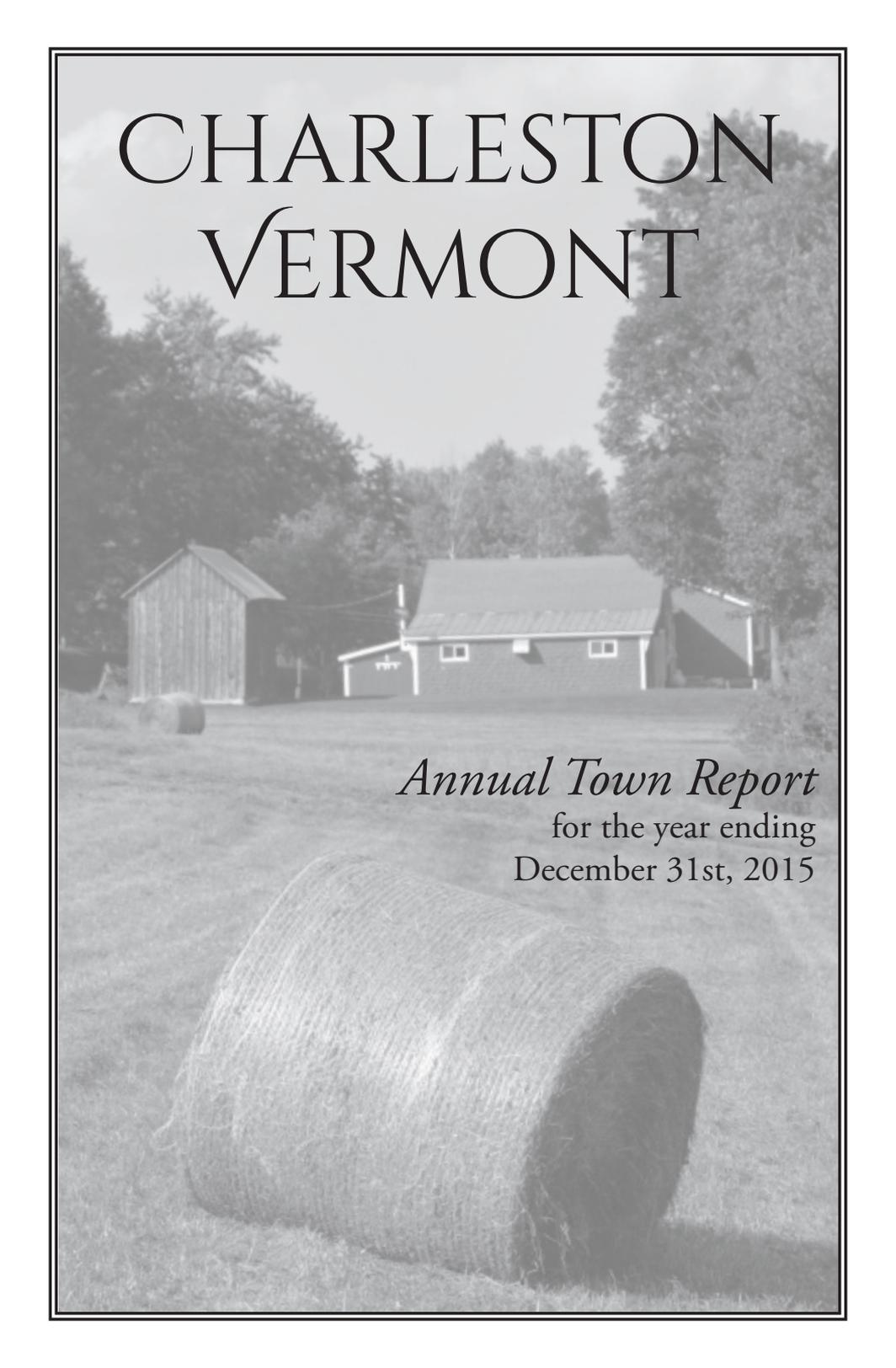


CHARLESTON VERMONT



Annual Town Report
for the year ending
December 31st, 2015

Municipal Information

Town Clerk.....895-2814

5063 VT Route 105, West Charleston, Vermont 05872
townofcharlestonvt@comcast.net
www.charlestonvt.org

Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, unless otherwise posted
Closed Wednesdays and Fridays. Other hours by appointment.
Special Hours Oct 17–21: Monday–Thursday 8-3; Friday 8–5

Listers.....895-2814
charlestonlisters@comcast.net
Road Foreman/Town Garage.....895-2932
Charleston Elementary School.....895-2915
Constable.....723-6640
Town Fire Warden.....723-4549
State Police Barracks, Derby.....334-8881
Orleans County Sheriff’s Dept.....334-3333
Fire, Ambulance, Police.....911

Selectboard

Meetings are held at the Town Clerk’s Office on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 pm. Open to the public. Minutes are available at the Town Clerk’s and at charlestonvt.org. Business may be brought to the Selectboard at a meeting or by submitting written comments via the Town Clerk. If urgent: Larry Young 895-2889; Dean Bennett 723-6041; Meghann Carter 535-5555.

Planning Commission

Meetings are held quarterly at the Town Clerk’s Office at 6:00pm. 2016 schedule: March 10, June 9, September 8, and December 8. Business may be brought to the Planning Commission at a meeting, by submitting written comments via the Town Clerk, or by email to charlestonplanningcommission@comcast.net

Public Posting Locations

Notices and agendas for special meetings, elections and the like are posted at the Town Clerk’s Office, East & West Charleston Post Offices, Charleston Elementary, Scampy’s Deli and **www.charlestonvt.org**

Cover Photo Credit: Lisa Nee

Town of Charleston, VT Annual Report 2015

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2016 Town Meeting Warning

The legal voters in the Annual Town Meeting are hereby warned to meet at the Charleston Elementary School Building on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 10:00 am until all business is completed to transact the following business.

Article 1. To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2. To elect all officers as required by law.

Article 3. To see if the town will vote to have its taxes collected by the treasurer with a final due date of Friday, October 21, 2016, with the policy of turning over to the delinquent tax collector taxes not received by the treasurer in the town clerk's office by October 21, 2016 at 5:00 pm, with postmarks not accepted as timely payment.

Article 4. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$827,179.70 less anticipated revenue and separately voted articles, for a net assessment of \$621,377.88, necessary to support the town's general, highway, and cemetery expenses for the year beginning Jan. 1, 2016.

Article 5. To see if the town will vote to apply the 2015 Road Surplus of \$46,766.82 to pay off the 2014 Truck Loan.

Article 6. To see if the town will vote to renew a property tax exemption for the fire station parcel in East Charleston owned by the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department for a period of five years (through 2020).

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$38,245 to support the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department.

Article 8. To see if the town will vote to permit the Selectboard to borrow up to \$348,000 to install a solar array in the gravel pit on Ten Mile Square Road in East Charleston to offset electric costs to the town and the school over the life of the project?

Article 9. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,499 to support the following and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same:

- a. \$500 to Charleston Historical Society
- b. \$1,000 to Echo Lake Protective Association Milfoil Prevention Project
- c. \$800 to NorthWoods Stewardship Center
- d. \$900 to Dailey Memorial Library
- e. \$500 to Island Pond Library

2016 Town Meeting Warning

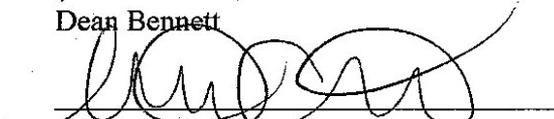
- f. \$1,650 to Rural Community Transportation
- g. \$425 to Orleans County Historical Society
- h. \$500 to the Orleans County Citizen Advocacy
- i. \$400 to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging
- j. \$1,074 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.
- k. \$500 to assist the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter
- l. \$3,000 to the Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice
- m. \$50 to support GreenUp Vermont
- n. \$100 to VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force Dry Hydrant Program
- o. \$100 to Vermont Symphony Orchestra Symphony Kids

Article 10. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

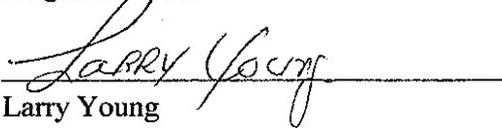
DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 28th DAY OF January, 2016



Dean Bennett



Meghann Carter



Larry Young

Selectboard, Town of Charleston

Town Officers

ELECTED POSITION	TERM	OFFICER	EXPIRES
Moderator	1 Yr	Jean Wilson	2016
Town Clerk & Treasurer	3 Yrs	Teri Gray	2016
Selectboard	3 Yrs	Tom Jensen (resigned)	2016
		Meghann Carter (appt'd)	2016
		Larry Young	2017
		Dean Bennett	2018
Listers	3 Yrs	Larry Hosford	2016
		Julianne Woolard (re- signed)	2017
		Jean Wilson	2018
Town Auditors	3 Yrs	Larry Hosford	2016
		Janice Bowen	2017
		Michael Morelli	2018
		Diana Marckwardt (appt'd alternate)	
Delinquent Tax Collector	1 Yr	Grace Frizzell	2016
First Constable	2 Yrs	Duane Moulton	2017
Second Constable	1 Yr	Jonathan Bruce (appt'd)	2016
Cemetery Comissioners	5 Yrs	Wayne Bowen	2016
		Dexter Bennett	2017
		Dean Bennett	2018
		Dale Carpenter	2019
		Sherman Allen, Jr.	2020
School Directors	3 Yrs	Jason Brueck	2016
		Pat Austin	2017
		Jonathan Bruce	2018
Town Agent	1 Yr	Dale Carpenter	2016
Town Grand Juror	1 Yr	Dale Carpenter (appt'd)	2016
N.C.U.H.S. Director	3 Yrs	Peter Moskovites	2018
ELECTED AT GENERAL ELECTION	TERM	OFFICER	EXPIRES
Justices of the Peace	2 Yrs	Sherm Allen	2016
		Wayne Bowen	2016
		Meghann Carter	2016
		Peter Engels	2016
		Jean Wilson	2016

Town Officers cont.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Truant Officer	Orleans County Sheriff
Welfare Officer	Julie Lamoreaux
Town Fire Warden	Blair Moulton
Tree Warden	Justin Taft
Fence Viewers	Dexter Bennett Blair Moulton Darald Moulton
Poundkeeper	Duane Moulton, Constable
Surveyor of Wood & Coal	Michael Currie
Health Officer	Martin Davis
Road Commissioner	Dean Bennett, Meghann Carter, Larry Young
Road Foreman	Bernie Pepin
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer	Jeannine Bennett
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer	Colleen Kellogg
911 Coordinator	Jean Wilson
Planning Commission	John Kellogg, Chair Jayson Benoit, Clerk Dean Bennett Eleanor Leger Blair Moulton
Subcommittee on Solar Options	Penelope Newcomb (Outgoing Chair), Tom Jensen (Chair), Jason Brueck, Paul Gavin, John Kellogg, Diana Marckwardt, Peggy Stevens, Dan Whipple
Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee	Pat Austin, Dean Bennett, Jayson Benoit, Meghann Carter, Tom Jensen, Colleen Kellogg, John Kellogg, Jamie LeClair, Bruce Melendy, Duane Moulton, Bernie Pepin, Larry Young

Statement of Surety Bonds - 2015 Town and School District Officers

Town Clerk & Treasurer\$25,000.00
Ass't. Clerk & Treasurer	5,000.00
Delinquent Tax Collector	5,000.00
Selectmen, three	9,000.00
Road Foreman	1,000.00
Chairman of Cemeteries.	1,000.00
Constable	1,000.00

2016 Proposed Town Budget

REVENUES		FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
00-6-10	Tax Revenues			
00-6-10.05	Current Property Taxes	167,941.19	127,238.43	185,120.39
00-6-10.15	Land Use/Hold Harmless	47,000.00	51,299.00	51,000.00
00-6-10.18	Delinquent Taxes	-	86,416.85	-
00-6-10.19	Delinquent Taxes Interest	-	4,100.17	-
00-6-10.20	PILOT taxes	1,800.00	1,858.44	1,800.00
00-6-10.23	Tax overpays	-	1,646.27	-
00-6-10.30	Tax Collector Fees	-	6,911.43	-
Total Tax Revenues		216,741.19	279,470.59	237,920.39
00-6-20	Permits Revenues			
00-6-20.05	2nd Class Liquor License	70.00	70.00	70.00
00-6-20.10	Marriage Licenses (State)	210.00	315.00	210.00
00-6-20.15	Marriage License (Town)	60.00	90.00	60.00
00-6-20.20	Dog Licenses	1,100.00	983.00	1,000.00
00-6-20.25	Dog License Fees	740.00	668.00	700.00
Total Permits Revenues		2,180.00	2,126.00	2,040.00
00-6-40	Fees & Other Revenues			
00-6-40.05	School Department	3,750.00	3,750.00	3,750.00
00-6-40.10	Town Clerk's Fees	8,500.00	11,104.50	9,000.00
00-6-40.15	Records Preservation Fee	800.00	1,028.00	800.00
00-6-40.20	Interest Checking Acct.	500.00	456.94	500.00
00-6-40.32	Interest Non Arbitrage	-	11,005.19	-
00-6-40.75	State of VT fines	50.00	-	-
00-6-40.80	DMV renewals	84.00	57.00	45.00
00-6-40.85	Reappraisal Funds	-	7,296.00	-
00-6-40.91	Aquatic Nuisance (Echo)	-	6,981.00	-
00-6-40.92	Watershed Grant (Echo)	-	8,229.00	-
00-6-40.99	Misc. Fee Receipts	-	17,581.43	-
Total Fees & Other Revenues		13,684.00	67,489.06	14,095.00

2016 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
00-6-50	Road Dept Receipts			
00-6-50.10	State Aid Highways	88,000.00	88,128.66	88,000.00
00-6-50.20	Special Highway Grants	-	96,689.17	-
00-6-50.25	Equipment Loan	-	121,575.00	-
00-6-50.30	Road Fund Balance	58,155.23	-	46,766.82
00-6-50.35	Taxes for Roads (Hwy & CI IV)	450,157.56	430,157.56	455,361.99
00-6-50.40	Due from/to other funds	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
00-6-50.99	Misc. Road Receipts	-	4,815.00	-
Total Road Dept Receipts		616,312.79	761,365.39	590,128.81
00-6-60	Cemetery Receipts			
00-6-60.10	Sale of Lots	1,600.00	245.00	590.00
00-6-60.15	CD Interest	1,300.00	111.74	250.00
00-6-60.20	Dividends (Dominion)	30.00	46.64	50.00
00-6-60.25	Perpetual Care	2,000.00	450.00	1,000.00
00-6-60.30	Posts	525.00	105.00	210.00
00-6-60.37	Taxes for Cemetery	5,000.00	5,000.00	9,590.00
Total Cemetery Receipts		10,455.00	5,958.38	11,690.00
TOTAL REVENUES		859,372.98	1,116,409.42	855,874.20
EXPENSES				
05-7	Select Board			
05-7-10.00	Salaries	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
05-7-12.00	Social Sec. Exp. Board	267.00	223.20	223.20
05-7-13.00	Med exp. Board	63.00	52.20	52.20
05-7-20.00	Advertising & Printing	1,000.00	935.34	1,150.00
05-7-26.00	Legal Services	1,000.00	630.00	1,000.00
05-7-27.05	Loan repay. interest	-	9,682.36	-
05-7-31.00	Watershed & Aquatic Nuisance	-	15,210.00	-
05-7-50.00	Pit Purchase expenses	54,488.38	54,488.38	54,488.38
05-7-55.00	Planning Commission	4,000.00	-	4,000.00
05-7-99.00	Misc. Select Board Exp.	500.00	-	500.00
Total Select Board		64,918.38	84,821.48	65,013.78

2016 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
10-7	Election Unit			
10-7-10.00	Election Officers	300.00	61.77	600.00
10-7-12.00	Election Officers FICA	23.00	-	-
Total Election Unit		323.00	61.77	600.00
15-7	Finance Department			
15-7-10.00	Clerk/Treasurer Salary	34,500.00	38,214.10	35,880.00
15-7-10.05	Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	9,500.00	9,824.75	17,644.00
15-7-10.10	Auditors Wages	2,500.00	1,506.83	1,500.00
15-7-10.20	Health Officer	50.00	-	60.00
15-7-10.25	Fire Warden	50.00	50.00	50.00
15-7-12.00	Social Security Expense	2,750.00	2,981.52	3,415.00
15-7-13.00	Medicare Expense	640.00	697.31	800.00
15-7-14.00	Retirement Expense	3,600.00	3,918.15	5,923.71
15-7-16.00	Workers Compensation Ins.	11,824.00	12,457.00	13,863.00
15-7-17.00	Mileage Clerk & Ass't.	650.00	727.10	850.00
15-7-19.00	Training/Workshops/Dues	300.00	135.00	1,267.00
15-7-21.00	Office Supplies	2,000.00	1,680.71	2,000.00
15-7-22.00	Postage	1,200.00	1,047.72	1,200.00
15-7-23.00	Telephone	400.00	393.59	400.00
15-7-24.00	Office Equipment/Repairs	600.00	1,135.00	1,400.00
15-7-25.00	Computer	2,000.00	2,019.74	2,000.00
15-7-30.00	Commercial Insurance Pkg	16,767.00	15,768.00	18,561.00
15-7-99.00	Misc. Finance Dept Expens	300.00	17,960.16	50.00
Total Finance Dept		89,631.00	110,516.68	106,863.71
17-7	Listers			
17-7-10.00	Listers' Salaries	12,000.00	9,211.50	12,000.00
17-7-12.00	Soc. Sec. Exp. Listers	730.00	571.13	744.00
17-7-13.00	Medicare Exp. Listers	170.00	133.58	174.00
17-7-17.00	Listers' Mileage	400.00	390.78	600.00
17-7-19.00	Listers' Training	500.00	315.00	1,000.00
17-7-20.00	Listers' Postage	150.00	117.45	150.00
17-7-21.10	Listers' Supplies	250.00	383.08	350.00
17-7-22.00	BCA Tax appeals/abatement	500.00	102.00	400.00
17-7-23.00	Computer support/maps	2,000.00	2,198.40	1,000.00
Total Listers		16,700.00	13,422.92	16,418.00

2016 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
20-7	Delinquent Tax Collector			
20-7-10.00	DTC Wages	9,000.00	6,911.43	7,000.00
20-7-12.00	DTC Soc Sec Expense	600.00	428.51	434.00
20-7-13.00	DTC Medicare Exp.	150.00	100.22	101.50
20-7-17.00	DTC Mileage/expenses	200.00	39.20	75.00
Total Delinquent Tax Collect		9,950.00	7,479.36	7,610.50
30-7	Plant (Town Office)			
30-7-21.00	Janitor & Supplies	500.00	55.85	500.00
30-7-21.99	Plant Misc. Expenses	100.00	-	-
30-7-22.00	Grounds Maintenance	400.00	448.00	400.00
30-7-28.00	Repairs & Upkeep	3,000.00	1,251.43	3,000.00
30-7-32.00	Electricity	2,000.00	1,697.98	1,900.00
Total Plant (Town Office)		6,000.00	3,453.26	5,800.00
35-7	Public Safety			
35-7-10.00	Law Enforcement Salary	-	192.00	-
35-7-10.40	Due to/from other funds	-	-	-
35-7-12.00	Law Enforcement Soc. Sec	-	11.91	-
35-7-13.00	Law Enforcement Medicare	-	2.79	-
35-7-15.00	Law Enforcement Equip.	-	-	-
35-7-16.00	Law Enforcement mileage	-	52.80	-
35-7-25.00	911 Road Signs	1,000.00	191.63	1,000.00
35-7-32.00	Street Lights	4,800.00	5,139.23	4,800.00
35-7-34.00	Ambulance Service	15,000.00	12,410.60	14,370.40
35-7-35.00	Dispatch Services	-	-	-
35-7-44.00	Solid Waste/Recycling	4,200.00	4,371.00	4,300.00
35-7-99.00	Misc. Law Enforcement Exp	-	170.00	-
Total Public Safety		25,000.00	22,541.96	24,470.40
45-7	Assessments			
45-7-54.00	County Tax	15,142.81	15,142.81	15,200.00
45-7-56.00	Westmore (Town Farm) Tax	120.00	123.48	125.00
45-7-57.00	Barton Pit Tax	1,800.00	1,762.15	1,800.00
45-7-58.00	VLCT Dues	2,070.00	2,070.00	2,075.00
Total Assessments		19,132.81	19,098.44	19,200.00
90-7	Fees Expenses			
90-7-36.00	Marriage License (State)	210.00	315.00	210.00

2016 Proposed Town Budget cont.

Fees Cont.	FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
90-7-38.00 Dog License Fees	740.00	668.00	700.00
Total Fees Expenses	950.00	983.00	910.00
Total Selectboard Expenditures	232,605.19	262,378.87	246,886.39
50-7 Highway Department			
50-7-10.00 Wages	156,000.00	138,411.62	150,000.00
50-7-10.05 Road Admin	-	-	5,000.00
50-7-11.00 Road Commissioner	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
50-7-11.50 Mileage	4,000.00	3,941.75	4,000.00
50-7-12.00 Social Security Expense	9,275.50	8,952.72	9,835.00
50-7-13.00 Medicare Expense	2,169.50	2,093.87	2,300.00
50-7-14.00 Retirement Expense	14,000.00	13,757.57	15,562.50
50-7-15.00 VLCT Unemployment Ins.	6,060.00	6,074.00	2,425.00
50-7-21.00 Supplies	8,500.00	5,872.83	8,500.00
50-7-22.00 Tools/Equipment	3,500.00	2,689.91	3,500.00
50-7-23.00 Telephone	500.00	398.23	500.00
50-7-24.00 Parts & Repairs	32,000.00	16,679.09	24,000.00
50-7-30.00 Hired Services	32,500.00	22,121.00	46,000.00
50-7-32.00 Electricity	1,800.00	1,333.84	1,800.00
50-7-70.00 Gasoline	200.00	162.51	200.00
50-7-71.00 Diesel & Oil	55,000.00	30,203.29	45,000.00
50-7-72.00 Tires	10,000.00	8,007.66	10,000.00
50-7-73.00 Blades & Shoes	8,000.00	5,072.41	8,000.00
50-7-74.00 Sand Gravel Stone Crushing	40,000.00	62,297.62	30,000.00
50-7-76.00 Chloride Salt	37,200.00	30,288.19	37,200.00
50-7-78.00 Road Supplies	10,000.00	5,329.50	10,000.00
50-7-78.15 Road Equipment	-	121,575.00	-
50-7-78.25 Building Repairs (Garage)	5,000.00	5,192.43	5,000.00
50-7-78.30 Road Signs	1,000.00	1,432.48	600.00
50-7-78.50 Fire Wood	2,500.00	2,560.00	2,500.00
50-7-79.00 Paving	1,500.00	98,729.40	1,500.00
50-7-85.00 Road Equip Loan Payment	83,352.56	83,352.56	83,013.99
50-7-86.00 Truck Payoff	-	-	46,766.82

2016 Proposed Town Budget cont.

	FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
Highway Department Cont.			
50-7-95.40 Due to/from other funds	20,000.00	14,052.50	-
50-7-99.00 Misc. Road Expenses	3,000.00	5,178.89	3,000.00
Total Highway Department	608,812.79	699,360.87	559,803.31
54-7 Class IV Highway Dept.			
54-7-10.00 Wages	1,800.00	2,386.20	2,300.00
54-7-30.00 Hired Services	1,200.00	-	-
54-7-74.00 Sand & Gravel	1,500.00	2,624.00	2,000.00
54-7-78.00 Road Supplies	1,500.00	-	-
54-7-95.40 Due to/from other funds	1,500.00	5,947.50	4,500.00
Total Class IV Highway Dept.	7,500.00	10,957.70	8,800.00
60-7 Cemetery Expenses			
60-7-10.00 Wages	6,000.00	4,529.25	6,000.00
60-7-12.00 Social Security Expense	400.00	280.81	400.00
60-7-13.00 Medicare Expense	100.00	65.68	100.00
60-7-21.00 Flags	200.00	-	200.00
60-7-28.00 Repairs & Supplies	1,000.00	845.50	1,000.00
60-7-60.25 Perpetual Care	1,500.00	-	450.00
60-7-60.30 Posts	525.00	105.00	210.00
60-7-70.00 Gasoline & Oil	600.00	348.02	600.00
60-7-95.40 Fencing	-	-	2,600.00
60-7-99.00 Misc. Cemetery Expense	130.00	-	130.00
Total Cemetery Expenses	10,455.00	6,174.26	11,690.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (w/o Appropriations)	859,372.98	978,871.70	827,179.70

Auditors Report

We have audited all Town Officers' books and find them correct as reported herein. As part of this audit, we reviewed revenues, disbursements, payroll records, and financial statements and all backup records for transactions. We believe this to be a correct statement of the condition of the Town of Charleston as of December 31, 2015. The reports may be picked up at the Town Clerk's Office, Scampy's Country Store, East and West Charleston Post Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Morelli
Janice Bowen
Diana Marckwardt, Alternate (appointed)
Town Auditors

2016 Proposed Appropriations

		FY 2015 Budget	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget
85-7-95	Appropriations			
85-7-95.10	Volunteer Fire Dept.	38,245.00	38,245.00	38,245.00
85-7-95.20	NEKHS	1,074.00	1,074.00	1,074.00
85-7-95.25	VNA & Hospice	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
85-7-95.30	Citizens Advocacy	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.35	Area Agency On Aging	400.00	400.00	400.00
85-7-95.45	NVDA	767.00	767.00	-
85-7-95.55	Daily Memorial Library	900.00	900.00	900.00
85-7-95.60	Orleans Cty Historical	350.00	350.00	425.00
85-7-95.70	Umbrella	700.00	700.00	-
85-7-95.75	Charleston Hist. Society	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.80	NorthWoods	800.00	800.00	800.00
85-7-95.85	Rural Comm. Transport	1,650.00	1,650.00	1,650.00
85-7-95.94	VSO Symphony Kids	-	-	100.00
85-7-95.95	Echo Lake Milfoil Project	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
85-7-95.96	VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00	100.00	100.00
85-7-95.97	Pope Memorial	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.98	Island Pond Library	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.99	Green UP Vermont	50.00	50.00	50.00
Total Appropriations		51,036.00	51,036.00	49,744.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (w/ Appropriations)		910,385.98	1,029,907.70	876,923.70

General Fund Comparative Statement

Current Assets	Dec. 31, 2014	Dec. 31, 2015
General Cash Account	127,671.88	214,173.61
Revenues not yet received		
Delinquent Taxes	53,095.44	48,322.63
Lynwood Crown, use of grader	61.24	61.24
Michael Bowen, culvert	247.00	247.00
Charles Moulton, culvert	315.85	315.85
Passumpsic Bank, cemetery interest	16.98	-
State of Vermont, Watershed Grant	1,000.00	-
Clifford Crowe, culverts	40.00	40.00
TOTAL ASSETS	182,448.39	263,160.33
Liabilities		
Echo Lake Protective Assoc., Watershed Grant	1,000.00	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,000.00	-
SURPLUS (Assets - Liabilities)	181,448.39	263,160.33
Increase in Surplus from previous year		81,711.94
Encumbered Funds		
Road Surplus	58,155.23	51,046.82
Records Preservation	2,239.90	3,267.90
Listers' Education Fund	4,723.70	4,265.75
Sign Fund	718.47	-
Constable Fund	10,351.75	9,922.25
	76,189.05	68,502.72
Unencumbered Funds	105,259.34	194,657.61
	181,448.39	263,160.32

NOTE: The surplus is used by the General Fund for operating expenses until the 2015 taxes come in.

Special Funds Balance

Road Equipment Fund

Balance January 1, 2015	50,113.44
Interest	47.50
Voted at Town Meeting 2015	20,000.00
Disbursements	-4,750.00
Balance December 31, 2015	65,410.94

Reappraisal Fund

Balance January 1, 2015	84,588.63
Add Receipts, State of Vermont	7,296.00
Interest	84.63
Balance December 31, 2015	91,969.26

Statement of Indebtedness

The Town of Charleston has the following loans at Community National Bank:

Purpose of Loan	Hwy Equip. loan for '09 trucks	Barton Gravel Pit	10-Wheeler Mack Trck Loan	10-Wheel Mack Trck, Excavator & Trailer	Current Operating Loan (non-arbitrage)
Date	11/18/2008	7/16/2012	4/8/2014	10/27/2015	1/15/2016
Principal	264,385.00	400,000.00	115,000.00	317,049.00	243,934.68
Interest Rate	3.45%	1.95%	1.79%	1.79%	2.85%
2015 Paymt	43,228.04	54,488.38	40,124.52	0	0
Next Paymt Date	PAID OFF	7/26/2016	11/8/2016	10/27/2016	12/30/2016
Next Paymt Amt	PAID OFF	54,488.38	40,124.52	42,889.47	TBD
Balance 12/31/15	0	257,183.29	78,140.88	317,049.00	0

Statement of Assets

The Selectmen report the following assets of the Town of Charleston in addition to those reported in the Financial Statements:

Asset	Purchase Date	12/31/15
Barton Gravel Pit	2012	400,000.00
Town Garage	-	246,000.00
Town Clerk's Office & Equipment	-	160,000.00
Worth Gravel Pit	2009	200,000.00
Town Farm (Westmore Acreage)	-	55,400.00
Town Farm (Charleston Acreage)	-	104,800.00
Cemeteries	-	44,200.00
Blake Lot	-	5,000.00
Loader (Volvo)	2005	120,000.00
Loader (Hough)	1977	25,000.00
2015 Mack Truck	2014	186,000.00
2009 International Truck	2008	119,000.00
2009 International Truck	2008	118,000.00
2015 CAT Excavator	2015	103,000.00
CAM Equipment Trailer	2015	18,575.00
John Deere Grader	2009	195,000.00
3 Snow Plows	-	12,000.00
Motorized Screen	2007	13,500.00
4 Sand Spreaders	-	4,500.00
Culvert Thawer	2014	7,500.00
Small tools, etc.	-	10,000.00
Grizzley Screen	2013	7,000.00
2 Way Radios	2012	5,400.00
Security Equipment	2014	3,600.00
Wood Splitter	-	3,000.00
Tool Cabinets	-	2,050.00
Garage Furnace	-	800.00
Tire Safety Cage	-	500.00
(2) Road Machines	-	100.00
3/4 HP Drill Press	2015	400.00
75 Gal Fuel Tank	2015	400.00
Fuel Transfer Pump	2015	300.00

Treasurer's Report:

2015 Statement of Receipts & Disbursements

Tax Receipts

2015 Property Taxes Collected	1,837,940.65
HS122 Payments from State	26,010.80
2015 Overpayments by individuals	1,642.22
Current Use Hold Harmless from State of VT	51,299.00
Delinquent Taxes from Del. Tax Collector	86,416.85
Delinquent Tax overpayments	0.10
Total Tax Receipts	2,003,309.62

Licenses

Liquor Licenses	70.00
Dog Licenses	983.00
Marriage Licenses	90.00
Total Licenses	1,143.00

Fees Received

Recording, etc.	11,104.50
Motor Vehicle Renewals	57.00
Fees for Records Preservation	1,028.00
Total Fees	12,189.50

Transfers to State of Vermont

Fees for Dog Licenses	668.00
Fees for Marriage Licenses	315.00
Total Transfer to State of Vermont	983.00

Delinquent Tax Collector

Interest on delinquent taxes	4,100.17
8% Penalty on delinquent taxes	6,911.43
Overpayments	4.05
Total Delinquent Tax Collector	11,015.65

Grants

Aquatic Nuisance/Watershed Grants (Echo Lake)	15,210.00
Total Grants	15,210.00

Miscellaneous

Charleston School District, financial services	3,750.00
Charleston School Overpay	12,568.15
Community National Bank, NOW account interest	456.94

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements cont.

Miscellaneous cont.

NCUHS, Overpayment of School Tax returned by Treasurer	4,803.18
Return Petty Cash	150.00
State of VT Reappraisal Fund, per-parcel payment	7,296.00
Efficiency Vermont Rebate	60.00
State of VT, Listers' Education payment	0.00
State of VT, PILOT	1,858.44
CNB, Non-arbitrage loan interest	11,005.19
Total Miscellaneous	41,947.90

Total 2015 Road Receipts (see Road Report)	311,207.83
Total 2015 Cemetery Receipts (see Cemetery Report)	958.38
Total	2,397,964.88

Transfer to School Accounts as voted	-1,281,555.46
Total after transfer	1,116,409.42

Add Balance, January 1, 2015	127,671.88
Total including January Balance	1,244,081.30

Deduct Disbursements:

Cemetery Orders	-6,174.26
Road Foreman's Orders	-710,318.57
Selectmen's Orders	-313,414.87
Total Disbursements	-1,029,907.70

GENERAL FUND BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2015	214,173.60
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Accounted for as follows:

Community National Bank NOW account	214,115.89
Cash on hand	57.71
Balance December 31, 2015	214,173.60

Statement of 2015 Municipal Tax Rate

General	167,941.19
Roads	450,157.56
Cemetery	5,000.00
Appropriations	51,036.00
Charleston Historical Society	500.00
Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc.	38,245.00
Dailey Memorial Library	900.00
Echo Lake Protective Association	1,000.00
Green Up	50.00
Island Pond Library	500.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.	1,074.00
Northeastern VT Area Agency on Aging	400.00
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	800.00
NVDA	767.00
OEVNA & Hospice	3,000.00
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	500.00
Orleans County Historical Society	350.00
Pope Memorial Animal Society	500.00
Rural Community Transportation, Inc	1,650.00
Umbrella	700.00
VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00

TOTAL BUDGET TO BE RAISED 674,134.75

Tax Rate for Municipal	0.6886
Municipal Grand List	979,677.00

AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES 674,605.58

Statement of Taxes Raised

Taxes Billed	Grand List	Tax Rate	Total Raised
Non-Residential Education	508,859.10	1.6273	828,066.47
Homestead Education	474,135.90	1.3101	621,165.46
Cemetery	978,863.00	0.0051	4,992.20
Appropriations	978,863.00	0.0521	50,998.65
Roads	978,863.00	0.4598	450,081.32
General	978,863.00	0.1716	167,973.03
Total Original Taxes Billed			2,123,277.13

Adjustments to Original Billings

Late Homestead penalty	826.51
Final Taxes Billed	2,124,103.64

Taxes accounted for as follows:

Property Taxes Collected by Treasurer	1,863,951.45
State Payment to School	179,623.90
Delinquent Taxes Turned Over to Delinquent Tax Collector	81,713.85
	2,125,289.20
State Homestead/Current Use Adjustments	-1,185.56
	2,124,103.64

Distribution of Treasurer's Collections

General Fund	582,395.99
School Fund	1,281,555.46
Total Distribution	1,863,951.45

Selectboard Report

EXPENSES

Town Officers

Total Wages paid to Employees	69,347.78
Social Security paid	4,299.60
Medicare paid	1,005.60
VMERS Retirement for Teri Gray	<u>3,918.15</u>
	78,571.13

Insurance

VLCT/PACIF, Commercial Package	15,768.00
VLCT, Workers Comp. Insurance	<u>12,457.00</u>
	28,225.00

Printing & Advertising

Reprodigital, 425 Town Reports	861.89
Newspaper Ads	<u>73.45</u>
	935.34

Other Expenses

Supplies	1,680.71
Listers' Expenses	2,698.93
Listers' Mileage	390.78
Listers' Training	315.00
Postage	1,047.72
Delinquent Tax Collector's Expense	39.20
Janitorial	<u>55.85</u>
	6,228.19

Utilities & Upkeep

Electric	1,697.98
Street Lights	5,139.23
Telephone	393.59
Solid Waste/Recycling	4,371.00
Lawn Care	448.00
Records Preservation	0.00

Selectboard Report cont.

Utilities & Upkeep cont.

Equipment Repairs	1,135.00
Building Upkeep/Repairs	1,251.43
Misc.	26.83
	<hr/>
	14,463.06

Taxes Paid Out

Orleans County Treasurer, County Tax	15,142.81
Town of Westmore, Town Farm Tax	123.48
Town of Barton	574.55
Barton Inc. School District	1,187.60
	<hr/>
	17,028.44

Miscellaneous

BCA Expenses	102.00
Community National Bank, loan Int.	9,682.36
CNB, Gravel Pit loan payment	54,488.38
Lyndon Rescue (Ambulance)	12,410.60
VT State Treasurer, Marriage Licenses	315.00
VT State Treasurer, Dog Licenses	668.00
Training: Clerk, Auditor, Moderator	120.00
VMCTA, dues	75.00
VLCT, dues	2,070.00
Legal Fees	630.00
Tax refunds	17,780.16
NEMRC, computer support/contract	1,992.91
Employee mileage	727.10
Constable Expense	222.80
911 Signs	191.63
Other Misc.	241.77
	<hr/>
	101,717.71

Selectboard Report cont.

Grant Expenses

Echo Lake Protective Association, 2014	1,000.00
Echo Lake Protective Association, 2015	14,210.00
	<hr/>
	15,210.00

Voted at Town Meeting

Area Agency on Aging	400.00
Charleston Historical Society	500.00
Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc	38,245.00
Dailey Memorial Library	900.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00
Island Pond Public Library	500.00
NEK Human Services	1,074.00
NVDA	767.00
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	800.00
Orleans County Citizen Advocacy	500.00
Orleans County Historical Society	350.00
OEVNA & Hospice	3,000.00
Rural Community Transport	1,650.00
Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Society	500.00
Echo Lake Protective Association	1,000.00
Umbrella	700.00
VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00
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	51,036.00

TOTAL SELECTBOARD DISBURSEMENTS	313,414.87
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Road Department Report

SUMMARY

Road Dept Receipts

State Aid, Class 2 & 3 Highways	88,128.66
VT AOT Grant THR90016-301 (Paving)	88,107.14
Loan for Mack Truck, Excavator & Trailer	121,575.00
VT DPS Grant (FEMA 1995 & 4207)	8,582.03
Donations for Pull-behind Grader Use	65.00
2015 Mack Truck Warranty	4,750.00
Total Road Receipts	311,207.83
Voted for 2015 Roads	364,502.33
Voted for Class IV Roads	7,500.00
Voted for Road Equipment	20,000.00
Voted for Extra Sand/Gravel/Stone/Crushing	58,155.23
Total Voted for Roads	450,157.56
Total Road Revenues	761,365.39

Deduct Disbursements

Highways	699,360.87
Class IV	10,957.70
Total Disbursements	710,318.57
Surplus (Total Revenues - Total Disbursements)	51,046.82
Anticipated return of funds (FEMA 4022)	-4,280.00
NET ROAD SURPLUS	46,766.82

EXPENDITURES

Highway Department

Wages	138,411.62
Road Commissioners	3,600.00
Social Security paid	8,952.72
Medicare paid	2,093.87
Retirement Expense	13,757.57
Mileage	3,941.75

Road Department Report cont.

Expenditures cont.

VLCT Unemployment Ins.	6,074.00
Supplies	5,872.83
Tools/Equipment	2,689.91
Telephone	398.23
Parts & Repairs	16,679.09
Hired Services	22,121.00
Electricity	1,333.84
Diesel, Oil, Gas	30,365.80
Tires	8,007.66
Blades & Shoes	5,072.41
Sand, Gravel, Stone & Crushing	62,297.62
Chloride/Salt	30,288.19
Road Supplies (culverts/guardrail)	5,329.50
Road Equipment loan payment, truck	83,352.56
Equipment Loan (10/27/2015)	121,575.00
Building Repairs (Garage)	5,192.43
Road Signs (35 MPH)	1,432.48
Paving	98,729.40
Excavating (Reimb from Cl 4 budget)	-5,947.50
Transfer to Road Equip, voted Town Meeting	20,000.00
Firewood	2,560.00
Misc. Road Expenses	5,178.89
Summer/Winter Road Total	699,360.87

CLASS IV Highway Dept.

Wages	2,386.20
Sand & Gravel	2,624.00
Excavating	5,947.50
Class IV Total	10,957.70

TOTAL ROAD EXPENDITURES	710,318.57
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Cemetery Commissioners' Report

Policies of the Cemetery Commissioners: No graves are to be opened after November 15th or before April 15th. No shrubs or bushes will be planted on lots in any cemetery. All flowers will be removed before the first cutting in the spring. Prices are as follows: Full lot \$1,000; half-lot \$800; \$500 cremation lot.

Receipts	Total
Hillside - Dividend from Dominion Resources	46.64
Hillside - CD Int from People's United & Passumpsic	66.05
West Village - CD Int from People's United & Passumpsic	45.69
Lot(s) sold	800.00
Voted at Town Meeting for Cemetery Dept.	5,000.00
	Total Receipts
	5,958.38

Interest to be received from Passumpsic Savings Bank:	
\$88.83	Hillside
\$46.17	West Village
\$135.00	

Note: beginning 2014, CD interest is withdrawn once annually, and deposited to checking.

Disbursements	
Wages Paid for Labor	4,529.25
Social Security & Medicare	346.49
Heritage Memorials, corner posts	105.00
Garon-St. Sauver, corner posts	210.00
Driver's Outdoor Power Equipment, supplies, etc.	845.50
Reimbursement, gas	348.02
	Total Disbursements
	6,174.26
Receipts Less Disbursements	-215.88

Cemetery Trust Funds

Hillside: Passumpsic Bank CD @.25% matures 7/1/16	44,005.84
West Village & Bly et al: Passumpsic Bank CD @ .25% matures 7/25/16	27,530.74
	71,536.58
West Village: 2015 lot sale funds in General Checking	450.00
	Total Trust Funds, December 31, 2015
	71,986.58

Note: Bly et al = Bly, Crawford, Buck & Morrill Cemeteries

Listers' Report & Property Tax Exemptions

We'd like to express our gratitude to Larry Hosford for 24 years as Town Lister (not always a popular job). He knows the town well—the people, parcels and politics! He is known for his great humor, attention to detail, sense of fairness, and for questioning every change made by the state that affected the taxpayers of this town. His knowledge, experience and presence at the town office will be greatly missed. It was an honor and privilege to work with him—we all wish you well Larry.

It's been 10 years since the 2006 townwide appraisal, and the next one is on the horizon.

The state monitors the level of appraisal through an equalization study. There are two measures that come out of that study:

- The Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) measures overall average of valid sales vs. listed values for the past 3 years. The CLA is used by the state when calculating the state education tax liability for the town—the closer to 100%, the better for the taxpayer.
- The Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) measures the average deviation of market value of sold properties (over past 3 years) from the average townwide level of appraisal. When the COD exceeds 20%, there is greater disparity in how properties are assessed, and the state requires the town to reappraise.

For 2016, Charleston's **CLA is 93.58%** (which is good), **COD is 22.16%** (not good).

The following statistics are available for your information and review:

Charleston 2015 Grand List Summary

Property Type	# of Parcels	Listed Value
Residential	392	62,456,000
Mobile Homes	92	5,156,900
Seasonal	112	15,381,100
Commercial	9	805,900
Utilities	3	4,490,500
Farms	27	11,245,200
Open Land/Wood	119	6,703,900
Other (Industrial)	1	51,900
PP Cable	1	477,800
Totals	756	106,769,200
Less exemptions		8,801,500
Total Grand List (municipal)		97,967,700

TOWN RESIDENTS are reminded to file their HOMESTEAD DECLARATION (form HS 122) by April 15th: For more information or to file online, visit www.tax.vermont.gov and select "Property Owners."

Respectfully Submitted,
Charleston Board of Listers

Exemptions

Veteran Exemptions

Boncek Edward	40,000.00	Humason Lawrence Jr.	40,000.00
Bowen Kenneth W & Nancy J	40,000.00	Lavoie Robert & Dena	40,000.00
Brown Edward & Priscilla	40,000.00	Pidgeon Richard S	40,000.00
Brunelle Victor & Marsha	40,000.00	Plankey Larry & Frances	40,000.00
Crowe Beth & Clifford	40,000.00	Salesky John & Nancy	40,000.00
Gonyaw Dean & Eileen	40,000.00	Topshe Leola	40,000.00
			Total 480,000.00

Current Use Exemptions

Name	CU Acres	Exemption	Name	CU Acres	Exemption
Allen, Charles III & Barbara	14.6	10,600	Crown, Lynwood	11	39,700
Allen, Jackson (Life Estate)	38.1	61,100	Crown, Lynwood	104.8	232,400
Allen, Sherman Jr.	40.48	11,900	Dane, Brian & Cynthia	183.8	306,000
Barnard, Iola (Curtis)	120.2	45,200	Davis, Alan & Judith	133.25	200,400
Benoit, Jayson	129	47,800	Davis, Alan & Judith	204.4	73,400
Bove, Clifford (Life Estate)	223	225,500	Davis, Roderick	41	35,200
Camp Winape Inc	13.82	46,800	Devaney, Robert Jr & Shary	87.1	70,100
Camp Winape Inc	21.9	21,300	Durinick, John & Alice	130	47,100
Cass, Reed & Cathleen	235.58	115,200	Earle, Peter	149.7	113,200
Catalano, Lucia	73.76	104,300	Engels, Peter & Nancy	37.1	49,000
Catalano, Lucia et al	66.13	85,500	Garran, Philip & Frances Trustees	32	20,000
Catalano, Lucia Trustee	93.8	81,800	Gervais, Michel & Angela	131.18	58,600
Catamount Forestry LLC	120.2	45,700	Goldberg, Arlene	50.5	38,500
Chatley, Frederick	40.3	29,300	Gratton, James & Joyce	63.3	56,200
Cilwik, Barbara	38	22,300	Gratton, James & Joyce	390.7	373,700
Colburn, Jason & Wright, Amanda	128.29	76,700	Gray, James & Donna	144.2	306,500
Connor, Michael & Vickie	105.4	58,700	Harbaugh, Brian & Rachel	88	63,800
Connor, Michael & Vickie	35.54	49,600			

Current Use Exemptions Cont.

Name	CU Acres	Exemption	Name	CU Acres	Exemption
Heaton, Charles III & Linda	146.6	59,800	Moulton, Geraldine et al	102.7	19,500
Hryckiewicz, Joseph & Cheryl	54.9	36,700	Moulton, Geraldine et al	137.4	490,200
Kennedy, Monte	124.2	63,600	Northwoods Stewardship Center	1124.7	699,100
Kennedy, Monte	141.5	405,600	Phillips, Terry Trustee	198.3	104,500
Lamoureux, Francis & Julie	14	17,800	Prevost, France	38.2	32,200
Lamoureux, Regis & Rita	133	136,700	Richer, Nikki	23.6	45,300
Lane, Bradley	105.96	38,800	Rollins, Arlene (Weber)	181.7	91,400
Lenz, William II	132.1	49,800	Sample, Dennis & Gregory, Norma	31.96	25,000
Lussier, Deborah Trustee	185.9	89,600	Family Capital Trust	47.9	56,700
Macdonald, Bruce Trustee	70	47,200	Sullivan, Cornelius	168.4	66,000
Mad Brook Farm Inc.	301.6	156,700	Taft, Theodore	198.1	138,200
Manning, William & Moyer, Patricia	218.5	96,400	Taft, Willard	459.9	405,100
Manning, William & Moyer, Patricia	499.5	257,700	Taft, Willard & Theodore	16.76	395,300
Mead, Neil	95	102,200	Tendler, Aaron Estate	87.7	77,900
Miele, Christopher & Daley, Laurie	25.2	28,500	Three Town Farms LLC	61	22,800
Moran, Jeffrey & Lance	162.4	61,100	Three Town Farms LLC	61	14,800
Moriarty, Albert & Janet	135	50,800	Young, Larry et al	50	43,800
Moskovites, Peter & Hannan, Carolyn	96	35,600	Young, Larry & Lucille et al	56	58,300
Moulton, Duane et al	82.7	48,200	Young, Rodney (Life Estate)	68.8	64,400
			Total	9,358.30	7,856,400

Delinquent Tax Collector's Report

Jan 1, 2015 – Dec 31, 2015

Tax Year	Uncollected	Uncollected as of:	Collected in 2015	Collected by Tax Sale	Uncollected as of 12/31/2015
2013	228.97	1/1/2015	79.17	0.00	149.80
2014	53,095.44	1/1/2015	39,367.25	13,579.21	148.98
2015	81,713.85	10/16/2015	33,391.22	-	48,322.63
2014 Taxes Collected at Tax Sale 7/21/2015					13,579.21
Total 2013-2015 Delinquent Taxes collected in 2015					86,416.85
Total 2013-2015 Uncollected as of 12/31/2015					48,621.41
Total Interest collected in 2015					4,100.17

2015 Delinquent Taxes

Owner	Unpaid Tax	Owner	Unpaid Tax
Bechtold, Bruce	511.81	McAllister, Jason	655.40
Bennett, John	1,076.89	Messier, Norman	527.26
Broe, David Jr & Paul	316.45	Moulton, Victoria (Carpenter)	3,303.86
Carter, Rachel (Gray)	199.87	Mount, Jeffrey & Bellavance Dana	861.52
Chandler, June Life Estate & Grissom Jessica L J Et al	1,069.94	Plankey, Larry & Frances	1,653.55
Connor, Michael & Vickie	324.22	Pouliot, Carole	1,521.55
Dane, Brian & Cynthia	4,259.23	Powers, Christopher	78.57
Demartino, Norman & Mercuriano, Edmund	2,206.81	Sachs, Peter & Clow, Laurie	141.27
Desanto, Derrick	1,729.97	Simpson, Nathaniel & Marie	81.06
Draper, Dianne	1,843.46	Smart, Aaron & Kay, Amanda	16.29
Firestine, Robert & Patricia	3,047.73	Valenti, Michael	630.49
Fleming, Lawrence	1,394.17	Van Luvender, Vincent & Manzi, Paula	1,248.14
Frizzell, Roy & Nancy	2,158.60	Veronesi, Amy	3,043.09
Griffin, Francis	655.82	White, James Jr & Sharon	1,433.74
Jensen, Hansen, Brunelle	223.87	Withers, Kasey	63.96
Jensen, Mildred (Estate)	210.74	Wright, Christopher	4,372.42
Keenan, Scott & Deanna	2,362.22	Wright, Christopher	2,488.38
Labounty, Michael Sr & Hillis, Arlean	836.75		
Martin, Gail	1,773.53		
			Total 48,322.63

Dog Licenses - It's the Law!

Avoid late fees by licensing your dog on or before April 1st

Dog licenses expire April 1 of each year. Please make sure your dog has a current rabies vaccination and certificate signed by a veterinarian.

License fees increased by \$1.00 in 2015:

- Spayed or Neutered dogs are \$9.00 on or before April 1st;
- Dogs not spayed or neutered are \$13.00 on or before April 1st.

2015 Dog Licenses Sold (186 dogs were licensed in 2015)

On or Before April 1	Cost	Qty	Total Fees
1 Service dog (neutered)	0.00	1	0.00
Spayed/Neutered Dogs	8.00	85	680.00
Intact Dogs	12.00	14	168.00
Kennel License (up to 10 dogs)	56.00	2	112.00
Kennel License, extra dog	3.00	5	15.00

After April 1

Spayed/Neutered Dogs	10.00	38	380.00
Intact Dogs	16.00	8	128.00
New Neutered Dogs	8.00	6	48.00
New Intact Dogs	12.00	1	12.00
New Neutered Dogs (@ new price)	9.00	2	18.00
New Intact Dogs (@ new price)	13.00	3	39.00
Late Dogs (@ new price)	17.00	3	51.00

Total Due for Dog Licenses

\$1,651.00

Total Collected

Town License fees	983.00
State License Fees	668.00

Total Dog Fees Collected

\$1,651.00

Pet Dealers

A breeder/kennel selling more than 3 or more litters in a year is required to obtain a Pet Dealer permit.

Ordinance Regulating the Keeping of Dogs and Wolf Hybrids

No person shall permit a dog or wolf-hybrid to be at large on any street, school property, or on any land owned, used or occupied by another, nor shall such person allow such dog or wolf-hybrid to disturb the peace and quiet of any person. A civil penalty of \$500.00 may be imposed. (24 V.S.A. sec1974a & 1997).

2015 Vital Statistics

Births



Marshall Joseph White to Amy White	February 2015
Luca Cody Skinner to Alyssa Lamadeleine & Todd Skinner Jr	April 2015
Willow Dawn Byrd to Ashley Danforth & Frederick Byrd	May 2015
Georgia Ariel Phaneuf to Brittany Hunt & Travis Phaneuf	May 2015
Colton Jean Webster to Belinda & Kyle Webster	July 2015
Payton Daniel Martin to Taylor Patenaude	July 2015
Branch Wilder Martin Plasse to Rosemarie & Jordan Plasse	August 2015
Rome Sheridan Kempton to Erin Sheridan & Walter Kempton	August 2015
Rheid Samuel-James Marsh to Tanika Demers & Silas Marsh	September 2015
Landen James Bowman to Windy Bowman	November 2015
Eden Arek Midthun to Rebecca & Jason Midthun	November 2015
Elijah Alan Bingham to Monica Bingham & Dustin Mott	December 2015

Civil Marriages



Alejandro Pinto to Leonora DaSilva	5/16/2015
Vincent VanLuvender to Paula Manzi	5/23/2015
Danielle Hunt to Thomas Fowler	6/27/2015
Crystal Howard to Keith Langmaid	7/18/2015
Abigail Davies to Thomas Leger	7/25/2015
Robert Burdick Jr to Danielle Blanchard-King	9/12/2015
Samantha Stevens to Daniel Kinsley	9/12/2015
Jenna Dillon to Ryan Besaw	10/3/2015
Felicia Garfield to Aaron Hillis	12/5/2015

Deaths



Lewis Avery Young	age 73	2/5/2015
Jack R. Taylor	age 81	3/5/2015
John D. Mason	age 45	4/26/2015
John F. Hopkins	age 73	6/20/2015
Edith May Cargill	age 95	8/23/2015
Lawrence E. Humason, Jr.	age 73	9/28/2015
Margaret Elizabeth Jenney	age 92	11/11/2015
Sheri L. Poulin	age 35	11/30/2015
Gerald R. Perkins	age 70	12/10/2015

Minutes of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at the Charleston Elementary School

The Annual Town & School Meeting was called to order at 10:02am.

Article 1. To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year for the Town: Jean Wilson nominated by J. Bennett, second by R. Steuwe, elected for 1 yr.

Article 2. To elect all officers as required by law:

Selectboard: Dean Bennett nominated by J. Kellogg, second by R. Steuwe, elected for 3 yrs.

Lister: Jean Wilson nominated by T. Jensen, second by J. Woolard, elected for 1 yr.

Auditor: Michael Morelli nominated by M. O'Brien, second by R. Steuwe, elected for 3 yrs.

Delinquent Tax Collector: Grace Frizzell nominated by T. Jensen, second by K. Sloan, elected for 1 yr.

Constable: Duane Moulton nominated by P. Lennon, second by S. Dwelle, elected for 1 yr. (*Article 10 later made this a two-year term – Moulton's will term will last two years*)

2nd Constable: None; will be appointed by Selectboard.

Cemetery Commissioner: Sherm Allen nominated by T. Jensen, second by J. Bennett, elected for 5 yrs.

Town Agent: Dale Carpenter nominated by T. Jensen, second by L. Young, elected for 1 yr.

Grand Juror: None; will be appointed by Selectboard.

NCUHS Director: Peter Moskovites nominated by S. Stevens, second by R. Steuwe, elected for 5 yrs.

Article 3. To see if the town will vote to have its taxes collected by the treasurer with a final due date of October 16, 2015, with the policy of turning over to the delinquent tax collector taxes not received by the treasurer in the town clerk's office by October 16, 2015 at 5:00pm, with postmarks not accepted as timely payment. Moved by N. Engels, second by I. Jensen. Voice vote; motion carried.

Article 4. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$859,372.98 less anticipated revenue and separately voted articles, for a net assessment of \$623,098.75, necessary to support the town's general, highway, and cemetery expenses for the year beginning Jan. 1, 2015. Moved by N. Engels, second by S. Stevens. Paper ballot vote: 64 Yes; 19 No. Motion carried. Discussion: C. Lyon asked why cemetery and highway are combined; Clerk T. Gray said cemetery expenses were a separate article in years past but have always been included in municipal budget and tax rate. P. Moskovites asked why the yearly fluctuation in tax revenue. T. Gray said the town paid off the Worth Gravel Pit; J. Wilson added that a lower CLA raised taxes in 2014—town is penalized if properties sell way under listed value—and expects higher CLA for 2015. G. Thompson asked for budget impact on 2015 tax rate; J. Wilson said the tax rate is not known until the Grand List is complete. Discussion of how to compare spending and expenses from one year to the next: P. Moskovites suggests looking at net assessment—was \$623,098 compared to \$616,359 last year—\$7,000 different. J. Bennett suggests comparing Budgeted Expenditures w/o Appropriations (Report pg. 11)—\$39,000 different. Appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Road Equipment Fund. Motion moved by Dan Whipple, Sue Dwelle second. Discussion of equipment fund balance; it is \$79,854. Selectman Jensen explained that this fund is sequestered for road equipment purchases only, unlike budget items. Ayes have it; motion carried.

Article 5. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the Road Equipment Fund. Moved by I. Jensen, second by S. Dwelle. Voice vote; motion carried. Discussion: S. Dwelle asked what expenses were coming up; T. Jensen said the town will need a new dump truck at a cost of \$190,000. Current Fund balance is \$50,113. N. Simpson asked if balance was reduced from last year because of a purchase; T. Jensen said yes, a portion of the equipment fund was used for a down payment on the new 10-wheeler.

Minutes

- Article 6. To see if the town will vote to apply the 2014 Road Surplus of \$58,155.23 to stockpile gravel for a projected Hudson Rd improvement project.** Moved by N. Engels, second by M. Jensen. Paper ballot vote: 58 Yes, 19 No. Motion carried. Discussion: T. Jensen discussed repeated storm washouts and closures on Hudson Rd between School and Westmore Roads and damage done by heavy trucks using the road as a shortcut. To prevent future problems, town has applied for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation grant to upsize culverts and build surface. This money would pay to crush all gravel needed from the town's pit—a cost of \$4/yd compared to \$8-9 on the open market—and count as the town's match. If the grant is denied, gravel will be ready for general road needs. N. Rice and K. Hastings asked about reducing truck traffic and weight limit enforcement. T. Jensen said that weight restrictions are posted due to a structurally deficient bridge; this enables state police to fine violators but the Constable cannot legally do so.
- Article 7. To see if the town will vote to keep the Veteran's Property Tax Exemption at the \$40,000 level.** Moved by N. Engels, second by G. Thompson. **Voice vote; motion carried.** C. Lyon asked who qualifies and when an exemption ends. J. Wilson noted that veterans who are more than 50% disabled, their spouse, widow or child are eligible, and a form must be submitted to the state. G. Thompson asked how many in Charleston; J. Wilson said about 8 but that may increase to 9 or 10 due to new applications.
- Article 8. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$38,245 to support the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department.** Moved by Corrinne Moulton, seconded by R. Steuwe. Voice vote; motion carried. D. Jefferson asked if this much was needed given a balance of \$110,000. Duane Moulton said new turnout gear is required this year by federal mandate—more than \$30,000—and Darald Moulton said the dept. is preparing for a new truck purchase. S. Dwelle thanked the CVFD for their volunteer time to construct a skating rink at the school.
- Article 9. To see if the town will vote to empower the Selectboard to consider, adopt and finance solar power technology to offset the town's municipal electricity needs if the estimated cost of establishing and maintaining such technology reduces overall electricity costs for the town over the life of the solar project.** Moved by N. Engels, second by M. Jensen. N. Simpson moved to amend the article, removing "adopt and finance," second by G. Thompson, amendment approved by voice vote. Paper ballot vote: 64 Yes to 17 No; motion carried as amended. Discussion by Planning Commission Chair J. Kellogg: In response to resident interest in solar, the commission formed a subcommittee to see if it makes sense for us. Town spends \$8600 yearly on electricity for town office, garage, fire department and street lights; school spends \$14,000 plus—all served by VEC—and costs are going up. Three projects are being evaluated to control electricity costs: (1) net-metering sited at the town garage to offset municipal only; (2) larger net-metering possibly sited at the gravel pit to offset municipal and school; and (3) VEC project offsite that will offer "shares" to any customer. Costs cannot be pinned down until VEC releases rates, so voters cannot choose an option, only direct the board to continue pursuing or not. Committee Chair P. Newcomb said cost savings is the goal, and with grants and low-interest financing, there is possibility that construction, insurance and maintenance of the array would cost less than electricity over time. Residents questioned what kind of generator would be used, how much grant writing would cost, if transmission line upgrade would be needed, if delayed financing might increase the cost, and commented on positive environmental impact. Committee member D. Marckwardt explained that electricity would not be stored but sold back to VEC, and Mr. Kellogg stated that grant writing would be done by volunteers. T. Jensen assured voters that if cost savings could not be proven, the board would vote against it.
- Article 10. To see if the town will vote to extend the elected term of office of the town constable from one to two years, beginning with the 2015 term.** Moved by M. O'Brien, second by Corrinne Moulton. Voice vote; motion carried. D. Jefferson asked when the new term length would begin; Moderator answered that it begins now—Duane Moulton, just elected, will serve a two-year term. J.

Brueck asked for clarification of Constable duties and if the town was currently paying a Constable. Constable Moulton explained that his office can perform court functions. T. Jensen said the town was paying a Constable only for the hours he works responding to residents' calls.

Article 11. To see if the town will vote to establish the town as a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) district, thereby allowing individual property owners in the town to borrow and receive through the municipality financing to cover costs of energy-efficiency improvements with the understanding and assurance that the town will not bear any cost or liability in the event of individual property owner default. Moved by M. Jensen; second by S. Dwelle. Paper ballot vote: 36 Yes to 35 No; motion carried. Discussion: D. Jefferson asked liability to the town. P. Stevens described PACE as a pot of federal money given to Vermont, and citizens can apply for grants/loans up to \$30K for energy upgrades. The town must vote to become a district before anyone can apply. Money is awarded the town then given to the property owner, whose property assessment is increased, with no cost aside from admin time. Owner pays into fund that protects program against default. C. Kellogg asked how administration works at town office level. P. Stevens said the state bears the cost of administering lien. N. Rice stated that there is already a weatherization program without PACE. P. Newcomb called the article to question.

The meeting was suspended briefly while Rep Lynn Batchelor and Rep Loren Shaw addressed voters. L. Young stated concern that new water quality legislation is driving up the cost of road maintenance, and T. Rollins said that water polluters such as businesses and farms should bear the cost of clean-up.

Article 12. To see if the voters would approve a 35 MPH speed limit on Hudson Road. Moved by Nancy Engels, second by S. Devaney. Voice vote; motion carries. Discussion: Hudson resident S. Devaney shared safety concerns for pedestrians and entering cars. J. Hastings and D. Simino questioned cost and enforceability. The Levin's said that some will respect a sign; P. Stevens agreed that a limit has helped Echo Lake Rd. K. Sloan suggested limiting a section; Tom Jensen said this was not possible, and that the town would pay for signage.

Article 13. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,791 to support the following and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same: Charleston Historical Society 500; Echo Lake Milfoil Prevention 1000; North Woods 800; Daley Library 900; Island Pond Library 500; RCT 1650; Old Stone House 350; OCCA 500; NVDA 767; Area Agency on Aging 400; NEKHS 1074; Pope Animal Shelter 500; Orleans Essex VNA 3000; GreepUp 50; Umbrella 700; VT Rural Fire Protection 100. Moved by I. Jensen, second by D. Marckwardt. Voice vote; motion carried. Discussion: N. Simpson asked about NVDA increase; J. Wilson pointed to NVDA page in Town Report basing the appropriation on services delivered to the town.

Article 14. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. C. Lyon asked if the Selectboard planned to fix Durgin Road. T. Jensen said the town is eligible this year for state money for paving repairs and culvert replacement. D. Jefferson asked voters to consider Australian ballot voting with an evening information meeting to allow more voters to participate. It was noted that residents have requested a cordless microphone to aid floor discussion, and the town and school will look into this for future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 3RD DAY OF MARCH 2015

Respectfully submitted,



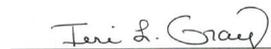
BCA



Selectboard



Moderator



Town Clerk

Special Town Meeting Tuesday September 1, 2015 at 6:30pm

MINUTES

The legal voters of the town of Charleston met at the Elementary School Building on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 6:30 pm, as warned, to transact the following business:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by moderator Jean Wilson.

Will the town of Charleston vote to authorize the Selectboard to purchase a 107kWh solar array from Aegis Renewable Energy to be sited in the Breezy Valley Community Solar Farm located at 7370 Route 2A, St. George, Vermont, for the price of \$292,000.00 to be paid for with a 15-year bond, with the energy from the array to offset school and town electrical costs?

Article moved by Penelope Newcomb, seconded by Peter Engels. Moderator recognized Selectperson and Solar Subcommittee member Tom Jensen, who provided the following overview:

At the 2015 Town Meeting, voters authorized the Selectboard to explore solar for the town. The options under consideration were: (1) a community solar array planned by Vermont Electric Coop in Grand Isle that has not yet come together; (2) Construction of a town array at the pit on Ten Mile Square Rd to serve the town and school; or (3) a small array on the town garage roof for town buildings only. VEC is not accepting any more net metering projects for 2015, so the town would have to wait and reapply in 2016 for a town-sited project. Town-owned options also cost more than the Aegis project per watt due to our small scale and steep cost of connection to transmission lines.

Tonight, the board proposes that the town purchase 345 panels, producing 310 Watts each, for a total of 106.95 kW in the St. George community solar farm at a cost of \$290,900.53. This provides for the total electrical needs of the town garage, town office, street lights, fire department, and school. The school supports the project. If we vote yes, the town will bond and own the panels, and the credit for power produced can be applied to any VEC account we specify. We are voting on a 15-year bond. The money we currently pay for electrical costs would more than pay for the bond, and after 15 years we would have free electricity. We would continue to budget an electrical cost, and that money would pay the bond and not the electric company. After 15 years, we would have free electricity. Over 30 years, we would save \$428,000 in electrical costs. The cost to us is \$2.72 per watt—the cheapest of any option considered. We have checked with other towns and received positive feedback from other towns who have bought in to similar projects.

Introduced Samantha Mashler of Aegis, who will answer questions. Aegis has worked with other towns in Vermont and there is a track record. Those towns say their system has worked as designed—even a little better.

As there was no objection, the floor was turned over to Aegis representative Samatha Mashler to take voter questions.

Q: You say the cost is \$2.72 per watt, but we only pay \$.18 per kW.

TJensen: \$2.72 is the cost of constructing the array. You're talking about \$.18 current electricity usage cost.

Q: I spoke to an engineer, who told me it takes 3kW DC to run a home and have a \$0 bill. SMashler: A 3kW panel produces 6000kWh per year. To figure: 3kW x 365days/year x 5.5hrs sunlight/day = 6000 kWh in a year. Production is less in winter months than in summer. In July and August, can expect bills that show a credit amount, which rolls forward to the next month. In winter, you'll eat into that credit. When sizing an array, the average overall annual production is considered.

Q: Can you say something about VEC being maxed out for net metering? S Mashler: VEC has a cap on non-utility projects feeding the grid, and they began contesting permits after June 1st. Aegis secured the permit for Breezy Valley in early May.

Special Town Meeting Minutes cont.

Q: Can you explain how the cap is legislated – that utilities are pushed toward more green energy, but the amount is limited per year?

SMashler: There are many rules around renewable energy. In Vermont, the legislature decided that a utility can stop taking more renewable energy once they hit a certain percentage. The way any facility exists is at the will of the legislature, administered by the Public Service Board, and is based on factors including the engineering constraints of the electricity infrastructure.

Q: What are the maintenance costs and other costs down the road? S Mashler: The maintenance document is available at the town office and on the town website. Annual operational costs of \$2700 must be budgeted yearly in addition to the purchase price. As a member-owner, the town would need to participate in meetings (to be set annually, biannually or quarterly), and oversee mowing, preventative maintenance, and an annual service visit. Aegis could do this under contract if the members choose this. There is a built in price for insurance. The array will have a total of 616 panels with 7 inverters; Charleston would own 345 panels—56% of overall production. There are warranties covering racking (the frame that holds panels), panels and inverters: 25 year manufacturer warranty on panels; 10 year warranty on the inverters with optional 5 year extension. In year 15-25, you can expect to replace inverters—\$3000-5000 each.

Q: If the town votes, does everyone participate in it? What about Barton electric customers? T Jensen: this would offset municipal electricity, not residents unless they buy in separately. All residents would benefit because town electricity costs will go down and the amount to be raised in taxes to cover these costs would be reduced overtime.

Q: You say this is a community project, can all residents buy shares? S Mashler: No, only VEC customers. Vermont has placed the burden of distributing credits on individual utilities, so they cannot apply credits to customers of another utility.

Q: How many members are there—would we be the first? S Mashler: Aegis ready to execute four contracts, but because we were approached by the Selectboard of Charleston, we've been holding off to allow the town first chance to buy in.

Q: The land is leased for 30 years. After 30 years, will it be leased again or will the price go up? S Mashler: There are 2 optional extension periods of 5 years. The landowner will likely also become a member, so it's possible that they'll negotiate different terms.

Q: What if the landowner dies? S Mashler: the land lease survives as long as it's recorded in the town.

Q: What happens if we don't use up those hours/credits? S Mashler: They roll forward, and expire in 12 months after generation. The town will get a notice ahead of time with options on how to use the credit. The town of Warren applies the excess to their school annually.

Q: Are the systems usually designed to produce less than total electricity needs? T Jensen: The solar subcommittee sized this at 106kW—slightly less than 100% of our needs. S Mashler: When proposed to customers, we suggest a size that is 95-98% of energy needs. Data from the town of Warren shows their project overproducing.

Q: Did the committee look into VEC's current project? T Jensen: Currently, their plan is to rent not own the panels at \$230 per panel. When costed out, it's still not as low per watt as this proposed plan. It's also a 1 megawatt project, which is huge and will affect more land. D Marckwardt: when comparing numbers in the VEC notice against Aegis, VEC showed less than half the production.

Q: Does the bond amount include the \$2700 annual expense? T Jensen: yes.

Q: When do you estimate the project will be complete? S Mashler: October 2015.

Q: How is the town insured for the project? S Mashler: The payment schedule is structure so the town doesn't pay the full amount until completion of the project. As for the risk of loss, Aegis is

Special Town Meeting Minutes cont.

insured for over \$1 Million in liability.

Q: What is the responsibility of a member? Would the town nominate someone to the LLC board? S Mashler: Aegis owns the project until built, and then ownership transfers to the members—the Breezy Valley LLC. There is a registered agent and a bookkeeper that could be installed permanently. The town can name a proxy or participate themselves.

Q: So you build it, then step away but can offer maintenance and service for a fee? S Mashler: we also insure the work for one year and put up an online dashboard for monitoring production. The one year also includes operations, maintenance and monitoring. After that, it would be on a contract basis at \$8/kW DC.

Q: Do you like to take on these contracts? S Mashler: Yes, we do. We take pride in our projects, and there are a number of projects that we do maintain.

Q: Given that the town would over 56%, would we have a majority of votes? S Mashler: No, it's one member, one vote.

Q: What is on the site now? S Mashler: It was a family farm, but the family has retired from farming, and the site was to be a suburban home site. The soil quality is not optimal for growing—statewide C. The family has decided there is no chance that it will be used as farmland. P Newcomb: The land is hay land not growing land. T Jensen: There are no permanent structures associated with the array. It can all be taken down and goes away.

Q: How much will the town pay in interest on the 15 year note? T Jensen: The municipal rate is 2.5%, and the annual payments on the bond would be \$23,280. J Wilson: That's \$58,000 in interest. P Gavin: The total over 15 years including interest would be \$349,200. P Newcomb: This is less than our electric bill.

Joseph Ciechanowicz moved the article to a vote. Moderator called for a voice response, and the ayes have it. The motion was moved to a vote.

Moderator felt a sense of balance and called for a paper ballot. All voters were asked to cast one paper ballot.

During the vote collection, Linda Studer extended appreciate to everyone who spent many hours researching the solar project for the betterment of the town.

Vote result: 55 votes cast. 29 no; 26 yes. The motion failed.

Any other business? Cindy Lyon thanked everyone who has participated in the solar project and hoped it wouldn't end here. She suggested a project on town land, with an opportunity for residents to buy in. Penelope Newcomb stated drawback to town-sited projects: because the pit is near single-phase lines, Aegis cannot offer the same deal. They are also busy and couldn't do it next year. The school site is a wetland.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm

DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2015



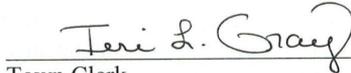
BCA



Dean Bennett
Selectboard



Moderator



Teri L. Gray
Town Clerk

Town Clerk Services

DOG LICENSES: Dogs must be licensed by April 1st of each year, for a fee of \$9.00 for neutered dogs and \$13.00 for intact dogs. Must present certificate of current rabies vaccination and proof of spay/neuter. Late fees apply after April 1st.

GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORTS: Persons 62 or older are eligible to apply for a Green Mountain Passport, which provides discounts at participating businesses and State sponsored events. Contact the office for further information.

LAND POSTING: If you wish to post your land you must file a form at the Clerk's office annually for a cost of \$5.00. If you post your land for the first time in March, your posting expires the following March, and you must file a new form. Guidelines for "legal posting" are available with sign location and size.

LAND, VITAL AND HISTORICAL RECORDS: Property and other official records are available for self-service viewing during normal business hours. If you require assistance, please call ahead.

MARRIAGE LICENSES: Marriage licenses can be issued up to 60 days prior to the event for a fee of \$45, plus \$10 for your own copy. Contact Dept of Health for questions about getting married in Vermont, 863-7275 or 800-439-5008.

NOTARY: Notary services are available to Charleston taxpayers and residents at no cost. Please call ahead.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS: The Clerk will accept tax payments in person or by mail up to the 5:00pm October 21, 2016 deadline. At that time, unpaid taxes are placed in the hands of the delinquent tax collector, subject to penalties. Please note that post markings are not acceptable as payable dates.

RECORDING: Documents for recording in the Charleston Land Records can be mailed or presented in person along with the \$10 per page fee.

REGISTRATION RENEWALS: The Town Clerk's Office is able to renew selected registrations and give out temporary "R" stickers. If your registration is up for renewal and there are no changes other than address change, you may renew at the Town Clerk's Office during regular hours. Payment by check to the VT Department of Motor Vehicles for renewal fee, as well as a \$3.00 payment to the Town is required.

VITAL RECORDS: Certified copies of Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates are available for \$10 each. Non-certified copies are prohibited.

VOTER REGISTRATION: Residents of Charleston may register to vote for Town Meeting any time up to 6 days before town meeting. The deadline this year is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday February 24, 2016.

New! Register to vote online at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

Teri Gray, Town Clerk & Treasurer

Important Dates

2016

- 1/18 MLK Day – Town Offices Closed
- 2/15 Presidents' Day – Town Offices Closed
- 2/24 Last Day to Register to Vote for Town Meeting
New! Register to vote online at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>
- 3/1 2016 Town Meeting
- 4/1 Deadline to License Dogs w/o late penalty
- 4/15 Deadline to file Homestead Declaration (State form HS-122)
- 5/1 Deadline to apply to VT Office of Veterans Affairs for property tax exemption
- 5/7 GreenUp Day
- 5/30 Memorial Day – Town Offices Closed
- 7/4 Independence Day – Town Offices Closed
- 8/1 2016 Tax Bills mailed (approximate)
- 9/5 Labor Day – Town Offices Closed
- 10/10 Columbus Day – Town Offices Closed
- 10/19 Town Office OPEN 8-3 for payment of property taxes
- 10/21 Property Tax payments due to Town Clerk by 5pm, office open 8-5
- 11/24 Thanksgiving – Town Offices Closed
- 12/26
- 12/29 limited hours as posted

2017

- 1/16 MLK Day – Town Offices Closed
- 2/20 Presidents' Day – Town Offices Closed
- 3/7 2017 Town Meeting

Road Policies

NEW Culvert Policy – Owners are responsible for driveway culverts. It is the responsibility of a property owner to buy, install and maintain driveway culverts. For any driveway entering a town highway, property owners must consult with the Road Foreman, who will determine the required culvert specifications (never smaller than 15 inches in diameter per state standards, but some installations require a larger size). If a property owner fails to install the appropriately sized culvert, the town highway crew may cut a ditch across the driveway to maintain proper road drainage. Adopted June 11, 2015

Highway Right-of-way – Under Title 19, Section 111, “Prohibits Encroachments of the Towns Right-of-Way Without Approval,” objects in the Town’s right-of-way are placed at the owners’ risk, and the Town assumes no responsibility for any damage to objects placed in violation of the state statutes. The Town cannot take responsibility for damage to mailboxes.

No Parking in travelled portion of highways.

No motor vehicle may be parked within the travelled portion of any town highway within the Town of Charleston. Vehicles may be towed away at the owner’s expense.

No Plowing Snow across highways.

State law prohibits plowing, blowing or shoveling of snow across or onto a Town or state highway. Violators may be subject to a fine or penalty and may also be liable for damage to property, vehicles, and any undue cost to the Town for removal of this snow. In addition, the actual cost for the specific equipment and manpower used to remove this snow may be charged to the private property owner, with a minimum charge of one hour per Road Department personnel and equipment.

Please take down fences before winter.

The Road Commissioners request that landowners take down roadside fences before the winter plowing season. The highway maintenance crew will “wing back” snow as needed, and the town is not responsible for damage to any objects, including fences, in the right-of-way.

Thank you for your compliance.

Recycling

Darald Moulton provides monthly recycling pickup with fees paid by the Town. Items must be clean & sorted according to the list below. To sign up, contact Darald: 895-2901

SCHEDULE: West Charleston – 1st Monday of the month
East Charleston – 2nd Monday of the month.

Due to July 4th and Labor Day holidays, West pickup will be on the 2nd Monday and East will be on the 3rd Monday in July and September 2016.

Newspapers, Magazines & Office Paper (Junk Mail): Can be mixed together. Includes catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts and paperback books, colored paper, white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper can be in this category except **NO** brown Kraft bags, box-board, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper.

Corrugated Cardboard & Brown Kraft Bags & Boxboard: Remove excess tape. Staples are OK. Please no strings, handles, or bags with plastic layers. **NO** wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food waste, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or Styrofoam.

Tin Cans: Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans (A magnet will stick to tin but not to aluminum). Please rinse.

Aluminum Cans, Foil and Food Trays: Labels OK. Flattening not required, please rinse. Snack bags and candy wrappers are not aluminum foil.

Glass (all colors): Clear, green, blue, and amber bottles and jars. Please rinse. Window glass, mirror, ceramic, Pyrex and drinking glasses are acceptable. **NO** crystal, lids, metal or wood. **NO** lightbulbs.

#1 through #4 Plastic Containers (2 Gal or less): Look for the recycling number stamped on the bottom of the container. Includes all labeled plastic containers and lids. Labels are OK, please crush larger containers. Tubs and automotive product containers are acceptable as long as they are completely drained of fluid. Please rinse. **NO** vinyl siding, planting pots/trays, furniture, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes, coffee makers, tool cases or medical devices – Consult Darald or NEKWMD for list of unacceptable plastic.

Plastic Bags: Plastic bags must be labeled #2 or #4, includes Bubble Wrap. **NO** Zip Locks or nylon woven bags.

Electronics: Darald Moulton does not currently accept electronics waste. Contact 1-855-6ecycle or NEKWMD below.

Special Wastes: Aerosol Cans, Agricultural Bale Wrap, Alkaline Batteries, Automotive Batteries, Rechargeable Batteries, Cellular Phones, Fluorescent Bulbs, CFLs, Hard and Soft Covered Books, Lead Fishing Sinkers, Leaf and Yard Waste, Liquid Cooking Oils, Mercury Containing Devices (Thermostats, Thermometers, Etc.), Oil, Oil Filters, Printer Cartridges, Propane Tanks, Scrap Metal, Tires - Fees apply for tires. Check with your local facility for pricing.

Clothing & Textiles: Drop and Swaps are held in the spring and fall in Derby.

Household Hazardous Waste – By Appointment Only: Monday– Friday, June–September in Lyndonville, and special events throughout the District. Call for details.

Bulky Days: Oversized items are accepted from NEKWMD towns at special “Bulky Days” in various towns. See the NEKWMD website for the calendar www.nekwmd.org

Lyndonville walk-in is open to residents of all NEKWMD Towns
Wednesday 8am – 4pm & Saturday 8am – 3pm
CONTACT NEKWMD at (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602
www.nekwmd.org / progmgr@nekwmd.org

Please note: Zero-Sort recycling is now available through Austin’s Rubbish, Greenier’s Rubbish, and other private haulers at your own expense. Contact hauler for pricing, schedule, and acceptable items.

Lyndon Rescue

Emergency 911

802.626.1101

Lyndon



Rescue

* We Still Make House Calls *
2009 Vermont Ambulance Service of the Year
114 Vail Drive, PO Box 401 Lyndonville, VT 05851

To the Residents of Charleston:

The Crewmembers of Lyndon Rescue wish to once again thank our member towns for their continued support and the opportunity to serve.

Calls for service for 2015 were up significantly compared to 2014; 216 in 2015 vs.155 in 2014. .

2015 was a good year overall. We continued with our CPR, AED and First Aid training as well as our Blood Pressure/Glucose Screening Clinics. These clinics are very popular and folks really look forward to them. We also introduced the national award winning FallScope falls prevention program. Our Nationally Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians have continued to hold monthly child safety seat inspections on the first Sunday of each month and inspect seats by appointment as well. We entered into a coverage agreement with the town of Charleston, and signed a contract with the Town of Northfield to provide billing services to that town.

We continued our active role in Vermont Homeland Security with membership continuing on the State Homeland Security Improvement Planning and State Training and Exercise Plan committees. Additionally, Lyndon Rescue will be a participant in the National Guard's Vigilant Guard exercise coming up this summer.

Operational challenges are still just that, challenges. Our concerns in this area are several. Healthcare reform and insurance reimbursements which do not cover our costs (most notably Medicare and Medicaid) as well as the rise in substance abuse and mental health issues all present their own individual challenges which Lyndon Rescue needs to be in a position to respond to.

Lyndon Rescue continues to work diligently to keep our costs in line while maintaining the high quality services our communities expect.

On behalf of the crewmembers I thank you for the opportunity to report on *your* Lyndon Rescue.

Cordially,

Mark Podgwaite NRAEMT- NECEMS I/C CAC
Director of Operations

A Non-Profit Ambulance Company serving the communities of: Brighton, Burke, Charleston, East Haven, Granby, Kirby, Lyndon, Morgan, Newark, Norton, Sheffield, Sutton, Victory, Wheelock and The UTGs

Charleston Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

P.O. Box 106
East Charleston, VT 05833
(802)723-5029

Fire Department Report to the Town of Charleston Year Ending 2015

The year 2015 marks the 61st year for the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department. As always it has been an eventful one.

2015 has seen the department called out a total of 32 emergency calls. This is about average for calls, with a slight increase from 2014. The breakdown of the calls included structure/chimney fires, ambulance/medical assists, motor vehicle accidents, fire or carbon monoxide (CO) activations and brush/debris fires. We also conducted a training burn in 2015. These burns are valuable in allowing live fire practice for things like suppression and interior attack.

CVFD continues to upgrade equipment with a complete overhaul of each members turnout gear. This gear is only serviceable for a certain number of years and then needs to be replaced.

Our regular membership for 2015 stands at 21 senior members. This number represents a slight increase of our numbers. The addition of some younger members bodes well for the future of the department.

The 62nd annual oyster supper was held on Saturday October 3rd. This event continues to be successful both financially and as a matter of tradition. We thank all of those, both in town residents and out of town part time residents who have generously donated to this event as well as to our department. Please mark your calendars for the first Saturday in October for the 62nd annual oyster supper!

The Kenneth Frizzell Memorial Scholarship fund awarded 1 scholarship last spring. Please join the ice out contest on Echo Lake. The money earned from this contest is the sole source of scholarship funding.

As last year, the budget request for 2015, of \$38,245 reflects a level funded amount in recognition of an economy that is still recovering and the board's ability to be prudent with expenditures. The board has functioned with a level funded budget since 2012. All area fire and emergency departments will soon face the prospect of paying for dispatch services. As this becomes a reality, Charleston Fire Department will be looking at a substantial increase in expenses. As always the commitment of CVFD members to their community is voluntary, with no members being financially reimbursed for their time. All dollars which the department receives, goes directly to defray cost of operation.

We thank the Charleston community for their continued support.

Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept 2015 Income & Expenses

INCOME

Town of Charleston -	\$38,245.00
Town of Morgan -	\$14,754.31
Columbia Forest -	\$350.00
Plum Creek Stretcher Grant -	\$835.00
Jack Taylor Memorial -	\$120.00
Fire School Refund -	\$120.00
Oyster Supper -	\$8,924.00
2015 Interest -	\$82.17
General Donation -	\$1,075.00
Donation for Services -	\$860.07

Total Income 2015	\$65,365.48
Beginning Balance 2015	\$110,878.32
Total 2015	\$176,243.80

Checking	\$ 795.42
Equipment Savings	\$61,888.22
Regular Savings	\$47,377.59
Beginning Balance 2016	\$110,061.23

EXPENSES

Vt. Electric -	\$ 1,013.91
Training -	\$1,880.00
Spates -	\$50.00
Personnel -	\$1,041.66
Secretarial -	\$241.27
Turn out Gear -	\$ 29,734.81
UI Insurance -	\$11,456.00
Communication -	\$5,055.30
Postage -	\$466.54
Heating Oil -	\$3,300.83
Comcast -	\$501.02
Foam -	\$1,170.09
Memorial Plaque -	\$25.00
Truck Repair -	\$6,048.46
Small Equipment -	\$273.95
VSFA Dues -	\$320.00
NEIMA Dues -	\$100.00
Professional Fees -	\$570.00
Snow Removal -	\$940.00
Oyster Supper -	\$1,507.66

Total 2015 Expenses	\$66,182.57
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