bringing us to full staff in time for winter.

The 2022 construction season will prove to be busy with the ditching, replacing culverts, and ripping up the pavement in preparation of having Center Rd. repaved sometime late summer/early fall. The Road Crew would like to thank you in advance for being patient through this process and to those of you who were patient in the 2021 season. It is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

The Road Crew (Shane Brickey, Jay Files, Charles Pelchar, and Steve MacLaren)
and Road Commissioner Vic Dwire.

FIVE-YEAR ROAD CONSTRUCTION PLAN

Summer 2022

May, June: Pavement Preparation, Culvert Replacement, Ditching on Center Road
July, August, September: Full Service on South Bear Swamp & North Bear Swamp
October: Full Service on Macey Road

Summer 2023

May, June: Full Service on Culver Hill
July, August: Full Service on Portal Road
September, October: Service Work on West Hill & Woods Road

Summer 2024

May, June: Full Service on Davy Road & Upper Sunny Brook Road
July: Service Work on Lower Sunny Brook Road, Lower Barnett Hill Road, Old Brook Road
August, September: Mud Mitigation on Portal Road & Center Road
October: Service Work on Zdon Road & Notch Road

Summer 2025

May: Service Work on Norton Road
June: Full Service on East Bear Swamp Road
July: Service Work on Brook Road
August: Service Work on 3 Mile Bridge Road, Cross Road, Rich Road
September: Mud Mitigation on East Hill Road
October: Service Work on Shady Rill Road & Molly Supple Hill Road

FIVE-YEAR ROAD CONSTRUCTION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Summer 2026

May, June: Pavement Preparation & Repaving on Shady Rill Road
July: Service Work on Center Road
August: Service Work on Notch Road
September: Service Work on Leland Farm Road
October: Service Work on East Hill Road

Service Work: Shoulder cutting, ditching, culvert replacement
Full Service: Resurfacing gravel, brush cutting, culvert replacement, ditching
Mud Season Mitigation: Excavation, drainage, fabric, gravel

CAPITAL PLAN FOR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

Equipment Name	Replacement Schedule	Replacement Year
1983 Tanker/Chloride Truck	As Needed	No Date
1989 Morbark Chipper	As Needed	No Date
1997 Caterpillar 140H Grader	24 Years	2021/2022
2014 Western Star Dump Truck	8 Years	2022/2023
2008 Kobelco 140SR Excavator	16 Years	2024/2025
2018 International Dump Truck	7 Years	2025/2026
2014 Komatsu WA-270 Loader	12 Years	2026/2027
2019 Freightliner Dump Truck	8 Years	2027/2028
2007 Caterpillar 420E Backhoe	21 years	2028/2029
2021 Pick-up	8 Years	2029/2030
2021 John Deere 772GP Grade	15 Years	2036/2037

ESTIMATED TOWN TAX EFFORT

2022-2023 General Government				
Expenses				
Budget	631198.00			
Special Articles	67439.00			
	0.00			
Total	698637.00			
Anticipated Receipts				
Interest	300.00			
Zoning	5000.00			
Licenses and Clerk Fees	26000.00			
RR Tax	3000.00			
PILOT/Hold Harmless Payment	73000.00			
PILOT/ Agy of Natural Resources	40000.00			
Delinquent Tax Interest	3000.00			
Delinquent Tax Penalty	2000.00			
Fund Balance Reduction	0.00			
Total	152,300.00	Total General Government	\$	546,337.00

2022-2023 Highway				
Expenses				
Budget	872210.00			
Receipts				
State Aid to Highways	117000.00			
Other		Total Highway	\$	755,210.00
Sub-total			\$	1,301,547.00
Total Municipal Tax Effort			\$	1,301,547.00
2021 Grand List*	\$ 235,387,240.00			
2021 Homestead Tax Rate*	1.7890	(State of Vermont)		
2021 Non-Residential Tax Rate*	1.6811	(State of Vermont)		
Estimated 2022 Municipal Tax Rate*	0.5505			
Estimated Local Agreement Rate*	0.0024			
Estimated 2022 Total Town Tax Rate*	0.5529			
Total Non- Residential Rate*	2.2340			
Total Residential Rate*	2.3419			

*NOTE: This is only an estimate based on the 2021 Grandlist and anticipated financial receipts
2022 Grand List (property values as of April 1, 2022) and 2022 State Education Rates
2022 Municipal rate will be used in determining 2022 Total Residential & Non-Residential Rates

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the year ending June 30, 2021, the budget was approved for \$1,323,867 and total expenditures were \$1,309,777.72. Special articles of \$73,319, were higher than approved with the actual expended being \$78,155.20. The special article for the Putnamville Speed Enforcement signs approved for \$8,000, came in at \$12,836.20, due to installation costs not anticipated/budgeted, as our highway crew was unable to do the installation as originally planned.

Revenue of \$1,635,472.63 was higher than budgeted with the bulk of it coming from unanticipated extra state aid payments, and highway grant income. As a result, the Town was able to replace the 2015 highway pickup with the purchase of a 2021 F250 pickup in the amount of \$31,000 plus the additional cost to outfit the pickup with lights, communication and plow. The vehicle and accessories were paid for in full without incurring any future debt. In addition, the highway department was also able to purchase a stone screener, adding to their capital assets without incurring additional debt.

The accounting firm of Batchelder Associates completed a full review of the financial records for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021. There were no significant weaknesses or deficiencies found. A copy is available for review at the Town Clerk's office or on the Town's website.

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Middlesex has been awarded \$515,348 to assist in the recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID19 pandemic. There are very specific guidelines of how the funds can and cannot be spent. Funds must be committed by December 31, 2024 and be expended by December 31, 2026, or the funds must be returned. These funds are not reflected in any budgeted or income reporting data as part of this annual report. The Select Board has had preliminary discussions on the possible uses of the funds with more in-depth discussions to take place during 2022.

Based on budgets presented by town departments and committees, along with general expenses for the town, the Select Board is presenting a budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$1,503,408 (before Special Articles) for consideration of the voters. The proposed budget is an 8.73% increase over 2021-2022. In addition, "Special Articles" requests totaling \$67,439 is being presented to the voters for consideration. This is a 3.01% increase over requests received last year. Please refer to the Select Board & Budget committee reports for an overview of the proposed 2022/2023 budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorinda Crowell
Treasurer

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Town Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

The Select Board’s proposed budget for FY 2023 is \$1,503,508, an 8.73% increase over the FY 2022 budget of \$1,382,738.

Major drivers of the budget increase are:

- A 11.69% increase (from \$93,863 to \$104,831) in planned General Government expenditures:
 - Wages & Benefits – 22.25% increase (from \$36,373 to \$44,468)
- A 11.33% increase (from \$141,992 to \$158,087) in the Fire Dept. budget:
 - Stipends – 500% increase (from \$3,000 to \$18,000)
- A 10.04% increase (from \$769,390 to \$846,638) in the Public Works budget:
 - Equipment Repairs/Parts/Supplies – 78.46% increase (from \$32,500 to \$58,000)
 - Wages & Benefits – 19.27% increase (from \$277,256 to \$330,676)
 - Debt. Service - \$25,572; first payment on the new Road Grader purchased in 2021

The proposed budget does not include Special Articles, which are subject to approval by voters on Town Meeting day.

The Budget Committee would like to thank the Select Board for its hard work, and recommends approval of this budget.

The Budget Committee also proposed three (3) recommendations to the Select Board during the budgeting process, and appreciated the Select Board’s receptiveness to discuss them:

- Making best efforts to limit the budget increase to 9 % or less
- Refraining from using the General Fund to bridge any budget shortfalls
- Adding wording to the Budget Article to reflect the new budget as a percentage change from the current year budget

The Budget Committee has also been engaged with the Select Board and a State consultant in the creation of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the Town. The CIP will enable proactive planning of major capital asset replacement with the focus on:

- Documenting the useful life for each major capital asset
- Scheduling the replacement year and estimating the cost for each
- Determining the most appropriate financing method for replacement

The objective in implementing and maintaining the CIP is to minimize, as much as possible, future impacts to the town tax rate. The CIP will be implemented in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Budget Committee / Elias Gardner (Chair), Randy Drury, Mark Harris, Theo Kennedy, and Bill McManis

WHAT EACH LINE ITEM MEANS FOR YOUR TAXES

Estimated 2022 Tax Rate - What each article means for your taxes*					
Appraised Value of Property Grand List (2021*) Proposed Town Budget Proposed Town Tax *Estimated municipal taxes		\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000	
		\$235,387.240	\$235,387.240	\$235,387.240	
		\$1,301,547	\$1,301,547	\$1,301,547	Including Special Articles net of anticipated receipts
		\$0.5529	\$0.5529	\$0.5529	\$0.5529
		\$553	\$1,106	\$1,659	
*NOTE: This is only an estimate based on the 2021 Grandlist and anticipated financial receipts					
2022 Grand List (property values as of April 1, 2022) will be used in determining 2022 town tax rate					
	Total Proposed Tax Effort	Tax for Property Appraised at \$100,000	Tax for Property Appraised at \$200,000	Tax for Property Appraised at \$300,000	Explanation
Town Government					
Article 4	\$1,234,108	\$524.29	\$1,048.58	\$1,572.87	General Government and Highway - net of anticipated receipts
Other Articles					
Article 5	5000	\$2.12	\$4.25	\$6.37	Middlesex Conservation Fund
Article 6	600	\$0.25	\$0.51	\$0.76	CV Economic Development
Article 7	4050	\$1.72	\$3.44	\$5.16	CV Home Health & Hospice
Article 8	3000	\$1.27	\$2.55	\$3.82	Community Connections
Article 19	1500	\$0.64	\$1.27	\$1.91	Girls/Boyz Mentoring
Article 10	32022	\$13.60	\$27.21	\$40.81	Kellogg-Hubbard Library
Article 11	7000	\$2.97	\$5.95	\$8.92	Montpeller Senior Activity Ctr
Article 12	2000	\$0.85	\$1.70	\$2.55	North Branch Nature Center
Article 13	7500	\$3.19	\$6.37	\$9.56	Waterbury Area Senior Meals on Wheels
Article 14	4767	\$2.03	\$4.05	\$6.08	Misc Organizations (\$250 or less)
Estimated Municipal Tax**		\$552.94	\$1,105.88	\$1,658.82	
2021 Residential School Rate /Tax**	0.01789	\$1,789.00	\$3,578.00	\$5,367.00	
TOTAL ESTIMATED TAXES		\$2,341.94	\$4,683.88	\$7,025.82	
each additional	\$1,000	\$0.42	\$0.85	\$1.27	

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX 2022-2023 PROJECTED SALARIES

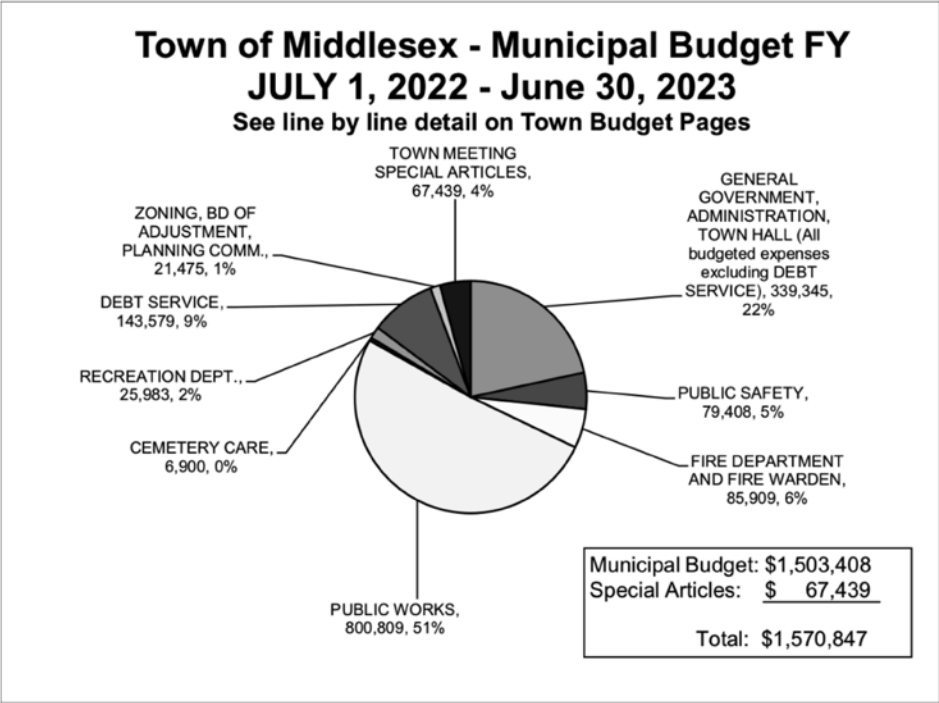
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Fiscal Years 2022 & 2023 Budgeted Salaries Comparisons					
2						
			F/Y 22 Budgeted Wages	F/Y 22 Budgeted Annual Hours	F/Y 23 Budgeted Wages	F/Y 23 Budgeted Annual Hours
3	Select Board					
4		Chairman	844.38	Flat Rate	\$ 878.16	Flat Rate
5		Member	675.51	Flat Rate	\$ 702.53	Flat Rate
6		Member	675.51	Flat Rate	\$ 702.53	Flat Rate
7		Member	675.51	Flat Rate	\$ 702.53	Flat Rate
8		Road Commissioner	844.38	Flat Rate	\$ 878.16	Flat Rate
9						
10		SB Assistant	\$ 23,327.97	848	\$ 28,221.44	848
11	Administration					
12		Clerk	\$ 22,447.67	816	\$ 27,156.48	816
13		Assistant Clerk	\$ 14,708.40	700	\$ 25,093.12	1040
14		Treasurer	\$ 8,086.05	250	\$ 7,571.20	208
15		Bookkeeper/Grant Administrator	\$ 47,093.16	1456	\$ 25,093.12	1040
16	Listers					
17		Lister	\$ 14,177.08	655	\$ 8,736.00	300
18		Lister	\$ 14,177.08	655	\$ 6,240.00	250
19		Lister	\$ 1,948.00	90	\$ 6,240.00	250
20	Highway					
21		Foreman	\$ 63,830.00	2305	\$ 76,596.00	2305
22		Crew	\$ 53,137.00	2305	\$ 63,830.00	2305
23		Crew	\$ 54,088.56	2305	\$ 58,723.60	2305
24		Crew	\$ 53,137.00	2305	\$ 63,830.00	2305
25						
26						
27		Delinquent Tax Collector	\$ 2,836.62	100	\$ 2,912.00	100
28		Zoning Administrator	\$ 7,034.43	325	\$ 7,800.00	300
29		Assistant Zoning Administrator			\$ 686.40	30
30		Recreation Director	\$ 5,411.10	250	\$ 6,500.00	250
31		Animal Control Officer	\$ 520.00	26	\$ 676.00	26
32		Health Officer	\$ 520.00	26	\$ 811.20	26
33						
34		TOTAL	\$ 390,195.41	15,417	\$ 420,580.47	14,704

Debt Service/Notes Payable as of June 30, 2021

Item	Outstanding Principal Amount	Interest Rate (%)	Matures F/Y
Highway:			
2018 International Hwy Truck	\$ 81,419.00	3.15	2024
2019 Highway Dump Truck	\$ 128,451.00	3.25	2025
	\$ 209,870.00		
Fire Department:			
Freightliner Fire Truck	\$ 87,447.00	3.00	2026
Fire Station	\$ 400,000.00	4.19	2029
	\$ 487,447.00		
Additional Debt Service for Budget F/Y 2023			
Highway:			
2019 John Deere Grader (July 1, 2021)	\$ 280,500.00	2.45	2036
	\$ 767,947.00		

WHERE THE \$ GOES

Town of Middlesex Municipal Budget FY JULY 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023
See line by line detail on Town Budget Pages



THE LAST FIVE YEARS					
Fiscal Year	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Grandlist	2,217,564	2,234,154	2,262,264	2,296,659	2,385,888
Town Budget\$	1,099,071	1,160,515	1,187,891	1,323,867	1,382,738
Special Articles	63,071	66,297	64,222	73,319	65,468
Town Tax Rate	\$ 0.4196	\$ 0.4198	\$ 0.4724	\$ 0.5269	\$ 0.5269
School-Homestead Tax Rate	\$ 1.6613	\$ 1.8097	\$ 1.8008	\$ 1.7951	\$ 1.7890
School-Non -Residential Tax Rate	\$ 1.4794	\$ 1.5606	\$ 1.6382	\$ 1.6456	\$ 1.6811

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2022/2023 Budget	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Actual FY- 2020/2021	Budget FY - 2021/2022	Budget FY - 2022/2023	\$ Change	Percentage Change
2	GENERAL GOVERNMENT						
3	Wages: Selectboard	3642	3642.42	3715	4566	851	22.92%
4	Wages: Selectboard Clerk	22019	23355.06	23328	28221	4893	20.98%
5	Wages: Payroll Tax(SS&MED)	2242	1905.62	2353	2508	155	6.60%
6	Wages: Retirement	1321		1458	1905	447	30.65%
7	Insurance: Health	7646	1880.00	7872	9776	1904	24.18%
8	Insurance: Property & Casualty	11188	10064.13	8538	8538	0	0.00%
9	Insurance: Workers Compensation	750	346.93	863	130	-733	-84.96%
10	Insurance: Unemployment Comp	154	54.68	181	116	-65	-35.77%
11	Advertising/Printing	600	1335.55	500	1000	500	100.00%
12	Selectboard Courses	200	0.00	200	0	-200	-100.00%
13	Town Email	0	710.71	0	1000	1000	100.00%
14	Town Property Maintenance	2600	47.99	2500	1000	-1500	-60.00%
15	Weich Park	1000	227.70	500	500	0	0.00%
16	Discretionary Fund	8000	215.42	8000	4028	-3972	-49.65%
17	Legal Fees	2000	2730.24	2000	3000	1000	50.00%
18	Town Report	2000	2400.00	2800	3000	200	7.14%
19	VLCT Dues	3224	3224.00	3224	3224	0	0.00%
20	County Tax	19000	18047.00	18500	19256	756	4.09%
21	CV Solid Waste	1738	869.00	1724	1724	0	0.00%
22	CV Reg Planning Comm	2184	2183.75	2207	2366	159	7.22%
23	Conservation Commission	500	0.00	500	500	0	0.00%
24	Elections	2500	1618.10	1500	2000	500	33.33%
25	Misc Expense	500	85.28	500	500	0	0.00%
26	Grant Matches	0	0.00	900	2000	1100	100.00%
27	Covid-19	0	5499.90	0	0	0	0.00%
28	Tax Abatements	0	51.58	0	0	0	0.00%
29	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	95008	80495.06	93863	100859	6996	7.45%
30							
31	ADMINISTRATION						
32	Office: Wages (Clerk,Ass't Clerk,Treas,Bookkeeper)	58293	59403.58	93160	84914	-8246	-8.85%
33	Listeners: Wages	29705	12968.79	30302	21216	-9086	-29.98%
34	Delinquent Tax Collector: Wages	3266	444.98	2837	2912	75	2.64%
35	ADMIN: Payroll Tax (SS&MED)	6982	5218.79	9662	8342	-1320	-13.66%
36	ADMIN: Unemployment	217	212.36	470	281	-189	-40.16%
37	ADMIN: Retirement	1271	2574.22	1403	5221	3818	272.11%
38	ADMIN:Insurance: Life/LTD/AD&D	381	291.86	381	840	459	120.47%
39	ADMIN: Insurance: Health	7346	13339.92	7564	28560	20996	277.58%
40	ADMIN: Insurance: Workers Comp	387	0.00	425	541	116	27.21%
41	Office Supplies	3500	1305.30	3000	1500	-1500	-50.00%
42	Equipment Repair	0	0.00	1000	1000	0	100.00%
43	Equipment Purchase	0	1415.42	1000	1000	0	100.00%
44	Lister Computer Upgrade	0	0.00	15000	0	-15000	100.00%
45	Telephone	4800	4826.82	5000	5000	0	0.00%
46	Postage	3000	2302.35	3000	3000	0	0.00%
47	Auditing	7400	9106.25	8200	9000	800	9.76%
48	Listing Mileage/Expenses	3000	2528.07	2500	1000	-1500	-60.00%
49	Clerical Mileage	0	191.04	175	200	25	14.29%
50	Clerk's /Listeners Courses & Training	100	1298.75	1000	1000	0	0.00%
51	Lister NEMRC Assessor Contract	0	0.00	0	18000	18000	100.00%
52	Lister/ParcelMapping	750	0.00	0	0	0	100.00%
53	Copier Lease	2100	1740.00	2000	2000	0	0.00%
54	Computer Maintenance	14000	20758.60	19000	22000	3000	15.79%
55	Consultant Fees	0		0	0	0	0.00%
56	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	146498	139927.10	207079	217527	10448	5.05%
57							
58	TOWN HALL						
59	Electricity	2800	3391.91	3000	3500	500	16.67%
60	Heat	2000	1716.29	1500	2000	500	33.33%
61	Grounds	2500	1194.99	1500	960	-540	-36.00%
62	Building Repairs	5000	1965.90	5000	2000	-3000	-60.00%
63	Town Hall Building Fund	10000	10000.00	10000	10000	0	0.00%
64	Street Lights	2000	827.45	2000	1000	-1000	-50.00%
65	Janitorial	1500	1325.92	1500	1500	0	0.00%
66	TOTAL TOWN HALL	25800	20422.46	24500	20960	-3540	-14.45%
67							

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (CONTINUED)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2022/2023 Budget	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Actual FY- 2020/2021	Budget FY - 2021/2022	Budget FY - 2022/2023	\$ Change	Percentage Change
68	PUBLIC SAFETY						
69	Wages: Health Officer	1040		520	811	291	56.00%
70	Wages: Animal Control Officer	1040	170.15	520	676	156	30.00%
71	P/S : Payroll Tax (SS & MED)	159		80	114	34	42.21%
72	P/S: Workers Compensation	94		38	7	-31	-82.00%
73	Courses/Seminars	100		0	0	0	100.00%
74	Ambulance	67871	70244.00	67871	72000	4129	6.08%
75	Speed Enforcement	7500	3355.61	7500	5000	-2500	-33.33%
76	Dog Pound	600	0.00	300	300	0	0.00%
77	Emergency Management	1900	0.00	500	500	0	0.00%
78	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	80304	73769.76	77329	79408	2079	2.69%
79							
80	FIRE DEPARTMENT						
81	FD-Insurance: Property & Casualty	8395	7528.97	6871	6713	-158	-2.30%
82	FD-Insurance: Workers Compensation	1217	1162.07	1217	1217	0	0.00%
83	FD-Supplies	200	200.60	300	400	100	33.33%
84	FD-Equipment Repair	7000	11928.39	10000	10000	0	0.00%
85	FD-Equipment Purchase	3000	1388.24	4200	4200	0	0.00%
86	FD-Telephone	1100	153.03	1560	1560	0	0.00%
87	FD-Fast Squad	1000	100.00	1000	1000	0	0.00%
88	FD-Electricity	2000	1712.62	2400	2300	-100	-4.17%
89	FD-Fuel - Heat	4000	401.86	4000	4300	300	7.50%
90	FD-Building Maintenance	3000	1512.82	3000	3000	0	0.00%
91	FD-Radio Dispatch	26224	26224.04	26630	28394	1764	6.62%
92	FD-VSFA/Dues/Accounting/Training	1000	63.25	1000	1875	875	87.50%
93	Courses & Seminars	1000	0.00	1000	300	-700	-70.00%
94	FD-Forest Fire Warden	250	0.00	250	250	0	0.00%
95	FD-GAS & Diesel	2000	381.16	1750	1200	-550	-31.43%
96	FD-Stipends	3000	1210.00	3000	18000	15000	500.00%
97	FD-Communication/Radio	1200	0.00	1200	1200	0	0.00%
98	E911 Signs	0	-162.00	0	0	0	0.00%
99	Turn Out Gear	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
100	FD Sub-Total	65586	59365.05	69378	85909	16531	23.83%
101	FIRE DEPARTMENT DEBT SERVICE						
102	Fire Station Bond	40000	40000.00	40000	40000	0	0.00%
103	Fire Station Interest	17487	15629.78	15833	15833	0	0.00%
104	VTECH Freightliner Tanker - PRIN	14594	14593.43	14594	14594	0	0.00%
105	VTECH Freightliner Tanker - INT	2629	2974.20	2187	1751	-436	-19.95%
106	F/D DEBT SERVICE Sub Total	74710	73197.41	72614	72178	-436	-0.60%
107	TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	140296	132562	141992	158087	16094	11.33%
108							
109	PUBLIC WORKS						
110	Winter Maintenance						
111	Road Salt	13745	3568.33	15280	15280	0	0.00%
112	Winter Sand	37500	40967.51	21000	21000	0	0.00%
113	Trucking	32000	24300.00	20400	25000	4600	22.55%
114	Weather Consulting	0	0.00	600	600	0	0.00%
115	WINTER MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	83245	68836	57280	61880	4600	8.03%
116	Summer Maintenance						
117	Seed	3342	1491.75	3342	2000	-1342	-40.16%
118	Hot Mix/Cold Patch	1000	487.60	1000	1000	0	0.00%
119	Stone Ditch Lining	7000	1025.92	7812	0	-7812	-100.00%
120	Hay, Mulch, Netting	7200	32.00	8400	0	-8400	-100.00%
121	Road Gravel	14046	24060.77	27171	40000	12829	47.22%
122	Roadside Mowing	18927	6500.00	14000	7000	-7000	-50.00%
123	Chloride	16000	16925.49	21840	23000	1160	5.31%
124	Rental Equipment	1500	53.54	3000	3000	0	0.00%
125	Tree Service	1000	200.00	5000	5000	0	0.00%
126	Green-Up	500		500	500	0	0.00%
127	Storm Water Discharge Fee	1350	1590.00	1350	1590	240	17.78%
128	Miscellaneous Summer Maintenance	0	3134.00	0	0	0	0.00%
129	Unforseen Road Repairs	0	0.00	5000	0	-5000	0.00%
130	SUMMER MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	71865	55501.07	98415	83090	-15325	-15.57%
131	Equipment Maintenance						
132	Equipment Repairs & Vendors	24000	36914.49	24000	38000	14000	58.33%
133	Equipment Parts & Supplies	8500	16963.95	8500	20000	11500	135.29%
134	Plow & Sander Equipment	8000	13967.95	8000	8000	0	0.00%
135	Bulk Oil & DEF	5000	2272.35	5000	5000	0	0.00%
136	Used Oil Recycling	0	1005.20	0	0	0	0.00%
137	Inspections	400	133.75	900	750	250	50.00%
138	Towing	0	0.00	0	2500	2500	100.00%
139	Tires	8000	4362.00	9000	9000	0	0.00%
140	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	53900	75619.69	55000	83250	28250	51.36%
141	Specialized Services						

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (CONTINUED)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2022/2023 Budget	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Actual FY- 2020/2021	Budget FY - 2021/2022	Budget FY - 2022/2023	\$ Change	Percentage Change
142	Trucks	24000	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
143	Excavator Rental	10000	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
144	1 Month Wages	6000	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
145	Sub Contractor	0	22058.25	20000	20000	0	0.00%
146	SPECIALIZED SERVICES SUBTOTAL	40000	22058.25	20000	20000	0	0.00%
147	Garage Maintenance						
148	Shop Supplies (Towels, Rags, etc)	1800	6343.82	2000	2000	0	0.00%
149	Waste Disposal	1650	1898.73	1700	2000	300	17.65%
150	Air Gas Services	775	443.03	775	775	0	0.00%
151	Vermont State UST Fee	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
152	Fuel Tank Maintenance	1000	0.00	2500	500	-2000	-80.00%
153	Garage Door Maintenance	500	1628.86	500	500	0	0.00%
154	Office Supplies & Misc	500	840.97	500	500	0	0.00%
155	Small Tool Purchases	3500	3703.87	3500	1500	-2000	-57.14%
156	Building Maintenance	0				0	0.00%
157	GARAGE MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	9725	14859.28	11475	7775	-3700	-32.24%
158	Utilities						
159	Electricity	4000	2123.71	4000	4000	0	0.00%
160	Heat	5000	6453.36	5000	6500	1500	30.00%
161	Phone	1000	1114.36	1000	1000	0	0.00%
162	UTILITIES SUBTOTAL	10000	9691.43	10000	11500	1500	15.00%
163							
164	Gas & Diesel	55000	32376.19	0	0	0	0.00%
165	GAS	0		5500	5500	0	0.00%
166	Diesel	0		49500	54500	5000	10.10%
167	Gas & Diesel Sub-Total	55000	32376.19	55000	60000	5000	9.09%
168							
169	Wages & Benefits						
170	Wages	216149	198234.89	224193	262980	38787	17.30%
171	P/W : Payroll Tax (SS & MED)	16535	14256.43	17151	20118	2967	17.30%
172	Unemployment Taxes	519	274.80	519	465	-54	-10.40%
173	Retirement	12969	11717.85	14012	17751	3739	26.69%
174	Life & ADD& Long Term Disability	1547	1170.49	1547	1500	-47	-3.04%
175	Health Insurance	24927	31704.92	39051	49945	10894	27.90%
176	Uniforms, Safety Equip, DOT Compliance	7548	8048.47	7548	5000	-2548	-33.76%
177	Property & Casualty Insurance	12200	11004.10	13300	13300	0	0.00%
178	Workers Comp Insurance	19453	14475.87	16200	19855	3655	22.56%
179	Mileage Reimbursement	0	236.79	0	0	0	0.00%
180	Courses & Seminars	300	0.00	300	300	0	0.00%
181	Wages & Benefits Sub-Total	312147	291124.61	333821	391214	57393	17.19%
182							
183	HWY/MISC						
184	Culverts	15848	733.38	17788	14000	-3788	-21.30%
185	Signs	3500	3963.58	4000	4000	0	0.00%
186	Bridge Fund	6000	6676.00	6000	6000	0	0.00%
187	Paving Fund	30000	30000.00	30000	20000	-10000	-33.33%
188	Construction & Paving	0	35777.80	0	0	0	0.00%
189	Guardrails	0	10090.00	0	5000	5000	0.00%
190	Small Equipment Purchase	1500	1246.15	1500	1500	0	0.00%
191	Grants: Town Match	0		0	0	0	0.00%
192	Town Garage Building Fund	5000	5000.00	5000	5000	0	0.00%
193	HWY/MISC Sub-Total	61848	93486.91	64288	55500	-8788	-13.67%
194							
195	CONSTRUCTION						
196	Gravel	6000	36797.90	7000	10000	3000	42.86%
197	Ditch Stone	1600	205.00	1600	5000	3400	212.50%
198	Hydro Seeding	1550	5866.05	1750	5000	3250	185.71%
199	Ledge Removal	6000	0.00	6000	6000	0	0.00%
200	Erosion Matting	600	169.74	600	600	0	0.00%
201	Mud Season Mitigation	7500	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
202	CONSTRUCTION SUBTOTAL	23250	43038.69	16950	26600	9650	56.93%
203	Public Works Sub Total	720980	706592	722229	800809	78580	10.88%
204							

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (CONTINUED)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2022/2023 Budget	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Actual FY - 2020/2021	Budget FY - 2021/2022	Budget FY - 2022/2023	\$ Change	Percentage Change
205	PUBLIC WORKS DEBT SERVICE						
206	2021 John Deere Grader	0	0.00	0	18700	18700	100.00%
207	2022 John Deere Grader-INT	0	0.00	0	6872	6872	100.00%
208	2019 Freightliner Dump	21409	21408.57	21409	21409	0	0.00%
209	2019 Freightliner Dump-INT	4179	4176.89	3475	2783	-692	-19.92%
210	2018 International Dump-PRIN	20355	20354.80	20355	20355	0	0.00%
211	2018 International Dump-INT	2568	2569.53	1921	1282	-639	-33.27%
212	P/W DEBT SERVICE -Sub Total	48511	48509.79	47161	71401	-1332	51.40%
213	TOTAL HIGHWAY	769491	755102	769390	872210	77248	13.36%
214							
215	CEMETERY						
216	Labor	6900	7515.00	6900	6900	0	0.00%
217	Materials	0		0		0	0.00%
218	Repair to Cemetery	0		0		0	0.00%
219	TOTAL CEMETERY	6900	7515	6900	6900	0	0.00%
220							
221	RECREATION						
222	Wages: Recreation	5305	4000.60	5411	6500	1089	20.13%
223	REC: Payroll Tax	406	302.84	414	497	83	20.11%
224	REC: Workers Comp Insurance	318	395.34	248	296	48	19.25%
225	Dues, Conferences, Travel	250		100	100	0	0.00%
226	Wrightsville Beach Dues	2750	2712.00	2750	2750	0	0.00%
227	Town BOR- mowing, brush hog, aerating	3520	2941.73	3580	4720	1140	31.84%
228	Recreation Supplies (seed, soil, fertilizer)	500	11.99	500	500	0	0.00%
229	Portalet Rental Recreation field	600	566.50	600	900	300	50.00%
230	Learn to Swim Program	500	0.00	500	600	100	20.00%
231	Recreation Equipment (nets/hardware)	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
232	Ice Rink	0	0.00	0	500	500	100.00%
233	Tennis/Basketball Court Rehabilitation	0	0.00	0	5000	5000	100.00%
234	Walter Kelly Park-Mowing & Portalet	2940	2319.00	2600	3120	520	20.00%
235	Facility Maintenance Fund	500	212.17	500	500	0	0.00%
236	TOTAL RECREATION	17589	13462.17	17203	25983	8780	51.04%
237							
238	ZONING/BRD OF ADJUSTMENT						
239	Wages: Zoning	6896	6428.68	7034	8486	1452	20.65%
240	Zoning: Payroll Tax	528	460.41	538	649	111	20.67%
241	Zoning: Workers Compensation	31		260	39	-221	-84.99%
242	Mileage/expenses	25	200.58	150	150	0	0.00%
243	Advertising	0	355.93	50	400	350	700.00%
244	Zoning: Legal/enforcement	2000	2990.90	2000	3000	1000	50.00%
245	Courses/Seminars	250	20.00	500	250	-250	-50.00%
246	Total Zoning/BRD of Adjustment	9730	10456.50	10532	12975	2443	23.19%
247							
248	PLANNING COMMISSION						
249	Advertising	500	276.48	500	1000	500	100.00%
250	Mail Drop/Postage	500	237.40	500	1000	500	100.00%
251	Printing & Copying	500	37.31	500	1000	500	100.00%
252	Consultation	7500	6982.42	9500	3500	-6000	-63.16%
253	PC Legal	0	640.00	0	0	0	0.00%
254	Future Grant Match				2000	2000	100.00%
255	Grant-Village Improvement 07110-MP-2020	0	19545.00	0	0	0	0.00%
256	Grant-Village Improvement 07110-MP-2021	0	2437.98	0	0	0	0.00%
257	Grant Match - VTTRANS Bike/Sidewalk Scoping	0	2870.18	6000	0	-6000	-100.00%
258	Total Planning Commission	9000	33026.77	17000	8500	-8500	-50.00%
259							
260	TOTAL TOWN BUDGET	1323867	1309777.72	1382738	1503408	120670	8.73%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (CONTINUED)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2022/2023 Budget	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Actual FY- 2020/2021	Budget FY - 2021/2022	Budget FY - 2022/2023	\$ Change	Percentage Change
261							
262	SPECIAL ARTICLES						
263	Middlesex Conservation Fund	5000	5000	2500	5000	2500	100.00%
264	CV Economic Development	600	600	600	600	0	0.00%
265	CV Home Health & Hospice	4050	4050	4050	4050	0	0.00%
266	Middlesex Community Conn.	3000	3000	3000	3000	0	0.00%
267	Girls/Boyz First Mentoring	1500	1500	1500	1500	0	0.00%
268	Kellogg-Hubbard Library	29801	29801	29801	32022	2221	7.45%
269	Montpelier Senior Center	7000	7000	7000	7000	0	0.00%
270	Putnamville Speed Signs	8000	12836.2	0	0	0	0.00%
271	North Branch Nature Center	0	0	2000	2000	0	100.00%
272	Waterbury Area Senior Center	10000	10000	10000	7500	-2500	-25.00%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (CONTINUED)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2022/2023 Budget	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Actual FY- 2020/2021	Budget FY - 2021/2022	Budget FY - 2022/2023	\$ Change	Percentage Change
273	By Request: Under \$251						
274	American Red Cross	250	250	250	250	0	100.00%
275	Big Heavy World	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
276	CV Adult Basic Education	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
277	CV Council on Aging	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
278	The Childrens Room	0	0	250	0	-250	100.00%
279	Circle	199	199	199	199	0	0.00%
280	Community Harvest of Central Vermont	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
281	CV Dart Animal Response Team	100	100	0	0	0	0.00%
282	Family Center of Vermont	0	0	250	250	0	100.00%
283	Good Beginnings	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
284	Good Samaitian Haven	0	0	250	250	0	0.00%
285	Green Mtn Transit	249	249	249	249	0	0.00%
286	Green Up Vermont	100	100	100	100	0	0.00%
287	Montpelier Veteran's Council	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
288	Our House of Central Vermont	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
289	Peoples Health & Wellness	250	250	0	250	250	100.00%
290	MOSAIC Sexual Assault Crisis Team	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
291	VT Assoc for the Blind	0	0	249	249	0	100.00%
292	VT Center for Independent Living	195	195	195	195	0	0.00%
293	Vermont Family Network	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
294	VT Rural Fire Prot Task Force	100	100	100	100	0	0.00%
295	Washington County Diversion	250	250	250	250	0	0.00%
296	Washington County Youth Service	175	175	175	175	0	0.00%
297	Winooski Natural Resources	250	250	250	0	-250	-100.00%
298	Sub-Total Special Articles	73319	78155	65468	67439	1971	3.01%
299							
300	TOTAL BUDGET Plus Special Articles	1397186	1387932.92	1448206	1570847	122641	8.47%

BANDSTAND CONCERT SERIES

Middlesex Bandstand Reopens!

Working within state public health guidelines, the Martha Pellerin-Andy Shapiro Memorial Bandstand was joyfully back in business last summer after a one-year Covid-19 hiatus. The bands featured in our 15th annual concert series included Honey & Soul, Flynn (with Myra Flynn), the Terrible Mountain String Band, The Larkspurs, and High Summer, offering a super mix of musical traditions and styles—tight harmonies, neo-soul, folk, Americana, and deep-groove originals. It was a great series.

Generous support for the concerts was provided by many local businesses: Gold Sponsors Align to Health—Chiropractic & Functional Neurology, Bear Creek Environmental, Bear Swamp Veterinary Service, Bliss Healing Acupuncture & Natural Health, Green Light Real Estate, Middlesex Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Montpelier Construction, Vermont Creative Carpentry and Construction, and World Cow; Concert Sponsors Flywheel Communications, Northfield Savings Bank, Noyle Johnson Group, Pease Farm Stable, and Splash Naturals; and In-Kind Sponsors Brian P. Graphic Arts, Capitol Copy, Madtech Sound & Lovetown Recording, and Story Road Nursery.

We'd also like to sincerely thank Margot Prendergast and Dick Alderman, who have retired from the Bandstand Committee, for their valued contributions over the years to the presentation of excellent music in our community.

On to the future...early in 2022, the Bandstand Committee will meet to plan our next—16th—summer season. As in the past, concerts will take place on successive Wednesdays in July and August, starting at 6:30 p.m. and free to the public. And this year, in the event of rain, we expect to be able to move our concerts indoors to the Rumney School gym, with its updated acoustical environment.

You can access up-to-date information on the Bandstand on our Facebook page and website, middlesexbandstand.com; we'll also post Bandstand news on Front Porch Forum. And do check out the gallery of photographs of last year's concerts at middlesexbandstand.com/2021gallery/.

See you at the Bandstand in July!
Middlesex Bandstand Committee
Liz Beatty-Owens
Paul Boffa
Elliot Burg
Mary Nealon
Ron Sweet
Contacts: Elliot at 802-272-4920
and Paul at 802-522-4810



Miriam Bernardo of High Summer
(photo E. Burg)



Scanning this QR code
will also take you to
the gallery of photos
linked above.

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Replacing or rehabilitating town buildings, resurfacing town roads, replacing fire department equipment and managing our six miles of paved roads is costly. In order to pay for these expenses, the Select Board considers multiple funding opportunities such as yearly set-asides in the budget, bonds, grants, or a combination of all four to cover the costs.

Thanks to a municipal planning grant awarded in November 2020, the Select Board and a group of citizens who joined the newly formed Capital Planning Committee in February 2021, partnered with Central VT Regional Planning Commission to build a capital planning process and plan, also known as a Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Over the past year the committee has worked with Christian Meyer of CVRPC to identify and evaluate our “capital expenses” which include facilities, vehicles, large equipment, outbuildings, public lands, and roads that are owned and maintained by the town of Middlesex.

The purpose of a CIP is to develop a financial plan to spread these costs over time and avoid major swings in the municipal tax rate. It also helps explain why and when large municipal capital expenses are needed and how to request an item to be considered for future municipal funding. The result of this year long process is a written document outlining the process of applying to fund a capital expenditure as well as a living and moving catalogue of our current capital expenses with estimated replacement costs and year of replacement. This document requires a minimum yearly review by our Select Board and will be the basis for the Budget Committee’s municipal budget evaluation. The next step in our capital planning process is to create a sub committee of Select Board member(s), Budget Committee member(s) and interested citizens who will organize a scoping study of the Town Hall to determine possible scenarios that address our current vault storage space needs, weatherization needs, plumbing issues, ADA compliance, and health and safety issues of the building. Your interest and expertise are a valuable part of this community process-if you are interested in participating in our town capital planning, please contact Liz Scharf at liz.scharf@middlesexvermont.org

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission's 2021 Annual Report will probably sound, not surprisingly, very similar to our report for last year. Covid-19 and its variants have not made it easy for meetings to be held, maintenance to be done, or burials to be scheduled, without 'extra planning and provisions.' With meetings suspended, the commission has opted for 'phone conversations, with unintended influence' among our members. Our goal in conducting business ... each member makes and presents his own thoughts and opinions, to the commission, with action resulting.

With the bare amount of maintenance, mowing only, for Carr Cemetery and Village Cemetery, we've accomplished our goal of 'presentable looking cemeteries.' Our 'brush-cutting' goal of last summer is still on hold. North Branch Cemetery, our only 'active' cemetery, received its scheduled mowings, but, in addition, has received some much-needed area maintenance, this past summer. Part of our right-of-way has seen brush cutting; more is planned. Several sunken areas were filled, leveled, seeded and mulched; spring will show how the 'dry summer' affected these efforts. One large monument that was 'uncentered and tipping severely' was removed from its base. After the base was leveled as well as possible, the monument was replaced, now standing straight, tall, and recentered on its base. We realize this is not a permanent solution, but the monument is, now, not in danger of falling. We thank our commission members and grave opener/closer for this work. There were four burials performed at North Branch Cemetery this past summer.

Two were newly established lots, requiring deeds; one, from 'long distance,' requiring lot choice, unseen, co-ordination with an out-of-state funeral director, and the re-directing of burial rights to another family member. Two were burials in lots with pre-established and marked grave sites. All were affected with minimum delays.

An interesting side of Cemetery Commission work comes with calls of request of lot owners, some/most from out of state, for information regarding 'their lot.' Sometimes they are not the actual lot owner. After one such request was received and research into the lot location was done, we found that the lot was actually located in the Middlesex Center Cemetery. We passed the information and request along to the Middlesex Center Cemetery Association, and assisted their members in addressing this request.

Cemetery Commission members wish to thank the residents and taxpayers of Middlesex for their continued support. Our town budget line item still covers the expenses of mowing and maintenance of the Carr Cemetery and the Village Cemetery. North Branch Cemetery receives no taxpayer assistance. It is funded by its endowment.

Report respectfully submitted,
Town of Middlesex – Cemetery
Commission
Evelyn Gant, Chair
Gary Lamell, Field Expert
Janet McKinstry, Clerk/Treasurer

CVFIBER

Introduction

CVFiber is a Communications Union District (CUD) consisting of twenty-one member communities sharing a common vision: the CVFiber Community Network. The network will offer a minimum 100 Mbps symmetrical speed, consist of more than 1,200 miles of fiber, and cost approximately \$50 million. This 2021 Annual Report presents what CVFiber has accomplished in 2021, our priorities, construction and service plans for 2022, and the 2022 projected Funds and Budget.

2021 Accomplishments

Progress in the construction of the CVFiber Community Network gained traction in 2021.



By year’s end we will have completed the pole inventory and high-level designs for seventeen communities, work costing in excess of \$750,000. We engaged the Apex Group, Eustis Cable Enterprises, and Tilson Technology Management in a competitive bid process to expedite the pole inventory work and obtain the best value. Vantage Point Solutions is performing the high-level design. In July, CVFiber issued an RFP for our network developer and operator. We are currently in negotiations with two qualified teams and expect to have contracted with one of them in December. In November we will engage an accounting firm and an auditing firm.

2022 Plans

Our target for 2022 is to have service available for 50% of the underserved in the district, constructing over 300 miles of fiber and offering 100/100 Mbps service to more than 3,000 underserved residences and businesses in twelve communities. The underserved includes those who are unserved and those who currently have Internet speeds of less than 25/3 Mbps.

The target for the development of the 1,200-mile CVFiber Community Network is to construct a minimum of 300 miles annually for four years. The following chart reflects the vision for construction of the network in 2022.

The schedule for make-ready, construction and offering service is dependent upon funds, materials, and labor.

CVFIBER (CONTINUED)

CVFiber has the funding in place to pay for the detailed engineering in 2022 for the twelve communities in Areas A and B with a Preconstruction Grant from the Vermont Community Broadband Board’s distribution of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

CVFiber Community Network Contingent Schedule*									
			Preconstruction				Construction: Phase 1		
			Miles Total	Pole Inventory	High Level Design	Detailed Engineering	Phase 1 Miles	Make- Ready	Construction
Area A	1	Calais	300				150		
	2	E. Montpelier							
	3	Middlesex							
	4	Moretown							
	5	Worcester							
Area B	6	Barre Town	475	2021	2022		160		2022
	7	Northfield							
	8	Orange							
	9	Plainfield							
	10	Roxbury							
	11	Washington							
	12	Williamstown							

Funding has not yet been lined up for construction in 2022. We are guardedly optimistic that a combination of state and town ARPA fund grants, and the possible use of loan funds will enable us to pay for the projected construction cost of approximately \$8 million.

The growing backlog for fiber and electronics, as well as an increased demand for skilled and well-paid labor, all fueled by billions of dollars in federal funds priming broadband construction nationwide, contribute to the uncertainty of reaching the 300-mile goal in 2022.

Make-ready is the process of preparing poles for the installation of fiber, and, where necessary, replacing poles. This work is time consuming and expensive, costing millions of dollars. We will be working with the Washington Electric Cooperative and Green Mountain Power to complete this work using multiple contractors to accomplish the work as expeditiously as possible.

2021 Grant Funds

CVFiber was awarded \$645,000 in grants funds in 2021 from the state for the purpose of performing pole inventories in the five communities in Area A, and completing a high-level design for the district.

CVFiber Grant History			
Grant	Date	Amount	Purpose
PSD 02240-FY21-CUDH315PreC-01	2021	\$445,000	Area A Pole Inventory & CVFiber High-level Design
PSD 02240-FY21-CUDH315PreC-09	2021	\$200,000	WEC/3CUD High-level Design

In addition, at its October 18th meeting, the Vermont Community Broadband Board awarded CVFiber a \$2.8 million grant to complete the pole inventories in twelve communities to perform detailed design for Areas A and B, and provide administrative support for accounting, auditing, legal, consulting and other services for an eighteen-

CVFIBER (CONTINUED)

month period. Fund distribution is anticipated to begin in November 2022 Budget

The CVFiber Board-approved 2022 Budget is \$15,150,950. This report is also a request for CVFiber member-communities to provide feedback on this budget in writing and/or at the formal budget hearing on November 9th. The Board will adopt the CVFiber 2022 Budget at its regular public meeting on December 14th.

CVFIBER 2021 FORECAST and 2022 BUDGET			
		2021	2022
CUSTOMERS		0	1,954
INCOME		2021	2022
A Grants		Forecast	Budget
1	H.315/Other	895,000	
2	ARPA Admin		300,000
3	ARPA	500,000	9,500,000
4	Town ARPA		3,500,000
5	AJPA		1,000,000
6	Subtotal	\$ 1,395,000	\$14,300,000
B Service			
1	Subscriptions	0	697,500
2	Installations	0	153,450
3	Subtotal	0	850,950
C Total Income		\$ 1,395,000	\$15,150,950

Income

Grants account for approximately 95% of the income for the 2022 budget. These grants include state- distributed grants totaling nearly \$11,000,000, and town ARPA grant contributions totaling \$3,500,000. Grant funds are critical to the timely construction of the network, and contribute to lower costs for our subscribers. The additional 5% of income is derived from anticipated subscription and installation revenues from an estimated 1,954 network subscriptions in 2022 (see Table 1).

Expenses

Expenses are categorized as Administration, Preconstruction, Construction, and Operation.

- Administration includes those expenses needed to operate the nonprofit municipality CVFiber, which is responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of a 1,200-mile, \$50 million network offering service to more than 55,000 people, businesses, organizations, and government entities in twenty-one communities in central Vermont.
- Preconstruction expenses include those costs incurred before construction and service can begin, including pole inventory, high-level and detailed design, and make-ready work.
- Construction expenses include those necessary to manage and install fiber on poles and in conduits, as well as the installation of the electronics in facilities throughout the twenty-one communities that are necessary to connect to the Internet and operate the network.
- Operation expenses include that hardware and labor needed to connect premises to the poles, run the network operations center, deliver broadband and voice services to customers, respond to service calls, and maintain the network.

CVFIBER (CONTINUED)

The expenses in the 2022 budget represent our current best judgment based upon studies, the experience of other CUDs, and proposals. We anticipate the engagement of an operator and other professionals, as well as feedback from the communities, will further inform the budget that CVFiber’s Board will adopt in December (see Table 2).

CVFIBER 2021 FORECAST and 2022 BUDGET					
EXPENSES		2021		2022	
A Administration		Forecast		Budget	
1	Accounting	1,804		40,000	
2	Admin/Exec Director			120,000	
3	Admin Services	15,000		24,000	
4	Advertising	2,500		2,500	
5	Audit			30,000	
6	Clerk Stipend	1,800		1,800	
7	Consulting	50,000		50,000	
8	Insurance	520		2,000	
9	Legal	40,000		35,000	
10	Licensing/Fees	1,500		2,500	
11	MS Suite	5,000		6,000	
12	Office Supplies	600		5,000	
13	Treasurer Stipend	2,400		2,400	
14	Website	3,050		5,000	
15	Subtotal	\$124,174		\$326,200	
B Preconstruction		2021		2022	
1	PM/CM	20,000		15,000	
2	Pole Services	750,000		0	
3	Design Services	100,000		1,600,000	
4	Make-Ready Services	0		1,785,910	
5	Subtotal	\$ 870,000		\$ 3,400,910	

C Construction		2021		2022	
1	CM (Operator)	0		209,250	
2	Fiber Construction	240,000		6,975,000	
3	Equipment & Spare Parts	0		1,000,000	
4	Subtotal	\$ 240,000		\$ 8,184,250	
D Operations		2021		2022	
1	ISP Fee	0		279,000	
2	Administration	4,000		25,000	
3	Maintenance	0		50,000	
4	Marketing	0		50,000	
5	Network Operations Center	0		18,000	
6	Internet Installation	0		2,325,000	
7	Pole Licensing Fees	0		44,000	
8	Subtotal	\$ 4,000		\$ 2,791,000	
E RESERVES		2021		2022	
		\$ 156,826		\$ 448,590	
F TOTAL EXPENSES		2021		2022	
		\$ 1,238,174		\$14,702,360	
G TOTAL INCOME		2021		2022	
		\$ 1,395,000		\$15,150,950	
H NET		2021		2022	
		\$ -		\$ -	

CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington County and western Orange County. The Commission provides planning, development, and project implementation assistance to communities. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners.

FY21 Middlesex Activities

- Served as project manager for the Walkable Middlesex study.
- Staffed the development of a capital improvement program.
- Assisted Town to update zoning regulations.
- Provided energy efficiency information that allows tracking of progress on Town energy goals.
- Provided assistance with draft Energy Plan for Town Plan update.

CVRPC Projects & Programs

- *Municipal plan and bylaw updates*: Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through education, bylaw modernization, and plan updates.
 - *Brownfields*: Complete environmental site assessments so properties can be sold, developed or redeveloped to benefit the community, stimulate the economy, create/protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.
 - *Transportation planning*: Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions through the Transportation Advisory Committee and provide studies, plans, data collection, and counts.
 - *Emergency planning*: Better prepare our region and state for disasters by coordinating with local volunteers and the state on emergency planning, exercises, and training.
 - *Energy conservation and development*: Foster projects that support energy conservation to save energy and tax dollars and identify opportunities for renewable energy generation.
 - *Natural resource planning and projects*: Implement activities to protect water resources/supplies, enhance recreational opportunities, maintain the forest products industry, and enhance environmental health.
 - *Regional plans*: Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the development, adoption, and implementation of a regional plan.
 - *Geographic Information System services*: Provide municipalities, state agencies, and regional groups with mapping and data analysis in support of their projects.
 - *Special projects*: Complete special projects, such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
 - *Grants*: Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, write applications, and manage projects.
-

CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (CONTINUED)

The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated!

CVRPC is your resource -- please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

MIDDLESEX ENERGY COMMITTEE

The committee is an entirely volunteer-driven *ad hoc* group of Middlesex residents interested in promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean technologies. In the past two years, the committee has produced a guide to efficiency in new home building and renovation; held three webinars on efficient home building projects by Middlesex residents; built a website (www.whatsnextmiddlesex.org/energy-committee.html); collaborated with other town energy committees in the Vermont Energy & Climate Action Network; and held an Energy Fair with demonstrations of electric yard tools, bicycles, and cars.

In 2022, we will host a spring Energy Fair, and we anticipate beginning to work on goals set in the Enhanced Energy Plan. We welcome new participants to any of our meetings which occur on the first Monday of the month. (See the Front Porch Forum calendar for details.)

Lauri Scharf

Scanning this QR code will take you to the Middlesex Front Porch Forum calendar.



Scanning this QR code will take you to the Middlesex Energy Committee website.



CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District serves 19 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Adele McDonough represents Middlesex on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment is set at \$1.00 this year.

In FY21, CVSWMD provided \$6,447.50 in School Zero Waste and Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Program Grants, and \$4,483.54 in Green Up Day Grants. The Town of Middlesex received a Green Up Day Grant in the amount of \$212.22.

Also in FY21, CVSWMD provided \$9,500.00 in Municipal Services Program grants. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual Municipal Services Program Grant. The District continues to provide award-winning programming, including:

- **Residential Composting:** CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates.
- **Outreach and Education:** In FY21, CVSWMD provided 13 workshops and webinars on topics such as recycling, composting, safer cleaning, and reducing toxins in the home.
- **School Programming:** Our School Zero Waste Program works with 26 schools in the District, teaching solid waste lessons in classrooms and facilitating the recycling of paint, bulbs, electronics, batteries and more. CVSWMD provided remote support for Rumney Memorial School in FY21 in managing lunch-generated waste in classrooms, where most students ate lunch. Our School Program Coordinator works with maintenance staff and teachers to help schools compost on site and mentors student groups who lead initiatives toward zero waste in their schools.
- **Special Collections:** In FY21, 5 collection events were held, in which CVSWMD collected 52.1 tons of household hazardous waste, paint, batteries, e-waste, and fluorescent bulbs. 874 households were served, and A household hazardous waste collection event in Montpelier served 260 households.
- **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC, at 540 N. Main St. in Barre, is open M, W, F 10:30am-5:30pm and every third Saturday from 9am-1pm. The ARCC is a recycling drop-off for hard-to-recycle materials. *Blue bin recyclables are not accepted at the ARCC.* More info at cvswmd.org/arcc. In FY21, 237.7 tons of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill, and 173 visitors from Middlesex recycled at the ARCC.
- **Website:** CVSWMD posts useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what items are banned from the landfill (and how to dispose of those), what items can be recycled at our Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, Act 148, details about our special collections, and an A to Z Guide listing disposal options for many materials.

Scanning this QR code takes you to ARCC's website.



For specific questions, call 802-229-9383.

CVSWMD, 137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 | cvswmd.org | 229-9383

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Middlesex Conservation Commission's (MCC) mission is to conserve the town's natural and cultural resources. The MCC works with the Town's other governmental entities, public, and other conservation groups to identify and assess natural resources, offer the town and landowners guidance on planning for the conservation of these resources, and educate the residents of Middlesex the importance of conserving these resources. The Town has a modest conservation fund to help conserve the Town's natural, scenic, recreational and historic and cultural resources. The MCC's volunteer members are appointed by the Middlesex Select Board for staggered terms of three years. The MCC normally meets at Town Hall on the first Thursday of every month (except July) at 7:00 PM; during the Covid-19 pandemic, these meetings were conducted via Zoom.

Summary of 2021 Activities

Middlesex Town Forest (MTF)

As in 2020, the pandemic did not allow for organized hikes in the MTF, but the forest and Chases Mountain Trail were heavily trafficked by town residents and non-residents alike. The MCC and many wonderful volunteers worked to upkeep the trail network throughout the year and completed trail improvement projects such as the installation of some new trail signs, the clearing of downed trees and other brush interfering with trails, etc. The MCC thanks our volunteers and the Middlesex Trails Group for their great efforts.

MCC member Ross Lieblappen walked a significant portion of the MTF with the new Washington County forester Robert Nelson to assess the overall health of the forest. Mr. Nelson plans to revisit the MTF in the spring or summer of 2022 for a longer period of time and a more in-depth review of the ecosystem prior to making any formal comments or recommendations. The MCC will then utilize Mr. Nelson's report to update the MTF Forest Management Plan.

The MCC worked with the town and the Department of Fish & Wildlife to improve parking for the MTF. The lot at the end of Notch Road has been expanded and there is now also overflow parking at the town gravel pit.

Class IV Roads and Legal Trails

The MCC worked closely with the Middlesex Trails Group (a sub-committee of the MCC) to continue assessing Class IV roads and Legal Trails throughout the town. Many of these roads are passable for recreational purposes (hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, 4-wheeling) but are rarely used for such due to their unknown/unpublished status. The MCC will continue to assess these roads and to make residents aware of their recreational potential.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CONTINUED)

Green Up

MCC members were joined by over 100 other participants for a very successful town clean up! Volunteers covered over 40 roads and collected over 100 tires, 1000 cigarette butts, and more than 80 bags of trash, filling a large metal dumpster over 80% full. Clean-up activities included the boat launch at Wrightsville Reservoir and the Park and Ride on Route 2.

Shady Rill Project

The MCC oversaw a bank stabilization and general rehabilitation project at the Shady Rill Picnic Area. In partnership with the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District, many failing streambank areas along Martin's Brook (the stream through the picnic area) were stabilized through the planting of trees and shrubs and through the creation of dedicated stream access points. These access points feature granite stairs and gravel access paths running from the stream top-of-bank to the newly created parking spaces throughout the picnic area. There is also a new ADA approved access point! The roadway through Shady Rill was rerouted through the park, the existing picnic shelter was moved to the other side of the park, and the remainder of the working area was replanted and reseeded to create a large vegetative buffer between the new roadway location and the streambanks. This project should improve water quality and should improve the beauty and longevity of the park for Middlesex residents.

Cross Vermont Trail / 3-Mile Bridge Waypoint – The MCC continues to collaborate with and support the Cross Vermont Trail Association (CVTA). The town of Middlesex helped to support the construction of the new bridge over the Winooski River which will officially open in May 2022. Upkeep of the Three Mile Bridge Wayside is being done by the CVTA and they are appreciative of their permitted use of the parcel.

Additions and Departures

The MCC welcomed new members Adrienne Magida and Matt Schley in 2021, and saw the departure of members Heather Katz, Dell McDonough and Sorsha Anderson. We thank Heather, Dell and Sorsha for their many years of service!

General Information

Agendas and minutes for MCC meetings and member contact information are posted on the Town of Middlesex website at <http://middlesexvermont.org>. If you would like to find out more about the MCC, please feel free to get in touch with any one of us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matt Schley
Larry Becker
Ross Lieblappen
George Longenecker

Adrienne Magida
Lee Rosberg
Dave Shepard
Jon Udis

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CONTINUED)

2021 MIDDLESEX TRAILS COMMITTEE

The Middlesex Trails Committee is a sub-committee of the Middlesex Conservation Commission. Our primary mission is to identify and promote public trails that Middlesex citizens can access and enjoy. During 2021 the Committee walked many Class 4 roads and right of ways in town and has identified three existing trails to focus on for the near future. The Committee is in the first stages of thinking about signage, parking and publicity of these trails. The Committee developed a Work Plan to guide its work in the future. The Committee meets on the second Monday of each month. If you are interested in joining or receiving information about our work please email Adrienne Magida, adriennemagida@gmail.com or Michael Levine, levine@together.net.

MIDDLESEX FAST SQUAD

Middlesex FAST Squad provides local early response to EMS emergency calls in Middlesex. The name FAST stands for First Aide Stabilization Team, and the service has evolved to a staff of fully credentialed and licensed EMTs, advanced EMTs and paramedics.

There were 135 EMS calls to Middlesex in 2021, compared to 118 in 2020. As always, an appreciative THANK YOU shout out for the EMS providers of Montpelier Fire and Ambulance who provide outstanding EMS care and transport in Middlesex. We note that Montpelier Ambulance is usually staffed with a paramedic to provide a higher level of treatment should patients require. Kudos to all providers that have taken on the additional hours of training and responsibility to care for our residents and visitors.

We have added responders during 2021 but could add another person who lives /works in Middlesex and is often able to leave their job or home for the 30-45 minutes as EMS responder when the call comes in.

Our added responders include Patty O'Neill who has experience with FAST squads, was previously an EMT and currently taking the EMT class to get her EMT license again. Patty will be transitioning to the Director of the FAST squad when she is done with the class. Peter Fitz NRP is a full-time paramedic in Morrisville and is the Director of Worcester's FAST squad. Maggie Burke-Grenier is a full time AEMT with Waterbury Ambulance. Maggie and Peter bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to our FAST squad. There is a class for a new EMS license for first responders, which two of our firefighters have taken and passed. We now wait for the legislators and Vermont Department of Health to define when and how this class of licensing can be utilized.

Stay safe. Get vaccinated against Covid-19. Patty, Jeff, Bob and I have been providing vaccines as part of the EMS initiative throughout Vermont. Clean hands, tight masks and distancing also work.

Call 911 when you need emergency help, Be prepared for questions—dispatchers have punched the button to get us going! —as they talk to you. Have your driveway marked so we don't waste time "guessing." Turning on all the house lights also says, "I'm here!" Secure pets away from doors and paths to the patient for their safety and comfort if you can.

I am still looking for someone to help the fire department with the JD 911 driveway marker, sales order processing and delivery. Training provided!

For more information about joining the fast squad, or general EMS, email Marge Bower, interim Administrative Director of the Fast Squad, at margebower@comcast.net.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

We have had a total of 68 calls, one more than last year. The break-down is as follows:

Vehicle accidents I-89:	10	Outside fire sighting	1
Vehicle accidents Non I-89	7	Un-permitted	1
Vehicle accident I-89 nothing found	1	Chimney fire	1
Vehicle Fire I-89:	3	Chimney fire nothing found	1
Vehicle Fire Non I-89	2	CO detector	5
Vehicle vs animal I-89	5	False fire alarm	5
Vehicle into building	1	Missing person search	1
Hazard	5	Man power for EMA	2
Structure fire Middlesex	4	Brush fire	1
Mutual Aid out of Middlesex	11	Mutual Aid in to Middlesex (counted in structure fire)	2

This year there has been a big change in the leadership of the Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department. Doug Hanson, long time Chief and member of the Department, has stepped down as the Chief. He will continue to be on the Department and respond to calls. Doug has been Chief for 10 years and has been a member of the Department for 30 years.

Our biggest and worst structure fire this year was the Methodist Church. This also was the only time Middlesex VFD called for mutual aid. We did on the other hand, respond to 11 calls in towns around Middlesex.

We are always in need of new members and not just fire-fighters and EMTs. We have many jobs around the station which residents could join the department to help with. Some of the things we could use help with are vehicle and equipment maintenance, input call reports, keeping our computer updated, cleaning trucks, and cleaning the station. If you believe you can help the Department in any way we would like to talk with you.

Our annual schedule is as follows: all events start at 7:00 PM, 1st Tuesday of the month fire training, 3rd Tuesday business meeting, 4th Tuesday work session. In December the Annual Meeting and business meeting take place on the 1st Tuesday and training takes place on the 3rd Tuesday.

As for the future, we will be looking at replacing our 36-year-old rescue with a new rescue truck next year. We are looking into the requirements we need. The rough cost estimate is in the \$100,000 to \$125,000 range. We no longer have a local build option with the closing of Vermont Fire Technologies in Williamstown. We will keep you updated as we get closer. With the purchase of a new rescue our vehicle replacement requirements will be complete and we should not have to replace any of our vehicles for at least five years.

FIRE DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

In addition to replacing the rescue, we need to replace our self-contained breathing apparatus in two to three years. This equipment is about 16 years old.

We are asking for your support to replace our turnout gear this year. This personal protection gear is over 13 years old.

Eric Metivier, Chief

Jeff Koonz, President

FOOD SHELF

As reported last year, the food shelf closed its doors in April 2020, when the spread of Covid-19 brought a halt to food distribution. However, the food shelf continued with a different mission—awarding \$200 grants to households to help with food and other essential purchases.

In 2020, thanks to generous donations by Middlesexers, 62 such grants were awarded for a total of \$12,400. The program continued in the first half of 2021 with 45 grants for a total of \$9,000. (Grand total over the two years: \$21,400.) In June of 2021 the food shelf ceased all operations and the grant program was shifted to the Middlesex Community Fund (www.middlesexcommunityfund.org/).

Because of the sad loss of the Middlesex United Methodist Church—the birthplace and longtime headquarters of the food shelf—as well as the ongoing challenge of Covid-19 for clients and volunteer staff alike, there are no plans to reopen the food shelf. Middlesexers seeking food assistance are referred to the Montpelier Food Pantry (802.375.5369) and the Waterbury Food Shelf (802.244.1561), both of which are open to residents of Middlesex.

David Carkeet, Food Shelf Treasurer

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Middlesex Historical Society was incorporated in November 1993, to help townspeople understand and preserve the history of the people who have lived and worked in Middlesex, and the buildings, roads, cemeteries, institutions and culture of this community. Our current membership stands at over 200. Members meet three times per year, generally in January, May, and September to share photographs, memorabilia and stories. We welcome donations of old photos and documents; they are stored safely and are available to anyone who wishes to study them.

In 2021, the Society suspended operations due to the global Covid-19 pandemic. Once again we postponed plans to present a slide show and talk on “The Missing Village of Wrightsville” and were not able to give a community talk at Red Hen Bakery on the history of Camp Meade and the CCC camps in Middlesex. A viewing of Susan Bettmann’s short film about a Middlesex native, “Joe Picard: Man of the Land,” was delayed again as well.

Sadness remains over the loss of the Middlesex Methodist Church by electrical fire in 2021. The old haunted house in the village has been taken down and a documentary is being undertaken by filmmaker David Smith.

The Society continues to discuss how to do an expanded third edition of our first complete history of our community, *Middlesex in the Making*, co-authored by Patty Wiley and Sarah Seidman. Designed by former resident Kate Alberghini, the book includes over 200 photographs as well as over 70 interviews with the town's oldest residents. It traces the history of the town from its earliest Abenaki roots to the changes of the 1950s and 60s. Digitizing the book is still an avenue the group intends to pursue.

The railroad station’s roof requires additional repair and owner Nicolas Hecht is raising funds to complete that essential task as well as other improvements in 2022. Our collection of valuable documents, artifacts and memorabilia continues to grow and we seek a space for the Society to call home. These items document our community’s history and belong to all of us; they deserve and will reward public viewing. We would be honored to be offered a place to display our town’s history.

We offer a 25-mile self-guided bike/auto tour of the town's historic places on the Middlesex website. A small traveling exhibit about Middlesex past and present is available for educational uses by any resident.

Membership is open to anyone interested in Middlesex history and costs one dollar (\$1) per person per year, \$15 for businesses. New active members are needed! We hope our efforts will help citizens increase their sense of pride in our town's traditions and their sense of responsibility in planning for the future. By Town Meeting we hope to again be able to greet our neighbors in person and ask for your support by pledging \$3 in dues on March 1, 2022.

Patty Wiley, President
Sarah Seidman, V.P./Secretary
Dick Alderman, Treasurer

LISTERS REPORT

In 2021, the Town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was calculated by the State to be 89.89%. This compares with 95.89% the previous year. Also, the Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) was adjusted to 13.82%; in 2020 it was 112.01%. Both of these indicators are within specified state limits, but it is worth noting that they are on the rise, suggesting another town-wide reappraisal is likely in the near future. Taxable properties in town numbered 921 in 2021, for a town-wide assessment totaling \$249,993,200; this is up from \$244,552,873 in 2020.

The number of properties enrolled in the Current Use program increased by eight to 109 in 2021. The value of Current Use exemptions now totals \$14,047,560.

In 2021, there were 9 Veteran Property Exemptions, for a total of \$360,000 in exemptions. The Veteran Property Exemption equates to a \$40,000 deduction in the property tax owed on the particular property for which the owner is eligible (one deduction per eligible veteran).

Ten grievance hearings were held in June, resulting in a change to the fair market value for 4 of the 10 properties.

Forty-one residential sales were recorded in Middlesex during 2021, compared with just twenty-three sales in the previous period. Sales of residential properties ranged from \$124,900 for a single family home on US Route 2 to \$689,000 located on Windlea Drive. Land sales ranged from \$64,750 for a 12 acre lot on Shady Rill to \$738,000 for 226 acres on Center road.

Property inspections for 2022 have been contracted out to NEMRC (New England Municipal Resource Center). NEMRC has more up to date computer equipment than what is available to the board of listers and with the increase in property transfers (partly due to Covid-19) more help is needed to keep up with the work flow. You may see them around town this spring with the "Listers" signs on their vehicles.

Eric Young, Middlesex Lister

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Village Area – With the assistance of a grant from VTrans, the Middlesex Planning Commission is looking further at the costs and possible designs to better support walking, biking, and slowing traffic in the Village area. These efforts can help Middlesex bolster business development in the Village area while making the area safer and more pleasant for residents and visitors.

Trails & Overlooks – With the award of a Better Places Grant from the State of Vermont and working with Camp Meade, there are now two overlooks along the Winooski River behind Camp Meade and permanent public access to them. Trails and signs will be completed in the spring. These can enhance recreation and can hopefully be the start of a longer trail network in the future.

Energy Plan – With assistance from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, and the Middlesex Energy Committee, we updated a prior draft and completed an Enhanced Energy Plan to be part of our Town Plan. We forwarded the Plan to the Select board for adoption. This will guide energy development in Town.

Zoning – With assistance from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, we continued work to update our Zoning and Subdivision regulations. We completed drafts of changes for the Village, Mixed Use, Industrial, and flood prone areas and are now turning attention to the rural areas and administration. We plan to complete the update so it can be voted on in 2022.

Permitting – We reviewed six permit applications for subdivisions, which includes some additional development planned in the Industrial area near the Village.

Awards – The Middlesex Planning Commission was honored to be part of two awards this year from the Vermont Planners Association. The Commission received the “Citizen Planners of the Year” award, and the Walkable Middlesex Study received the “Plan of the Year” award. This is great professional recognition for the work and projects we are moving forward.

Information – More information on our work and projects can be found on the Planning Commission page of the What’s Next Middlesex website.

Respectfully,

Middlesex Planning Commission

Sandy Levine, Chair; Elias Gardner, Vice-Chair; Mitch Osiecki, Secretary; Theo Kennedy; Philip Comen.

TOWN MEETING SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Well, 2021 was another weird year for everyone, and our committee was no exception. The Solutions Committee has been working since 2001 as an ad hoc group of volunteers, with the goal of improving participation in Middlesex's town meeting and, by extension, our civic affairs in general. Given the pandemic, this year our committee has functioned more like a network, collaborating on an as-needed basis on projects wherever we can be useful.

Town Meeting:

In 2021, like many towns across Vermont and New England, Middlesex took a break from our spring face-to-face annual town meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic. An emergency law allowed the Select Board to switch our town meeting to ballot voting for one year. (At this writing, due to another spike in Covid-19 numbers, the legislature is considering adding one more year to this temporary law.)

Many of our committee's usual annual efforts— helping organize a town meeting meal, town meeting child care and transportation, coordinating a "Welcome New Voter" letter to explain the town meeting process, distributing information on Front Porch Forum and other social media on how to participate in town meeting, and more—were all set aside due to this year's circumstances.

Instead, the Solutions Committee focused on making the temporary town meeting hearing/voting process as informed and engaging as possible. Our efforts included:

- Helping coordinate the tech and facilitation for the online public hearings (informational meetings) preceding town meeting ballot voting
- Creating a Candidates Profile page on the www.whatsnextmiddlesex website. In cooperation with the League of Women Voters of Central Vermont, we solicited, posted, and publicized statements from all local ballot candidates, to support Middlesex residents in making informed voting decisions
- Supporting the Middlesex Capital Planning Committee with its public engagement and outreach in creating a process to plan the town's capital expenses (e.g. town buildings, equipment, etc.), including tours of town buildings and public Zoom discussions.

Front Porch Forum:

The pandemic has made many residents even more aware of the value of Front Porch Forum (FPF), the free online "bulletin board" with a built-in local events calendar. As of January 2022, Middlesex's FPF had 1,419 members from an estimated 690 households, including 40 local officials. This year Middlesex posted approximately 2,975 messages including updates from local boards and committees, lots of stuff to sell, give, or borrow, suggestions about brush hogging, roof shoveling and firewood, updates about lost pets and escaped livestock, and more.

TOWN MEETING SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

FPF was launched in Middlesex in 2010 with a grant coordinated by the Solutions Committee, and since its launch community members have posted 30,489 messages. FPF is free—if you have email, you can join FPF. Go to www.FrontPorchForum.com.

While FPF is a great place to air ideas and begin conversations, it is not designed for controversial debate—that is better accomplished at facilitated meetings (whether in person or via Zoom). The Solutions Committee is committed to creating additional venues for discussion and we welcome your ideas for improving communication in Middlesex.

Thank You to all Solutions Committee members and supporters, with additional thanks to Lauri Scharf, Sky Barsch, and Sarah Birgé who have supported our community's web postings and tech connections during these crazy times. The Solutions Committee welcomes your participation! Have a suggestion? Please contact Susan Clark, 223-5824, sclarkmountains@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Clark, Chair

Scanning this QR code will take you to Front Porch Forum. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



Scanning this QR code will take you to What's Next Middlesex? Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

This fiscal year has been a hard one for most of us and Covid-19 has caused so many uncertainties; The unknowns of the Covid-19 virus, struggling to keep each other safe and healthy, loss of job, home, financial instability, and issues too numerous to list.

Society has also struggled with its relationship with Law Enforcement, enacting new rules and laws, impacting how Law Enforcement personnel interact with the public and how this affects our duties.

A national trend that has affected Vermont, is the loss of interest in persons who want to join the ranks of EMS, Fire and Law Enforcement. In Vermont it could soon reach a crisis stage, as Local, State and County Law Enforcement struggle to fill our vacancies. Law Enforcement has entered into discussions as to how we can share resources, so no call goes unanswered.

In 2021 a study was done in Vermont, evaluating the attrition of Law Enforcement Officers Statewide in comparison to new officers being hired and trained at the Vermont Police Academy.

Below I have included information from the informal study, which was done based on a survey of Departments in the State. Because the information was partly gained from a survey it may not be 100% accurate, but it gives the flavor of the extreme problems Law Enforcement Agencies have recruiting, hiring and retaining officers.

This trend has affected this Department over the past several years. 15 years ago this Department had 10 full time Deputies and 26 part time Deputies. As of this writing we have four full time Deputies and 20 part time Deputies. These losses have caused us to give up our security presence at the Criminal/Family Court in Barre, and currently we have two full time openings, including a full time Patrol Deputy position.

Locally

Over the past year our patrol efforts have been hampered not only by staffing, but due to Covid-19 minimal traffic stops were made to lessen the chance of spreading the virus. County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2021 generated 2062 total incident reports, to include 845 Vermont Traffic Citations and 1126 Traffic Warnings. In the course of our patrol efforts in Middlesex the following Vermont Traffic Complaints, Warning and Incidents were recorded by the Washington County Sheriff's Department while on patrol. Through all these struggles, we take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work.

Professionally,
W Samuel Hill
Sheriff

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARMENT (CONTINUED)

Ticket Report from 07/04/20 to 6/30/21
ORI:VT0120000 Washington County Sheriff's Department

Traffic: 27 tickets, 62.79% of all tickets in this report

Count		% of Traffic Tickets
1	BR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	3.70%
1	CEL - Using Portable Electronic Device - 1st violation	3.70%
1	FYY - Stop Sign	3.70%
4	INS - Operating Without Liability Insurance	14.81%
1	IS - 31 Or More MPH Over Speed Limit	3.70%
6	ISL - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	22.22%
1	NL - Operating Without A License	3.70%
1	NR - Persons Required To Register	3.70%
1	OSC - Operating After Suspension/Revocation/Refusal	3.70%
1	PNA - Misuse Of Number Plates	3.70%
5	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	18.52%
1	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit - Work Zone	3.70%
1	SL4 - 31 Or More MPH Over Speed Limit	3.70%
2	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	7.41%

Warning: 16 tickets, 37.21% of all tickets in this report

Count		% of Traffic Tickets
1	BR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	6.25%
1	DEF - Condition Of Vehicle	6.25%
3	DP - Failed To Display Front Registration Plate	18.75%
1	FTC - Following Too Closely	6.25%
1	FYY - Stop Sign	6.25%
1	IRV - Interstate Highway Regulations	6.25%
1	NR - Persons Required To Register	6.25%
1	PNA - Misuse Of Number Plates	6.25%
3	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	18.75%
3	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	18.75%

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARMENT (CONTINUED)

Incident Analysis Report from 07/04/20 to 6/30/21
ORI:VT0120000 Washington County Sheriff's Department

Call Type	Count of Inc.	% of Total Inc.
Agency Assist	1	2.27%
Citizen Assist	1	2.27%
Traffic Hazard	1	2.27%
Traffic Stop	3 3	75.00%
VIN Verification	8	18.18%

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH RECREATION DISTRICT

The Wrightsville Beach Recreation District was formed in 1985 and is made up of the four member “District” towns of East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier and Worcester. A five-member Board with representatives from each town (Montpelier has two) provides oversight for the District. Administrative and Bookkeeping assistance is contracted through the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. The Beach Manager, Collin O’Neil has responsibility for all operations and staffing. In 2021 the Beach District had a total revenue of \$95,800.00. \$61,400.00 was from User Fees, and the rest comes from the following three sources: the Town Assessments (\$1.50 per capita collected from each of the District Towns), Washington Electric Coop (WEC), and from the State of Vermont for our annual maintenance of the Shady Rill Recreation Area.

The 2021 season was the second year operating during the pandemic. Fortunately this year was more like a normal season. Except the weather was a little inverted, with a heatwave in May, and 60 degrees with rain throughout July. Fortunately area residents invested in our operations and their summer recreation by purchasing a total of 530 Season Passes. Because our July revenue was down by many thousands due to the weather, the record number of Season Pass sales was critical for our ability to cover operating expenses.

We greatly appreciate the great support from area residents and specifically their purchasing of Season Passes, thank you. Our mission is to provide you with swimming and other recreation options, at a cost that everyone can afford. To accomplish the mission, we need your continued support. We will continue to operate responsibly, and provide the best recreational product possible to help you exercise and play outdoors.

For 2022 all residents of the member communities get a 10% discount off Season Passes, and 25% off boat rentals. This means any Season Pass holding District Resident gets 50% off boat rentals.

The Board welcomes suggestions and feedback about the operations and facilities at Wrightsville Beach.

Carl Witke, Worcester,
Chair Kim Kendall, East Montpelier
Jon Copans, Montpelier
Jane Dudley, Middlesex

Collin O’Neil, Beach Manager



ZONING REPORT

There were 48 permit applications submitted in 2021, of which 8 were referred to the Zoning Board of Adjustors (ZBA) and 4 to the Planning Commission (PC) for review.

Zoning Applications Approved in 2021

6 Subdivisions (2 by PC, 4 by ZA) 7 new lots created
6 Boundary Line Adjustments
4 Single Family Dwellings
4 Accessory Dwellings
25 Residential Alterations including additions, garages, decks etc.
3 Commercial Projects
1 Greenhouse, 1 Home Industry and 1 Sign

A reminder about Vermont's Residential Building Energy Standards (VT-RBES): any new construction of a residential dwelling, addition or garage with conditioned space (heated and/or cooled) require that the builder complete an RBES Certification. In order to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy which is required upon completion of any building project, you must first file a copy of your RBES Certification with your application for a Certificate of Occupancy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Thompson, Zoning Administrator

Special Articles
and
Funding
Requests
\$250 or Less

ARTICLE 6: CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.

The Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC) is one of twelve non-profit regional development corporations in Vermont. It was organized in 1976 to provide an impetus for the region’s economic development. Its funding primarily comes from the State of Vermont, municipalities and business members who pay dues.

CVEDC’s mission is to assist in the retention and expansion of existing businesses and the relocation of businesses to the Central Vermont region. CVEDC helps emerging and developed businesses of all sizes connect to resources to promote workforce training and retention, business planning and growth, and funding opportunities for different phases of business development.

In 2020-21, CVEDC helped many small businesses in Central Vermont connect with Covid-19-specific funding assistance. One award of grant money helped match 52 Central Vermont businesses, including Middlesex businesses, with grants averaging \$3,000 of technical assistance in graphic design, videography, website development, and other similar free assistance. The vendors who supplied this assistance were also Central Vermont companies, again including Middlesex businesses on the list.

This same grant will be available again in 2022, with a longer lead time in the hopes of connecting new businesses to technical assistance grants.

Middlesex Select Board Treasurer Peter Hood is a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. The Board also recently added Kingsbury Construction Co., of Middlesex, as a member.

The CVEDC is grateful for the support from Middlesex and we look forward to continuing this productive relationship.

Contact:
Jamie Stewart, Executive Director
CVEDC
PO Box 1439
Montpelier, Vermont 05601
(802) 223-4654
Email: info@cvedc.org
Website: www.cvedc.org

Funding request: \$600

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the CVEDC website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



ARTICLE 7: CENTRAL VERMONT HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (CVHHH) is a full-service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association that provides intermittent, short-term medical care, education, and support at home to help Central Vermonters recover from an illness, surgery, or hospital stay and manage their chronic disease. We serve 23 communities in Washington and Orange Counties and care for people of all ages. Our services include home care, hospice, and maternal-child health care. We also offer public foot-care and flu vaccine clinics and Covid-19 vaccinations at home. In addition, we offer long-term care, private care services, and free grief support groups. CVHHH is guided by a mission to care for all Central Vermonters regardless of a person's ability to pay, their geographic remoteness, or the complexity of their care needs. CVHHH embraces new technology and collaborates with other local providers to ensure that central Vermonters' care needs are met. To learn more, visit www.cvhhh.org.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of Middlesex
Jan 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021*

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	766
Hospice Care	7
Long Term Care	16
Maternal Child Health	16
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	805
TOTAL PATIENTS	39
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	44

**Audited figures are not available at the time of report submission. Preliminary figures are prorated based on the number of visits from January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 and are not expected to vary significantly.*

Contact:

Sandy Rousse, President & CEO or
Kelly Finnegan, Community Relations & Events
Coordinator
600 Granger Road, Barre
(802) 223-1878
kfinnegan@CVHHH.ORG

Funding Request: \$4,050

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the CVHHH website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



ARTICLE 8: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AT RUMNEY

Community Connections at Rumney School is a community-supported and fee-based program that provides safe, enriching programs for students and families to supplement the age-appropriate school-based offerings. These programs help families to navigate school and work schedules. In 2020-21 we provided preschool care to students after the 10-15 hour school programming. For Kindergarten through Sixth grade, we offered Afterschool care from the end of school to 5:30 p.m., as well as school vacation camps for families.

This past year we have struggled, like other organizations, because of health concerns and the constant change of information, to maintain a level of student attendance that keep programs viable and offer our staff a constant employment schedule. Though we have struggled and had to adjust some program hours, we have consistently provided options for childcare and polled families to provided programs to meet the needs of the vast majority of the community.

The start of the 2021-22 school year has sent us an increase in attending students, but the challenge of finding staff for the needed programs.

The funds your community has provided has helped struggling families to access our programs and to ensure that those programs are staffed at the needed level. The funds given to us for next year will continue to allow struggling families to access our program, to help expand our program offerings, and for us to attract staff/providers that offer enriching activities.

Thank you for your enduring support, both in the area of funding and words of encouragement, they continue to recharge us and move us through these rough and chaotic times.

With gratitude,
Kimberly J. L. Bolduc

Contact:
Kimberly J. L. Bolduc
Community Connections, Director
WCUUSD Coordinator of Early
Education & Expanded Learning
Opportunities
Act 166 Coordinator
1130 Gallison Hill Rd.

Montpelier, VT 05602
802-223-7936 x305 EMES office &
messages
802-223-3456 messages & camps
Fax 802-223-3736

Funding request: \$3,000

ARTICLE 9: GIRLS/BOYZ FIRST MENTORING

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring has served youth in Washington Central Unified Union School District and Montpelier for the past 22 years. Mentees benefit from an additional healthy adult relationship in their lives, meeting weekly with their mentors to develop strong decision-making skills and healthy life choices as they move through adolescence. Youth who have mentors are more likely to graduate high school, get along better with their siblings and parents and avoid risky behaviors like alcohol and drug use.

Currently, we have three mentors from Middlesex and three mentees. Through the second year of the pandemic, our mentors have stayed connected with their mentees, virtually and in person when possible. Our mentor pairs take walks or go on hikes, do farm chores or build treehouses, ride bikes or cook together.

Whether sticking to familiar, comforting activities or finding creative new adventures, the bond between our mentor pairs is powerful. Families express how helpful it is for their children to have new opportunities and extra support from mentors, so integral for our youth's mental health and sense of connection.

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring is undergoing a leadership transition with plans to begin recruiting new matches in the new year. Group activities have resumed with monthly outdoor or online opportunities. We hope to begin quarterly training and support opportunities for mentors.

We would like to request \$1500 to sustain our program through the coming year. Girls/Boyz First's annual budget is \$60,000. The contribution from the town of Middlesex will support general operating expenses.

We are so grateful for the town's support of mentoring in our community!

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring

Contact: Kim Smith
802-552-0249
73 Main St, #29 Montpelier, VT 05602
kim@girlsboyzfirst.org

Funding request: \$1,500

ARTICLE 10: KELLOGG HUBBARD LIBRARY

The Kellogg-Hubbard is an independent nonprofit Library and community anchor institution serving Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier and Worcester. Our multimedia collection includes 70,000 books, CDs and DVDs, plus online services for movies, magazines and eBooks. Beyond lending, the Library is the place to find a public computer, print/scan/copy, work remotely, attend a program, or find reliable answers to any information need. In 2021 our summer reading program included events at Camp Meade and our Outreach program delivered books on-demand in Middlesex.

Last year 620 Middlesex patrons borrowed 7,488 physical items from our collection in addition to accessing digital content through the *Flipster*, *Kanopy* and *Libby* apps. Middlesex residents also enjoyed our 220 adult and children’s programs, attended by a total 9,953 people, including Shakespeare Camp and the Summer Reading Program, as well as the *First Wednesdays* and *League of Women Voters* lecture series.

Sarah Seidman is the Middlesex representative on the Library’s Board of Trustees.

We receive 54% of our income from our member communities, 26% from endowment earnings, 18% from fundraising and donations and 2% from miscellaneous income.

The library budget is \$918,281 and we are asking Middlesex for \$32,022, this is our first request for a funding increase in four years. We are requesting a \$1 per capita increase in our member towns, calculated with the latest 2020 census data. Our total request for library support is \$18 per capita; or around half the average tax support for Vermont libraries which is now over \$35.

Contact:

Carolyn Brennan, Co-Director
Kellogg-Hubbard Library
135 Main St.
Montpelier, VT 05602
(802) 223-3338
Email: cbrennan@kellogghubbard.org
Website: www.kellogghubbard.org

Funding request: \$32,022

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the KHL website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



ARTICLE 11: MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Everyone 50+ is welcome at MSAC, where programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, falls prevention and more. *MSAC's mission is to enhance the quality of life for the older adults in the Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being in a welcoming, flexible environment.*

In 2021, MSAC transitioned through personnel changes and adapted with additional pandemic-safe operations. Despite Covid-19, MSAC is a vital resource for the community, providing FEAST Meals on Wheels and Curbside pick-up meals, referrals to area services, three dozen affordable, weekly classes, (online, in-person, or hybrid), and many free drop-in groups. MSAC offers financial aid, technology assistance, tax preparation, foot care clinics, media, and more. MSAC's AmeriCorps member places volunteers for indoor and outdoor chores and socialization. Staff and volunteers are resuming a national accreditation process and remain dedicated to supporting the community.

In FY21, MSAC served at least 68 Middlesex residents. Many activities don't track residency, so the number is likely 80+. MSAC appreciates Middlesex voters' and residents' support and hopes to welcome and serve more of you in the coming year! We recognize other senior centers' and agencies' importance to your residents and believe in working collaboratively. Thank you for considering our level-funded request of \$7,000 to support affordable programs and services for older Central Vermonters. Our total FY23 budget is \$675,300.

To learn more, register for a program or be added to our weekly e-list, visit 58 Barre Street, www.montpelier-vt.org/msac, call 223-2518 or email msac@montpelier-vt.org.

Contact:

Janna Clar, Director
Montpelier Senior Activity Center
58 Barre Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-2518
Email: jclar@montpelier-vt.org
Website: www.montpelier-vt.org/msac

Funding request: \$7,000

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the MSAC website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



ARTICLE 12: NORTH BRANCH NATURE CENTER

North Branch Nature Center’s mission is Connecting People with the Natural World. For 26 years, NBNC has offered place-based nature education and community science programs for people of all ages, as well as free year-round access to our 28-acre preserve Montpelier, less than two miles from the Middlesex town line.

Annually, more than 3,720 people attend our programs, and we estimate 27,000 trail visits (activities include walking, running, picnicking, snowshoeing, skiing, biking, and swimming). Each year we serve a minimum of 250 Middlesex residents through programs including summer camps, after-school programs, Forest Preschool, and our wide array of festivals, classes, lectures, community science opportunities, and outings for youth and adults. We also have several dedicated volunteers from Middlesex who help with everything from managing invasive species, to cataloging our natural history library, to serving on our board of directors, to contributing to community science projects like our annual early spring amphibian conservation program.

NBNC is committed to making our programs open and accessible to all by keeping prices low and offering scholarships. Our buildings are fully accessible, and we are fundraising to build an accessible trail and to make accessibility improvements to our existing trails.

NBNC’s 2021 annual budget is \$822,374. The Middlesex appropriation will support scholarships, accessibility improvements, and our core programs. For more information, please visit NorthBranchNatureCenter.org. Thank you for your support!

Contact:

Emily Seiffert, Development/Communications Director
EmilyS@NorthBranchNatureCenter.org
802.229.6206
NBNC
713 Elm Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Funding Request: \$2,000

Scanning this QR code will also take you to the NBNC website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



ARTICLE 13: WATERBURY AREA SENIOR CENTER

The mission of the Waterbury Area Senior Center is to enrich the lives of older people by providing activities that sharpen the mind and improve the physical and emotional health of its members and keep them active in the life of the community.

The Center was closed to the public from March 2020 through June 2021 due to Covid-19. Thanks to the dedication of our staff and volunteer drivers, we never missed a day delivering Meals on Wheels to the homebound seniors in the communities we serve. We opened our doors to the public again in June and the joy in the room was palpable as old friends were at last able to sit down and share a meal and some conversation and laughter. Our dining room is open for congregate meals on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Volunteer drivers deliver Meals on Wheels to homebound residents Monday through Friday.

Yet we are more than just a meal site. In partnership with Central VT Home Health, we offer monthly foot care clinics and an annual flu shot clinic. We partner with the Waterbury Historical Society to offer monthly activities such as a fall foliage ride and a holiday sing along. We offer free monthly Sunday movie matinees to seniors, complete with candy and popcorn, as well as twice-weekly domino games. We offer a loaner medical equipment program which provides short- or long-term use of items such as walkers and shower chairs.

Last year WASCA provided over 2000 individual daily visits and wellness checks to Middlesex residents while delivering Meals on Wheels. These wellness checks and visits help to ensure the safety and wellbeing of Middlesex seniors and ultimately helps them remain in their own homes. We have the capacity to assist additional seniors with Meals on Wheels deliveries. If you know of individuals 60 and over who would benefit, please contact us.

The staff at WASCA will continue working to provide activities that enrich the lives of the seniors in the communities we serve. Our volunteer drivers will continue to give their time to deliver nutritious meals to homebound residents. The Board of Directors will provide oversight for the financial wellbeing of the Center and guidance to the staff. With support from our communities, the Center will continue to thrive. We are asking you to help fund the vital work we do.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Contacts:

Justin Blackman, Board Chair
Maureen White, Treasurer
Vicki Brooker, Director

Funding Request: \$7500

ARTICLE 14: FUNDING REQUESTS \$250 AND UNDER

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town of Middlesex appropriate the sum of \$4,767 to support the following organizations:

American Red Cross	\$250.00
Big Heavy World.....	\$250.00
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education.....	\$250.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$250.00
Circle	\$199.00
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$250.00
Family Center of Washington County	\$250.00
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$250.00
Good Samaritan Haven	\$250.00
Green Mountain Transit Agency.....	\$249.00
Green Up Vermont.....	\$100.00
Montpelier Veterans Council.....	\$250.00
MOSAIC.....	\$250.00
Our House of Central Vermont.....	\$250.00
People’s Health & Wellness Clinic	\$250.00
VT Association for the Blind.....	\$249.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$195.00
VT Family Network	\$250.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100.00
Washington County Diversion	\$250.00
Youth Service Bureau of Washington County	\$175.00

Descriptions of these organizations and their services can be found starting on page 76.

AMERICAN RED CROSS OF NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Supported primarily by volunteers, the American Red Cross of Northern New England, provides emergency support for victims of fire, flood and other disasters, as well as instruction in health, safety and aquatics.

In the July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021 fiscal year, the American Red Cross responded to 12 disaster incidents, assisting 60 residents of Washington County. Most commonly, these were home fires. The organization hosted 125 blood drives and collected 3,964 pints of blood in Washington County. It supported 20 members of the Armed Forces through the Red Cross's Service to the Armed Forces program in Washington County.

The Red Cross responded to one disaster event in Middlesex in which two people were served.

Since the Red Cross is not a government agency, it relies on the financial support of individuals, businesses and local communities because it receives no federal or state funding. Its request this year is based on town population.

All money from town appropriations goes directly to disaster relief. The Red Cross is often the only organization to arrive on site during disasters to help families cope during the first hours and days and to provide first responders with water, hot beverages and food. The support from Middlesex and other contributing towns is vital to support the Red Cross's services.

Contact:

Rachel Zellem, Regional Development Specialist
American Red Cross of Northern New England
32 N. Prospect Street
Burlington, VT 05401
(800) 464-6692
Website: www.redcross.org/nne

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code will take you to the Red Cross website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



BIG HEAVY WORLD

Big Heavy World is a volunteer-run independent statewide music office and archive of Vermont-made music, working to inclusively promote and preserve all kinds of music made across Vermont. Its work is designed to serve all Vermont musicians, inclusive of artists of all styles in every Vermont town. The organization was founded in 1996 and manages many ongoing and special projects that make Vermont's music community and economy stronger, while reminding everyone how talented and meaningful to us our creative Vermonters are.

Artists from all across Vermont, including every musician in Middlesex, are invited to be a part of our work. We manage an archive that currently holds about 5,000 Vermont-made recordings; a community radio station that plays original Vermont-made music 24/7 between its volunteer DJs; a website about Vermont's music sector; and a new award-winning tiny museum of Vermont music history. Thank you for considering this request for \$250 to support the operating costs of Big Heavy World; we are deeply grateful for your support.

Contact:

JAMES LOCKRIDGE, Executive Director
Big Heavy World PO Box 428
Burlington, VT 05402-0428
(802) 373-2890
jim@bigheavyworld.com

Funding request: \$250

CENTRAL VT ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc. (CVABE), a community-based nonprofit organization has served the adult education and literacy needs of Middlesex residents for fifty-six years.

CVABE serves as Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties' resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for adults (ages 16- 90+) in:

- Basic skills programs: reading, writing, math, computer and financial literacy
- English Language Learning and preparation for U.S. citizenship
- High school diploma and GED credential programs
- Academic skill readiness for work, career training and/or college

Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72% chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves, and 70% of adult welfare recipients have low literacy levels. By helping to end the cycle of poverty, your support changes the lives of Middlesex residents for generations to come.

Last year, 1 resident of Middlesex enrolled in CVABE's free programs, down from an average of 5 due to Covid-19. Additionally, 1 Middlesex resident volunteered with CVABE. Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups.

CVABE's total program budget for Fiscal Year 2022 is \$1,413,865. One hundred percent (100%) of support from Middlesex will be used for direct student services (instruction and educational materials). It currently costs CVABE \$3,927 per student to provide a full year of instruction.

For more information regarding CVABE's adult education and literacy instruction or volunteer opportunities, contact:

Barre Learning Center, 46
Washington Street- Suite 100, Barre,
VT 05641
(802) 476-4588

Montpelier Learning Center, 100
State Street- Suite 3, Montpelier, VT
05602
(802) 223-3403

Contact:

Brian Kravitz
CVABE Development and Outreach Coordinator
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc.
46 Washington St., Suite 100, Barre, Vermont 05641
(802) 476-4588
Website: www.cvabe.org, Email: bkravitz@cvabe.org
Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code will
also take you to the CVABE
website.



CENTRAL VT COUNCIL ON AGING

The Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is dedicated to the mission of supporting older Vermonters to age with dignity and choice. CVCOA Services are available to those age 60 and up, or to adults with disabilities. For more than 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonters to remain independent for as long as possible. CVCOA serves 54 towns throughout the Central Vermont region.

CVCOA makes a difference in the lives of older Vermonters by connecting them to the network of benefit programs and services that they need to thrive, free of charge. CVCOA utilizes town funding to provide individualized support to Middlesex residents through our care coordination team, which includes case management, information and assistance, options counseling, resource and benefit enrollment (nutrition, transportation, mental health counseling, legal services, health insurance counseling, etc.), care coordination planning, family caregivers support, and more. CVCOA provided individualized support to 22 residents of Middlesex. CVCOA Case Manager Bill Merrylees was designated to serve older adults in Middlesex.

CVCOA served 3,070 unduplicated clients in FY21, plus 6,585 additional interactions with community members for outreach and support. CVCOA mobilized 450 volunteers to provide direct service, deliver meals on wheels, support meal sites, provide wellness classes, assist with Medicare information, provide companionship and creative encouragement, and more. All of us at the CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of Middlesex for their ongoing commitment to the health, well-being, independence, and dignity of older Vermonters in the Middlesex community.

Contact:

Luke Rackers
Director, Development and Communications
Central Vermont Council on Aging
59 N. Main Street, Suite 200
Barre, Vermont 05641
lrackers@cvcoa.org
(802) 479-1953

Funding request: \$250

PEOPLE'S HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC

People's Health & Wellness Clinic (PHWC) provides free healthcare to uninsured and underinsured people in Central Vermont. Services include high quality medical, mental health, oral health, and bodywork services which are provided at no cost to patients. PHWC also continues to provide extensive case management, referrals, and assistance enrolling in health insurance and financial assistance programs.

In July of 2021 PHWC relocated to 51 Church Street in downtown Barre. A year-long project made possible by generous community supporters, this new facility offers a welcoming and safe space for services and positions the Clinic in a more visible and accessible location in the community.

Throughout the year the Clinic continued its collaboration with Good Samaritan Haven and the Vermont Department of Health to vaccinate over 200 Central Vermont residents through numerous walk-in vaccination clinics. PHWC continues to work with these partner organizations to support the health and safety of Central Vermont's most vulnerable community members.

In 2021, PHWC cared for 287 unduplicated patients, 90 of whom were new to the clinic. Patients visited the clinic (in person and via telemedicine) for 342 medical visits, 210 dental visits, and 111 mental health visits. 38 patients had 65 visits to receive assistance enrolling in Medicaid, other health insurance plans, and financial assistance programs. Patients came from 48 cities and towns and more than half had an income of less than 185% of the federal

reported having to delay care because of the cost.

- **Services provided to 3 Middlesex residents in 2021:**
- Medical visits with care provided by volunteer practitioners
- Dental hygiene appointments and dental case management
- Medical consultations and case management interactions
- Health education

As a federally deemed free clinic, PHWC cannot charge for services and depends on grants, donations, and municipal funding. We are grateful to the voters of Middlesex for many years of support and are very pleased to be able to provide free and accessible healthcare to the Central Vermont community.

Contact:

Daniel Barlow, Executive Director
Executive Director
People's Health & Wellness Clinic
51 Church St.
Barre, VT 05641
Phone: 802-479-1229
www.phwcvt.org

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code will take you to the PHWC website.



poverty level. Most new patients

CIRCLE

Circle –formerly Battered Women’s Services and Shelter - is a small, community-based organization dedicated to ending all forms of domestic violence by providing services to all victims regardless of their gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or ethnicity. This year, Circle is requesting \$199 in funding from the Town of Middlesex.

During the previous fiscal year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021) Circle provided the following services to Middlesex residents. (Due to confidential reasons, details are non-specific.):

- Advocates responded to 84 hotline calls and in-person meetings with people who identified themselves as Middlesex residents.
- 21 Middlesex residents received support with housing issues.
- 10 received help with civil legal issues.
- Advocates helped 1 Middlesex resident file a temporary protection order.
- 2 individuals residing in Middlesex received support during their hearings for final protection orders.

In addition, Circle staff and volunteers responded to 4,544 hotline calls. Shelter services were provided to 16 women and 17 children for a total of 1,503 bed nights.

Also:

- Advocates provided support to 111 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 78 individuals filing for temporary orders.
- Over 1,500 people received direct services from Circle which is maintained by trained staff and volunteers.

If you are in danger, use a safe computer, call 911, or Circle’s hotline 1-877-543-9498, or the US National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 and TTY 1-800-787-3224.

Contact:

Karol Diamond
Circle
P.O. Box 652
Barre, VT 05641
Administrative office: (802) 476-6010
Email: staff@circlevt.org
24-hour toll-free HOTLINE: 1-877-543-9498

Funding request: \$199

COMMUNITY HARVEST OF CENTRAL VERMONT (CHCV)

Community Harvest of Central Vermont (CHCV) brings community together through gleaning to recover surplus food grown on area farms which is then delivered to sites that serve those with limited access to nutritious, fresh local food. In the process, the community has the opportunity to gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the local food system, healthy eating, and waste reduction.

CHCV partners with 40 area farms and growers to help reduce surplus food from going to waste. Hundreds of community volunteers helped glean farmers' unused food, and donate it to 30 area programs serving people with limited access to nutritious, fresh local food. Ultimately, we helped serve 16,807 individuals in 2021, of which we estimate 232 were Middlesex residents. In addition to recovering food, CHCV connects community and helps it engage with local farms by bringing people to the fields to work together and see how local food is grown.

Over the past eight years, CHCV has recovered and donated more than 500,000 pounds of nutritious food, helping to increase food security for thousands of Central Vermonters. The gleaned food is donated to all area food shelves, senior meal programs, and other community meals that serve Middlesex residents. Our FY 2022 budget is \$127,534. Funds received from the Town of Middlesex will be used to support the harvesting, processing, and delivery of gleaned food.

Community Harvest of Central Vermont

146 Lord Road
Berlin, VT 05602
802-229-4281
CommunityHarvestVT@gmail.com
www.CommunityHarvestVT.org

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code will take you to the CHCV website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



FAMILY CENTER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Family Center of Washington County provides services and resources to all children and families in our region. Our mission is building resourceful families and healthy children to create a strong community, and our vision is acceptance and hope for all families. We serve the diverse needs of our community’s young children and families, including those who are at risk of poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity.

In FY’21 we offered services for children, youth and families that included Early Care and Education, Children’s Integrated Services-Early Intervention, Family Support Home Visiting, Child Care Financial Assistance, Child Care Referral, Welcome Baby Outreach, Family Supportive Housing Services, Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project, Specialized Child Care Supports, Reach Up Job Development, Food Pantry, Diaper Bank, Parent Education, Community Events, and Playgroups for children from birth to five on Facebook, which totaled 443 average number of views.

The Family Center of Washington County served 34 Middlesex residents from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. All services are available to Middlesex residents.

- 11 families received Information & Referral, consulting our Child Care Referral services and receiving assistance in finding child care to meet their needs
- 11 families received Child Care Financial Assistance
- 2 individuals were served by one of our Home Visiting services, providing parent and family education and support
- 2 families received food and household items from our Food Pantry delivered to their residence by our home visitors to help supplement their family’s nutritional and basic needs
- 1 child received diapers from our Diaper Bank; 7 children and parents attended our Community Events or received activity bags.

Total Budget for 2020-2021 was \$2,427,745.

Funds from Middlesex and other communities will be used to support the prevention and community development services offered by the Family Center, filling in the gaps from grants and state funding to enable us to deliver a wider variety of services to families, many of whom may be particularly vulnerable.

Contact:

Joseph Ferrada and Claire Kendall, Co-Executive Directors
Family Center of Washington County
383 Sherwood Drive
Montpelier, VT 05602

Email: josephf@fcwcv.org and
clairek@fcwcv.org
Telephone: 802-262-3292, Ext. 126 and
Ext. 151
Web site: www.fcwcv.org

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code will take you to the Family Center Website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



GOOD BEGINNINGS OF CENTRAL VERMONT

We are a small nonprofit with an annual budget of \$111,000. Our mission is to bring community to families and their babies. We do this through in-home and community-based services available at no charge to anyone caring for a new baby. Our Postpartum Angel Family Support Program matches families with a trained volunteer for up to 12 weeks of in-home support and respite. Our Journey Into Parenthood workshop series covers a range of early parenting topics, and our Nest parent drop-in space hosts formal and informal gatherings for parents with infants and toddlers, in a welcoming and developmentally appropriate space. (During Covid-19, our peer support groups and early parenting workshops are meeting online.) Families are also eligible for assistance through our Perinatal Support Fund and Free Carrier Program.

Seven Middlesex families accessed our services last fiscal year (12 adults, 6 children). Three were matched with volunteers and received a combined 17 hours of in-home and virtual support. Of those, two families received babywearing support: one received a free infant carrier, and one had a babywearing consultation and borrowed a ring sling. Two families attended an early parenting workshop, and five attended peer support groups or other free community events.

Funding from the Town of Middlesex supports our Postpartum Angel program and specifically, staff time devoted to recruiting and training volunteers, conducting outreach to referral sources, and matching families with volunteers. Town funding also covers expenses associated with our peer support groups and free early parenting workshops.

Contact Us:

174 River Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
info@goodbeginningscentralvt.org
www.goodbeginningscentralvt.org
802.595.7953

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code takes you to Good Beginnings' website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



GOOD SAMARITAN HAVEN

Good Samaritan Haven respectfully requests support from Middlesex residents in our efforts to provide emergency shelter and critical services to the increasing number of Washington County members in need of housing, and to those in need of assistance while they are living in the woods and on the streets.

We are unable to accurately track the previous residency of our clients but know that the majority of them come from towns within Washington County and gravitate to populated centers like Montpelier, Barre, and Berlin where services, such as those we provide, are accessible. Our street outreach staff focus on connecting unsheltered individuals with food, water, transportation, health care, and access to emergency housing in shelters and motels. In 2021, we also provided Covid-19 clinics that tested and vaccinated hundreds of individuals.

Our emergency housing options include: Seminary Street in Barre City (21 beds), South Barre Road in Barre Town (15 beds), and the Welcome Center at Twin City in Berlin (35 beds/opening 2022). During the winter of 2021-22 we also operated an overnight shelter at the Episcopal Christ Church in Montpelier (10 beds). Our annual operating budget is \$864,596.00. We will be operating more shelter sites and offering more essential services in 2022 than ever before. Thank you for considering a commitment to Good Samaritan Haven.

Contact

Rick DeAngelis
Good Samaritan Haven Executive Director
rdeangelis@goodsamaritanhaven.org
802.371.7745105
N. Seminary St, PO Box 1104, Barre, VT 05641

Funding request: \$250

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT AGENCY (GMTA)

Each year, GMT provides thousands of rides to members within our community through traditional public transit services and coordinated special services. Each ride provided is a personal story of a need being met. Whether it's offering affordable commute options, access to essential medical services, adult day care and senior meals or convenient trips for daily services, we are proud to be a viable solution for so many.

In FY21, GMT provided ongoing individual special transportation services to Middlesex residents who qualified for Medicaid and/or Elderly and Disabled transportation totaling 76 trips.

Our ability to maintain our role as a trusted public transportation provider within the region would not be possible without our partnerships. Since 2003, GMT has relied on relationships with area organizations, state and federal agencies, local municipalities and the private citizens to keep us strong. Without these partnerships, we would not be able to provide the critical services that we offer.

It is with recognition and appreciation for all levels of support that Green Mountain Transit (GMT) would like to submit a request of *level funding* for FY23 from the Town of Middlesex. **We respectfully request \$249 for FY23 to be placed before the Town of Middlesex voters for consideration.** The requested funding directly supports GMT's ongoing operations and the amount is based on a fair share calculation applied to the municipalities GMT serves.

Contact:

Jamie Smith
Director of Marketing and Planning
GMTA
Green Mountain Transit
802-540-2451
jamie@ridegmt.com

Funding request: \$249

GREEN UP VERMONT

Green Up Vermont is a private, not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization responsible for Green Up Day, always the first Saturday in May, and to raise public awareness for a litter-free environment. Green Up Day will celebrate 52 years in 2022

In 2021, 22,000 volunteers turned out to pick up 418 tons of trash and 16,250 fires from the roads and waterways.

For towns with populations between 1,000 and 2,000, such as Middlesex, Green Up respectfully requests funding of \$100.

Please mark your calendars for the next Green Up Day, May 7, 2022, the first Saturday in May.

Contact:

Kate Alberghini, Executive Director
Green Up Vermont
PO Box 1191
Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191
(802) 522-6245
Website: www.greenupvermont.org
Email: greenup@greenupvermont.org

Funding request: \$100

Scanning this QR code takes you to Green Up Vermont’s website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



MONTPELIER VETERANS COUNCIL

The Montpelier Vermont Veterans Council has been placing flags and markers at local cemeteries for over 35 years. Each year, the organization places over 2,500 flags in 26 local cemeteries including two in Middlesex.

The cost of these flags and markers has been covered by personal contributions and funds from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 792, American Legion Post #3 in Montpelier, the Montpelier Elk #924 as well as tax-payer contributions from Montpelier, East Montpelier, Middlesex and Worcester. Due to the escalating costs of flags and markers, the Montpelier Veterans Council needs to ask towns to assist in these costs.

Because of rising costs, we ask for assistance with this annual memorial honoring our families and friends who served their country. Unpaid volunteers place these flags and markers and consider it their privilege. Will you please support our effort with a donation today? Any donation will help and be greatly appreciated.

Contact:

Carole Baker, Secretary/Treasurer
Montpelier Vermont Veterans Council
21 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
802) 229-9043

Funding request: \$250

MOSAIC VERMONT

Mosaic Vermont’s Direct Community Response

- More than **5,453** direct responses to harm were provided. **20%** were in person.
- **345** individuals, including **73** children were served due to incidents of sexual violence.
- **34** people received support from an advocate at a forensic medical exam.
- **45** children and youth received support during forensic interviews.
- Advocates fielded **572** queries regarding housing and shelter.
- Mosaic’s shelter supported **15** people, including **8** children, for **1124** bed nights.
- Mosaic’s services are confidential and most do not share their town of residence.

Mosaic’s work is led by the people who have been impacted by sexual harm. Through the provision of services such as our 24-hour helpline; safety planning; advocacy at Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations; emergency shelter; assistance applying for victim's compensation; support in court hearings or at crime related appointments or interviews; referrals to and support in accessing community resources; parent, friend, and caregiver support; and case management; we help people begin to heal. We provide additional, specialized services for people who have experienced sex trafficking, adult survivors of child sexual abuse, and children and youth who have experienced sexual violence.

Mosaic performs a variety of community-wide outreach and prevention efforts to connect and share resources, increase accessibility to programming for all people, and to help end violence. Prevention programming this past year engaged about 200 youth across five public schools.

Mosaic's services are highly confidential and people are not required to disclose their town of residence in order to receive services.

Contact:

Website: mosaic-vt.org
Email: info@mosaic-vt.org
4 Cottage Street
Barre, Vt. 05641

Helpline: 802.479.5577
Office: 802.476.1388

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code takes you to Mosaic’s website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



OUR HOUSE OF CENTRAL VERMONT

OUR House of Central Vermont is a non-profit children's advocacy center and special investigations unit serving all of Washington County. Its mission is to provide a safe and supportive setting for child victims of sexual abuse, their non-offending family members, and adult survivors of sexual assault. The OUR in OUR House stands for One Unified Response and to that end the organization works closely with the Vermont Department for Children and Family Services, as well as local and state law enforcement, the State's Attorney's Office, Washington County Mental health and other organizations.

OUR House saw 120 cases this year, a 46% increase from the 82 last year. Of those, 20 involved children under age 6. One of those cases was in Middlesex.

While it is difficult to monetarily quantify a child-abuse investigation, national statistics show that on a per-case basis, traditional investigations were 36% more expensive than investigations conducted by agencies like OUR House.

Contact:

Rebecca Duranleau, Executive Director
OUR House of Central Vermont, Inc.
38 Summer Street
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 622-0821
(802) 272-6312
Email: ourhousebarredirector@gmail.com

Funding request: \$250

VT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI), a non-profit organization founded in 1926, is the *only* private non-profit organization in the state to provide comprehensive support services to all Vermont residents with visual impairments. VABVI provided these services to 1,195 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont in FY2020, including and 86 adults and 20 students in Washington County.

Each year, we serve thousands of clients from birth through end of life. Our mission is to enable Vermonters, whether blind or visually impaired, to be more independent, to cultivate adaptive skills, and to improve their quality of life. VABVI empowers our adult clients to make the living and care choices that work best for them individually, including the option to continue living independently. For every dollar we spend, 91 cents goes directly to our client services.

As government mandates have begun to be lifted, our staff has been able to be flexible with providing both in-person and remote services depending on client preference. In-person services take place with physical distancing and PPE guidelines that are continuously being revised based on the Governor's recommendations. The main goal of our programs over the past year has been to ensure that clients have the resources they need, in the manner most comfortable for them to ensure their safety, and to prevent feelings of social isolation during these troubled times.

Contact:

Shannon Turgeon
Development Assistant
VABVI
60 Kimball Avenue
So. Burlington, VT 05403
(802) 863-1368 ext. 217
sturgeon@vabvi.org

Funding request: \$249

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (VCIL)

For the last 42 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'21 (10/2020-9/2021) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **186** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **4** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **141** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **65** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **74** individuals with information on assistive technology; **42** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **497** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) which served **35** people and provided **24** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone. Due to the pandemic VCIL was able to start a new (temporary) program, Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency (RISE) which served 418 people in its first few months. The Rise Program can help provide an array of items or services if the needs are directly related to the Covid-19 epidemic (computers for tele-med appointments, cleaning supplies, etc.).

During FY'21, **3** residents of **Middlesex** received services from the following programs:

- RISE Fund (Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency)
- (\$400.00 spent on pandemic related needs)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

Contacts:

Sarah Launderville, Executive Director
 VT Center for Independent Living
 11 E. State Street
 Montpelier, VT 05602

(800) 639-1522 Email: info@vcil.org Website: www.vcil.org

Funding Request: \$195

Scanning this QR code
 will take you to the VCIL
 website.



VERMONT FAMILY NETWORK

The **Vermont Family Network** is a state-wide organization whose mission is to empower and support all Vermont families of children with special needs. Town funding would support our Family Support Program, through which we offer families a variety of services such as trainings, parent matches, school meeting support, and a helpline. Our Family Support Consultants are all experienced parents of children with special needs, allowing them to relate to and understand the unique needs of families before, during and after their child’s diagnosis.

As the state’s Family Voices and Parent Training and Information Center, we have continued to be involved in advocacy efforts around early intervention programs, special education, and budget decisions that impact families of children with special needs.

Last fiscal year we supported 1400 families. Thank you for your consideration of funding, together we can continue to support families all over the state who have children with special needs.

Contact information:

Vermont Family Network
600 Blair Park Road
Suite 240
Williston, VT 05495
Claire Giroux-Williams, Development and
Communications Manager
info@vtfn.org
802-800-4005
vermontfamilynetwork.org

Funding request: \$250

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will take you to the
Vermont Family Network
website. Most cell phones
can scan a QR code by
opening the camera and
holding it over the QR
code.



VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION TASK FORCE

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The RFP program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources.

Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, design installations, and find financial support to support the costs of construction. During the **23+ years** of the program, nearly **1200 grants** totaling **\$2.6 million** have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

We have made a number of adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program in recent years, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project. New Rural Fire Protection systems along with repair, replacement, relocation, and upgrades of existing RFP systems are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2021 was \$193,930, of which \$92,909 was paid in grants to Vermont communities for construction costs. The remaining budget covers site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Vermont Department of Public Safety through annual appropriations by the Vermont Legislature.

Contacts:

Tom Maclay, Chair Rural Fire Protection Task Force
(802) 426-3265

Website: www.vacd.org

Email: dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com

Scanning this QR code will take you to the VCAD website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



Funding Request: \$100

WASHINGTON COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM, INC.

The **Washington County Diversion Program (WCDP)** is a local non-profit organization that provides a range of restorative justice programs for the communities within Washington County. WCDP addresses unlawful behavior, supports victims of crime and promotes a healthy community. We follow a balanced and restorative justice model that strives to put right the wrongs that have been done and address the needs of all stakeholders, including the victim, the community and those who violated the law, holding the latter accountable in a manner that promotes responsible behavior.

WCDP runs six separate programs: Court Diversion (adult and youth), the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, the Balanced and Restorative Justice Program, the Tamarack Program, Pretrial Monitoring and the Driving with License Suspended Program. During Fiscal Year 2021, WCDP's with 629 participants across those programs.

Due to a heavy caseload, the financial and volunteer support of our local communities is critical to our success. Thank you for providing the support of our work that you have in the past, and for taking the time to consider this request.

We would welcome any Middlesex residents who'd like to join our volunteer ranks! Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering on our Community Restorative Panel.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at the Diversion office at 802-479-1900x1.

Contact:

Catherine Kalkstein
Washington County Diversion Program, Inc.
322 North Main Street, Suite 5
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 479-1900 ext. 1
Website: www.wcdp-vt.org
Email: Catherine@wcdp-vt.org

Funding request: \$250

Scanning this QR code will take you to the WCDP website. Most cell phones can scan a QR code by opening the camera and holding it over the QR code.



YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Bureau's mission is, "To provide a wide range of innovative and effective programs that empower and enrich the lives of youth and families in Washington County, and to provide leadership and support to other youth programs throughout Vermont." We accomplish this through the following services: youth & family counseling; emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth; transitional living support for homeless youth; support for pregnant/parenting teens; adolescent substance abuse treatment; transitional living support for young men exiting from jail; a teen center; support for youth involved in foster care; and a 24 hour on-call service. Last year, **4 Middlesex** residents were served through one or more of the services identified above.

The Bureau has been providing services to Middlesex residents for 48 years. This year's funding request represents a cost of approximately \$43/person served. This is only a small fraction of the cost of the services provided by the Bureau. Most services provided to Middlesex residents have involved multiple sessions, counseling services were provided by licensed counselors, and emergency temporary shelter included 24-hour supervision, meals, and transportation. For example, one night of emergency shelter if needed is \$30; and round-trip transportation for services provided from our main office directly in Middlesex are approximately \$16/trip. The Bureau's annual operating budget is \$ 2,486,147. The \$175 requested will be applied to services delivered to Middlesex residents.

Contact:

Kreig Pinkham

Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club

PO Box 627, 38 Elm Street, Montpelier, VT 05601

wcysb@wcysb.org

802-229-9151

Funding request: \$175

2021 DOG REPORT

Total Number of Dogs Registered 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021: 134

Total Fees Collected: \$1,250

Total Fees to State: \$659

More and more people are failing to license their dogs, a violation of 20 V.S.A. § 3581, the state law requiring that all dogs be licensed by April 1st. In 2021, 2 fewer dogs were licensed than 2020 which saw 16 fewer dogs licensed than in 2019. This means there are many, many dogs in Middlesex who might not be up to date on their rabies vaccinations. It also means if dogs are lost - or found - our Animal Control Officer cannot locate their owners.

Licensing your dog is easy, affordable and, also, the law. One tag is good for a year and costs less than a week's worth of puppy chow - \$9 per spayed/neutered animal: \$13 for all others. For your peace of mind and the safety of our community, please license your dog today. No one wants to start confiscating beloved pets for lack of tags.

Here are just some of the advantages of licensing:

- 1) Helps the town maintain a record of each dog, including its owner and phone number, in case the dog is lost.
- 2) Ensures that all dogs are current on their vitally important rabies vaccines at a time when rabies cases are increasing in Vermont.
- 3) Offsets the cost of maintaining a town Animal Control Officer, while \$5 from each license funds the state's spay and neutering program.

By Vermont law, all dogs must be licensed by April 1st. Please call 802-223-5915 for more information.

2020 BIRTHS

Parents	Name	Month
Sarah Helen Gardner Elias Kimmerly Gardner	Maeve Adelaine Gardner	January 13
Kleeephaka Tita David Michael Nolan	Dmitri Michael Nolan	February 4
Jessica Mary Barewicz Mathew John Barewicz	Emerson William Barewicz	February 18
Marisa Shuman Melamed Steven Elliott Geiser Melamed Jr.	Asher Merlin Melamed	March 2
Samantha Clara Lafleur Andrew Joseph Lafleur	Barrett Chance Lafleur	March 3
Kristin Freeman Jim D. Hamel	Levon Henry Hamel	April 4
Kaitlin Marie Cane Christopher Sean Ward	MiaBella Grace Ward	June 12
Sarah Marie Ettouzar Brandon Clay Darmstadt	Benjamin Arnold Darmstadt	July 24
Traci Michelle Leibowitz Jonathan Michael Leibowitz	Theodore Phillip Leibowitz	July 28
Tanna Marie Elliott-Drown Russell James Drown Jr.	Tenley Marie Drown	July 30
Katy Breann Murphy Todd Arthur Murphy	Nora Louise Murphy	August 21
Jessica Ann Kerns Stephen Alex Davidson	Chloe Sol Davidson	August 24
Jennifer Leigh Carlson Armone Tamir Persing	Isla Rose Persing	October 27
Rachel Paula Salloway Jonathan Doubleday Bicknell	Milo Daniel Bicknell	November 3
Rebecca Nichole Washburn David Allen Washburn	Reid Woodard Washburn	November 17

2020 MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Spouse	Spouse	Date
Christopher Michael Young	Elizabeth Keja Purnell MacEwan	March 3
Paul Everett Otenti	Nancy Burgess Rice	May 17
John Edward Rehbach	Renee Lynn Codling	July 4
Kenneth Norman Lowden II	Suzanne Marie Picard	August 8
Mariah Isabel Carlson-Kirgin	Nathaniel Thomas Nichols-Fleming	August 15
Anna Tobey Casey	Peter Glidden Raymond	August 29
Evelyn Anita Prim	Zachary Paul French	October 3
Niki Lee Kobacker	Dennis Kelly Brockenborough	October 10
Julia Allen Carpenter	Jeffrey Adam Duplessis	November 19

2020 DEATHS

Name	Date	Age
Harold Charles Domanski	January 21	72
Lawrence Alan Sherwin	January 22	80
Charles Francis Larkin	March 16	86
Ronald Ernest Desmarais	April6	78
Eva K. Culver	May28	90
Angeline A. Deschamps	July 29	82
Leonard B. Thompson Sr.	August 29	79
Jeffrey Vovakes	October 1	66
Judith A. Schwartz	October 10	85
Robin Lee Jones	October 24	60
John A. Johnston	October 25	93
James Andrew Laplant	November 3	89

2021 BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
DiTomasso	Forest	Elia
Dowen	Hans	Burroughs
Gewissler		
Lieblappen	Freya	Scarlett
Raymond	Wilder	Casey
Reid	Ada	Beth
Walsh	June	Madeline

Date of Marriage

3/14/2021	Lemmon, John Robert II	Suffredini, Danielle Josephine
4/11/2021	Brady, Amy Lynne	Silvers, Eric Michael
5/1/2021	Clifford, Kevin Leon	Pelchat, Melissa
5/17/2021	Wells, Clayton Michael	Kellett, Jordon Ashley
5/25/2021	Fagan, Margaret Ryan	Pomponio, Nicholas Brian
5/29/2021	Drolet, Jean Nicolas	Rumpke, Megan Elizabeth
6/5/2021	Leonardi, Philip Thomas	Filosa, Elizabeth Jean
6/5/2021	Burke, Tori Joyce	Brown, Connor Joseph
7/7/2021	Wulff, Jeanette Helen Lydia	Foster, John
8/7/2021	Danyew, Andrew Forrest	Golet, Laura Mia
8/27/2021	Johnson, Karen Lynn	Utton, Paul William
9/25/2021	Alger, Steven Russell	Taylor, Jill Ann
10/2/2021	Simpson, Robert Edward	Margolis, Michael Charles
11/24/2021	Bier, Julie Ann	Doris, Jeffrey Jerome

Date of Death	Last Name	First Name	Age
2/1/2021	Basak	Rory	58 years
11/17/2021	Bolduc	Esther	84 years
2/14/2021	Emmons	Richard	57 years
1/2/2021	Goslant	Russell	92 years
6/30/2021	Keene	Pauline	83 years
9/6/2021	Krokenberger	Charles	94 years
1/3/2021	Laplant	Shirley	95 years
10/11/2021	Morse	Linda	68 years
5/31/2021	Pierce	Donald	58 years
9/11/2021	Rubenstein	Ann	84 years
1/23/2021	Tennies	Linda	74 years
11/18/2021	Whitchurch	Norman	98 years

MIDDLESEX UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(FRONT COVER) The historic Middlesex United Methodist Church, an iconic white-clapboard presence on Church Street, was constructed in 1906 after the Methodists could no longer abide sharing space with the Unitarians in a brick church that once stood where Middlesex Town Hall now stands. According to the fascinating *Middlesex in the Making* (The Middlesex Historical Society, 2006), the two factions used separate entrances and kept their pews segregated by color (the Methodists had green cushions, the Unitarians red). The Methodists owned the organ; the Unitarians owned the pulpit. Finally, unable to continue tolerating the chilly coexistence, the Methodists built their own church across the street from the current Town Hall, establishing Miss Harriet Knapp as their first deaconess. On February 24, 2021, a fire broke out in the church's boiler room and the charming structure, a classic example of New England turn-of-the-century architecture, burned to the ground. The bell, however, was saved by the Middlesex Road Crew who used heavy equipment to haul it to a hiding place after would-be plunderers were observed trying to steal it in the middle of the night. Parishioners have vowed to rebuild and continue to worship under a tent on the property during the summer.

DEDICATION: MARY JUST SKINNER

This 2021 Annual Town Report is dedicated to Mary Just Skinner, who is retiring from the Middlesex Select Board after 24 years, many of those as Vice-Chair. Mary was elected to the Board on March 3, 1998, and before that served on the Town's Budget Committee. From 1979 to 1992, she was a Vermont State Senator for Washington County.

A graduate of Barnard College and Columbia Law School with her own private practice in Montpelier, Mary often played the valuable role of devil's advocate, at times cross examining fellow Board members or raising thought-provoking legal issues. She was also the Board's consistent liberal voice and feminist, arriving to meetings with elan, dressed in style and occasionally tardy. She and her beloved Scott raised two sons, Justin and Wilson, in their home on Leland Farm Road.

"Our Mary," as Chair Peter Hood liked to refer to her, was a one-of-a-kind Board member who loved nothing more than to be brought up to speed on Town news. Look for her in the mid-February Hunger Mountain Climb established by her late husband, biking around Vermont or strolling along a foggy Cape Cod coast. Thank you for your long service, Mary. Congratulations - your Tuesday nights are now free!



TAKE NOTES HERE!

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX
5 Church Street
Middlesex, VT 05602

PRESORTED STANDARD
U S POSTAGE
PAID
MONTPELIER, VT
PERMIT NO. 61