

TOWN OF SANDGATE



Town & School District 2020 Fiscal Year Annual Report

SANDGATE

Town Warning

With the authority of H.681 are warned:

The legal voters of the Town of Sandgate, Vermont are hereby warned and notified that on **MONDAY, MAY 3rd, 2021 at 7:00 pm** an **Informational Meeting** will be held at the SANDGATE TOWN HALL and on **TUESDAY, MAY 4th, 2021 voting will be held by Australian ballot from 10:00 am to 7:00pm** at the SANDGATE TOWN HALL to vote on the following articles.

ARTICLE 1. To elect Town and School officers.

ARTICLE 2. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to borrow money, in anticipation of taxes, to pay current expenses of the Town for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 3. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to spend budget surplus funds (if there are any) in the next fiscal year?

ARTICLE 4. Shall the Town of Sandgate vote to approve the collection of the Town and School taxes to be due on or before October 1, 2021?

ARTICLE 5. Shall the Town of Sandgate appropriate \$7,500 to the Arlington Rescue Squad?

ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town of Sandgate vote \$1,200 in support of Arlington Nursing Services?


ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town of Sandgate vote \$3,000 in support of Arlington Recreation Park?


ARTICLE 8. Shall the Town of Sandgate appropriate \$3,800 for the Martha Canfield Library?

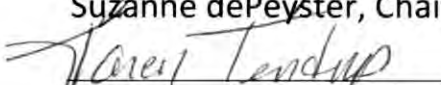
ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town of Sandgate vote to appropriate the total sum of \$2,957 for the following :
Arlington Area Childcare, \$750; Arlington Community House, \$100; Bennington County Child Advocacy, \$200; Bennington County Conservation District, \$300; Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council (BROC), \$137; Burdett Commons, \$75; Center for Independent Living, \$95; Center for Restorative Justice, \$250; Green-Up Day, \$50; PAVE, \$100; Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, \$100; Tutorial Center, \$200; VT Association of Conservation Districts, \$100?

ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town vote to adopt a budget of \$611,191 to defray expenses of the Town for the period from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022?


Suzanne dePeyster, Chair


Karen Dzialo, Clerk


Mike Hill


Karen Tendrup, Vice Chair


Tom Santelli, Road Liaison

Received this 18th day of February, 2021


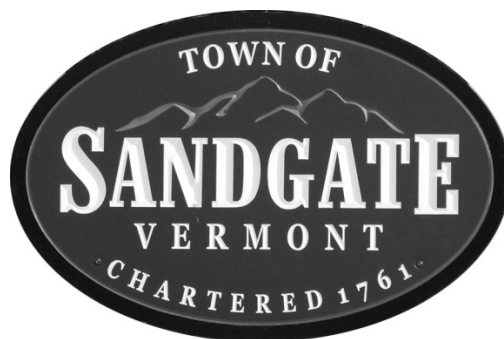

Sandra Reidy, Sandgate Town Clerk

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2020 SELECT BOARD COMMENTS

Suzanne dePeyster, Karen Dzialo, Mike Hill, Tom Santelli, Karen Tendrup

In 2017 the Town received “free” Traffic control signs from the Federal government. However, only the Federal crew can put them in. The Town still waits for the traffic control signs to be installed on West Sandgate Road.

The Town replaced the Belarus Tractor mower with a much faster John Deere 6120E Tractor with boom mower.

New 2-way radios were installed. The Town and road crew are now on the same frequency as Arlington Fire Company and Arlington Schools.

Trout Unlimited addressed the bank slide into the Green River across from the Town Hall with design plans.

Spring Green Up Day saw 3/4 ton of rubbish removed from the Town. Thanks to the Cub Scouts and 4-H kids who picked up the trash from our roadways. Also kudos to Boy Scout Troop 334, Matt Granger’s Resourceful Recycling, and the Nature Conservancy for removing trash from West Road in the fall.

After much paperwork and many meetings, FEMA awarded the Town \$5400 to fix the April 2019 Storm damage to the Woodcock Bridge. \$5400 doesn’t begin to cover the cost of the suggested FEMA fix. The Town got a bid of \$45,725 to repair the storm damage based on FEMA’s plan. The Town has a two year extension to solve the bridge problem and continues to work with FEMA to get the bridge bulwark repaired.

To comply with the Clean Water Act impact, the Town applied for, and received, a grant to identify trouble spots on Class 3 and Class 4 roads. The study is completed and should aid in future grant requests.

The Town reclassified 3 miles of Town Road from the West property on Tate Hill to Pantaleon Drive, PVT from Class 3 to class 4, complying with Vermont Statute Title 19 § 709.

ADF [defibrillator] is installed at the Town Hall. Thanks to Diane O’Brien and Willy Skidmore.

Also thank you to all Sandgaters who’ve given their time to help their neighbors and community during this COVID year.



TOWN CLERK'S COMMENTS FOR 2020

Sandra Reidy, Sandgate Town Clerk

The Town Clerk office is open Monday and Thursday 9:30 to 12:30. The vault is open during all these office hours.

The Town Website is www.sandgatevermont.org. The minutes of Select Board meetings are posted after each meeting and we post them outside the office.

We are in volume 59 in the Sandgate Land Records. All volumes have been microfilmed up to and including volume 55. The Vermont State archives have a copy.

VITAL RECORDS FOR 2020

BIRTHS: Montgomery Bonard Cloud and Matthew Coyote Keary Jr.

MARRIAGES: Jessica Hill to John Grover, Donald Rogers to April Mattsen, Glenn Hynick to Colleen Hunkler, Samantha Lavalley to Nikolaus Trombley

DEATHS: James Mead Gunn (82)

WUERSLIN-STUECKLEN ARTS GRANT COMMITTEE

Jean Eisenhart, Chair; Pat Hall, Dona McAdams, Hasso Wuerslin, Jeanne Zoppel

There were no grants awarded in 2020.

The "Arts" means creative endeavors including, but not limited to, visual arts, performing arts, and literature. The amount of each award will be determined by the Award Committee. It is for one year only. The Award check will be sent, when applicable, directly to the chosen institution or supplier of services. The number and amount of awards will vary depending on available funds.

Application forms are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at sandgatevermont.org. Here is a chance for you or your child to do something in the Arts, compliments of your town.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Eisenhart

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Jean Eisenhart, Chair; Jim Henderson, Harry Rich, Phoebe Sheres

As it increases in size, the Green River landslide across from the Town Office continues to raise considerable concern. Efforts have been made on behalf of the landowners to address the issue. The Basin 1 Clean Water Advisory Committee, including representatives of The Bennington County Regional Commission, Bennington County Conservation District, Batten Kill Watershed Alliance, Trout Unlimited, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and The Green Mountain National Forest met on site this summer to discuss potential strategies to stabilize the slide and initiate revegetation. Although the size of the slide presents major challenges, there was optimism that the slide could be remediated. We all agreed that a survey establishing the river width, depth, top of bank and other river dynamics was needed as the critical first stage of the project.



In October trained members of Trout Unlimited, Batten Kill Watershed Alliance and Bennington County Conservation District spent three days conducting the surveys which will provide the needed baseline data.

A Design and Implementation Grant Application has been submitted through the Vermont Clean Water Program to develop several design alternatives to breach the berm to allow the river to reclaim its former floodplain.

Fixing the landslide is a multi-stage project which will likely occur over several years. All of the identified partners have agreed to continue to work cooperatively to secure grants and other funds to move this project toward completion.

Meanwhile The Batten Kill Watershed Alliance continues its efforts to restore riparian buffer zones throughout the Batten Kill watershed. Over the past year we have planted several hundred stems of sycamore, maple, oak, poplar, walnut, black cherry, American elm, apple and red dossier dogwoods on seven private properties along the main stem. I am currently trying to recruit property owners along The Green River.

Please contact me at jhenderson@bcrvt.org or 375-9461 if you are interested in learning more. There is also a detailed version of this report in the online Town Report at sandgatevermont.org.

Jim Henderson,
Sandgate Conservation Commission

AUDITORS' REPORT

Valerie dePeyster, Sheila Kearns, Katie Kenny

We have audited the orders, invoices, checks, and bank statements of the Town of Sandgate for 2020. To the best of our knowledge, the consolidated balance sheet and other financial statements represented in this town report fairly reflect the financial position of the Town as of 12/31/2020. Town auditors do not serve as auditors for the town school district, nor are they responsible for audits of incorporated school districts, union school districts, or supervisory unions.

LISTERS' REPORT

Shelley Finn, Jeanne Zoppel, John Zak

Sandgate's 2020 Grand List contained 346 parcels and seven non-tax parcels totaling \$64,441,380 after exemptions. We are pleased to say that there are no outstanding appeals.

The Listers continue to work on the town-wide reappraisal for the 2021 Grand List.

2020 FOREST FIRE WARDENS' REPORT

Lynn Fielding, Louis Jobson

There were two grass fires and one brush fire this year. Your fire wardens issued 32 burn permits for 2020. If you have any questions about burning or need a permit, please call Lynn Fielding at 802-375-2211 or Louis Jobson at 802-681-6710. You do not need a burn permit when there is snow on the ground around the fire.



2020 ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Bill Henry

Activities for the past year included the issuance of three zoning permits: two for house remodel/alterations, and one for construction of a new residence. In addition, a permit application for a new residence (and camp demolition) was referred to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) and a variance was approved for the house location which did not meet the minimum required stream and property line setbacks. However, the permit was not issued until 2021 pending receipt of a State Water Supply and Wastewater System Permit. Another permit application for a primitive camp was received in 2020 with a variance appeal with the ZBA scheduled in 2021.

The year's work included the support and issuance of four Certificates of Zoning Compliance to attorneys handling property transfers. Other activities included enforcement of violations of the Zoning Bylaws, involving clean-up of properties, use of a camp as a full-time residence and non-permitted construction, along with certain litigation support activities.

Future work will include supporting the Planning Commission to revise the Town Plan, primarily to incorporate a new energy chapter, and to update the Zoning Bylaws to incorporate changes in State regulations and to consider proposed modifications and administrative changes. All such changes to the Town Plan and Zoning Bylaws are subject to discussion at warned public hearings.



ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT / PLANNING COMMISSION

Sheila Kearns, Chair; Brad Kessler, Joseph Nolan, Caroline Kimball,
Stuart Stevens and Jean Eisenhart, Alternate

The Board expresses its gratitude to Zoning Administration Bill Henry for his hard work and diligence in helping the Board to navigate the matters that came before the Board in 2020. His careful consideration of all requests that have come before him and his thorough communication with the Board is greatly appreciated.

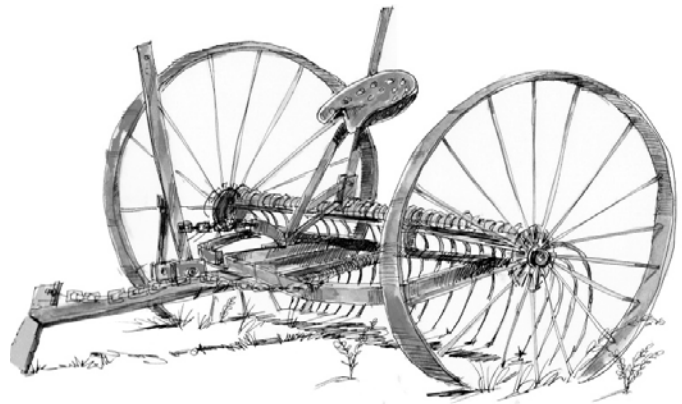
While the Board anticipates the Zoning Administrator's support and guidance in the pending revision of the Town Plan and updating of the Zoning Bylaws, we are also looking for town residents to assist in this process. If you have interest in contributing time to work on adding an Energy chapter to the Town Plan or in updating the Zoning Bylaws to reflect changes in State Laws, the Board would very much welcome your help. The work would involve developing drafts in preparation for public hearings on revisions and changes.

As we review the Bylaws, issues that have come up in the past year, including enforcement of violations of the Zoning Bylaws, clean-up of properties, use of camps as a full-time residence, and non-permitted construction, will be taken into consideration where clarification of the Bylaws may be deemed necessary. If you feel you are able to provide time and energy to these matters, please contact Zoning Administrator Bill Henry by email at sandgateza@gmail.com or by calling Town Hall (375-9075).

The PC/ZBA has continued to meet in person, with limits on in-person attendance according to the State requirements for public gatherings. However, participation at the meeting has been available via video conference and telephone. Agendas of all meetings and scheduled hearings are posted at least 48 hours prior on the Town bulletin board and the Town Website sandgatevermont.org. Online/telephone access information is included with each agenda.

The Board anticipates the appointment of new members to replace Stuart Stevens and Caroline Kimball. Caroline will be residing in Pawlet so will no longer continue on the Board. Her thoughtful contributions to the work of the Board are greatly appreciated and her assistance to the Chair in managing online meetings has been invaluable.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Kearns



SANDGATE CEMETERY COMMISSION 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Kathleen Hill, Julie Robertson, Kathy Wagner

In “the year of COVID-19,” the work of cleaning the Center Hill Cemetery stones continued. Mahar Monuments straightened stones in the older portion of the cemetery and we hope that we can complete the remaining lower section in 2021. Then we can return to the West Sandgate Cemetery and finish the straightening and cleaning of the stones in the upper rear section of that cemetery. We are very thankful to John Mahar and his crew for the excellent results they have provided.

For our mowing/trimming needs, we engaged the services of Cassan Landscaping. Our hope is to have a long and mutually agreeable relationship.

Vehicles in the cemetery during the winter season are not permitted. Not only is the road not maintained, it is not well marked and we would not want any of the burial sites damaged or disrespected.

Cemetery Policy – At present, we ask for a \$400 donation to secure a plot in the one remaining town cemetery that is still open for burials. You are required to be a resident or landowner of the town. Corner markers on the site are also required. One plot can hold up to 4 cremations. Some situations may need to come before the Cemetery Commission for review, however.

Please consider bequeathing property or donations to the Town Cemeteries for continued maintenance and improvements.

As always, we appreciate the support you have given this Commission throughout the years.



2020 ROAD FOREMAN REPORT

Mike Hill

In 2020, work on the Sandgate roads included replacing 900 feet of culverts, 10 miles of ditching, 28 miles of roadside mowing, and putting down 2,500 yards of gravel. Potholes continue to be addressed as well as frost heaves during mud season. The Town purchased a new Ford F-350 truck with sander.

In 2021 the State of Vermont will be installing road signs on the West Sandgate Road.

We received a \$25,000 road erosion grant. We thank Jim Henderson for his help with grant applications.

For road problems, please contact Tom Santelli at 375-9297 or Mike Hill at 375-8358.

SANDGATE PROPERTY TRANSFERS

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Sandgate Delinquent Tax Collector
to William Mattison of Sandgate, VT

Brian Peat of Bennington, VT
to The Brian W Peat Trust of Bennington, VT

Michael Mazzola of Bear, DE
to Sarah Fitch of Sandgate, VT

The Estate of Arnold K Wilcox of Manchester, VT
to David O'Brien of New York, NY

Patricia Hall of Sandgate, VT
to The Patricia A Hall Trust of Sandgate, VT

Grey Fletcher of Sandgate, VT
to the Fletcher Family Revocable Trust of Sandgate, VT

U.S Bank Trust of Oklahoma City, OK
To Jose Guerra Of New York, NY

Diana Baker of Granville, NY
to Ann Hammerle of East Arlington, VT

TF MGT Co. of San Jose, CA
to Four Peaceful Peaks LLC. of Sandgate, VT

Kevin Nunes of Eastham, MA
to Jason Kastner of Sandgate, VT

Estate of Charles Bentley Jr.
to Suzanne dePeyster of Sandgate, VT

Jack Agati of Sherman, CT
to Christian Frenke of Sandgate, VT

Charles Pike of Sandgate, VT
to Nik Trombley of Sandgate, VT

The Gordon Paligo Trust of Arlington, VT
to Richard Paligo of Arlington, VT

Vito La Rosa of Northport, NY
to Colleen Hunkler of North Adams, MA

Ashley Audy of Arlington, VT
to Lorcan Flynn of Brookline, MA

Bonnie O'Shea of Somers, NY
to Philip Angell of Annapolis, MD

The Patricia McNickle Trust of Arlington, VT
to Michael Porta of Jersey City, NJ

The Nature Conservancy of Arlington, VA
to Donald J Park of Newtown Square, PA

The Nature Conservancy of Arlington, VA
to The Vermont Land Trust of Montpelier, VT

Sonja Jaffee of Sandgate, VT
to Diane Jaffee of New York, NY

Andrew Jaffee of Sarasota, FL
to Sonja Jaffee of Sandgate, VT

Brita Del Corral of Tappan, NY
to John Del Corral of Sandgate, VT

Diane Jaffee of New York, NY
to John Del Corral of Sandgate, VT

Ann Hammerle of Sandgate, VT
to Maggie Hammerle of East Hampton, NY

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - General Fund July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Bank Balance: 7/1/2019	\$37,468
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Receipts:

Current Taxes Paid as of 6/30/20	\$1,212,478
Building Permit Fees	\$665
Delinquent Tax Collector	\$4,615
Town Clerk Fees	\$6,564
General Fund Checking Interest	\$2,859
Hold Harmless Money	\$17,472
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$1,244,653
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$1,282,121

Expenses:

School Tax Share	\$721,622
Highway Property Tax Share	\$370,808
TOTAL TRANSFERS	\$1,092,430

SELECT BOARD SALARY AND EXPENSES

Select Board Salaries	\$4,260
Select Board Meetings	
Select Board Expenses	
Select Board Assistant	

TOWN OFFICIAL SALARY AND EXPENSES

Auditors Salary	\$808
Town Clerk Salary	\$10,302
Town Clerk Fees	\$6,564
Assistant Town Clerk	\$2,900
Treasurer Salary	\$12,360
Assistant Treasurer	\$2,900
Delinquent Tax Collector	\$4,615
Constable Salary	\$1,100
Moderator's Salary	
Lister's Salary & Expenses	\$7,886
Misc Mileage & Reimbursement	
Zoning Administrator Salary	\$2,040
Zoning Administrator Expenses	\$880
ZBA Planning Expenses	
Payroll Tax	\$4,310
Training Town Officers	

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - General Fund July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

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GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLIES	
Town Hall Utilities	\$329
School House Utilities	\$92
Office Supplies	\$965
Computers, Software & Internet	\$2,716
Office Equipment Maintenance	
Office Equipment	
Town Hall Maintenance	\$4,159
Postage	\$660
Town Report Expense	\$475
Legal and Professional Fees	\$2,702
GENERAL SERVICES	
Solid / Hazardous Waste / Recycle	\$2,770
BCSWA	\$1,237
BCRC	\$3,000
Fire Protection	\$19,727
Insurance and Bonding	\$5,726
BCA Meetings/Poll Workers	\$351
VLCT Dues	\$1,506
Animal Control	
Sheriff Patrol Expense	
County Tax	
APPROPRIATIONS	
Arlington Area Childcare	\$500
Arlington Community House	\$100
Arlington Nursing Service	\$1,200
Arlington Recreation Park	\$3,000
Arlington Rescue Squad	\$7,500
Bennington County Conservation District	\$300
Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council (BROC)	\$137
Burdett Commons	\$75
Center for Independent Living	\$95
Center for Restorative Justice	\$250
Green Up Day	\$142
Wuerslin-Stuecklen Scholarship	\$350
Martha Canfield Library	\$3,400
Tutorial Center	\$200
VT Association of Conservation Districts	\$100
Cemetery Commission	\$6,000
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	\$600

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - General Fund July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

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MISCELLANEOUS	
Delinquent Taxes not paid as of 6/30/20	
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$131,289
Carryovers / Transfers to Restricted Funds	
Legal and Professional	\$1,000
Independent Audit	\$3,000
Town Hall Major Repairs and Improvements	
Miscellaneous (GF)	\$920
SUB-TOTAL	\$4,920
TOTAL EXPENSES	
	\$1,228,639
BALANCE TO ACCOUNT FOR	\$53,482
Accounted for as follows:	
(Balance 6/30/20)	\$42,711
Plus June Highway Payroll	\$10,771
	\$53,482



TREASURER'S REPORT

Reserve Accounts, 1 Year - July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Planning / Zoning Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$372
Interest earned	\$5
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$377
Emergency Management Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$1,288
Interest earned	\$12
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$1,300
Town Hall Building Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$3,497
Combined with Records Restoration	\$5,671
Interest earned	\$59
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$9,227
Property Reappraisal Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$3,0354
Interest earned	\$15
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$30,369
Wuerslin / Stuecklen Scholarship	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$5,149
Appropriation	\$350
Expenditure	\$-
Interest earned	\$45
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$5,544
Wuerslin / Stuecklen CD	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$3,480
Interest earned	\$18
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$3,498
School House Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$5,651
Interest earned	\$77
Bank balance: 6/30/19	\$5,728

Holiday Party Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$772
Interest earned	\$6
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$778
Office Equipment Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$1,045
Interest earned	\$11
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$1,056
Miscellaneous Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$11,841
Interest earned	\$117
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$11,958
Records Restoration Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$5,635
Fund combined with Town Hall Fund	
Legal Professional Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$21,782
Interest Earned	\$222
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$22,004
Tax Stabilization Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$18,946
Interest Earned	\$19
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$18,965
Independent Audit	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$6,091
Interest earned	\$60
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$6,151
Computer Grant	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/19	\$782
Interest Earned	\$7
Bank balance: 6/30/20	\$789

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - General Fund

July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Bank balance: 7/1/2020	\$42,711
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RECEIPTS

Current Taxes	\$1,316,285
Building Permit Fees	\$60
Town Clerk Fees	\$4,280
Delinquent Tax Collector	\$6,290
General Fund Checking Interest	\$780
Hold Harmless Money	\$21,430
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$1,349,125
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$1,391,836

EXPENSES

School Property Tax Share	\$674,456
Highway Property Tax Share	\$376,574
TOTAL TRANSFERS	\$1,051,030

SELECT BOARD SALARY AND EXPENSES

Selectmen Chair/Member Salary	\$632
Selectmen Expenses	\$45

TOWN OFFICIAL SALARY AND EXPENSES

Auditors Salary	\$168
Town Clerk Salary	\$5,305
Town Clerk Fees	\$4,280
Delinquent Tax Collector	\$6,290
Assistant Town Clerk	\$1,500
Treasurer Salary	\$6,361
Assistant Treasurer	\$1,500
Constable Salary	\$600
Lister's Salary & Expenses	\$2,243
Misc Mileage & Reimbursement	\$100
Zoning Administrator Salary	\$1,370
Zoning Administrator Expenses	\$107
ZBA Planning Expenses	
Emergency Coordinator	
Health Officer Salary	
Health Officer Expenses- Phone/Mileage	
Payroll Tax	\$2,525
Training Town Officers	\$20

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - General Fund July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

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GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLIES	
Town Hall Utilities	\$3,807
School House Utilities	
Office Supplies	\$1,055
Computers Software & Internet	\$5,097
Office Equipment Maintenance	
Town Hall Maintenance	\$1,531
Town Hall Major Repairs and Improvements	
Postage	\$434
Town Report Expense	
Website Management	\$500
Legal and Professional Fees	\$138
GENERAL SERVICES	
Solid / Hazardous Waste / Recycle	\$2,504
Bennington County Sheriffs	
Bennington County Solid Waste	\$1,666
BCRC	\$3,000
Fire Protection	\$24,276
Insurance and Bonding	\$5,412
BCA Meetings/Poll Workers	\$968
VLCT Dues	\$1,566
Animal Control	
County Tax	\$4,680
APPROPRIATIONS	
Arlington Area Childcare	\$750
Arlington Community House	\$100
Arlington Nursing Service	\$1,200
Arlington Recreation Park	\$3,000
Arlington Rescue Squad	\$7,500
Bennington County Child Advocacy	\$200
Bennington County Conservation District	\$300
Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council (BROC)	\$137
Burdett Commons	\$75
Cemetery Commission	
Center for Independent Living	\$95
Center for Restorative Justice	\$250
Green Up Day	\$50
Martha Canfield Library	\$3,800

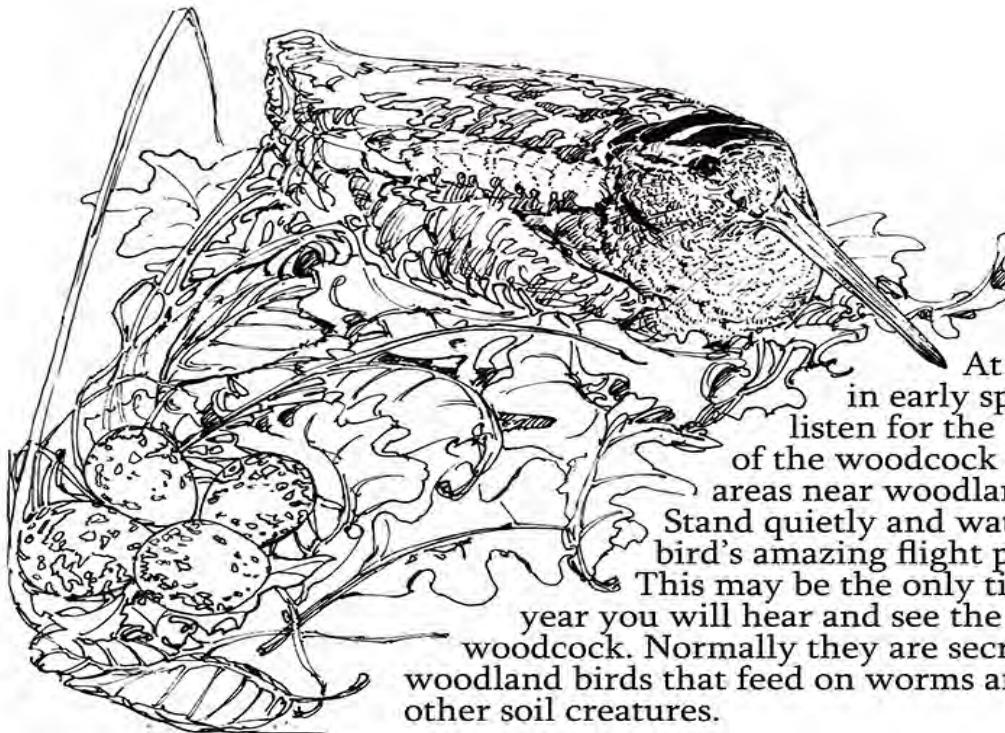
TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - General Fund

July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

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PAVE	\$100
Tutorial Center	\$200
VT Association of Conservation Districts	\$100
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	\$600
Wuerslin-Stuecklen Scholarship	
MISCELLANEOUS	
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$107,505
Carryovers / Transfers to Restricted Funds	
Legal and Professional -paid after 12/31/20	
Independent Audit- paid after 12/31/20	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,158,535
BALANCE TO ACCOUNT FOR	\$233,301
Accounted for as follows:	
General Fund Checking Balance: 12/31/20	\$308,898
Remainder of Budget as of 12/31/20	\$75,597



At dusk in early spring listen for the "peent" of the woodcock in open areas near woodlands. Stand quietly and watch the bird's amazing flight patterns. This may be the only time of year you will hear and see the woodcock. Normally they are secretive woodland birds that feed on worms and other soil creatures.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Reserve Accounts, 6 Month - July 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Planning / Zoning Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$377
Interest earned	\$1
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$378
Emergency Management Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$1,300
Interest earned	\$2
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$1,302
Town Hall Building Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$9,227
Interest earned	\$14
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$9,241
Property Reappraisal Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$30,369
Reappraisal State Aid	\$3,030
Interest earned	\$8
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$33,407
Wuerslin / Stuecklen Scholarship	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$5,544
Interest earned	\$6
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$5,550
Wuerslin / Stuecklen CD	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$3,498
Interest earned	\$7
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$3,511
School House Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$5,728
Interest earned	\$9
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$5,737

Holiday Party Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$778
Interest earned	\$1
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$779
Office Equipment Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$1,056
Interest earned	\$2
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$1,058
Miscellaneous Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$11,958
Interest earned	\$19
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$11,977
Legal Professional Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$22,004
Interest Earned	\$37
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$22,041
Tax Stabilization Fund	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$18,965
Interest Earned	\$9
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$18,974
Independent Audit	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$6,151
Interest Earned	\$9
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$6,160
Computer Grant	
Balance in Fund: 7/1/20	\$789
Interest Earned	\$2
Bank balance: 12/31/20	\$791

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Highway July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Cash on Hand: 7/1/2019	-\$12,340
Receipts:	
Property Tax Share	\$370,808
VT State Highway Aid	\$62,832
Highway Checking Interest	\$1,608
Hold Harmless Money	\$52,416
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$487,664
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$475,324
Expenses	
Road Foreman Salary	\$53,324
Road Foreman Overtime	\$5,153
Road Worker Pay	\$28,920
Road Worker Overtime	
Uniforms/Shop Towels	\$1,806
Payroll Tax Expenses	\$4,409
Retirement Contribution	\$4,494
Health Insurance	\$4,500
Unemployment Insurance	\$100
Workers' Comp. Insurance	\$8,668
Drug Testing	
Training / Mileage	
Misc. Expenses	\$2,445
Garage Maintenance	\$735
Heating Oil	\$3,237
Electric	\$725
Phone/ Internet	\$1,411
Equipment Maintenance	\$13,965
Tires	\$2,638
Fuel and Oil (Trucks/Equipment)	\$11,016
Oil and Lube	\$862
Tools & Supplies	\$1,917
Insurance & Liability (Garage / Vehicle)	\$6,840
Road/Ditch Materials and Hauling	\$36,768
Sand (delivered)	\$22,534
Salt (delivered)	\$17,958

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Highway July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

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Calcium Chloride (delivered)	\$3,500
Tree and Brush Removal	\$2,900
Contracted Services	\$11,600
Pavement Maintenance	\$23,783
Bridge / Culvert Program	\$19,416
Guard Rails	\$124
Construction account	\$14,373
Grant Funding	\$2,572
Sub-total:	\$312,693
Voted Carryover Balances	
Bridge & Culvert Fund	\$8,245
Road Equipment Appropriation	\$40,000
Miscellaneous Fund	\$402
Construction Account	\$12,136
Total Disbursements	\$373,476
Balance to account for	\$101,848
Accounted for as follows:	
Balance: 6/30/20	\$112,619
Less June Payroll Transfer	\$10,771
TOTAL ALL BALANCES	\$101,848
Paving Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$23,784
Receipts:	
YE carryover	
Additions	\$23,820
Paving Expense	-\$47,603
Interest	\$24
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$25
Bridge & Culvert Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$84,642
Expenses	
Receipts:	
YE carryover	\$8,245
Additions	\$259
Interest	\$849
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$93,995

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Highway July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Page 3 of 3

Materials & Hauling Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$21,023
Expenses	
Receipts:	
YE carryover	
Additions	
Interest	\$256
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$21,279
Road Equipment Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$135
Expenses	
Additions	\$200
Appropriation	\$40,000
Interest	\$270
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$40,605
Miscellaneous Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$3,408
Expenses	
YE carryover	\$402
Interest	\$39
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$3,849
Grant Proposal Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$10,732
YE carryover	
Interest	\$129
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$10,861
Construction Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/19	\$11,953
YE carryover	\$12,136
Interest	\$228
Balance in fund as of 6/30/20	\$24,317

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Highway July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Bank balance: 7/1/2020	\$112,619
Receipts	
Property Tax Share	\$376,574
VT State Highway Aid	\$32,724
Highway Checking Interest	\$145
Hold Harmless Money	\$64,290
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$473,733
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$586,352
Expenses	
Road Foreman Salary	\$29,688
Road Foreman Overtime	\$1,610
Road Worker Pay	\$20,410
Uniforms/shop towels	\$1,211
Payroll Tax Expenses	\$2,316
Retirement Contribution	\$2,668
Health Insurance	\$2,250
Unemployment Insurance	
Workers' Comp. Insurance	\$11,449
Drug Testing	
Training / Mileage	
Garage Maintenance	\$456
Heating Oil	
Electric	\$313
Phone/ Internet	\$2,168
Equipment Maintenance	\$6,763
Tires	\$812
Fuel and Oil (Trucks/Equipment)	\$3,531
Oil and Lube	\$1,115
Tools & Supplies	\$1,188
Insurance & Liability (Garage / Vehicle)	
Road/Ditch Materials and Hauling	\$41,351
Sand (delivered)	\$22,245
Salt (delivered)	\$3,618
Calcium Chloride (delivered)	\$4,180
Tree and Brush Removal	\$2,350
Contracted Services	\$14,986

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Highway July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Bank balance: 7/1/2020	\$112,619
Receipts	
Property Tax Share	\$376,574
VT State Highway Aid	\$32,724
Highway Checking Interest	\$145
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Uniforms/shop towels	\$1,211
Payroll Tax Expenses	\$2,316
Retirement Contribution	\$2,668
Health Insurance	\$2,250
Unemployment Insurance	
Workers' Comp. Insurance	\$11,449
Drug Testing	
Training / Mileage	
Garage Maintenance	\$456
Heating Oil	
Electric	\$313
Phone/ Internet	\$2,168
Equipment Maintenance	\$6,763
Tires	\$812
Fuel and Oil (Trucks/Equipment)	\$3,531
Oil and Lube	\$1,115
Tools & Supplies	\$1,188
Insurance & Liability (Garage / Vehicle)	
Road/Ditch Materials and Hauling	\$41,351
Sand (delivered)	\$22,245
Salt (delivered)	\$3,618
Calcium Chloride (delivered)	\$4,180
Tree and Brush Removal	\$2,350
Contracted Services	\$14,986

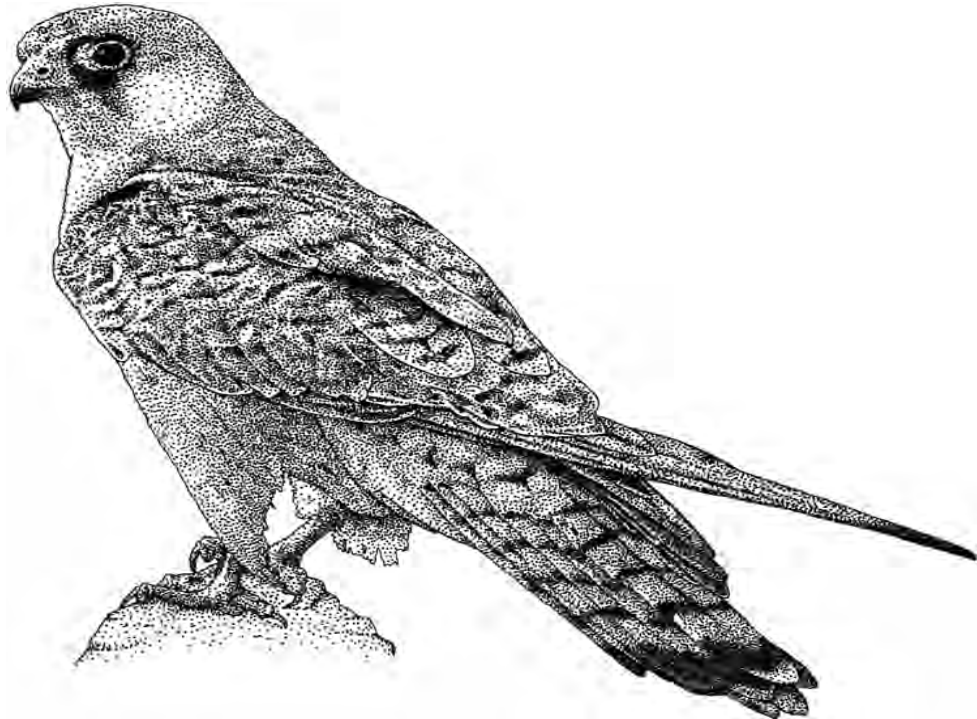
TREASURER'S REPORT
Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Highway
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

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Miscellaneous Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/20	\$3,849
Interest	\$7
Balance in fund as of 12/31/20	\$3,856

Grant Proposal Fund	
Balance as of 7/1/20	\$10,861
Interest	\$20
Balance in fund as of 12/31/20	\$10,881

Construction Account	
Balance as of 7/1/20	\$24,317
Interest	\$44
Balance as of 12/31/20	\$24,361



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Cemetery Fund

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Balance in Checking (7/1/19)	\$16,585
Receipts:	
Appropriation	\$6,000
Donations	\$1,515
Interest	\$29
Disbursements	-\$4,212
Balance in Checking (6/30/20)	\$19,917
CD Balance: 6/30/20	\$10,329

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Lomborg Cemetery CD

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Balance in bank (7/1/19)	\$11,317
CD Matured on 6/14/20@2.2300%	\$212
Balance in bank (6/30/20)	\$11,529

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Cemetery Fund

July 1, 2020- December 31, 2020

Balance in Checking (7/1/20)	\$19,917
Receipts:	
Appropriation- paid after 12/31/20	
Donation	\$1,200
Interest	\$33
Disbursements- transferred after 12/31/20	-\$2,716
Balance Checking (12/31/20)	\$21,122
CD Balance: 12/31/20, matures on 7/10/21	\$10,330

Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Lomborg Cemetery CD

July 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Balance in bank (7/1/2020)	\$11,529
CD Matures on 6/14/21 @ .5000%	\$32
Balance in bank (12/31/2020)	\$11,561

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sandgate School District

FY19/20 Actual Budget

Actual Balance – 7/1/19	\$251,998.00
Revenues FY19/20	\$831,452.00
Expenditures FY19/20	-\$1,073,858.00
Interest	\$3,242.00
Total Funds Available – 6/30/20	\$12,834.00

FY20/21 Budget 7/1/20-12/31/20

Actual Balance – 7/1/20	\$12,834.00
Revenue	\$856,329.00
Expenditures	-\$863,129.00
Interest	\$800.00
Fund Balance – 12/31/20	\$6,834.00

Bus Reserve Fund 7/1/19 – 6/30/20

Beginning Balance – 7/1/19	\$83,276.90
Revenues	\$4,474.00
Transfers	-\$19,363.00
Voted Article March 2019	\$6,000.00
Balance – 6/30/20	\$74,387.90

Bus Reserve Fund 7/1/20 - 12/31/20

Beginning Balance – 7/1/20	\$74,387.90
Interest	\$580.49
Balance – 12/31/20	\$74,968.39

Treasurer's Report

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - TOWN FUNDS

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

FUND	General	Highway	Equipment	Pavement	Bridge & Culvert	Materials & Hauling
Bank Balance: 7/1/19	\$37,468	-\$12,340	\$135	\$23,784	\$84,642	\$21,023
Revenues	\$1,244,653	\$487,664	\$40,470	\$23,844	\$9,353	\$256
Total Funds Available	\$1,282,121	\$475,324	\$40,605	\$47,628	\$93,995	\$21,279
Expenditures	\$1,228,639	\$373,476		\$47,603		
Revenues minus Expenditures	\$53,482	\$101,848	\$40,605	\$25	\$93,995	\$21,279
Available Funds: 6/30/20	\$53,482	\$101,848	\$40,605	\$25	\$93,995	\$21,279

GF Account Balances 6/30/20 - Computer Grant: \$789; Emergency Management: \$1,300; Holiday Party: \$778; Independent Audit: \$6,151; Legal & Professional: \$22,004; Misc. Fund: \$11,958; Office Equip: \$1,056; Planning/Zoning: \$377; Property Reappraisal: \$30,369; Records Restoration: Combined; School House: \$5,728; Tax Stabilization: \$18,965; Town Hall: \$9,227; Arts Grant: \$5,544; HW Misc. Fund: \$3,849; Grand Proposal Fund: \$10,861; Construction Account: \$24,317.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - TOWN FUNDS

July 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

FUND	General	Highway	Equipment	Pavement	Bridge & Culvert	Materials & Hauling
Bank Balance: 7/1/20	\$42,711	\$112,619	\$40,605	\$25	\$93,995	\$21,279
Revenues	\$1,349,125	\$473,733	\$57		\$152	\$34
Total Funds Available	\$1,391,836	\$586,352	\$40,662	\$25		\$21,313
					\$94,147	
Expenditures	\$1,158,535	\$199,167				
Revenues minus Expenditures	\$233,301	\$387,185	\$40,662	\$25		\$21,313
Budget Funds: 12/31/20	\$75,597	\$387,185	\$40,662	\$25	\$94,147	\$21,313

GF Account Balances 12/31/20 - Computer Grant: \$791; Emergency Management: \$1,302; Holiday Party: \$779; Independent Audit: \$6,160; Legal & Professional: \$22,041; Misc. Fund: \$11,977; Office Equipment: \$1,058; Planning/Zoning: \$378; Property Reappraisal: \$33,407; School House: \$5,550; Tax Stabilization: \$18,974; Town Hall/Records Restoration: \$9,241; Arts Grant: \$5,550; HW Misc: \$3,856; Grant Proposals: \$10,881; Construction Account: \$24,361.

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

as of December 31, 2020

Total Grand List	\$634,869.38
Total Taxes Billed: Due 10/01/20	\$1,309,280.15
Taxes Received in Good Time	\$1,228,490.29
Delinquent Taxes before penalty and interest as of 10/02/20	\$80,789.86
Total Taxes Accounted for	\$1,309,280.15

HOLD HARMLESS FUNDS

as of December 31, 2020

Highway Portion	\$64,290	75%
Town Portion	\$21,430	25%
Total	\$85,720	
Paid November 2020		

HIGHWAY STATE AID

as of December 31, 2020

20 July	\$16362.10
20 October	\$16362.10
21 January	\$16362.10
21 April	\$16362.10
Total	\$65,448.40

CASH ON HAND - 07/01/2020

GENERAL FUND		HIGHWAY FUND	
Bank Balance	\$31,940	Bank Balance	\$123,389
June Highway Orders	\$10,771		(\$10,771)
Transferred after 7/01/20			
Total	\$42,711	Total	\$112,619

TAX RATE FOR 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR

MUNICIPAL BUDGET		
GENERAL FUND		
Admin. Expenses	\$51,640	
Maintenance	\$22,900	
General Services	\$60,576	
Appropriations	\$18,807	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$153,923
Cash on Hand 7/1/20	\$42,710.59	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND TO BE RAISED		\$111,212
HIGHWAY		
Total Highway Budget	\$439,407	
Highway State Aid	\$62,832	
Cash on Hand 7/1/20	\$112,619.15	
TOTAL HIGHWAY TO BE RAISED		\$263,956
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAXES TO BE RAISED		\$375,168
Grand List: Total Municipality	\$634,869	
General Fund Tax Rate (per 100)	0.175174	
Highway Tax Rate (per 100)	0.415764	
TOTAL MUNICIPALITY RATE (per 100)	0.590938	
MUNICIPAL TAX RATE WILL RAISE		\$375,168
SCHOOL BUDGET		
Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.4585	
Non Residential Tax Rate	\$1.4789	
Grand List: Homesteads	\$178,817.24	
Non-Residential	\$456,052.14	
Total Raised: Homesteads	\$260,804.94	
Total Raised: Non Residential	\$674,455.51	
TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET TAXES TO RAISE		\$935,260
LOCAL AGREEMENT TAX RATE		
Local Agreement Tax Rate	\$0.0037	
Municipal Grand List	\$634,869.38	
TOTAL LOCAL AGREEMENT TAXES TO BE RAISED		\$2,029
TOTAL TAXES TO BE RAISED		\$1,312,458
Homestead Tax Rate, Municipal	\$0.5909	
Homestead Tax Rate, School	\$1.4585	
Homestead Tax Rate, Local Agreement	\$0.0037	
TOTAL HOMESTEAD RATE		\$2.0531 (per thousand)
Non-Residential Tax Rate, Municipal	\$0.5909	
Non-Residential Tax Rate, School	\$1.4789	
Non-Residential Tax Rate, Local Agreement	\$0.0037	
TOTAL NON-RESIDENTIAL RATE		\$2.0735 (per thousand)

2020/21 LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE

Homestead Education Rate	1.4585 Set by State
Veterans Exemptions	\$160,000.00
Foregone Revenue	\$2,349.92
Total Grand List	\$634,869.38
Local Agreement Rate	0.0037

MAIN DRIVERS OF TAX CHANGES VERSUS LAST YEAR

	Municipal Grand List	
	2019/2020	2020/2021
Grand List	\$634,034.83	\$634,869.38

2019-2020 RATE			2020-2021 RATE		
	Homestead	Non-residential		Homestead	Non-residential
Municipal	0.7603	0.7603	Municipal	0.5909	0.5909
School	1.1236	1.3997	School	1.4585	1.4789
Local Agreement	0.0032	0.0032	Local Agreement	0.0037	0.0037
Total	1.8871	2.1632	Total	2.0531	2.0735

DIFFERENCE FROM LAST YEAR	HOMESTEAD	NON-RESIDENTIAL
Municipal	-0.1694	-0.1694
School	0.3349	0.0792
Local Agreement	0.0005	0.0005
Total	.1660	-.0897

GRAND LIST

FY 20/21 Grand List is \$834.55 higher than last year.

MUNICIPAL BUDGET

FY 20/21 rate is .1694 lower than last year.

Total GF budget to be raised is \$49 lower than last year. This is mainly driven by more cash on hand.

Total HW budget to be raised is \$5,766 more than last year. This is mainly driven by increases in budget items

SCHOOL BUDGET

Homestead Rate for FY 20/21 is 0.1660 higher than last year.

Non-Residential Rate for FY 19/20 is 0.0897 lower than last year.

LOCAL AGREEMENT

Rate for FY 20/21 is 0.0005 higher than last year.

ASSETS & COMPENSATION

COMPENSATION 7/1/20 - 6/30/21

Auditors	Min wage
Board of Civil Authority	Min wage
Constable	1,200/year
Emergency Coordinator	200/year
Health Officer	250/year
Listers	Min wage
Lister Reappraisal Years	15/hour
Road Foreman	26.52/hour
Road Help	Contracted
School Board Salaries	2,300/year
Select Board Chair	1,090/year
Select Board Clerk	1,090/year
Select Board Vice Clerk	890/year
Select Board Road Liaison	990/year
Select Board Member	490/year
Town Clerk	10,609/year
Assistant Town Clerk	2,900/year
Treasurer	12,731/year
Assistant Treasurer	2,900/year
Webmaster	500/year
Zoning Administrator	Hired

FIXED ASSETS

Cemetery Equipment
Constable Safety Items
Fire Pumps & Related Equip.
Office Equipment
Vault
2003 International Truck
2018 International Dump Truck
2019 Ford F350 ¾-ton pickup fitted w/plow and sander
2014 670G John Deere Grader
3 Sanders
2 Stone Rakes
2019 John Deere 310SL Backhoe
Ditch Leaf Blower
2015 2500 gal. Chloride tank
2015 525 gal. Chloride Tank
2015 Pump for Chloride
2016 John Deere 6120E tractor/mower
Cemeteries, Town Garage, Town Hall/Office

INDEBTEDNESS

The Sandgate General Fund and the School Fund have no indebtedness.

The Sandgate Highway Fund owes:

\$57,764 on the John Deere Backhoe with 5 more yearly payments of \$14,441;
\$65,451 on the 2018 International dump truck with 2 more yearly payments of \$25,462



PROPOSED 2020-2021 SANDGATE BUDGET- GENERAL

	FY19/20 Budget	FY19/20 Actual	FY20/21 Budget	FY20/21 as of 12/20/20	FY21/22 Budget to Vote	Proposed % change	\$ Change
SALARY & EXPENSES							
*Miscellaneous						-100%	
Assistant Town Clerk	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$1,208	\$2,987	3%	\$87
Assistant Treasurer	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$1,208	\$2,987	3%	\$87
Auditor's Salaries	\$1,500	\$808	\$1,500	\$168	\$1,500		
Constable Salary	\$1,200	\$1,100	\$1,200	\$500	\$1,236	3%	\$36
Emergency Coordinator	\$200					-100%	
Expenses (Selectmen)	\$500					-100%	
Health Officer Expenses	\$250		\$250		\$250		
Health Officer Salary	\$250		\$250		\$250		
Listers Salaries & Expenses	\$4,000	\$7,886	\$4,000	\$2,243	\$4,120	3%	\$120
Meetings (Selectmen)	\$500					-100%	
Office Training	\$500		\$500	\$20	\$500		
Payroll Tax Expenses	\$4,500	\$4,310	\$4,500	\$2,243	\$4,635	3%	\$135
Salaries (Selectmen)	\$4,550	\$4,260	\$5,050	\$677	\$5,202	3%	\$152
Retirement Contribution					\$2,000	100%	\$2,000
Town Clerk Salary	\$10,300	\$10,302	\$10,609	\$4,421	\$10,927	3%	\$318
Treasurer Salary	\$12,360	\$12,360	\$12,731	\$5,300	\$13,113	3%	\$382
Website Management	\$500		\$500		\$500		
ZBA / Planning Expenses	\$500					-100%	
Zoning Administrator Expenses	\$1,000	\$880	\$1,000	\$107	\$1,000		
Zoning Administrator Salary	\$3,000	\$2,040	\$3,000	\$1,370	\$3,000		
TOTAL SALARIES/EXPENSES	\$51,410	\$49,746	\$50,890	\$19,465	\$54,207	7%	\$3,317
MAINTENANCE & SUPPLIES							
*Independent Audit	\$1,000		\$1,000		\$1,000		
*Legal & Professional Fees	\$1,000	\$2,702	\$1,000	\$138	\$1,000		
*Town Hall Major Repairs	\$1,000	\$48	\$1,000		\$1,000		
Computer Software & Internet	\$3,000	\$2,716	\$3,000	\$5,097	\$5,000	67%	\$2,000
Office Equipment	\$2,500				\$1,000		\$1,000
Office Equip. Main.	\$3,000		\$3,000			-100%	-\$3,000
Office Supplies	\$2,000	\$965	\$2,000	\$1,055	\$2,000		
Postage	\$600	\$660	\$600	\$434	\$700	17%	\$100
Schoolhouse Utilities	\$300	\$92	\$300		\$300		
Town Hall Maintenance/Repairs	\$5,000	\$4,159	\$5,000	\$1,531	\$4,000	-20%	-\$1,000
Town Hall Utilities	\$4,000	\$3,629	\$4,000	\$3,643	\$4,000		
Town Report Expense	\$2,000	\$475	\$2,000		\$2,000		
TOTAL MAIN. & SUPPLIES	\$25,400	\$15,445	\$22,900	\$11,897	\$22,000	-4%	-\$900
<i>* End of year balance will transfer to reserve funds</i>							
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$76,810	\$65,191	\$73,790	\$31,362	\$76,207	3%	\$2,417

General Budget, Continued							
	FY19/20 Budget	FY19/20 Actual	FY20/21 Budget	FY20/21 To Date	FY21/22 Budget to Vote	Proposed % change	\$ Change
GENERAL SERVICES & FEES							
Animal Control	\$400		\$400		\$400		
BCA Mtgs / Poll Workers	\$500	\$232	\$1,800	\$968	\$500	-72%	-\$1,300
BCRC	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000		\$3,000		
BCSWA	\$2,100	\$1,237	\$2,100	\$1,666	\$2,100		
Traffic Control	\$8,000		\$8,000		\$6,000	-25%	-\$2,000
Cemetery Commission	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000		\$6,000		
County Tax	\$5,000		\$5,000	\$4,680	\$5,000		
Fire Protection	\$20,662	\$19,727	\$24,276	\$24,276	\$24,276		
Insurance & Bonding	\$5,500	\$5,726	\$6,000	\$5,412	\$6,000		
ISWAP	\$2,100	\$2,770	\$2,500	\$2,010	\$2,500		
VLCT Dues	\$1,500	\$1,506	\$1,500	\$1,566	\$1,600	7%	\$100
TOTAL GENERAL SERVICES	\$54,762	\$40,198	\$60,576	\$40,578	\$57,376	-5%	-\$3,200
TOTAL G.F TO BE VOTED	\$131,572	\$105,388	\$134,366	\$71,940	\$133,583	-1%	-\$783
APPROPRIATIONS							
Arlington Area Childcare	\$500	\$500	\$750	\$750	\$750		
Arlington Community House	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100		
Arlington Nursing Service	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200		
Arlington Recreation Park	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000		
Arlington Rescue Squad	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500		
Benn. Co. Child Advocacy	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200		
BCCD	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300		
BROC	\$137	\$137	\$137	\$137	\$137		
Burdett Commons	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75		
VCIL	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95		
CRJ	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250		
Green-Up Day	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50		
Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350		
Martha Canfield Library	\$3,400	\$3,400	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,800		
PAVE	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100		
SWVT Area Council on Aging	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600		
Tutorial Center	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200		
VACD	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100		
Appropriations to be voted	\$18,157	\$18,157	\$18,807	\$18,807	\$18,807		
Total GF & Appropriations	\$149,729	\$123,545	\$153,173	\$90,747	\$152,390	-1%	-\$783

PROPOSED 2020-2021 SANDGATE BUDGET – HIGHWAY

	FY19/20 Budget	FY19/20 Actual	FY20/21 Budget	FY20/21 as of 12/20/20	FY21/22 Budget to Vote	Proposed % change	\$ Change
Salaries/Wages/Expenses							
Drug Testing	\$250		\$250		\$250		
Health Insurance	\$15,000	\$4,500	\$15,000	\$2,250	\$15,000		
Payroll Tax Expenses	\$8,000	\$4,409	\$8,000	\$2,101	\$8,000		
Retirement Contribution	\$4,000	\$4,494	\$4,500	\$2,542	\$4,650	3%	\$150
Road Foreman Overtime	\$9,624	\$5,132	\$9,624	\$931	\$9,600	0%	-\$24
Road Foreman Salary	\$53,560	\$53,324	\$55,167	\$27,566	\$56,822	3%	\$1,655
Road Worker Pay	\$32,000	\$28,920	\$32,000	\$18,317	\$35,000	9%	\$3,000
Training/Mileage	\$400		\$400		\$400		
Unemployment Insurance	\$650	\$100	\$650		\$650		
Uniforms/Shop Towels	\$1,500	\$1,806	\$2,000	\$1,002	\$3,000	50%	\$1,000
Workers' Comp Insurance	\$8,500	\$8,668	\$14,000	\$11,449	\$14,420	3%	\$420
Total Sal./Wages/Exp.	\$133,484	\$111,352	\$141,591	\$66,158	\$147,792	4%	\$6,201
Garage Equipment & Maintenance							
Construction Account	\$25,000	\$14,373	\$25,000		\$25,000		
Electric	\$816	\$724	\$816	\$313	\$816		
Equip Maint/Parts/Repairs	\$15,000	\$13,965	\$15,000	\$6,221	\$20,000	33%	\$5,000
Fuel & Oil (Trucks & Equip)	\$17,000	\$11,016	\$17,000	\$3,531	\$17,000		
Garage Maintenance	\$2,000	\$735	\$2,500	\$456	\$2,500		
Heating Oil	\$3,000	\$3,237	\$3,000		\$3,000		
Ins & Liability (Garage/Vehicle)	\$7,000	\$6,840	\$7,500		\$7,500		
Oil & Lube (fuel oil)	\$3,000	\$862	\$3,000	\$1,115	\$3,000		
Phone/Internet/Radios	\$1,500	\$1,411	\$4,500	\$2,168	\$4,500		
Tires & Chains	\$3,000	\$2,638	\$4,000	\$812	\$4,000		
Tools & Supplies	\$2,500	\$1,917	\$2,500	\$1,188	\$2,500		
Total Equip. & Maintenance	\$79,816	\$57,717	\$84,816	\$15,804	\$89,816	6%	\$5,000
Materials & Hauling							
Calcium Chloride (delivered)	\$6,000	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$4,180	\$9,000	50%	\$3,000
Road/Ditch Materials & Hauling	\$45,000	\$36,768	\$45,000	\$41,351	\$50,000	11%	\$5,000
Salt (delivered)	\$25,000	\$17,958	\$25,000	\$3,618	\$25,000		
Sand (delivered)	\$25,000	\$22,534	\$25,000	\$22,245	\$29,000	16%	\$4,000
Total Materials & Hauling *	\$101,000	\$80,760	\$101,000	\$71,394	\$113,000	12%	\$12,000

Highway Budget, Continued							
Projects							
Bridge/Culvert Program *	\$20,000	\$19,416	\$20,000	\$15,489	\$20,000		
Contracted/Equip Rental	\$10,000	\$11,600	\$15,000	\$14,986	\$20,000	33%	\$5,000
Guard Rails /Signs	\$2,000	\$124	\$2,000		\$2,000		
Pavement Maintenance *	\$30,000	\$23,783	\$30,000	\$7,000	\$30,000		
Tree & Brush Removal	\$4,000	\$2,900	\$4,000	\$2,350	\$4,000		
Total Projects	\$66,000	\$57,823	\$71,000	\$39,825	\$76,000	7%	\$5,000
Other							
Equip Reserve Fund Approp*	\$40,000		\$40,000		\$50,000	25%	\$10,000
Misc. Expenses *	\$1,000	\$2,445	\$1,000	\$185	\$1,000		
Total Other	\$41,000	\$2,445	\$41,000	\$185	\$51,000	24%	\$10,000
TOTAL HWY EXPENSES	\$421,300	\$310,097	\$439,407	\$193,366	\$477,608	9%	\$38,201
Less Anticipated State Aid	\$62,750	\$62,750	\$62,832	\$62,832		-100%	-\$62,832
SUBTOTAL	\$358,550	\$247,347	\$376,575	\$130,534	\$477,608	27%	\$101,033
<i>* End of year balance will transfer to reserve funds</i>							



DOG LICENSES

Sandy Reidy, Town Clerk

In 2020 there were 62 dogs licensed in the Town of Sandgate. I would like to thank all the people who cooperated with the licensing process.

If your dog has passed away, please contact the office, otherwise we need to see a current Rabies certificate and you need to license your dog.

Please don't forget to license your dogs. Licenses are ready by the first of January each year for your convenience. All dogs must be licensed by April 1st of each year. There are late fees if animals are not licensed by that date.

Lost or found animals should be reported to Erin McDermott (small animals), 375-2201 or Suzanne dePeyster (large animals), 375-6005. You should also call Second Chance Animal Shelter at 375-0249 because they run a hotline for lost or found animals.

SCHEDULE OF DOG LICENSES AND FEES

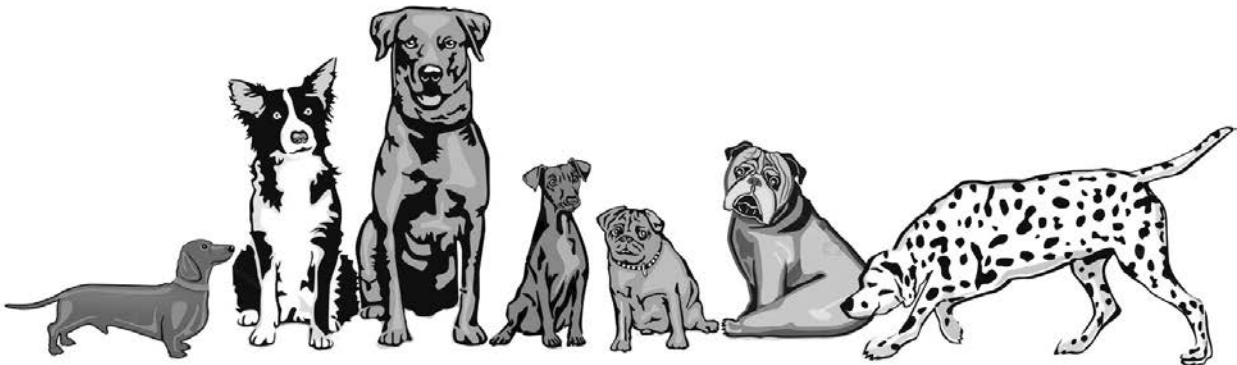
	Before April 1 st	After April 1 st
Neutered/spayed dogs etc.	\$11.00	\$16.00
Unaltered dogs etc.	\$16.00	\$23.50

NOTE: If you become an owner/keeper of a dog that is over six months old after April 1st, you have 30 days to license that animal. All unlicensed dogs should be reported to the Town Clerk. Sandgate has an Animal Control Ordinance.

A PERSON WHO FAILS TO LICENSE A DOG OR WOLF-HYBRID IN THE REQUIRED MANNER SHALL BE FINED UP TO \$500 (20 V.S.A. § 3550). The Rabies Control Hotline number is 1-800-4-Rabies.

RABIES VACCINATION LAW

All dogs or wolf-hybrids over three months of age shall be vaccinated against rabies. Initial vaccination is valid for 12 months. Within 9-12 months the animal must receive a booster vaccination. All subsequent vaccinations are valid for 36 months. (20 V.S.A. § 3581)



SANDGATE ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

as of December 31, 2020

Town & School Moderator	Chris Barlow
Town Clerk	Sandra Reidy
Assistant Town Clerk	Eleanor LaCross (appointed by town clerk)
Assistant Town Clerk	Pat Hall (appointed by town clerk)
Treasurer	Sandra Reidy
Assistant Treasurer	Eleanor LaCross (appointed by treasurer)
Selectboard, 1 Year (Chair)	Suzanne dePeyster
Selectboard, 3 Year	Karen Tendrup
Selectboard, 3 Year	Karen Dzialo
Selectboard, 1 Year	Thomas Santelli
Selectboard, 3 Years	Mike Hill
State Officer & Constable	Richard Dahm
Delinquent Tax Collector	Eleanor Lacross
Auditor, 3 Year	Sheila Kearns
Auditor, 3 Year	Valerie dePeyster
Auditor, 3 Year	Katie Kenny
Lister, 3 Year	Shelley Finn
Lister, 3 Year	Jeanne Zoppel
Town Agent, 1 Year	Jean Eisenhart
Town Grand Juror	Jean Eisenhart
Cemetery Commission, 3 Year	Julie Robertson
Cemetery Commission, 3 Year	Kathleen Hill
Cemetery Commission, 3 Year	Kathy Wagner
School Director, 3 Year	Celeste Keel
School Director, 3 Year	Allan Tschorn
School Director, 3 Year	Jeanne Zoppel
Justices of the Peace	Valerie dePeyster
	Dona McAdams
	Julie Robertson
	Phoebe Sheres
	Nancy Tschorn

SANDGATE APPOINTED OFFICERS

as of December 31, 2020

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Jean Eisenhart, Chair; Harry Rich, Jim Henderson, Rob Viglas, Dottie Sundquist
PLANNING COMMISSION / ZONING BOARD
Sheila Kearns, Chair – 3 years
Brad Kessler – 3 years
James Aschmann – 3 years
Joseph Nolan – 3 years
Rob Viglas – 3 years
Bill Henry, Alternate; Jean Eisenhart, Alternate
911 ADDRESSES
Road Foreman, Town Clerk
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
Bill Henry
FIRE WARDENS
Lynn Fielding (State appointed)
Louis Jobson (State appointed)
POUND KEEPER
Erin McDermott - Small Animals
Suzanne dePeyster - Large Animals
TOWN SERVICE OFFICER
Karen Tendrup
EMERGENCY FUEL COORDINATOR
Select Board
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR
Select Board
BCRC REPRESENTATIVES
Suzanne dePeyster & Sheila Kearns
BCSWA/ISWAP REPRESENTATIVE
Karen Dzialo
INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES & WOOD
Dona McAdams
Karen Tendrup, Sandy Reidy
FENCE VIEWERS
Suzanne dePeyster, Mike Hill
TREE WARDEN
Mike Hill
Select Board
ARTS GRANT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Jean Eisenhart, Patricia Hall, Dona McAdams, Hasso Wuerslin, Jeanne Zoppel

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Eleanor LaCross, Collector

Town taxes are due upon receipt of your yearly tax bill. The final date for the treasurer to receive payment for 2020-2021 taxes was October 1st 2020. A mailing date of October 1st does not constitute payment of taxes in a timely fashion and the 8% penalty and 1% interest will be applied to all taxes which do not arrive at town hall **on or before** October 1st of each year. 1% interest on the principal is charged per month or portion of the month that the tax remains unpaid. This is an interest rate of 12% per year.

STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

NAME	PARCEL	TOTAL
2020		
Agati, Cynthia	339500-00L	433.81
Alexander, Rebecca	262500-00L	844.68
Arrington, Lee	725500-00R	1,479.86
Barlow, Christopher	232500-00L	3,561.32
Cerretani, Jaclyn	146000-00R	2,409.65
Green Mountain Power	CVPS00-000	14,457.91
Grogan, Heath E&T	307500-00R	1,424.07
Maue, Eugene R& T	148500-00R	3,592.61
Mcgloine, Bridget L	616000-00R	812.42
Miller, Charles Jos	704700-00L	200.21
Mitchell, Edward	501000-00B	90.36
Salmon-Holgren	612000-00R	1,169.14
T F Management	507500-00R	10.65
TOTAL FOR 2020		\$30,486.69
2019		
Cerretani, Jaclyn	146000-00R	243.27
Grogan, Heath E&T	307500-00R	1,047.99
Maue, Eugene R	148500-00R	1,776.65
Mcgloine, Bridget L	616000-00R	939.26
TOTAL FOR 2019		\$4,007.17
2018		
Mcgloine, Bridget L	616000-00R	212.97
TOTAL FOR 2018		\$212.97
TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES		\$34,706.83

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION POLICY

Town of Sandgate, Vermont

1. All delinquent taxes must be remitted to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes. The Town Treasurer is not authorized to accept any payment toward delinquent taxes.
2. As soon as the Tax Collection Warrant has been received from the Treasurer, the Delinquent Tax Collector will send a notice to each delinquent taxpayer each month for three months. The third letter will contain notice of the possibility of a tax sale.
3. Partial payments may be made on a monthly basis; however, payment arrangements which completely pay the bill before April 1st of the year succeeding the current tax due date will be required.
4. Mortgage and lien holder will be notified of the tax delinquency 30 days after the first notice has been sent if the delinquent taxpayer has not paid the taxes or contracted the Collector to make arrangement for payment.
5. There will be a \$20 fee charged for any returned check or other faulty payment of delinquent taxes.
6. Six months after the due date, the Collector will send notice of impending tax sale to sell as much of the property as is necessary to pay the taxes, costs, and fees associated with such a sale.
7. If no satisfactory payment arrangements have been made in one month or if the arrangements agreed to have not been met, the Collector of Delinquent Taxes will instruct a lawyer to begin the following actions to sell as much of the property on which the tax is due, as is necessary to pay the tax, cost and fees.
 - a) The delinquent taxpayer will be notified of the tax sale decision, that full payment must be received prior to the posted date of the impending tax sale, and that the costs of the tax sale will be borne by the taxpayer.
 - b) All mortgage holders and lien holders will be notified of the tax sale.
 - c) If full payment has not been received by the posted time and date of the tax sale, the tax sale will be held according to the procedure specified in 32V.S.A Section 5252.
 - d) Costs of preparing and conducting the sale, including legal fees up to a maximum of 15% of the amount of the delinquent tax, will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer.
8. In the event that no one purchases the property at tax sale, or if in the judgement of the Delinquent Tax Collector, proceeding with tax sale is unwise, the Collector shall collect the delinquent taxes using any or all the methods permitted by law.
9. Each taxpayer has the right to apply for abatement of property taxes based on any of the grounds listed in 24 V.S.A Section 1535, which may be viewed in the Town Clerk's office.

Eleanor LaCross, Collector of Delinquent Taxes
802-375-2801

SANDGATE, VERMONT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, MARCH 2, 2020

The legal voters of the Town of Sandgate, Vermont met at the Sandgate Town Hall on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 7:00 pm for the purpose of acting on the following articles:

There were 43 people present.

Chris Barlow, Town Moderator, brought the meeting to order at 7:14 pm.

Article 2: To Hear and act on the reports of the Town Officers.

Selectboard comments: Rick Dahm stated he would like more substance in the Selectboard comments. Suzy dePeyster said the Selectboard minutes are posted on the Town website.

Cemetery: Julie Robertson has found someone to mow the cemeteries. A lot of cleanup has taken place. Part of the West Sandgate Cemetery needs work. Dottie Sundquist moved the article.

Jim Gunn seconded.

Article 2 passed.

Article 3: Shall current property taxes be paid to the Town Treasurer on or before Oct. 1, 2021?

Rick Dahm made a motion to accept article 3. Suzy dePeyster seconded.

Article 3 passed.

Article 4: Will the voters appropriate the sum of \$18,807 in support of the organizations listed in the Appropriations section of the General Budget?

Rick Dahm questions why the Arlington Area Childcare and Library amounts increased. Sheila Kearns answers for the Library that staff salaries have increased and the library has not requested more money in years. Betsy Gunn would like more data about the appropriations. Sheila said the Library submits a report every year that is posted on the town website. Jim Henderson made a motion to accept article 4. Dottie Sundquist seconded.

Article 4 passed.

Article 5: Shall the town appropriate \$135,116 to defray the general expenses of the town and, if so voted, authorize the Selectboard to set the tax rate based on the final grand list?

Rick Dahm asks if the town has police patrolling. Suzy dePeyster says that we have not but the money is there if we need them. Margaret Phelps asks about police speed cameras. Suzy states that could be looked in to. Rick Dahm asks we amend Independent audit from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Sheila Kearns states the amount was \$3,000 last year and it was voted down to \$1,000. Pat Hall made a motion to accept article 5. Jeanne Zoppel seconded.

Article 5 passed.

Article 6: Shall the town appropriate \$439,407 to defray the highway expenses of the town and, if so voted, authorize the Selectboard to set the tax rate based on the final grand list?

Margaretta Perro questions if that is enough money to maintain the dirt roads. Mike Hill says it has been enough for the maintenance but to make any extra repairs we will need more money budgeted.

Margaretta Perro states that during mud season an ambulance could have a hard time getting to someone on Rupert Road. Jim Henderson says the problem is getting water off the roads. The town crew needs to put a higher crown on the roads for run off. Jean Eisenhart suggested the town budget more money to improve roads. Tom Santelli says it costs \$100,000 per half mile to fix the roads properly. Rick Dahm states that Rupert road has been a problem forever. Pat Hall made a motion to accept article 6. Jim Henderson seconded.

Article 6 passed.

Article 7: To hear and transact such further business as may be lawful and appropriate for the annual meeting.

Phyllis Skidmore states this year is a census year. You can go online to fill in the form. It is important because it will affect state funding. Dottie Sundquist talked about the knot weed eradication. There is a group meeting every second and fourth Monday to chop the knot weed at the turn-around located at the bottom of Southeast Corners Rd. Rick Dahm made a motion to accept article 7. Valerie dePeyster seconded. All in Favor.

Article 7 passed.

Article 8: Shall the Town of Sandgate enter into a communications Union District to be known as the Southern Vermont Communications District, under the provision of 30 V.S.A Chapter 82?

Shelia Kearns mentions that a representative from Sandgate will be appointed to sit on the board. This will be a self-funding organization. Rick Dahm made a motion to accept article 8. Phillip Frost seconded.

Article 8 passed.

Article 9: Shall the line item balance for the Listers' and salaries be carried over to a Lister Expense Fund into the following year?

Jean Eisenhart would like to know why the Lister money should be carried over. Jeanne Zoppel says there is need to stock up on funds to get the current reappraisal finished. Rick Dahm made a motion to accept article 9.

Article 9 passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Reidy, Sandgate Town Clerk

2021-2022 APPROPRIATIONS

ARLINGTON AREA CHILDCARE

Our mission is to provide children (birth to school age) and their families with a safe, nurturing environment to allow them to meet their full potential. Children will learn through play based, meaningful experiences based on individual development in a consistent continuum across the ages. Happy Days' program will continue to grow through professional development and partnerships with families and community.

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY HOUSE

The Canfield House has served the towns of Arlington, Sandgate and Sunderland as a community resource since 1947. Some of the groups that use the space are Burdett Commons, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, The Lions Club, Arlington Public Health Nursing Services, Park and Recreation Board, Battenkill Runners, Al Anon, Arlington Garden Club and the Senior Citizens Group.

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE, INC.

The foundation's mission is to improve the health of the citizens of Arlington, Sandgate and Sunderland, Vermont through scholarship awards to residents seeking to further their education in nursing or other health related fields, and by providing visiting nursing care services to the community.

ARLINGTON RECREATION PARK

The public is invited to use park facilities, without charge (exception: a \$5 donation for golf is requested), on a non-reserved basis. Park facilities can be reserved for private functions and special events. Applications are available at the park office. Basketball, baseball, canoeing, cookouts, fishing, fitness circuit, 9-hole golf (\$5 fee), nature trail, playground, putting green, soccer, swimming, tennis, tubing, volleyball.

ARLINGTON RESCUE SQUAD

Our coverage area includes the towns of Arlington, Sunderland, Sandgate, Glazenbury and North Shaftsbury. We cover over 50 square miles of terrain, and average around 550 calls per year. Our mission is to be part of the community, and provide the best possible care to the people we serve.

BENNINGTON COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY (CAC)

Our primary purpose at CAC is to help victims of sexual abuse, regardless of age. We also work with children who are victims of egregious physical abuse. We strive to reduce the stress and trauma that a survivor and their family may be feeling and assist them in getting whatever support they need as they heal. The CAC is available to provide support from disclosure to disposition, and beyond.

BENNINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (BCCD)

Through education, advocacy, and implementation we promote the conservation of natural resources and rural livelihoods in Bennington County.

BROC COMMUNITY ACTION

BROC assists low-income Vermonters with basic needs, as well as helping them develop skills and resources for self-sufficiency through employment opportunities. Services include providing crisis fuel and utility assistance, weatherization, economic and workforce development and nutrition education.

BURDETT COMMONS

Serving Arlington, Sunderland, and Sandgate since 1999 as a community gathering place, we offer a mentoring group program for youth participation in healthy activities, including an after school program managed by a Youth Advisory Board. An adult craft series also takes place once a month. We are located in the Arlington Community House.

CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE (CRJ)

The Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) is a non-profit community justice agency that provides a full continuum of restorative justice programming and services helping both young people and adults take an active role in becoming positive, contributing members of their community. CRJ's program continuum begins with prevention and intervention work in the schools through reentry work helping people returning to the community from incarceration.

MARTHA CANFIELD LIBRARY

Board books for toddlers, large print books for seniors, the latest best sellers, classics, fiction, non-fiction, study tables, computers, video-conferencing, audio books, movies, games and puzzles, a community meeting room, art gallery, programs of current interest, historical reference collection — it's all here, it's all free. Come and enjoy!

PAVE

Pave provides a full range of services to victims of domestic and sexual violence including a 24-hour hotline, advocacy programs, emergency assistance and housing, prevention & outreach.

SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING

A community force in creating and sustaining opportunities for elders and caregivers in our region to help assure that elders are able to maintain maximum independence and quality of life.

THE TUTORIAL CENTER (MANCHESTER & BENNINGTON)

TTC is a non-profit organization that provides essential, quality educational support to individuals and families in southern Vermont and upper New York State. TTC's fundamental mission is to enhance literacy, work readiness, and other basic skills of adults and children in order to help individuals and youth succeed, strengthen community assets, and support workforce needs of employers.

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (VACD)

Dedicated to the conservation, maintenance, improvement and development and use of land, soil, water, trees, vegetation, fish and wildlife and other natural resources in Vermont, since 1983.

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (VCIL)

VCIL believes that individuals with disabilities have the right to live with dignity and with appropriate support in their own homes, fully participate in their communities and to control and make decisions about their lives.

ANNUAL MEETING OF SANDGATE TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the Town of Sandgate School District of Sandgate, Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Sandgate Town Hall on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 to transact the following business from the floor:

- Article 1 To hear and act on the report of the School District Officers.
- Article 2 To elect one School Board Director for a three year term by Australian ballot May 4, 2021.
- Article 3 Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$857,129, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that the proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,949.51 per equalized pupil. The projected spending per equalized pupil is 10.06% less than the spending for the current year.
- Article 4 Shall the voters of the Sandgate Town School District authorize the Board of School Directors to allocate its current fund balance without effect upon the District Tax Levy, as follows: assign any remainder as revenue for future budgets.
- Article 5 Shall the voters of Sandgate School District authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022?
- Article 6 To transact any other business proper to be brought before said Town School District Meeting.

Absentee voting is permitted on all matters to be voted by Australian ballot. For purposes of Australian balloting, the polls will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on May 4, 2021

Dated at Sandgate, Vermont 29 day of March 2021.



Jeanne Zoppel, Chair



Allan Tschorn, Clerk



Celeste Keel, Board member

SANDGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors Annual Officers Report

Report on 2020-2021 (FY2021)

Jeanne Zoppel (Chair), Allan Tschorn (Clerk), Celeste Keel

The Sandgate School District currently has 54 students attending 9 schools. Pre-K students are enrolled in Fisher Elementary. Elementary schools attended by Sandgate students include: Fisher Elementary, Hiland Hall, Manchester Elementary (MEMS), Maple Street, and Saratoga Independent School. Secondary Schools receiving Sandgate students include Arlington Memorial High School, Burr & Burton, Hiland Hall, Long Trail and Mount Anthony.

Our average daily membership (ADM), this year calculated on student enrollment for a period of 20 days beginning the 11th day of school and ending the 30th day of school, is 65.9. Comparatively, our ADM for last year was 54.13. The equalized pupil is a two-year average of the average daily membership of the school district, and weighs students' needs, such as poverty level, English as a second language, and students at the secondary level to establish an equalized *pupil* figure. Our State calculated equalized pupil this year is 52.5 (compared to last year's 61.03). We are projecting an equalized pupil figure of 53.69 for FY22. This is a factor in calculating our tax rate for next year.

The Sandgate School District pays the prevailing tuition rate to public schools and up to the announced State average to approved private or independent schools. Currently, the State announced average for elementary tuition is \$14,859; the State announced average for 7th through 12th grade is \$16,233. It is important to note the State averages are only among larger union schools and do not average in the higher tuition rates common to smaller non-union schools. The announced tuitions to Arlington schools this year (FY21) is \$13,121 for elementary school and \$18,856 for grades 7 - 12. The announced tuition for FY22 at Arlington is \$12,593 for elementary and \$17,816 for grades 7- 12.

The total budgeted expenditures for FY21 as approved at the annual meeting were \$927,987. The board is anticipating a small budget surplus for the current year. For FY22, the board has proposed a spending budget of \$857,129 reflecting a decrease of \$70,858 from the previous budget. The educational tax rate for the current year is 1.6055. Based upon several factors, including State aid to education and a projected decrease in the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), the tax rate for FY22 is estimated to be 1.4819.

Article 3 on the Warning is asking the voters to approve an expenditure budget of \$857,129 for the 2021 - 2022 academic year. The article also fully discloses, as required by State law, the spending per equalized pupil to be \$15,949.51 and that this represents a 10.06% decrease in per equalized pupil spending than the spending for the current year.

The Sandgate District has been reassigned to the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union (SVSU) by the State Board of Education to become effective July1, 2021. Despite requests to the Agency of Education to again postpone this shift due to the challenges to operating districts brought on by the COVID pandemic, as well as the merger of school districts within the SVSU, the Arlington and Sandgate districts now operating under the Battenkill Valley SU will indeed shift to the SVSU. It appears now that current staff in the BVSU will remain in the same or similar roles as assistants to administrators in the SVSU.

To be sure tuition payments are not delayed we ask that parents notify the School District, via the Office of the Superintendent, of tuition requests or changes in the receiving schools as soon as possible. The District uses a verification of residency form for all new tuition requests. Our meetings are always open to the public and are generally scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month at 5:00 PM. Most recently our meetings have been held via zoom conference call. Please let us know if you would be interested in joining one of our virtual meetings and we will be sure the proper links are provided.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allan Tschorn, Clerk
Jeanne Zoppel, Chair & Celeste Keel
Sandgate School District

April 2, 2021



	General Fund	Bus Reserve Fund	Tuition and Special Ed Fund
FUND BALANCES			
Actual Balance July 1, 2016	\$66,865	\$40,217	
Actual Revenue FY 17	\$942,873		
Actual Expenditures FY17	(\$946,559)		
Interest Earnings FY17	\$724	\$338	
Voted Bus Article(s)	(\$6,000)	\$6,000	
Actual Balance June 30, 2017	\$57,903	\$46,556	
Actual Balance July 1, 2017	\$57,902	\$46,555	
Actual Revenue FY 18	\$951,635		
Actual Expenditures FY18	(\$985,276)		
Interest Earnings FY18	\$1,102	\$338	
Voted Bus Article(s)	(\$6,000)	\$6,000	
Actual Balance June 30, 2018	\$19,363	\$53,042	
Actual Balance July 1, 2018	\$19,363	\$53,042	
Actual Revenue FY 19	\$989,181		
Actual Expenditures FY19	(\$754,570)		
Interest Earnings FY19	\$4,014	\$1,045	
Voted Bus Article(s)	(\$6,000)	\$6,000	
Actual Balance June 30, 2019	\$251,988	\$60,087	
Actual Balance July 1, 2019	\$251,998	\$60,087	
Estimated Revenue FY 20	\$831,452		
Estimated Expenditures FY20	(\$854,495)		
Estimated Interest Earnings FY20	\$3,242	\$1,012	
Planned Voted Bus Article(s)	(\$19,363)	\$19,363	
Special Ed Fund Transfer	(\$200,000)		\$200,000
Balance Estimated June 30, 2020	\$12,834	\$80,462	\$200,000
Actual Balance July 1, 2020	\$12,834	\$80,462	\$200,000
Estimated Revenue FY 21	\$856,329		
Estimated Expenditures FY21	(\$857,129)		
Estimated Interest Earnings FY21	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,000
Planned Voted Bus Article(s)	(\$6,000)	\$6,000	
Balance Estimated June 30, 2021	\$6,834	\$87,462	\$201,000

FY22 SANDGATE PROPOSED BUDGET

Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budget	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget
Tuition Preschool Public	\$3,178	\$6,356	\$6,534	\$6,534	\$3,356	\$10,068	\$3,445	\$7,072
Tuition Independent Preschool	\$6,356	\$6,356	\$3,267		\$3,356			
Tuition Preschool Private-Independent	-	-	-		-		-	-
Early Education	\$9,534	\$12,712	\$9,801	\$6,534	\$6,712	\$10,068	\$3,445	\$7,072
Tuition Sunderland Elementary	-	\$27,600	\$28,000		\$99,184		\$32,400	-
Elem Tuition- Sunderland School				\$37,380		\$28,644		
Tuition Manchester Elementary	\$41,850	\$27,900	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$31,600	\$14,245	\$16,200	-
Tuition Arlington Memorial Elementary			\$43,677		-	-	-	-
Tuition Other Elementary	\$14,000	-				\$4,424		\$26,505
Tuition Fisher Elementary	\$240,295	\$282,700	\$232,945	\$165,105	\$103,568	\$244,607	\$170,573	\$208,560
Tuition Independent Hiland Hall Elem	\$42,500	\$59,500	\$35,020	\$61,449	\$45,500	\$36,400	\$37,492	\$37,200
Tuition Independent Maple Street Elem	\$26,912	\$53,984	\$55,604	\$55,640	\$43,398	\$42,789	\$44,070	\$45,915
Tuition Independent Southshire Community Elementary	\$26,912	\$19,820	\$13,901	\$12,877	\$28,932			
Tuition Independent Northshire Elem	\$67,280	-						
Tuition Independent Downtown Elem	-	\$20,844						
Tuition Long Trail			\$27,802		-	\$21,865	-	-
Tuition Northshire Day School	\$13,456	-						
Tuition Prior Year Adjj Public EL	-	-\$963						
Tuition Arlington Memorial Second			\$186,846	\$134,116	\$150,219	\$130,202	\$304,547	\$252,771
Mt. Anthony Secondary Tuition	-	\$15,500	\$15,965	\$8,250	\$14,700	\$14,700	\$14,800	\$14,800
Tuition Independent Burr & Burton Second			\$62,336	\$39,763	\$48,729	\$66,607	\$49,233	\$66,880
Red Fox Community School				\$20,865	\$43,398	\$42,789	\$44,072	-
Tuition Independent Red Fox School				\$20,865				
Tuition Independent Long Trail Second	\$76,820	\$60,520	\$93,503	\$46,854	\$48,729	\$31,866	\$65,644	\$50,160
Secondary Tuition Southshire Community	\$46,092	\$56,317						
Tuition Independent Maple Street Second					\$16,243	\$15,933	\$16,411	
Tuition Independent Manchester Second								\$16,900
Tuition Independent Hiland Hall Second			\$26,265	\$4,375	\$27,300	\$13,650	\$18,746	\$18,600
Tuition On Behalf Tech Center Payment	\$2,503	\$2,503	\$3,769		\$3,769	\$4,495	\$3,769	\$3,219
Tuition Vocational Local Share	\$3,074	\$2,027	\$4,420	\$2,782	\$4,420	\$3,522	\$4,420	\$4,589
Tuition Adjustment Prior Year Second	\$19,508	\$19,508	-\$963		-		-	-
Treasurer Supplies								
Transfer Out	-	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000				

FY22 SANDGATE PROPOSED BUDGET

Elementary & Secondary Education	\$621,202	\$653,760	\$863,089	\$644,321	\$709,689	\$716,738	\$822,377	\$746,099
Salary School Directors	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$3,488	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200
FICA	\$168	\$168		\$168	\$168	\$168	\$168	\$168
Legal Services	\$500	-			\$500		\$500	\$500
Insurance					-		-	-
Printing & Postage	\$100	\$0			\$100		\$100	\$100
Board Supplies	\$210	\$0			\$210		\$210	\$210
Dues & Fees	\$310	\$900			\$900		\$900	\$900
District Administration	\$3,488	\$3,268	\$3,488	\$2,368	\$4,078	\$2,368	\$4,078	\$4,078
Assessment Supervisory Union Office	\$49,971	\$48,094	\$42,721	\$48,000	\$41,211	\$41,211	\$38,327	\$27,817
Assessment Audit	\$2,796	\$2,691	\$3,155	\$3,155	\$3,093	\$9,029	\$5,375	\$5,375
Assessment Operation & Maintenance of the Plant	\$2,560	\$2,463	\$2,833	\$2,833	\$2,688	\$2,688	\$1,915	\$2,072
Assessment Transportation	\$9,081	\$8,740	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$13,314	\$13,313	\$12,393	\$15,380
Regular Education Assessments	\$64,408	\$61,988	\$56,709	\$61,988	\$60,306	\$66,241	\$58,010	\$50,644
Assessment Early Essential Education (EEE)	\$6,343	\$6,343	\$4,394	\$5,000	\$5,868	\$5,868	\$9,908	\$7,235
Assessment Elementary Special Education	\$19,508	\$19,508	\$15,452	\$18,000	\$15,467	\$23,581	\$9,917	\$15,823
Assessment Secondary Special Education			\$19,151	\$22,359	\$23,475	\$23,475	\$15,393	\$21,519
Assessment Director of Support Services Secondary			\$2,937		\$6,157	\$6,157	\$4,159	\$4,159
Assessment Special Ed Transportation								
Assessment Director of Support Services Elementary	\$226,755	\$206,547						
SPED Assessments	\$252,606	\$232,398	\$41,934	\$45,359	\$50,967	\$59,081	\$39,377	\$48,736
Interest Short Term Borrowing	\$500	-	\$500		\$500		\$500	\$500
Transfer to other funds/Warning Article					\$200,000	\$219,363		
Total Expenditures	\$951,738	\$964,126	\$975,521	\$760,570	\$1,032,252	\$1,073,858	\$927,787	\$857,129

District: Sandgate SU: Battenkill Valley		T181 Bennington County	Property dollar equivalent yield 10,763 12,825	Homestead tax rate per \$10,763 of spending per equalized pupil 1.00	
				Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income	
Expenditures		FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
1.	Budget (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$979,063	\$832,252	\$927,787	\$857,129
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	+	-	-	-
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	NA	-
4.	Locally adopted or warned budget	\$979,063	\$832,252	\$927,787	\$857,129
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	+	-	-	-
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	+	-	-	-
7.	Total Budget	\$979,063	\$832,252	\$927,787	\$857,129
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
Revenues					
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	+	-	-	-
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	NA	NA
13.	Offsetting revenues	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800
Education Spending		\$978,263	\$831,452	\$926,987	\$856,329
15.	Equalized Pupils	63.24	61.03	52.50	53.69
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil		\$15,469.05	\$13,623.66	\$17,656.90	\$15,949.51
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	-	-	-	-
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$60,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	Exempt	Exempt	-	-
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
25.	Excess spending threshold	threshold = \$17,816 \$17,816.00	threshold = \$18,311 \$18,311.00	threshold = \$18,756 \$18,756.00	threshold = \$18,789 \$18,789.00
26.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	+	-	-	-
27.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$15,469	\$13,624	\$17,657	\$15,949.51
28.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	151.361% based on yield \$10,220	127.946% based on yield \$10,648	160.546% based on \$10,883	148.188% based on yield \$10,763
Prorating the local tax rate					
29.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [\$15,949.51 ÷ (\$10,763 / \$1.00)]	\$1.5136 based on \$1.00	\$1.2795 based on \$1.00	\$1.6055 based on \$1.00	\$1.4819 based on \$1.00
30.	Percent of Sandgate equalized pupils not in a union school district	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
31.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (100.00% x \$1.48)	\$1.5136	\$1.2795	\$1.6055	\$1.4819
32.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	101.24%	113.88%	110.08%	102.22%
33.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$1.4819 / 102.22%)	\$1.4951 based on \$1.00	\$1.1236 based on \$1.00	\$1.4585 based on \$1.00	\$1.4497 based on \$1.00
If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.					
34.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$15,949.51 ÷ \$12,825) x 2.00%]	2.50% based on 2.00%	2.08% based on 2.00%	2.61% based on 2.00%	2.49% based on 2.00%
35.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (100.00% x 2.49%)	2.50% based on 2.00%	2.08% based on 2.00%	2.61% based on 2.00%	2.49% based on 2.00%
36.	#N/A	-	-	-	-
37.	#N/A	-	-	-	-

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$10,763 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$12,825 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.73. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.

- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.

- The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

SANDGATE TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES

Legal voters of the Town of Sandgate School District of Sandgate, County of Bennington, State of Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Sandgate Town Hall on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 to transact the following business:

Chris Barlow brought the meeting to order at 10:03 AM

Approximately 14 people were present. William Bazyk, Superintendent for BVSU and Kathleen James State Representatives were present as well.

Kathleen James speaks first.

Margaret Phelps made a motion to hear from William Bazyk, Superintendent for BVSU.

Betsy Rathburn-Gunn seconded the motion.

Mr. Bazyk breaks down the budget and how it is calculated for Sandgate based upon a per-pupil rate. This coming budget has a rate of \$17,746 per pupil with an estimate of 52 students. Bill states that Sandgate is receiving 35 hours per week for pre-k.

Article 1: To Hear and act on the report of the School District Officers.

Margaret Phelps made a motion to accept the reports of the School District Officers.

Rick Dahm seconded

Article 1 passed.

Article 2: To elect one School Board Director for a three year term by Australian ballot March 3, 2020.

Sandra Reidy made a motion to elect one School Board Director for a three year term by Australian ballot. March 3, 2020.

Margaret Phelps seconded

Article 2 passed.

Article 3: Shall the voters of Sandgate School District authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021?

Phil Frost made a motion to have the voters of Sandgate authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Betsy Rathburn-Gunn seconded the motion.

Article 3 passed.

Article 4: Shall the voters of the Sandgate School District authorize the Board of School Directors to allocate its current fund balance without effect upon the District Tax Levy, as follows: Assign Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to the Sandgate School District Reserve Fund for Tuition and Special Education purposes and assign the remaining balance, Thirty Two Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$32,625) as revenue for future budgets?

Superintendent Bazyk stated we have surplus this year.

Betsy Rathburn-Gunn moved the question.

Rick Dahm seconded.

Article 4 passed.

Article 5: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$927,787, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that the proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$17,746 per equalized pupil. The projected spending per pupil is 30.26% higher than the spending for the current year.

Margaret Phelps moved the question.

Marge Peff seconded.

Article 5 passed.

Article 6: To transact any other business proper to be brought before said Town School District Meeting.

Betsy Rathburn-Gunn asked when the supervisory unions will merge.

Bill Bazyk states that it seems to be about a year for the complete merge to take place. This has been worked on since 2008.

Jeanne Zoppel moved the question.

Margaret Phelps seconded.

Article 6 passed

Rick Dahm made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Philip Frost seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Reidy, Town clerk

TOWN OF SANDGATE DIRECTORY

Emergency Calls (Ambulance, Fire & Police) - 911

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER - Large Animals	Suzanne dePeyster	375-6005
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER - Small Animals	Erin McDermott	379-9246
ARLINGTON MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL		375-2589
ARLINGTON POST OFFICE		375-6904
ARLINGTON TOWN CLERK		375-2332
BENNINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL COMMISSION		442-0713
CASELLA LANDFILL		
Transfer Station: 4561 Sunderland Hill Road, Arlington, VT 05250		
Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri - 7:30-2:00; Sat, 7:30-11:30; Closed Wed, Sun & Holidays		362-4082
CEMETERY COMMISSION	Kathleen Hill	375-6543
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	Eleanor LaCross	375-2801
FIRE DEPARTMENT (Other than emergency)		375-2323
FIRE WARDEN - Burning Permit	Lynn Fielding	375-2211
FIRE WARDEN - Burning Permit	Louis Jobson	802-681-6710
FISHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		375-6409
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	Town Garage	375-8358
ROAD LIAISON	Tom Santelli	375-9297
LISTERS		375-9270
MARTHA CANFIELD LIBRARY	Phyllis Skidmore	375-6153
PLANNING COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD	Sheila Kearns	375-6821
POUND KEEPER, ARLINGTON/SUNDERLAND	Traci Mulligan	375-6121
POUND KEEPER, RUPERT		379-3004
RESCUE SQUAD (Other than emergency)		375-6589
RUPERT TOWN CLERK		394-7728
SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL SHELTER		375-0249
SELECTBOARD		375-9075
STATE POLICE (Other than emergency)		442-5421
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS		375-9744
BENNINGTON SHERIFF'S OFFICE		442-4900
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE	Sandra Reidy	375-9075
TREASURER'S OFFICE	Sandra Reidy	375-9075
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	Bill Henry	375-9075

SE Corners Habitat Restoration Area - Sandgate, Vermont

By Dottie Sundquist, UVM EMG '09 - Bennington Chapter Chair

February 2020

Armed with knowledge and the backing of experts in the field, a small group of friends and neighbors from Sandgate, Vermont, gathered on the second and fourth Monday of the month from June-September 2019, to cut and manage the invasive plant, Japanese Knotweed. We chose a site located at the dry hydrant pull-off on the heavily travelled main road leading into Sandgate for optimum curiosity/awareness impact. The results were immediate! The wall of Knotweed was brought to its knees in short order revealing a peaceful river offering a shallow summer dip on a hot humid day.

What was not predicted were the hunches and questions floating around town about the big black plastic mound lying at the side of the paved pull-off. At a *Forest Hero workshop sponsored by VT Invasives, I learned that the best way to kill and dispose of the unforgiving plant is to cut, bundle and bake. I located a 10x25' roll of heavy duty black plastic at a local hardware store and we made a "burrito bag". We cut and placed stalks of Knotweed in a large pile placed in the center and toward one end of the unfurled roll. Excess plastic was folded over the pile and secured with stones. Every two weeks, with few exceptions, we returned to cut, bundle and bake the short stalks that were just beginning to leaf out.



Therein lies the genius!

First: Allow the energy stored in the plant's roots to travel up the stalk and begin producing leaves.

Second: Activate a photosynthesis intervention by cutting the leaves before they have a chance to fully open and gather light energy.

Continue cutting about every 2 weeks until the energy storehouse is depleted and the plant succumbs. How long will it take? Up to five years! Two years down. Three to go!

(Note: Covid-19 compromised the 2020 cutting plan but we still appear to have made an impact)

NOTE! Timing is everything! Remember! Japanese Knotweed is a master of storing energy. Simply cutting stalks before leaves are forming does not deplete the energy source. Leaves forming is evidence that energy is being released. Open leaves is evidence that energy is being replaced. I repeat: cut the leaves before they have a chance to fully open!

NOTE: Not all invasive species plants are created equal and not all plants are maintained or eradicated the same way. Go to www.vtinvasives.org to learn how to identify and deal with these unwelcome plants. Learn about the effects these plants have on our native plants and animals and why your awareness is paramount in protecting and preserving Vermont's natural landscapes. Wonderful resources are at your fingertips.

*The Forest Hero Network is a collaboration between Vermont Coverts: Woodlands for Wildlife, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation, and VTinvasives.org

Additional notes:

Japanese Knotweed grows with complete abandon sending underground roots up to forty feet from the center of the mother plant. Colonies sprout ad infinitum. Control begins by walking a forty foot perimeter from the center of the growth. Repeat until you see no more. Once a perimeter is formed, begin removal of the plant from the outside and move toward the center.

Attacking from the outside of the infestation where the plants are smaller and fewer seems less rewarding. Everyone tends to want to get the biggest bang for the buck and chop down the tallest, densest area first. A change of mindset is needed to win over Japanese Knotweed. The roots are akin to a wildfire spreading invisibly underground fooling the blind eye. One MUST stop the invisible roots from spreading out from the central plant by attacking an infestation from the outside perimeter. You may not be able to kill it all but you will be able to create preservation pockets and prevent further advancement.

2021 Updated Note: Research is being done on another way to control Japanese Knotweed to acclaim. Cover the affected area with heavy black (ice and water shield) paper used in roofing. I suspect this is being used for the 'mother' plants at the center of the infestation. One would still need to manage the errant runners secretly passing under your feet and popping up at will forty feet away. Cut those!



FIRE WARNING

A permit is required from the Fire Warden for any outdoor burning except when there is snow on the ground at the scene of the fire.

For brush and forest fires burning out of control or threatening buildings, call 911.

**For a permit call Lynn Fielding at 375-2211
or Louis Jobson at 802-681-6710.**

**PLEASE HELP US AVOID FIRES
REPORT ANY UNATTENDED FIRES**

NO SMOKING IN THE TOWN HALL

FOR EMERGENCIES (POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE) CALL 911

For non-emergencies:

Police Department: 442-5421

Fire Department: 375-2323

Rescue Squad: 375-6589

ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS REQUIRE MINUTES

The open meeting law requires minutes to be kept of all public meetings (1 V.S.A. § 312). The purpose of this rule is to make it easy for the public to know, within five days of the meeting, who was present, what was discussed, and what was decided at the meeting. Minutes do not have to be taken of executive sessions, although the vote to go into executive session, including mentions of the subjects to be discussed should be reflected in the minutes of the meeting (1 V.S.A. § 313). No minutes need to be taken of deliberative sessions of a board since this meeting is not a public meeting under law (1 V.S.A. § 310).

