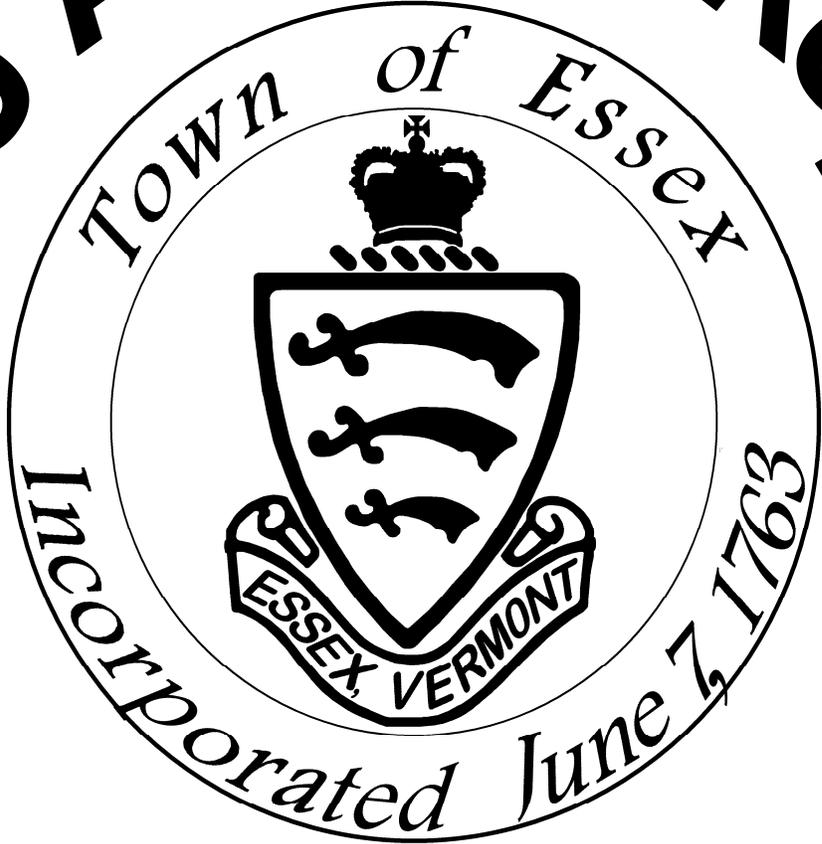


# 2015 Annual Report



The seal of the Town of Essex, Vermont, is circular. It features a central shield with three keys (two crossed and one below). Above the shield is a crown. A banner at the bottom of the shield reads "ESSEX VERMONT". The seal is surrounded by the text "Town of Essex" at the top and "Incorporated June 7, 1763" at the bottom.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

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## SENIOR VAN

For Essex seniors age 60 and older, the Parks and Recreation Department offers free rides within the Town of Essex (including the Village of Essex Junction). The Senior Vans are equipped with a wheelchair lift and operate Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Call 878-6940 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m., Monday through Friday to schedule a ride. You must call the day *before* your ride is needed.

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

*The Town Meeting will be held on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 7:30 PM in the Essex Community Educational Center. Voting by Australian ballot will be held Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at the Essex Community Educational Center and the Essex Middle School, 58 Founders Road from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM.*



**SELECTBOARD**  
**Max G. Levy, Chair**

The Selectboard had a busy, productive year.

We're proud to announce that the newly renovated Town Offices at 81 Main Street will reopen soon after Town Meeting. The office building has been used by the Town since 1974, and was in desperate need of repairs and updates. The revamped building will be much more energy efficient, will feature an elevator and other improvements that bring the facility into compliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), will have a new and expanded vault, and a much larger conference room. Residents and staff have been tremendously accommodating while the Town Offices were temporarily located at 42 Allen Martin Drive, and for that the Selectboard is incredibly thankful.

At a Goal Setting Meeting in September, the Selectboard identified six prioritized goals and objectives on which to continue and expand our focus: Continue to consolidate services; improve communication and engagement; support preservation of open space; leverage opportunities to continue to improve infrastructure; enhance economic development efforts; and assess human resources support and investment in community members.

**Consolidation of services** between the Town of Essex and Village of Essex Junction began approximately three years ago, when the Town Manager started serving as a shared municipal manager for the Town and Village. This model has had ongoing success, and was followed by the combination of tax billing and collections for the Town, Village, and School District; the consolidation of Town and Village finance departments; and the consolidation of Town and Village highway and stormwater services. In the coming year, we intend to consolidate Public Works administrations.

The Selectboard is also expecting a final report from the Thoughtful Growth In Action (TGIA) project. TGIA's 24-person working group of Town and Village residents and staff recommended that the Town and Village create a Joint Planning Commission and separate Development Review Boards for the Town and Village. The planning governance changes would allow Essex to plan for a common future while allowing the Town and Village to control their senses of identity.

With the pending unification of Essex, Essex Junction, and Westford school districts, the Selectboard will begin working with various entities to consider the future of Essex and Essex Junction parks and recreation programs. Essex Junction Recreation and Parks functions under the Essex Junction School District, so with an uncertain future, it makes sense to explore options of consolidating EJP and Essex Parks and Recreation.

The Selectboard is regularly looking to **improve communication and engagement** between residents and local government. In advance of 2015 and 2016 Town Meetings, Selectboard members attended numerous community events – high school sports games, the Winter Carnival, Rotary meetings, and more – to answer questions and tell people about Town issues. We are also striving to make our processes more transparent by posting our Selectboard packets on the Town website, [www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org), on the Friday before each Selectboard meeting. This spring, the Town and Village will partner with Heart & Soul of Essex to bring a communications consultant to Essex to recommend further improvements in communication and engagement.

The **preservation of open space** in Essex has been identified by residents and the Selectboard as a key priority. By settling an appeal of a Planning Commission denial of a sand extraction operation in the Saxon Hill area, the Selectboard has ensured that the Town will take ownership of approximately 250 acres of conservation and recreation land. The settlement will resolve 40 years of uncertainty about land use and public access in the Resource Preservation District – Industrial (RPD-I) zoning district. Other boards also work to conserve land in Essex. The Planning Commission often looks for ways to permanently preserve land when it reviews subdivision proposals. The Conservation Committee is taking steps to protect the Town’s open space by building partnerships with the Vermont Land Trust and informing landowners about land preservation options.

Strong **infrastructure** is crucial to the daily functioning of a town, to the benefit of residents and local businesses. Our Public Works Department has been instrumental in obtaining state and federal grants to upgrade and expand Essex roads, sidewalks, and stormwater management facilities. In the coming year, residents will see new sidewalks on Towers Road and Pinecrest Drive, a new stormwater management system in the Woodlands neighborhood, and repaved roads throughout the community.

**Development of the local economy** is always a concern of the Selectboard. The past year saw a major change in the local business world, as GLOBALFOUNDRIES assumed ownership of the former IBM plant. While the Selectboard is glad to see a major corporation remain in the Town, we also recognize the need to continually diversify our economy. We have great partners on the municipal side in the Essex Economic Development Commission and the Business Liaison Group.

**Support for human services** has long been an important part of the Selectboard’s work. The proposed FYE 2017 budget continues Essex’s longstanding practice of donating 1 percent of the operating budget to area non-profits that work for our community members.

As many of you have undoubtedly heard, Selectman Brad Luck announced his resignation in January 2016 and has stepped down from the board. As the Director of Essex Junction Recreation and Parks, Mr. Luck wanted to ensure he could participate in discussions about potential Parks & Recreation consolidation without having a conflict of interest as a selectman. Essex was fortunate to have Mr. Luck’s service for the past several years, and the Selectboard will miss his contributions as we continue into an exciting year.

**ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**MODERATOR**

Steve Eustis..... Expires 2016

**SELECTBOARD  
(3-Year Terms)**

R. Michael Plageman..... Expires 2016  
Irene A. Wrenner, Vice Chair..... Expires 2016  
Max G. Levy, Chair..... Expires 2017  
Andrew J. Watts, Clerk..... Expires 2017  
Brad M. Luck..... Expires 2018

**CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONER  
(3-Year Term)**

Aaron Martin..... Expires 2016

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE  
(2-Year Terms)**

Jennifer Ashe\*, 11 Juniper Ridge Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 876-7232  
Deborah Billado\*, 20 Maple Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 879-4225  
Kent Booraem\*, 39 River View Drive, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 878-3395  
Diane Clemens\*, 15 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 878-3536  
Linda Costello, 5 Williams Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 878-5481  
Bernard Couture, 9 Redwood Terrace, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 879-7332  
Paul Dame, 82B Park Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 318-7544  
Debbie Evans\*, 53 Greenfield Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-4317  
Ann Gray\*, 28 Rosewood Lane, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-4088  
Dawn Hill-Fleury\*, 9 Saybrook Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 878-7622  
Kathy Hunt\*, 38 Prospect Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-8406  
Peter Hunt\*, 38 Prospect Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 878-8406  
Linda K. Myers\*, 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-3514  
Dave Rogerson, 17 Prescott Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452..... 878-4723  
Linda Waite-Simpson\*, 76 Beech Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 ..... 872-0499

\*Performs marriages and civil union ceremonies

**APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**CEMETERY COMMISSION  
(3-Year Terms)**

Sam Kinghorn .....	Expires 2016
Frances Kinghorn .....	Expires 2017
Gary Tomlinson .....	Expires 2017
Jody Landon.....	Expires 2018
Vacant .....	Expires 2018

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
(3-Year Terms)**

Jaysen Dickinson .....	Expires 2017
Matthew Graf.....	Expires 2017
Darren Schibler, Chair .....	Expires 2017
Christine Hammer.....	Expires 2018
Margaux Reckard.....	Expires 2018

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
(3-Year Terms)**

Greg Morgan, Chair .....	Expires 2018
Elizabeth Poulin .....	Expires 2016
Robin Lane.....	Expires 2016
Barbara Higgins .....	Expires 2016
Chris Riani .....	Expires 2017

**ENERGY COMMITTEE  
(3-Year Terms)**

Sue Cook.....	Expires 2016
Reed Parker, Chair .....	Expires 2016
Thomas Tailer.....	Expires 2017
Christian Fayomi.....	Expires 2017
Kara Lenorovitz .....	Expires 2017
Alise Certa .....	Expires 2018
Payne Morgan.....	Expires 2018
Irene A. Wrenner, Ex Officio.....	No Expiration

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
(3-Year Terms)**

Kerry Jung.....	Expires 2016
Sue Ann Kurek.....	Expires 2016
Deborah Evans.....	Expires 2016
Janet Watts, Treasurer.....	Expires 2016
Bonnie Doble, Chair .....	Expires 2016
Janet Bowker.....	Expires 2017
Marie Froeschl .....	Expires 2018

**MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE  
(3-Year Terms)**

Patrick Scheidel .....	Expires 2016
Karen L. W. Hammer.....	Expires 2016
Vacant .....	Expires 2017
Irene Wrenner .....	Expires 2017
Paul Dame.....	Expires 2018
Jan Ellis-Clements .....	Expires 2018
Vacant .....	Expires 2018

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
(4-Year Terms)**

Dustin R. Brusco, Chair.....	Expires 2016
David P. Raphael, Vice Chair.....	Expires 2016
Ned Daly .....	Expires 2017
Johnathan Schumacher, Clerk.....	Expires 2017
Joshua Knox.....	Expires 2017
Tom Furland.....	Expires 2018
Dijana Kulasic.....	Expires 2018

**TOWN HEALTH OFFICER  
(3-Year Terms)**

Jerry Firkey, Health Officer.....	Expires 2016
Sharon Kelley, Deputy Health Officer.....	Expires 2016

**TOWN SERVICE OFFICER  
(Annual Appointment)**

Jerry Firkey .....	Expires 2016
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**TRAILS COMMITTEE  
(3-Year Terms)**

Erin J. McCarthy .....	Expires 2017
Mark Paulsen .....	Expires 2017
Heather Brochu .....	Expires 2018
Ruth LeBlanc .....	Expires 2018
Dan Stein.....	Expires 2018

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
(3-Year Terms)**

Pam Schirner.....	Expires 2016
Chris Daniele .....	Expires 2016
Hubert Norton .....	Expires 2017
Mitch Lefevre, Vice Chair .....	Expires 2017
Katherine Sonnicks, Chair.....	Expires 2018

**OTHER APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

Champlain Water District Alternate .....	Vacant
Channel 17/Town Meeting Television Representative .....	Elaine Sopchak
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) .....	Jeffrey B. Carr
CCRPC 1 <sup>st</sup> Alternate .....	Irene A. Wrenner
CCRPC 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate .....	Max G. Levy
CCRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) .....	Dennis Lutz
CCRPC Transportation Advisory Committee Alternate .....	Jeffrey B. Carr
CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) .....	K. Dana Hanley
CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee Alternate .....	Mark Marsh
Chittenden Solid Waste District Representative .....	Alan Nye
Chittenden Solid Waste District Alternate .....	Max G. Levy
Chittenden County Transportation Authority Representatives .....	Marti Powers-Keyes
Essex Rescue Community Advisory Board .....	Ben Gilliam
Fire Warden .....	Charles J. Cole
Grand Juror .....	Jerry Firkey
Town Tree Warden & Forester .....	Charlie Vile
Tri-Town Sewer Committee .....	Dennis Lutz & Jeff Carr
Winooski Valley Park District .....	Tom Malinowski

**If you are interested in filling a vacant seat on a Board or Committee, please call the Town Manager's Office at 878-1341 or email [manager@essex.org](mailto:manager@essex.org).**

## **APPOINTED FULL-TIME STAFF**

### **ASSESSOR**

Randy Viens, Assessor  
Terri Sabens, Clerk

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

K. Dana Hanley, Director  
Greg Duggan, Planner  
Sharon Kelley, Zoning Administrator  
Shannon Lunderville, GIS Coordinator  
Jennifer Booker, Administrative Assistant

### **FINANCE**

Lauren Morrisseau, Finance Director  
Shirley FitzGerald, Water/Sewer Clerk  
Carolyn Gauthier, Accountant  
Jennifer Rock, Bookkeeper/Payroll Clerk

### **LIBRARY**

Ann Paietta, Library Director  
Caitlin Corless, Youth Services Librarian  
Traci Eaton, Adult Services Librarian  
Lorraine Cole-Dolgas, Patron Registration  
Library Assistant

### **PARKS & RECREATION**

Ally Vile, Director  
Adriane Martin, Program Coordinator  
Andrea Leo, Office Coordinator  
Samantha Crocker, Asst. Program Coordinator  
Ken Booker, Parks Maintenance Foreman

### **POLICE**

Bradley LaRose, Chief  
Michelle Hodgson, Support Services  
Rick Garey, Captain  
George Murtie, Captain  
Kenneth Beaulieu, Lieutenant  
Robin Hollwedel, Lieutenant  
Robert Kissinger, Lieutenant  
Robert Estes, Sergeant  
Christina Ashley, Corporal  
John Dunn, Corporal  
Robert Hall, Corporal  
Morgan Lawton, Corporal  
Kurt Miglinas, Corporal  
Diana Miranowicz, Corporal  
Edward Piro, Corporal  
Michael Wootton, Corporal

### **POLICE (Cont'd)**

Michael Chistolini, Patrol Officer  
Paul Courtois, Patrol Officer  
Stephen Dunning, Patrol Officer  
Andrew Graham, Patrol Officer  
Damir Karadza, Patrol Officer  
Lance Martel, Patrol Officer  
Christopher May, Patrol Officer  
Michael Roberto, Patrol Officer  
John Rутtenberg, Patrol Officer  
Ryon Sorrell, Patrol Officer  
Nicholas Van Winkle, Patrol Officer  
Karen Hulbert, Dispatcher  
Raymond LaCroix, Dispatcher  
Peggy McCabe, Dispatcher  
Christopher Shepard, Dispatcher  
Angela Bellizzi, Records Clerk

### **TOWN CLERK**

Cheryl Moomey, Clerk/Treasurer  
Mary Melnick, Assistant Clerk

### **TOWN MANAGER**

Patrick C. Scheidel, Municipal Manager  
Doug Fisher, Dir. Of Administrative Services  
Rick Garey, MIS Director  
Rob Paluba, Network Administrator  
Ann Myers, Personnel/Benefits/Admin. Asst.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Dennis Lutz, Town Engineer/PW Director  
Aaron Martin, Asst. Eng./Utilities Director  
Annie Costandi, Stormwater Coordinator  
Chris Stoddard, Administrative Assistant  
Loren Ward, PW Superintendent  
Jerry Lesage, Mechanic  
Eric Barkyoumb, PW Foreman  
Peter Daigle, Highway Maintenance  
Robert Miller, Highway Maintenance  
Thomas Kabusk, Highway Maintenance  
Dan Roberge, Highway Maintenance  
Brian Roy, Highway Maintenance  
Joseph Tourville, Highway Maintenance  
Rick Jones, Highway Maintenance  
Robert Whitten, Water & Sewer Foreman  
Ernest Oakes, Water & Sewer  
Tyler Bortz, Water & Sewer

## TOWN INFORMATION

The Town of Essex is governed by the Council-Manager form of government. It has a five member nonpartisan Selectboard which is elected at large and is responsible for determining Town policy. The Chief Executive Officer is the Town Manager who is appointed by the Selectboard and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Town. All residents, whether they live inside or outside the Village of Essex Junction, are residents of the Town and have the right to participate in Town activities, including the election of Town officials. There are several committees appointed by the Selectboard and all residents are encouraged to apply. Appointments are effective July 1, although vacancies sometimes occur during the year. **If you are interested in serving on a Town Committee, please write a letter of interest to: Town Manager, 81 Main Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 or call 878-1341.** You may also fax us at 878-1353, e-mail us at [manager@essex.org](mailto:manager@essex.org) or use our Web page [www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org).

### DATES TO REMEMBER

February 29, 2016 .....	Town Meeting – 7:30 PM
March 1, 2016 – Voting by Australian Ballot.....	Polls Open – 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
March 15, 2016 .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of property taxes due
April 1, 2016.....	Dog licenses due
September 15, 2016 .....	1 <sup>st</sup> half of property taxes due
March 15, 2017 .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of property taxes due

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Population .....	19,765
Registered Voters.....	15,294
Total Area .....	36 square miles
Date of Charter.....	June 7, 1763
2015 Grand List .....	\$24,895,177

	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Non-Residential</b>
Town General Tax Rate	.4443	.4443
Education Rate	1.5537	1.5271
Town Capital	.0200	.0200
Town Highway	.0218	.0218
Local Agreement Rate	.0019	.0019
Total Town Tax Rate	<b>2.0417</b>	<b>2.0151</b>

### MEETINGS

Selectboard.....	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday (and as required) – 7:30 PM
Planning Commission .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday – 6:30 PM
Zoning Board of Adjustment .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday – 6:00 PM
Conservation Committee .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 PM
Trails Committee .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 PM
Economic Development Commission.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday – Noon
Library Board of Trustees.....	As required
Energy Committee .....	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday—6:30 PM

All meetings are held at Town Hall, 81 Main Street, unless otherwise specified.

Please check website for time and location.

### TOWN OFFICE HOURS

7:30 AM to 4:30 PM  
Monday through Friday

## STATE INFORMATION

### U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

#### **U.S. Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D)**

Washington Office: 437 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-4502 .....(202) 224-4242  
Burlington Office: Court House Plaza, 199 Main Street, Burlington, VT 05401 .....(802) 863-2525

#### **U.S. Senator Bernard Sanders (I)**

Washington Office: 332 Dirksen Building, Washington, DC 20510.....(202) 224-5141  
Vermont Address: 1 Church Street, Burlington, VT 05401 .....(802) 862-0697

#### **Congressman Peter Welch (D)**

Washington Office: 1404 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 .....(202) 225-4115  
Burlington Office: 30 Main Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 350, Burlington, VT 05401 .....(888) 605-7270  
(802) 652-2450

### VERMONT STATE GOVERNMENT

#### **Governor Peter Shumlin (D)**

109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05609 .....(802) 828-3333

#### **Lieutenant Governor Phil Scott (R)**

115 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-5401 .....(802) 828-2226

#### **Secretary of State Jim Condos (D)**

128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633 .....(802) 828-2363

### SENATORS

Tim Ashe (D/P), 45 Lakeview Terrace, Burlington, VT 05401 .....(802) 318-0903  
Philip Baruth (D), 87 Curtis Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401 .....(802) 503-5266  
Virginia Lyons (D), 241 White Birch Lane, Williston, VT 05495 .....(802) 863-6129  
Michael Sirotkin (D), 80 Bartlett Bay Road, South Burlington, VT 05401 .....(802) 860-6428  
Diane Snelling (R), 304 Piette Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461 .....(802) 482-4382  
David Zuckerman (P/D), 2083 Gilman Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461 .....(802) 482-2109

### REPRESENTATIVES

Robert L. Bancroft (R) (District 8-3), 405 Brookside Road, Westford, VT 05452 .....(802) 879-7386  
Paul Dame (R) (District 8-2), 82B Park Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452 .....(802) 318-7544  
Debbie Evans (D) (District 8-1), 53 Greenfield Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 .....(802) 878-4317  
Tim Jerman (D) (District 8-2), 5 Sycamore Lane, Essex Junction, VT 05452 .....(802) 878-2972  
Linda K. Myers (R) (District 8-1), 51 Forest Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 .....(802) 878-3514

## VOTING DISTRICT DESCRIPTIONS

To determine your voting district, use the following list as a guide.

### DISTRICT 8-1

**Linda Myers and Debbie Evans – Representatives**

All of the Town (excluding Districts 8-2 and 8-3)

### DISTRICT 8-2

**Tim Jerman and Paul Dame – Representatives**

All of the Village of Essex Junction

### DISTRICT 8-3

**Robert Bancroft – Representative**

All roads north of the following boundaries:

Jericho Road – North side (250-258)

Weed Road – North side (Even numbers)

Brown's River Road/Route 128 – North side (Even numbers, 2-130, then all numbers)

Towers Road – North side (Odd numbers)

Towers Road Extension – (All numbers)

Old Stage Road – West side (Even numbers 14-140 and then all numbers)

Lost Nation Road – North side (odd numbers)

## POLL LOCATIONS

For Town-wide issues, the polling place for District 8-2 voters is the Essex Community Educational Center.

The polling place for Districts 8-1 and 8-3 is the Essex Middle School located on Founders Road.

**Note: Due to the 2012 redistricting, a portion of Village voters who are in Census Block 1023 (173-261 Pearl Street) have been moved to Town District "8-1 Village" for state and federal elections only. These voters will vote at the Essex Middle School during state and federal elections. There will be a separate checklist at the Essex Middle School for these voters. For local elections, these voters will vote with the Village at the High School as they have in the past.**

**REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL**  
**Randy Viens, Assessor**

**HOMESTEAD DECLARATION REMINDER**

**You are required to file a Homestead Declaration each and every year for the property you own and reside in, whether or not you qualify for a property tax adjustment. Use Form HS-122 found on the State of Vermont website, [www.vermont.gov](http://www.vermont.gov), as well as form HI-144 which is required in order to receive a property tax adjustment if you meet the income requirements. There are no date extensions for Homestead Declarations. Filing an extension for income tax does not apply to a Homestead Declaration.**

**If you have escrowed your property taxes and receive a Property Tax Adjustment be sure to send a copy of your tax bill to your bank or escrow company. This will ensure they will be taking out the proper amount monthly based on your adjustment.**

The mission of the Department of Real Estate Appraisal is to provide a legal and fair basis for the taxation of real property as required by the Essex Charter and Vermont Statutes and to furnish to others, access and explanations of the information gathered by the department in the course of its required duties. Due to the nature and ramifications of property assessment, public relations are a very important aspect of this office. Open communication is essential in order to give the public the awareness and understanding of our duties and responsibilities. Please call this office (878-1345) anytime with any questions or concerns. In addition, the office administers Farm and Open Land tax stabilization contracts, the State Land Use Program and provides statistical reports to other departments and governmental units as well as assisting the tax department in performing the annual equalization process. We also receive from the tax department, virtually year-round, weekly download information for the administration of the Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment claims.

If you are in the process of either buying or selling a property and would like to see what other similar properties are selling for, you are welcome to come to the Assessor's office and view our sales binders anytime during normal business hours.

We remind you that if you have any questions or would like to review your property record card for accuracy, you are welcome to visit our office at 81 Main St. between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The 2014-15 State Equalization reports have been received. These reports, based on sales ratios (assessed values divided by selling prices), indicates an overall ratio for property in the Town School District of 98.98% and a ratio of 99.07% in the Essex Junction School District.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**Dana Hanley, Community Development Director**

Highlights of the Community Development Department's efforts and initiatives in 2015 include the following:

**Bylaw Amendments** – A set of amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Bylaws remained on hold while the department worked on the 2016 Town Plan. When reactivated in early 2016, the amendments will consider several administrative provisions, conservation design subdivision regulations, revised telecommunications provisions, and performance standards for commercial projects.

**2016 Town Plan** – Work was completed in late 2015 on amendments to the 2016 Town Plan, which involved adding a flood resilience component, re-formatting, graphic design, incorporating the Heart & Soul of Essex values, and providing a statistical update.

**Customer Service** – The staff provided the public with reliable and efficient customer service throughout 2015. Jennifer Booker joined our staff as the department Secretary. Ongoing efforts were made to publicize Planning Commission hearings through e-mail, Front Porch Forum, *The Essex Reporter*, *The Burlington Free Press* and the Town's website.

**Thoughtful Growth in Action** – An outgrowth of the Heart & Soul of Essex project, the Community Development staff was engaged in a process to determine if the planning governance structure in the community, including the Village of Essex Junction, could be improved.

**GIS Coordinator** – GIS Coordinator Shannon Lunderville continued to map the impervious surfaces (Stormwater) in Town. Website maintenance, E911 addressing, and routine assistance to the Assessor's office was undertaken. Ongoing responses to stormwater mandates, including tracking and updating data was required. Vermont Agency of Transportation and E911 road centerline consolidation data was coordinated.

**Development and Permitting** – Development review remained very active. The notable approvals are listed below and a summary of zoning and subdivision activity is provided in the chart.

- Al Senecal purchased the remaining undeveloped lands of Hector LeClair located in the Resource Preservation District – Industrial (RPD-I) zoning district, and worked with the Selectboard to reach a settlement proposal that resolved a court appeal over sand extraction in the RPD-I.
- Rick Bove, 1 Commonwealth Ave. (Building X) – A 4,300-square-foot, two-story, mixed-use building, including space for a restaurant, hair salon, office space, and four apartment units.
- Rick Bove, 3 Commonwealth Ave. and 10 Carmichael St. (Building G&H) – A 22,400-square-foot, three-story, mixed-use building to accommodate up to 59 residential apartments and 4,000-square-feet of commercial space.
- Rick Bove, 7 Carmichael St. (Building O) – A two-story 10,006-square-foot, two-story, mixed use building, with office space and 10 apartments.
- Andy Cabrera (Simpson Cabinetry), 15 Corporate Drive – An 8,480-square-foot building for light manufacturing.
- Hector Leclair, 14 Corporate Drive – A 14,400-square-foot warehouse building.
- Stephen Unsworth (Indian Brook Properties), 9 Indian Brook Road – A nine-lot residential subdivision, with eight lots available for single-family homes.

## Community Development Services Report

Community Development Services Report							
Discretionary Review Activity	Calendar Year						
	2014			2015			
<b>Zoning Board of Adjustment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (4) Conditional Use/Amendment</li> <li>• (1) Variance</li> <li>• (0) Unspecified Use</li> <li>• (0) Sign Waiver</li> <li>• (1) Appeal Zoning Administrator's Decision</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (8) Conditional use/Amendment</li> <li>• (3) Variance</li> <li>• (0) Unspecified Use</li> <li>• (0) Sign Waiver</li> <li>• (1) Appeal Zoning Administrator's Decision</li> </ul>			
<b>Planning Commission</b>	<p><i>Subdivision . . . . .</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (0) Conceptual</li> <li>• (6) Sketch Plan/Preliminary</li> <li>• (7) Final Plan/Amendment</li> <li>• (6) Boundary Adjustment</li> <li>• (12) Consent Agenda</li> <li>• (0) Reconsideration</li> </ul> <p><i>Project Review . . . . .</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (5) Site Plan</li> <li>• (8) Site Plan Amendment</li> <li>• (16) Workshops/site visit</li> </ul>			<p><i>Subdivision . . . . .</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (0) Conceptual</li> <li>• (7) Sketch Plan/Preliminary</li> <li>• (3) Final Plan Amendment</li> <li>• (2) Boundary Line Adjustment</li> <li>• (13) Consent Agenda</li> <li>• (0) Reconsideration</li> </ul> <p><i>Project Review . . . . .</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (1) Site Plan</li> <li>• (10) Site Plan Amendment</li> <li>• (10) Workshop/Site Visit</li> </ul>			
<b>Total Discretionary Activity</b>	<b>66</b>						<b>58</b>
<b>Zoning Permit Applications Received</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
Accessory Apartment/Apartments	6	3	3	2	4	3	
Condo/Townhouse	2	12	62	9	4	10	
Congregate Housing	0	1	1	0	1	0	
Home Occupation	1	3	1	1	3	3	
Miscellaneous & Use Permits	19	12	14	15	8	34	
New Commercial/Industrial Building (add/alt)	27	40	28	36	33	13	
Residential (add/alt)	62	63	80	73	71	70	
Residential Garage	13	10	9	11	6	8	
Residential Storage Building	16	11	13	11	18	12	
Sign Permit	19	14	19	11	21	0	
Single-Family Home	8	10	13	7	10	16	
Swimming Pool	7	2	4	2	2	4	
Rebuild Dwelling	1	2	1	2	3	4	
Renewal of Permit	2	2	0	2	1	3	
Septic	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	
<b>Subtotal, Permits Issued</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>200</b>	
Permits Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Applications Withdrawn/Voided	1	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Zoning Permit Activity</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>200</b>	

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**Darren Schibler, Chair; Jaysen Dickinson, Matt Graf, Cristine Hammer,**  
**Sherry Mahady, Margaux Reckard**

The mission of the Essex Conservation Committee is to inventory and study the natural, historic, educational, cultural, scientific, architectural, or archaeological resources of the Town in which the public has an interest. The Committee also advises the Selectboard and Planning Commission on matters relating to the public understanding of local natural resources and conservation needs, development applications, and acquisition of lands involving the above resources.

In 2015, the Conservation Committee had several changes in membership, but by the end of the year, all seats were filled with actively participating members. With this full slate, the Committee expanded several long-standing programs, collaborated with the Trails Committee on many issues, and started exciting new projects aimed at planning for conservation far into the Town's future.

Our accomplishments in the last year include the following:

- Ongoing joint reviews of development proposals with the Essex Trails Committee, during which the committees make many suggestions to improve development proposals in Essex.
- Hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Clean Up Day at Indian Brook Park with excellent turnout, focusing on the removal of invasive species and the reduction of sediment runoff to the Reservoir.
- Made commitments to work toward the establishment of a Town Conservation Fund, and to partner with Vermont Land Trust on potential conservation projects.
- Continued to gather information about planning for outbreaks of invasive tree pests and the creation of an Invasives Management Fund.
- With help from Chittenden County Forester Keith Thompson, hosted a site visit for interested landowners to a parcel enrolled in the State of Vermont's Use Value Appraisal program, which provides tax breaks for property owners who actively use their land for agriculture or forestry management.
- Contributed revisions to the 2016 Town Plan.

Looking toward the future, the Conservation Committee has the following goals for 2016:

- Plan for and educate the public about the impacts of invasive species, and work with the Selectboard to establish an Invasives Management Fund.
- Collaborate with the Selectboard and Trails Committee to establish priorities and guidelines for the use of a proposed Conservation Fund, and use this information to identify funding amounts and sources.
- Continue working with Vermont Land Trust to encourage landowners to pursue permanent conservation easements.
- Continue hosting the Use Value Appraisal Site Visit, the Fall Clean-Up Day, and possibly plan a Spring Invasives Removal Day.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**Commission Members: Barbara Higgins (Recording Secretary), Robin Lane, Greg Morgan (Chair), Betty Poulin and Chris Riani**  
**Commission Advisors: Greg Duggan, Essex Town Planner; Robin Pierce, Essex Junction Planning Director; and Curt Carter, Vice-President, Greater Burlington Industrial Corp. (GBIC)**  
**Ex-Officio: Michael Plageman, Selectboard Member, Town of Essex; and Lori Houghton, Trustee, Village of Essex Junction**

**Global Economy Impacts Essex:** Perhaps more than any other year, global issues have altered the course of business in Essex. On July 1, GlobalFoundries assumed ownership of the computer chip fabrication plant in Essex Junction, ending IBM’s over 50 year role making computer chips. Because the owner of GlobalFoundries depends on price of oil which dipped significantly in 2015 and the global demand for microprocessors, these international factors are already impacting the business climate of our Town in a very direct ways.

In early December, Keurig Green Mountain (formerly Green Mountain Coffee Roasters) and a Luxembourg-based private equity company executed a definitive merger agreement under which the investor group will acquire Keurig Green Mountain (KGM) for about \$14 billion in 2016. This transaction is another indication our local economy is buffeted by global economic forces.

**Town Revenues and Addition Commercial/Industrial Properties to the Grand List:** Building new commercial and industrial structures adds to the Town’s property tax base. For every new \$1 million structure (that is the equivalent of \$10,000 added to the Grand List), the Town collects \$4,880 in tax revenue annually, based on a tax rate of \$0.488. Below are some of the significant additions as reported by the Town Assessor to the State of Vermont in 2015:

Name (1)	Location	Function	Status at end of 2015	Size (sf)	Assessed Value (2)	Annual Tax Payment	Notes
MetroRock & Skateland VT	Susie Wilson Road	Recreation	Complete	73,500	\$4,300,000	\$20,984	2 Buildings
Reinhardt	Thompson Drive	Food Distribution	Complete	137,900	\$9,400,000	\$45,872	Vermont Operations Center
Autumn Pond	Autumn Pond Way	Apartments	In Progress (Multi-year)	332,000	\$26,500,000	\$129,320	300 Apartments in 10 Buildings
Carmichael St.	Carmichael St.	Apartments	Complete	42,600	\$6,000,000	\$29,280	36 Apartments (includes memory care)
Joshua Way	Joshua Way	Apartments	In Progress	59,500	\$9,300,000	\$45,384	100 Apartments in 2 Buildings

Notes: (1) Data reported to the State includes projects with permits with multi-year completion dates  
 (2) Additions to the Grand List only occur upon completion and occupancy.

Essex Town Municipal Tax Rate	\$0.488
(for FY ending June 2016)	

**Commission Proposes New Economic Development Goals to Selectboard:** As part the Town Plan rewrite, the EDC reworked the goals and action steps that will guide the municipality’s economic development activity. The Commission has recommended four goals with specific

action steps which are detailed in Chapter 3: (1) Increase and Diversify Tax Base; (2) Improve and Invest in Infrastructure; (3) Foster Enterprises that Create Jobs; (4) Expand Communication and Outreach. Please review the Commission's recommendations before you vote on the Town Plan.

Telling the Essex Economic Development Story in Montpelier: In January the EDC led an Essex delegation to the House Commerce and Economic Development Committee where we shared information about the implications of the transition from IBM to GlobalFoundries and the breath and scope of Essex business community. Selectboard Chair Max Levy offered key insights into changes associated with IBM exiting the chip making business.

Essex Educators Lead Workforce Develop Initiatives: Vermont technology companies have identified workforce training as a major need. In response, the Center for Technology-Essex is launching the Engineering Design & Production Technologies (EDPT) Program, a grant-funded initiative that places CTE at the forefront of meeting the need for skilled tech workers. EDC member Robin Lane, an employee of CTE, is at the center of these efforts. In addition, Lee Ann Smith, the Leader of Essex High School's STEM Academy, has been appointed to the BTV Ignite Board, a Burlington-based group with connections to US Ignite, the initiative charged with using the region's *gigabit infrastructure* to launch, promote and retain business startups and growth.

Promoting New Business and Entrepreneurship in Essex:

EBPA Fund Distributed: Early in 2015 the EDC sought proposals from businesses, individuals and organizations to use money in the EBPA Fund to provide opportunities for future investment and job growth in Essex. Based on the EDC's recommendation, the Town allocated the EBPA Fund to help launch Excelerate Essex. The EBPA Fund was created when the leadership of the former Essex Business and Professional Association (EBPA) asked the Town to help deploy group's remaining assets.

Essex Co-Working Space Opens: In June Excelerate Essex: a Co-Working Space opened its doors at 15 Pearl Street, just west of Five Corners. During its first 7 months of operation, between 15 and 20 entrepreneurs, small business owners and freelancers have been active members. Information and updates can be found at [www.excelerateessex.com](http://www.excelerateessex.com). Co-working spaces, with the associated collaboration and sharing among users, have been significant contributors to increased start-up business activity and economic vitality in other communities, an outcome in line with EDC goals.

Essex the First Stop on 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual FreshTracks Road Pitch: Green Mountain Harley-Davidson served as the host venue on the morning of August 3 when over 20 motorcycle riding, entrepreneurial road warriors rolled into Town to hear business pitches from five Chittenden County start-up businesses. Two Essex-based companies were front and center: *Tour Impact Golf* pitched a swing tempo and rhythm training golf club, a product invented and sold by company founder Craig DeVarney; and *S&D Snowblowing: Driveway Snow Removal Service* founded by Aaron Smith – a business with a local focus and the potential to grow and expand - attracted interest for its innovative business model. Up to 100 attendees listened to the pitches and wished the riders well as they visited seven additional Vermont stops.

Business News – Additions, Subtractions, Changes and Top Employers:

**Craft Brewery to Call Essex Home:** Permits have been issued and work has started by 1<sup>st</sup> Republic Brewing Corporation on the first micro-brewery in Essex. As of late in 2015 two military veteran entrepreneurs from Fairfax are renovating a brewery and tasting room on River Road, with an early 2016 opening anticipated. With 1<sup>st</sup> Republic's opening, Essex will become part of the craft beer boom that is energizing Vermont's economy.

**Twincraft Skincare Expands Manufacturing to Essex:** This Winooski-based soap maker has added 70,000 square-feet of high-tech manufacturing capacity off River Road. The addition of multiple state-of-the-art clean rooms enables Twincraft to sell high quality liquid skin care products, a growing market which can lead to new jobs here.

**Essex Becomes Home to Vermont's Largest Solar Installation:** On property in Essex Junction along the Winooski River off South Street, the Whitcomb family has installed a 3.6 megawatt solar array. The project has about half the capacity of GMP's Essex #19 hydro plant which is located just upstream and will produce electricity to power approximately 700 homes.

**Top Employers in Essex - 2015:** Essex-based companies with more than 80 employees include: GlobalFoundries (3,000 employees); Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (800); US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) (700); IBM (400); Autumn Harp (199); Revision Military (170); FoodScience of Vermont (155); The Essex Culinary Resort & Spa (100); Flex-a-Seal (89); Catamount Color (85); Vermont Systems (85); Mediware Health & Human Services (formerly Harmony Information Systems) (80). These companies provide employment to over 5,800.

## **ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**Reed Parker, Chair**

Throughout 2015, Energy Committee (EC) members have been involved in a number of successful projects that will provide short- and long-term benefits for the town.

In 2015 we continued to monitor progress of the Town streetlight replacement project, the cost of which was underwritten by a grant from Efficiency Vermont. Green Mountain Power (GMP) completed the replacement of halide lights with LED bulbs in 2015. Town residents who know of street lights in their area which were not upgraded are asked to contract the Energy Committee through the Town Managers office.

At the Municipal Manager's request, the committee initiated a project to inventory Village streetlights with a goal of upgrading halides to LED bulbs. Working with Darby Mayville in Village Community Relations and Development, members reviewed the GMP inventory list and, with the help of several community members, surveyed Village streetlights last spring. We plan to present a proposal for lighting replacement to the Village Trustees soon.

EC members generated and submitted recommendations for the 2016 Essex Town Plan in four major categories: Buildings, Community, Transportation and Government. Implementing such recommendations will result in long-term energy and money savings for the Town.

Our committee promoted energy-smart upgrades for Town Office - 81 Main Street renovation project. Discussions with the project architect resulted in a full-scale energy audit, which identified a number of ways to reduce energy consumption. On a site visit in November, members Sue Cook and Reed Parker saw how energy conservation has become integral to this project. Discussions with the project site manager indicate that the energy saving upgrades will benefit building occupants and all Essex residents.

Sue Cook participated in the Thoughtful Growth In Action process this fall on behalf of the EC. Please refer to the TGIA summary in the Town Report for details of the committee's recommendations.

Four committee members – Kara Lenorovitz, Irene Wrenner, Payne Morgan and Reed Parker, attended the 8th annual Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network (VECAN) conference in Fairlee, where EC members from across Vermont gathered with vendors and industry experts for a full day of workshops and presentations. Discussing common energy challenges and projects with our peers enables us to learn of measurable progress on several fronts and reminds us that our committee's efforts are an important part of the strategic energy saving plans for Essex.

We would like to thank Dennis Bouldin for his many years of service to the committee. Dennis was a champion of communication who worked tirelessly to bring new information to the public through the EC pages on the town website. This year we welcomed Alise Certa and Payne Morgan as new members and look forward to their input and contributions to our mission.

Increasing energy conservation, building efficiency, and use of renewable sources requires an ongoing commitment. The efforts needed to carry out these goals far exceed the capabilities of any one group. To be successful in these endeavors, we invite all residents to participate, either as a committee member or on a project-by-project basis. (Please contact Reed Parker at [essexenergy@essex.org](mailto:essexenergy@essex.org) for more info.)

**ESSEX COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Eva C. Clough, President**

Last year we ended our twenty-fourth year as the Harriet Farnsworth Powell Historical Museum and the Essex Community Historical Society. Plans are in the works for the upcoming twenty-fifth anniversary celebration. The Board is already making plans for new displays on Essex in the museum and an exciting series of public programs. Members will see details of the Anniversary Year celebrations in the Spring 2016 newsletter. We launched our second Annual Giving Campaign. We invite you to support our Anniversary Year activities with a donation in any amount.

We had a busy year at the museum this year. We had the distinct honor of welcoming the Purple Heart of Bruce Baker delivered to us by Zachariah Fike of Purple Hearts Reunited. Many thanks to Laurie Jordan for her continued support of the museum by her school tours both in Essex Center and Essex Junction and a Senior Citizen tour. She gave tours to approximately 195 students and adults last year. We are happy to announce that we welcomed approximately 150 visitors to our museum; Harriet would be so pleased that her dream of educating more of our young people is growing. We also had a display at the Champlain Valley Fair.

Our Tales & Treasures of Essex public program series drew a total of approximately 200 people, with many of them attending for the first time. People who attended came from as far away as Barre, as well as from Burlington and South Burlington.

We want to thank the local businesses who made the 2015 Tales & Treasures of Essex series possible by their financial support. Our Major Sponsor was TD Bank, and the Series Sponsor was Fort Ethan Allen Industrial Park/Will Parkinson. Program Sponsors included Merchants Bank, Phoenix Bookstore and Sweet Clover Market. In-Kind donors were Full Circle Gardens of Essex, Hannaford Essex Supermarket, Sam's Scoop Shop and West Meadow Farm Gluten Free Bakery.

We welcomed Art Cohn as our speaker at our annual meeting. He spoke about Lake Champlain Shipwrecks & Salvage and we honored Polly McEwing, Kathy Dodge and Laurie Jordan with Life Memberships. Polly is stepping down after serving several years on our Board. She has generously agreed to continue entering our collection information into the computer, hoping that someone will step up and take over for her. Although Tim Jerman is stepping down from the Board due to his very busy work schedule, he has graciously agreed to continue to write articles for the ECHO. Paula DeMichele stepped down as Co-President but will continue on the Board and will still head up our programs. Denise Groll is stepping down as Secretary and Jan Kilmer will take over that position. We welcomed new Board member, Alan Luzzatto.

We are looking for new Board members. Our Board is decreasing and it is hard to find new people who are interested in learning more about our community and help to preserve our history and memorabilia. Please email me at [essexcommunityhistoricalsociety@myfairpoint.net](mailto:essexcommunityhistoricalsociety@myfairpoint.net) if you are interested in being a Board member. We meet the third Thursday of each month at the museum starting at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you to Ruth Ann Beers who volunteered several times to help keep our museum open this summer and those that helped to make Family Day and Open House a success, your helps was greatly appreciated.

We ended the year with our Annual Essex Tree Lighting & Sing-Along on the Town Common. Families came back to the Essex Elementary School for refreshments – cookies made and donated by the Essex Girl Scouts.

We would like to thank our members for their continued support of the Harriet Farnsworth Powell Historical Museum. We also want to thank the Town residents, staff, and Selectboard for their support. We hope that many of you will take the time to visit the museum next to the Essex Free Library during visiting hours on Thursdays and Sundays. We will open again in June 2016.

**ESSEX COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2015-2016**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>
Eva Clough, President	2017
Thad Wolosinski, Vice-President	2018
Ann Gray, Treasurer	2017
Jan Kilmer, Secretary	2017
Denise Groll	2018
Paula DeMichele	2016
Alan Luzzatto	2016

ECHS  
PO Box 8388  
Essex, VT 05451  
[essexcommunityhistoricalsociety@myfairpoint.net](mailto:essexcommunityhistoricalsociety@myfairpoint.net)

**ESSEX FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Charles J. Cole, I, Fire Chief**

The men and women of the Essex Fire Department answered a total of 970 calls for service this past year, compared to 665 calls the previous year.

<b>Incident Type</b>	<b>Number of Calls</b>
Car Crashes	80
Fire Alarms	138
Medical Responses	460
Brush Fires	9
Hazardous Materials	23
Structure Fires	18
Carbon Monoxide Calls	9
Smoke In Building	2
Chimney Fires	3
Vehicle Fires	5
Power Lines Down	11
Search and Rescue	1
Electrical Fires	0
Standbys	6
All Other Incidents	205
<b>Total</b>	<b>970</b>

As one can see, we answer a large number of medical first response calls. First Response calls are in addition to the services the Town receives from Essex Rescue. Our members arrive on scene ahead of the ambulance and begin emergency care. We then update both the ambulance and the hospital as to a patient's condition to determine if additional resources are needed, or if an ambulance can be canceled and returned to service thereby providing a better service to our community.

We also have seen an increase in the number of Fire Alarms. This is due in part to the increase in congregate housing that is required to have smoke alarms in every living area of the building.

We have also seen an increase in the number of complimentary fire inspections at commercial properties for both existing and new construction. The State Fire Marshal's office has been short staffed and rather than delaying a project, many times our personnel can gain compliance that aids both the builder and the Fire Department to promote life safety. In several instances we have been successful in getting added life safety measures built into a project that are not required by State Code, but dramatically add to the safety for occupants and firefighters.

The Essex Fire Department provides this service through a dedicated group of Volunteer members. We have no full time staff and we do not have staff living at the fire station. When a call comes in, we are dispatched to the call and must respond from our homes to the station to get the apparatus. This is the same method of service that our brother and sister members of the Essex Junction Fire Department provide. Together we provide unified fire protection services to this community.

If you have any questions about the fire department, please contact me at [essexfirechief@essexfire.com](mailto:essexfirechief@essexfire.com) or by leaving a message at the station at 802.878.5308.

**ESSEX FREE LIBRARY**  
Ann Paietta, Head Librarian

*“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people.  
It is a never failing spring in the desert.”*

*--Andrew Carnegie*

**COMPARATIVE STATISTICS**

	<b>Number of Titles Owned</b>	<b>Total Circulation</b>	<b>Number of Patrons</b>	<b>ILLs* Loaned To Others</b>	<b>ILLs* Borrowed From Others</b>
2015	38,913	88,302	6,352	2,025	255
2005	31,140	120,002		1,580	321
1995	16,326	80,486		418	335

*\*ILL is short for Inter-Library Loan. “From Others” indicates titles requested for Essex patrons from other libraries.*

*“To Others” are titles loaned to other libraries for use by their patrons.*

*When the library converted to VOKAL the patron database was updated and out-of-towners were removed from this count.*

Contact the library any time at [essexfreelibrary@essex.org](mailto:essexfreelibrary@essex.org) or by phone at 879-0313.

**HOURS OPEN**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9 to 5      Tuesday and Thursday: 9 to 8      Saturday: 9 to 2

The library follows the Town of Essex holiday schedule except for limited service on these special occasions:

1. Friday and Saturday of the first weekend in June for the Library Trustees and Friends  
**“Book, Bake and Plant Sale”**
2. Saturday of the first weekend of November for the Friends of the Library’s **“Cozy Nook Craft Fair.”**

Proceeds from these two fund-raisers generously enable the library to offer a number of programs and amenities that are not in the operating budget. A hearty thanks to those community members who support the library so generously and creatively!

**STAFF CHANGES:**

Kevin Moore left his position to move to a warmer climate in May. Traci Eaton is now our full-time adult services librarian.

**WEB ACCESS:** Take a look at the various online programs that the library offers. Your library card is more than ever a “cultural credit card.” Links can be found on the library web page for the following:

1. **The Library Catalog** can be viewed from home by searching “Essex Free Library” and clicking on the Online Catalog link in the upper right hand corner. The library is part of VOKAL – a group of almost 60 Vermont libraries accessing Koha – online open source catalog. Patrons are able to renew their own items, place holds, or see what library owns a title. Friendly reminders of near due materials, hold notices, and overdue notices are also able to be emailed.
2. **VOL -- Vermont Online** is a partnership with other Vermont public libraries and the Vermont Department of Libraries. It provides access to a variety of Gale databases, including magazine and newspaper articles, health information, car repair, job search, language classes and wellness sites.
3. **“Listen Up Vermont”** provides access to downloadable audio and eBooks through the Green Mountain Library Consortium and Overdrive. Over 1,300 Essex patrons checked out 6,385 titles in audio and eBooks format during 2015.

4. **The MANGO Language program** allows you to set up language classes in 23 different languages. The program is very easy to use and children who love spending time online can hone their second language skills. Essex residents are the biggest user in the state of this service.
5. **Universal Class** offers over 500 instructor-led online courses. What are you eager to learn?
6. **The Library's Facebook** page keeps patrons up to date on programs, book suggestions and information.
7. **Just added ESL basic tool.** Patrons are now able to improve their English language skills.

#### **LIBRARY SERVICES:**

1. **Materials Available** – The library circulates books, periodicals, audio book and musical CDs, DVDs, puzzles and children's book/CD kits and DVDs. As previously mentioned, the library is now part of VOKAL. Our patrons are now able to renew and place holds online, see what 59 libraries have available, and have notices sent via email.
2. **Phone Services** – We also welcome phone services for those that wish to call. We are a phone call away to renew books, place holds, initiate Inter-Library Loan (ILL) searches, register for programs and ask reference questions. Always call if you are concerned about an overdue or bill notice you may have received. Attention will be given each morning to messages left after hours.
3. **HEMECARD Privileges** – With your library card Essex residents have access to all Chittenden County libraries (with the exception of the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington). The updating of EFL cards began in December 2014. The new cards are hot pink and expire in 2017.
4. **Copier/Fax/Scanner** – Our copier/printer is available for public use with a fee of 10 cents per b/w page and 25 cents/page for color copies. In addition to copying/printing, patrons are now able to fax or scan their documents as well.
5. **Meeting Space** – Small not-for-profit groups of up to 12 people may use the activity room when there are no library programs scheduled. Please call to reserve the space in advance. Students wishing to study as a group are also welcome to use this space when available.
6. **Inter-Library Loan** – The library is happy to try to locate titles for patrons that are not in this collection. Libraries throughout the state cooperate by sharing their diverse holdings.
7. **Tax Forms** – The State no longer sends the library tax forms but we continue to offer a variety of Federal tax forms for the public beginning in early January.
8. **Internet Access** – Patrons have access to the Internet from five public workstations located on all three floors. Printing services are available from these workstations. In addition, wireless access is available.
9. **Tech-Tips** – Patrons may request individual help sessions to learn about email, downloading eBooks and audio books, and Internet searching. Please speak to a librarian to set up a convenient time. In January 2015, we started a digital literacy program for seniors thanks to a grant from Heart and Soul.
10. **Museum Passes** – The library has passes from the ECHO Aquarium and Science Center, the State Parks Pass, Vermont Historical Site, the Birds of Vermont Museum, Shelburne Museum, VT History Museum, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, and Shelburne Farms. These passes, available on a "first-come first-served" basis, allow Essex residents to enjoy these popular museums either free or at wonderful savings.
11. **Homebound Services** – If you are unable to get to the library for a book just give us a call.

#### **SPECIAL PROGRAMS and RESOURCES:**

##### **Adult Programs:**

**Vermont Author Visits:** Local authors such as Grant Corson, Ben Cohen, and James Kochalka have been speakers at the library.

**Book Discussion Groups** are invited to make use of the multiple copy sets available at the library. Sets may be checked out to both groups or individuals. An updated set list can be found on the library's web site. We started an evening book discussion group on the last Thursday of the month.

**The Noontime Discussion** series meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month. The literary theme for 2014-15 was memoirs. Most memorable titles included *Wild* and *The Color of Water*. These lively discussions last about one hour and new faces are always welcome to join at any point in the series or drop in on the discussion of a favorite title. A limited number of copies are available at the desk.

**New Program** is our new lecture series named Food for Thought.

### **Children's Programs:**

**Storytime's** for toddlers and preschoolers are held throughout the school year. Also the library offers Musical Storytimes which has expanded to every Friday at 10:30 a.m. with Caitlin. In addition, special events, and a few other programs were held on Saturdays throughout the year. We have also continued the program where children may read to dogs Rainbow and McKenzie.

**Dorothy Canfield Fisher** book discussions throughout the year are led by Caitlin.

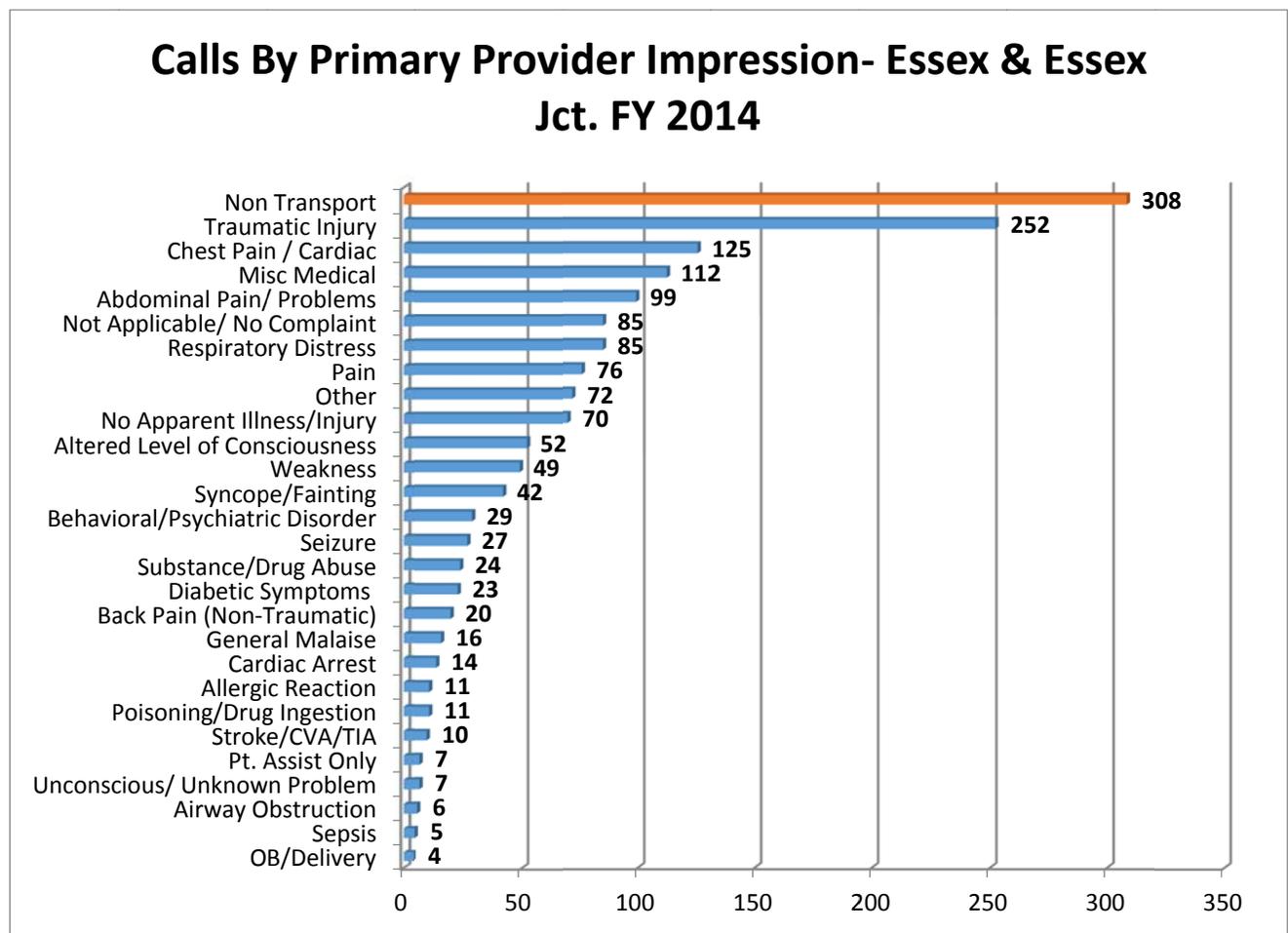
**The Summer Reading Program** offered an array of programs and reading incentives designed to keep vacationing students visiting the library and reading regularly. In 2015, 185 readers participated in the theme Super Summer Reading Adventure. These children read 1,692 books. A super hero adventure themed party started the summer off and summer ended, as always, with magical Marko and his no-fail trick of launching a playing card to the ceiling of the Main Reading room. Next time you come in, check out the 21 playing cards now on the ceiling.

In addition, family friendly films have been shown throughout the year. The library continues to offer a creative writing club for kids. Also continuing this year are the Lego club and the Minecraft club in the afternoons. Caitlin, Kevin, and now Traci, have taken on these programs with great enthusiasm. The library also participated in Vermont Reads with the title Haroun: Sea of Stories.

**ESSEX RESCUE**  
**Dan Manz, Executive Director**

Essex Rescue, Inc. is a private not-for-profit Paramedic-level ambulance service that works in partnership with many other organizations including the Essex and Essex Junction Fire Departments and Essex Police Department to meet the emergency needs of Essex and Essex Junction. We are not affiliated with any town government.

Essex Rescue is pleased to continue providing emergency medical services to all areas of Essex and Essex Junction as well as the town of Underhill, southern Westford and northern Jericho. For the year ending June 30, 2015 Essex Rescue responded to 1,973 requests for 9-1-1 emergency service. Of these calls, 1,356 were in Essex or Essex Junction. The graph below shows the types of calls Essex Rescue responded to in Essex or Essex Junction during the period 7/1/2014 through 6/30/2015.



Providing high-quality emergency medical care in the out-of-hospital setting on a 24 hour per day basis is both challenging and expensive. We use state-of-the-art vehicles and equipment, and we have some of the most highly trained basic and advanced level personnel in Vermont. We work in conjunction with Fletcher Allen Health Care to deliver fast and effective service to time-sensitive emergencies such as heart attacks, strokes and serious traumatic injuries as well as to less time-sensitive but still significant emergencies. We strive to deliver the care each patient needs and to do it in ways that are supportive and

respectful. Successful out-of-hospital care often means helping to relieve pain, assuring an anxious parent, explaining what will happen when we get to the hospital or a similar step that goes beyond meeting a clinical need.

The cost of Essex Rescue's operations are over a million dollars annually. In early 2015, we plan to take delivery on a new ambulance that will cost nearly \$200,000. We are able to consistently provide high volume, high quality service through a combination of different supports, financial and otherwise. The most important support we have comes from our 60 uncompensated volunteer members who contribute thousands of hours of time annually to staff our ambulances. Our biggest form of financial support comes from billing for the patient services we provide. We work hard to recover prospectively paid insurance revenues in an effort to minimize the need for tax subsidies from our communities. We are also fortunate to have a high level of participation in our subscription program that brings us important revenue and benefits participants by limiting their out of pocket costs for Essex Rescue's services. As a subscriber, you can pay a \$50 annual fee and then pay nothing else out of pocket for deductible or co-pay expenses. Subscription letters are sent out every November or you can subscribe online at [www.essexrescue.org](http://www.essexrescue.org). Many people and organizations in the community are also very generous in making grants or donations throughout the year or in memory of loved ones at a time of death.

As you can see from the graph, nearly 18% of our emergency calls do not result in the transport of a patient to the hospital. In these cases, we are not able to bill health insurers for the cost of the emergency response. The towns we cover provide an annual donation to Essex Rescue, Inc., which offsets a small part of what it costs us to be available around the clock, when and where your community members need emergency medical services.

Essex Rescue is always recruiting new volunteers. We invite you to visit our website at [www.essexrescue.org](http://www.essexrescue.org) or call us at 802-878-4859 ext. 4 to speak with Colleen Nesto about membership. We are proud of the services we offer and look forward to providing you with more information about the squad at any time. Our primary station is at 1 Educational Drive in Essex Junction, near the Essex High School and our administrative offices are routinely open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays if you have questions or would like to see our facility, vehicles and equipment.

**HEALTH OFFICER**  
**Jerry L. Firkey, Health Officer**  
**Sharon Kelley, Deputy Health Officer**

The Health Officer & Deputy Health Officer are appointed by the Vermont Department of Health Commissioner, after receiving a recommendation from the Selectboard. Health Officers conduct inspections to detect violations of any state or local health statute, rule, ordinance or permit, or any public hazard or public risk. The specific duties of the Health Officer can be found under Vermont State Statute Title 18, Chapter 11§ 602a.

The Health Officers assist the Health Department on educating the public. In order to achieve this mission, we ask that you keep yourself informed by visiting the State of Vermont Health Department website ([www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov)) and the Town website ([www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org)).

Health Officers respond to public complaints in connection with rental housing units. Common complaints include, but are not limited to, mold and mildew, lack of sufficient heat, water line and drain leaks, and faulty wiring. It is not uncommon for the State of Vermont Department of Public Safety Fire Marshal's Office to also be involved in situations such as faulty wiring and poor construction practices as rental units are subject to State of Vermont Building Codes. Preventative measures should be taken by the landowner or tenant by routine clean-up measures, better ventilation and use of dehumidifiers in order to reduce the potential for mold and mildew. The Health Officers ensure that health violations are corrected.

Landlords and tenants have a resource available to them called **Vermont Tenants, Inc.** Vermont Tenants has produced a handbook describing the responsibilities related to rental housing. You can contact their office by calling 864-0099. In addition, visit the following housing resource link which is available for Vermont town officials, landlords & tenants. <http://www.rentalcodes.org/areas-of-interest/other-concerns/>. This link provides information on additional health and safety concerns such as, ADA & Accessibility; Asbestos; Electrical; Energy; Lead Paint; Fair Housing; Mold; Radon; and Water.

Regular inspections and water testing of the Town and Village swimming pools, as well as the Indian Brook Reservoir swimming area, take place during the swimming season. The results of these bi-weekly tests can be found at [www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org).

Regarding Indian Brook Reservoir, the public must always pick up after their animals, including horses. These measures will help to keep the Reservoir safe for swimming and the grounds sanitary for hikers. Dogs must be on a leash at all times in the parking area, boat launch area and picnic area. In all other areas animals must be under the control of the owner at all times.

All dogs, cats and ferrets are required to be current on rabies vaccination. Also, dogs must be licensed annually with the Town Clerk (April 1 deadline).

Animal bites continue to be reported and investigated by the Health Officer and Essex Police (Animal Control Officer), and, if applicable, he/she must ensure the animal is properly quarantined, registered with the Town and have proof the animal is current with a rabies vaccination. The **rabies virus** is still quite seriously active among the wild animal kingdom. Remember to stay away from wild animals and report any strange activity to the Police Department. For more information about rabies, call the **Rabies Hotline** at 1-800-472-2437.

The **West Nile Virus (WNV)** and **Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)** inflicted from mosquitoes is still active in Vermont. WNV is a viral infection that usually affects birds. The virus spreads when a mosquito bites an infected bird and then bites a human. An infected mother may pass the virus along to her fetus during pregnancy or to her infant during breastfeeding. **Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)** is a rare disease that is caused by a virus (EEEV) spread by infected mosquitoes. EEEV is one of a group of viruses that mosquitoes can pass to humans and can cause inflammation and swelling of the brain (encephalitis). The state collects batches of mosquitos from all 14 counties in Vermont and performs weekly tests for WNV & EEE. The results are posted on the State of Vermont Health Department website.

**Lyme Disease** is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks. Typical symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue and skin rash. Most cases of Lyme disease can be treated successfully with a few weeks of antibiotics. Steps to help prevent Lyme disease include using insect repellent and removing ticks promptly. See the Vermont Health Department website for more information.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), known as the **Avian Flu** is expected to impact the East Coast in 2016. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets are encouraging poultry owners, producers and enthusiasts to prepare for this outbreak. The disease is most commonly spread to domestic poultry by infected waterfowl, through direct contact or contact with droppings, during migration periods. All poultry owners, whether they are backyard hobbyists or commercial producers, should evaluate their farms for risk factors that could contribute to avian influenza occurring on their farms. Risk factors include:

- Poultry housed outside.
- Ponds or other water fowl attractants on the farm.
- Piles of debris located close to poultry areas.
- Introduction of poultry from other farms without a quarantine period.
- Lack of personal protective equipment such as dedicated coveralls and boots.
- Sharing of equipment between farms.

All bird owners are encouraged to practice good biosecurity, prevent contact between their birds and wild birds, and report sick birds or unusual bird deaths to State/Federal officials, either through the Vermont Agency of Agriculture at (802) 828-2421 or through USDA's toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

In 2012 the Vermont Legislature passed the Universal Recycling Law which bans disposal of recyclables (metal, glass, plastics #1 & #2, and paper/cardboard) by **JULY 1, 2015**; leaf and yard debris and clean wood by **JULY 1, 2016**; and food scraps by **JULY 1, 2020**. Since that time, the Vermont Department of Health has been working with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to understand how this law affects rental homes throughout the state. All Essex residents should familiarize themselves with the new laws by contacting the Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD).

If anyone has any questions regarding health issues of any kind, or if you have any complaints, questions, or need assistance, please call the following numbers: (802) 598-0801 or 878-1343. Nights, weekends and holidays - Police Department at 878-8331.

More detailed information can be found on the State of Vermont Department of Health website [www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov) and the contact number is 863-7200.

## **PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Allyson Vile, Director**

### ***Department Mission***

*Advance Parks and Recreation Efforts that Enhance the Quality of Life for the Community of Essex*

The Essex Parks and Recreation Department continues to serve the **Community** of Essex through **People** (staff, volunteers), **Parks** (Sand Hill Pool, Indian Brook and neighborhood parks) and **Programs** (senior vans, youth, after-school, adult, and special events). In recent years we have strived to increase our **Connections** as a way to reach current and potential users; whether it is a sign outside the building with program reminders, or by quick and informative posts on social media outlets and the website. This has increased our visibility to the public, both residents and non-residents, as a way of increasing program registration or by gaining trust and boosting interest in community awareness.

To carry out our department's mission as we promote connecting the public to a healthier community, we are proud to be one of the largest seasonal employers in Essex. Each summer we employ nearly 60 individuals within our pool, parks and recreation programs.

### ***Recreation***

Recreation programs are developed to provide the community opportunities to meet their physical, mental and social needs. Through our diverse programs, we continue to educate residents on the benefits of physical activity, provide the 55+ community with low-cost active and social opportunities, help people build healthy lifestyles and offer programs that provide youth with positive ways to occupy their free time.

Accomplishments in FYE15 include:

- Continued implementation recommended from the Recreation Needs Assessment
- Extended vacation camp care options for children during school breaks
- Increased program variety in our Extended School Program sessions, as stated as Goal #1 in the Recreation Needs Assessment
- Increased enrollment in the Girls Lacrosse League
- Received donation of storage container for Lacrosse program

Program goals for FYE16 include:

- Increase program registration through internet over 68%
- Update the Subsidy Allocation Policy to reflect local needs
- Update website model to a more current and user-friendly style
- Continue implementation of recommendations from Recreation Needs Assessment
- Increase connections with local businesses and organizations for program sponsorship and involvement

Proposed increases to the FYE17 Recreation portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing enhanced levels of service throughout our programming demands. The majority of programming expenses are handled through the Program Fund; a self-sustaining fund that does not affect increases on taxpayers.

## ***Parks***

The Parks and Recreation Department continues its endeavor to protect the public investment in parks and recreation facilities. The goal of the efforts in the parks is to protect and preserve natural resources and to provide neighborhood parks and facilities that are safe, clean and green.

Improvements to the parks in FYE15 included:

- Continued efforts to improve and maintain safe playing surfaces at the Prairie Fields through turf management.
- Increased safety surfacing at two park playgrounds.
- Removed hazardous trees from Sand Hill park.

Scheduled or completed improvements to the parks for FYE16 include:

- Installed an updated gate house at Indian Brook Reservoir.
- Continue compliance with ADA regulations on paths at parks.
- Maintain a high level of turf maintenance on athletic fields.
- Complete MOU between EPR, ETSD and ETLT organizations regarding field needs and responsibilities.
- Plant trees at Fort Ethan Allen.
- Evaluate reconstruction of the Bandstand/Gazebo at Fort Ethan Allen.
- Construct a new pavilion at Sand Hill Park.
- Replace playground equipment at Saxon Hollow Park.
- Install new drainage at Myers Park.
- Resurface playground material at Myers Park.

Proposed increases to the FYE17 Parks portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing an increased level of service in regards to recycling, branding, supervision of park maintenance and users, as well as added playground surfacing at neighborhood parks.

## ***Pool***

Programs offered at the pool provide opportunities to develop lifelong skills, personal development and health, wellness and employment opportunities for young adults in a safe, fun environment.

Accomplishments and/or Improvements to the pool in FYE15 included:

- Updated bathroom fixtures within building for better efficiency.
- Updated motion sensors in security system.
- Installed safety grating in pool and spray ground filter rooms.
- Repaired broken sprayground fixture and cement pad.
- Implemented additional swim lesson classes to accommodate family & individual lifestyles.
- Purchased a new robotic pool vacuum.

Scheduled or completed improvements for FYE16 include:

- Hosted a successful Champlain Valley Swim League with over 600 swimmers.
- Implemented new start up and closing procedures with outside contractor.
- Small upgrades internally at Sand Hill Pool in washrooms and guard room.
- Replace guard and pool deck chairs/furniture.
- Install shade system for picnic area.

Proposed increases to the FYE17 Pool portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing the same or enhanced levels of service.

***Senior Activities***

The senior vans provide an essential service to the senior community of Essex. The vans allow seniors convenient accessibility for healthcare, wellness and recreation needs. The department hires, trains and schedules the drivers. The Senior Activities Coordinator hires and schedules the phone volunteers, along with assisting the Director with training sessions.

Accomplishments and/or Improvements in FYE15 included:

- Hired and trained Senior Activities Coordinator on a part-time paid basis
- Assisted implementation of new programming and supplies at the Essex Junction Senior Center with the new Activities Coordinator
- Hired replacement drivers while maintaining budgeted hours

Scheduled or completed improvements for FYE16 include:

- Conduct defensive driver training with VLCT
- Coordinate with CCTA regarding a replacement for the “Green/E3” van

Proposed increases to the FYE17 senior activities portion of the budget reflect increases consistent with costs associated with providing the same exceptional level of service, while increasing the Senior Activities Coordinator position to a full time paid status.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bradley J. LaRose**  
**Chief of Police**

The new police facility has afforded the members of the department the ability to function more efficiently. This is primarily due to all operations being located in one building with greater space to organize. The facility is energy efficient with highly technical mechanical and operational systems.

The warranties on the new facility have expired. Several maintenance agreements have been secured in order to protect the investment and assure optimum operating efficiencies. The cost of these agreements is reflected in the Building Repair and Maintenance account.

The extreme cold weather last winter caused the parking lot pavement surrounding the new facility to heave extensively. The Town hired an independent engineering firm to investigate and report the cause of the heaving. The Town has shared the findings of this report with the construction management, architectural and engineering firms that were employed to plan and construct the project. A resolution is pending.

The police department regularly replaces two marked and one unmarked vehicle each year. The department purchases used unmarked vehicles. The current proposal is to purchase two marked and two unmarked vehicles. The additional unmarked vehicle purchase will provide the Town Manager with a later model used vehicle and reassign the Manager's current vehicle as a replacement for the current Town "pool" vehicle. The Town does maintain an older vehicle for limited, short range, employee use (assessor, planning and zoning).

The Community Justice Center (CJC) experienced a change in leadership this past year. Jill Evans has replaced Kate Brayton as the Center's Director. In her four years as CJC director, Kate served to strengthen and expand the mission of the Center. Jill has merged very well into the role of Director as she has brought over 30 years of State criminal justice experience to the position.

The illegal use and distribution of opiates remains the most significant drug related threat to our community and the region. Heroin has become the choice of addicts as it has become more readily available and less costly than other dangerous drugs. Addicts seeking the funds to support their habit remain the crux of most criminal activity. Resources necessary to respond to such criminal activity, and the treatment needs of addicts, are strained.

The police department dedicates significant resources to the drug enforcement effort. However, the success the department has realized in this fight can many times be attributed to public awareness and reporting. What often times begins as a report of suspicious activity molds into a significant drug investigation. The department's close working relationship with other state and federal enforcement agencies is the proper mechanism to assure the most effective case development and prosecution of offenders.

While investigations and counter-drug enforcement activities are vital in combating the illicit drug threat, education and awareness as to the dangers of drug use are paramount. The most effective way to avoid the pitfalls of addiction, support those in need, and to parent is by setting a strong, healthy example. We must strive to make the right decision when faced with a choice.

Challenges and choices to a healthy life style are perpetual. Our community, state, country, and society will forever debate, explore and modify what we deem as viable response options to what threatens our well-being and safety. In the meantime, let us not lose sight of our ability to make proper decisions, especially when the options at the crossroads are evident.

**FYE 2015 Statistics**

**REPORTED CRIME ACTIVITY – PERIOD 07/01/14-06/30/15**

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>HOMICIDE</b>	2	0	0	2	0
<b>ROBBERIES</b>	2	3	4	5	6
<b>BURGLARIES</b>	51	71	73	85	97
<b>ASSAULTS</b>	53	73	84	54	65
<b>SEX OFFENSES</b>	24	12	24	21	23
<b>DRUG OFFENSES</b>	124	140	111	86	85
<b>LARCENIES</b>	508	607	470	488	331
<b>VANDALISM</b>	233	199	162	115	83
<b>STOLEN VEHICLES</b>	6	8	17	4	7
<b>SUICIDES/ATTEMPTS</b>	10	11	9	4	8
<b>MISSING PERSONS</b>	50	29	34	39	26
<b>BAD CHECKS / FRAUD</b>	77	69	91	104	92
<b>D.U.I.</b>	33	32	38	23	42
<b>COURT CASES</b>	324	325	334	327	293
<b>ACCIDENTS</b>	731	635	710	718	701

There were 3,956 tickets written for traffic and parking violations, of these, 704 were Vermont Traffic Citations.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**Dennis E. Lutz, P.E.**  
**Town Engineer/Public Works Director**

The first steps were taken by the Town Selectboard and Village Trustees to consolidate the delivery of public works services during the fiscal year starting July 1, 2015. An agreement was signed by both boards to incrementally develop “. . . a combined public works department for the management of highway and engineering functions as well as any other public works-related functions as may be mutually agreed upon by the Town and the Village.” The term of the agreement was for an initial period of three years; with the first year’s concentration of effort on progress towards equitable cost sharing, storm water cost consolidation and informal sharing of highway services. The agreement further called for a departmental management study to be completed by November 1, 2015 for further definition of the steps leading to full consolidation of public works services. This report has been submitted to both boards as of the writing of this annual report and the suggestions contained in that report form the basis for the highway and public works management budgets for FYE17.

In the process outlined in the agreement, all storm water permitting costs relating to the Village and Town obligations under their respective MS4 NPDES storm water permits were combined into one account within the overall Town General Fund budget. This method of taxing to meet this State and EPA requirement means that Village and Town taxpayers share these costs equally.

Similarly, the Village street costs, not including paving or rolling stock replacement, were included as part of the Town General Fund Budget in FYE16. Each board determines separately the amount in each of the two budgets and determines how those costs will be spent. However, the costs are shared equitably through the Town’s tax base. This method of funding a consolidated public works department will be used throughout the time frame of the agreement. Designated Village street money will be used exclusively in the Village and designated Town Highway money will be used exclusively in the Town. The goal is to administratively manage and coordinate public works functions centrally but enable field operations separately in each community.

In the first year of the agreement, a number of tasks were informally undertaken to consolidate the delivery of public works services including;

**In Storm Water:** Joint development of required Flow Restoration Plans for Indian and Sunderland Brooks through two \$40,000 grants (Village and Town) administered by the Town but developed with input from both communities; joint hiring of engineering summer interns to collect required storm water data in both communities; joint handling of expired storm water permits; Town catch-basin cleaning using Village equipment and employees instead of private contractors at a savings of \$5,000 to all taxpayers; preparation of project storm water grants by the Town for submittal by the Town and separately by the Village; reduction in FYE16 storm water costs by over \$35,000 through joint work effort savings.

**In Highway:** Joint employee safety training sessions saving time and costs; development of a community-wide Joint Winter Operations Plan, outlining policies and procedures in both the Village and the Town for winter snow removal; vehicle sharing when needed for specific tasks such as hauling leaves; bidding of paving projects under one bid for both communities, resulting in 4% lower prices in the Town and 9% lower prices in the Village over the previous year; installation of GPS location devices in all major public works equipment and vehicles in both the Village and the Town; temporary use of the Village salt sheds for delivery and mixing of de-icing products.

### **Public Works Management Study:**

The study provided information on the next steps that need to be taken towards full consolidation. Improvements are needed in all areas of communication from internal systems hardware and software integration to expansion of the “See-Click-Fix” system currently used in the Village to a single Town/Village system for handling complaints, to increased sharing of data aimed at improving inter-community coordination. In a consolidated public works department, the most important aspect is the handling of requests for service/complaints from all sources. This will involve not only development of a single source of contact for the entry complaint but a quick dissemination of the request to those best suited to provide the solution and develop the appropriate and timely response. A system has been proposed to accomplish this. Another work task is to provide both boards with written procedures for procurement of outside contractual services, to include engineering. The contract procedure work is scheduled for delivery in the late spring of 2016.

Other joint initiatives involve looking at various ways to provide further tax equity between the communities through combined financing of paving projects and equipment, through use of a common road condition analysis program with road evaluations conducted by impartial, third parties and expansion of grant applications for road and structures work.

In order for the public works consolidation effort to move forward, the Selectboard, Trustees and the voters will need to agree on providing the continued funding and resources for consolidation in the proposed FYE17 budgets; the elected officials will need to concur with the Public Works Management Study to place consolidated public works management functions under the Town Public Works Director; to appoint a review committee to determine the effectiveness of the consolidated department and to develop a matrix to be used in the evaluation.

In past years, the public works annual report provided detailed information on completed projects and those currently underway relating to highway, storm water, water/sewer and buildings; that work has not stopped. It is ongoing and important. However, consolidation of services will have the most lasting impact on the community and therefore this annual report has been written solely on this topic.

**TOWN CLERK/TREASURER**  
**Cheryl Moomey, Town Clerk and Treasurer**

The following is a summary of revenue for the Town Clerk’s Office:

Hunting & Fishing Licenses .....	\$188
Marriage Licenses .....	\$1,117
Animal Licenses.....	\$7,299
Liquor Licenses.....	\$4,345
Recording of Land Records .....	\$128,698
Vault Time .....	\$2,545
Sale of Certified Copies .....	\$6,945
Department of Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals .....	\$230
Printing & Duplication Services .....	\$14,868

The Clerk’s Office recorded 19 volumes of Land Records and 700 Vermont Property Transfer returns for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Vital records recorded in the Town of Essex from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015:

Births: 220      Marriages: 128      Deaths: 124

The annual Town Meeting election was held on March 2 and March 3, 2015.

- Article I:      The reports of the Officers were accepted.
- Article II:     The budget was adopted for FYE 2016 in the amount of \$12,587,464.
- Article IV:    The following officers were elected by Australian ballot:
  - Moderator: (1 One-Year Term)                      Steve Eustis
  - Selectboard: (1 Three-Year Term)                      Brad Luck
- Article V:     Shall Up to Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000) of the Six Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,900,000) in general obligation bonds of the Town of Essex, issued for the purpose of purchasing land and constructing a new police facility, be repurposed and used instead to upgrade the Town offices at 81 Main Street?
  - Yes: 665                                              No: 226

Services available at the Town Clerk’s Office:

Collect Property Taxes	Maintain Vital Records for Town and Village
Collect Water & Sewer Taxes	Marriage Licenses
Dog Licenses	Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals
Fish & Wildlife Licenses	Notary Public Service
Genealogy Research	Record Land Records for Town and Village
Green Mountain Passports	Register to Vote
Liquor Licenses	Vote by Absentee
Maintain Cemetery Records	

**NOTE: Due to the 2012 redistricting, a portion of village voters who are in Census Block 1023 (173-261 Pearl Street) have been moved to town District “8-1 Village” for state and federal elections only. These voters will vote at the Essex Middle School during state and federal elections. There will be a separate checklist at the Essex Middle School for these voters. For local elections, these voters will vote with the village at the High School as they have in the past.**

**TOWN MANAGER**  
**Patrick C. Scheidel**

*“Action is eloquence.”*  
*--William Shakespeare*

The proposed FYE 2017 budget is submitted to you with the financial resources necessary to meet the expected demand for municipal services and absorb the consolidated budget for Town and Village public works administration. The growth in the Grand List has averaged 1.43% over the past five years: 0.86%, 1.64%, 0.76%, 1.73% and 2.13%. More attention in economic development has been undertaken by our motivated Economic Development Commission. It must continue in order to achieve a more diversified tax base. It is expected that the Grand List growth for FYE 2017 will be approximately 1%. This slow growth trend may remain the same without more successful economic development initiatives. Village redevelopment and reinvestment from GlobalFoundries will certainly help.

**Budget**

The proposed FYE 2017 budget is a responsible financial plan. The effort to consolidate service delivery systems continues. Since July 2013, a shared manager for the Town and Village municipal administration has been undertaken. Thus far, it has been successful. During the ensuing timeframe, some consolidated service initiatives have been discussed, planned and implemented. For example, a joint stormwater policy committee has been appointed and begun work planning Town and Village stormwater permit activity. One tax bill now exists for the Village taxpayers and one Town-wide collection system has been successfully implemented. A part time Senior Center Coordinator is proposed to become full time to manage the consolidated Senior Center and to fundraise. This position is funded by the Town. A manager appointed staff IT group has had its initial meeting to determine what potential efficiencies can be electronically realized. Most of the effort has been devoted to financial system consolidation.

This budget contains the reallocation of personnel to create a consolidated finance and administrative service delivery system. A phenomenal amount of detailed work has occurred and continues to consolidate this service area. The employees have performed admirably.

Some initial expected efficiencies from the consolidated financial/administrative service are:

- Shared finance team and Finance Director
- Shared accounts receivable module
- Cash receipts in same system
- Combined accounts payable functions (one set of checks run at same time)
- Shared general ledger and chart of accounts
- Shared bank account
- Shared payroll system

The Administrative Services Director position was created and filled, and the individual, Doug Fisher, is leading the finance and administrative system consolidation.

The proposed FYE 2017 budget increase is \$595,426 or 4.7% over last year. Salaries are budgeted at 3.5%, including premium pay such as longevity and steps. Salaries in total are up 4.3% over the current year. Benefits decreased 8% as a result of lower health care premiums. Cost of living is projected to fluctuate between 0 and 2 percent next year. Usual operating cost increases, such as road materials, are expected and budgeted accordingly. Benefit cost increases have been a major driver in recent years. The

FYE2017 budget shows a decrease due to reduced costs for health insurance. These reduced costs reflect the move to the State Exchange in 2016 and are based on current 2016 rates with a slight increase for 2017. The Selectboard-approved high deductible insurance option for employees has helped control costs. The Town and its employees continue to benefit from this option above normal adjustments.

A few discretionary expenditures are listed here. One notable proposed expense is that associated with a continuation of highway consolidation. All Village and Town paving will be shown in the highway department. The net is a \$200,000 increase in the Village portion of the Town highway budget.

For FYE 2017, one of the expanding budget areas continues to be storm water compliance. Each year, to meet environmental concerns and regulations, storm water costs rise. The decision was made to formulate storm water policy together; the next step is to organize the storm water activities. This proposed budget consolidates the finances of the joint arrangement between the Town and Village. An amount of \$59,397 has been shown for salaries and benefits associated with Village stormwater employees.

Each year the leading budgetary items of concern are salaries and benefits. These personnel service cost centers combine for approximately 57% of the budget. In fact, over the past three fiscal years, the budgeted percent of salary and benefits versus operating expenses were as follows:

	<b>FYE 14</b>	<b>FYE 15</b>	<b>FYE 16</b>
Salaries & Benefits	67.07%	66.96%	66.34%
Operating	32.93%	33.04%	33.66%

For FYE 2017, the proposed \$13,182,890 budget shows 57.5% for salary and benefits and 42.4% for operating costs. The trend illustrates the major driver of recent budget increases has been non-personnel costs.

**Transfers**

The proposed FYE 2017 budget includes \$350,907 in transfer expenses. Included in the transfers to capital is a small amount of funds for a pool vehicle shown in the Community Development and Assessor’s departments.

**Revenue**

Revenues are projected realistically. Non-tax revenues are not expected to increase significantly. Property valuation discussions and growth will impact the Grand List as usual. Interest revenue is down as a result of declining interest rates.

While it is normally recommended that fund balance not be used to adjust the tax rate, this year’s budget discussion regarding consolidating highway services may alter the process. With the slowly improving economy, Town financial resources will remain strained. Maintaining a healthy fund balance will minimize the negative impacts of the expected level of delinquencies and allow for creating necessary reserves. A fifteen percent fund balance is the goal.

Although it has been our practice to use tax sales as a last resort while exploring every avenue possible to allow residents to remain in possession of their residential and business property, the Town will continue

collections this year. A small fund balance would force us to become even more aggressive in tax collections (via tax sales). Balancing our financial position with taxpayer sensitivity will be our guide in tax collection.

### **Capital**

The capital budget for FYE 2017 was comprehensively discussed in January. Preventing the deterioration of infrastructure such as roads, buildings and parks has been and continues to be one of our primary capital goals. Planning for equipment and vehicle replacement over time has been another central purpose of the capital plan and budget. The funds for meeting all capital projects come from various sources such as grants, impact fees and a designated two cent tax rate. Demand always exceeds our ability to pay; consequently, the annual capital spending addresses the “worst first” in terms of approved project expenditures. The serious weather patterns causing water-damaged infrastructure results in revisiting the discussion of another penny for capital expenditures.

### **Conclusion**

Due to the challenge to submit a lean budget, yet balance the effective management of each department, a greater increase in operating funds is proposed in the FYE 2017 budget. Funding for the Farm and Open Land contracts and the veterans’ exemptions requires the local agreement rate of \$.0019. The proposed budget calls for a moderate increase in the Town general rate while at the same time reducing the Town Highway and Village general tax rates. It is expected that the average increase in taxes will be \$36 for Town Outside the Village taxpayers and \$17 for Village taxpayers.

During the past several months, a program has been implemented for consolidating public works highway functions in order to determine what levels of service delivery efficiencies can be developed and implemented. The first year has proceeded well. The proposed FYE 2017 budget includes a consolidated Public Works Administration function and a unified pavement program. The impact of adding \$200,000 of Village paving to the highway budget explains the partial increase in the FYE 2017 budget. In the absence of this decision, the budget increase would have been 3.1%.

### Administrative Consolidation

1. Town Manager’s Administrative Assistant/Secretary increased weekly hours from 32 to 40.
2. Director of Administrative Services – 75% Town Manager, 25% Water/Sewer.
3. GIS Coordinator from Community Development (5%), Assessor (40%), Emergency Management (55%) to Manager (100%).
4. MIS Director/Police Captain from 80% to 60% MIS and 40% Police Department.

### Finance Department Consolidation

1. Payroll is on one system.
2. Crosstrain Town and Village personnel on payroll processing
3. Consolidate the location of all finance personnel to 81 Main Street.
4. Go out to bid for one auditor for the FYE2016 fiscal year.
5. Plan to merge and share financial policies such as purchasing and investment policies.
6. Goal of moving the Village utility (water/sewer) onto the Town accounting system in FYE 2017.

**TABLE 1**

Town General Budget  
Salary Re-allocations

	FYE2016 Budget			FYE2017 Budget			Total Change FY16- FY17
	Salaries	Benefits	Total	Salaries	Benefits	Total	
Town Manager	\$278,905	\$126,961	\$405,866	\$452,662	\$179,577	\$632,239	\$226,373
Finance	\$185,434	\$94,751	\$280,185	\$98,102	\$58,210	\$156,312	(\$123,873)
Real Estate Appraisal	\$137,128	\$85,459	\$222,587	\$126,734	\$68,050	\$194,784	(\$27,803)
Community Development	\$255,561	\$145,127	\$400,688	\$250,065	\$124,102	\$374,167	(\$26,521)
Emergency Management	\$31,883	\$18,130	\$50,013	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$50,013)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$888,911</b>	<b>\$470,428</b>	<b>\$1,359,339</b>	<b>\$927,563</b>	<b>\$429,939</b>	<b>\$1,357,502</b>	<b>(\$1,837)</b>
 Change FY16 to FY17				\$38,652	(\$40,489)	(\$1,837)	

## **Public Works Consolidation**

1. Consolidation of purchases to affect price through increased volume.
2. Cross-utilization of equipment to reduce the need to rent certain pieces.
3. Winter coordination to make more efficient use of resources – materials, trucks, people.
4. Shared training.
5. Savings on consultant engineering services for some engineering services that can be done in-house by staff engineers.
6. Savings on some infrastructure repairs through in-house engineered solutions.
7. Joint required safety training insuring consistent level of training and reduced time commitment (\$900 training cost in Town budgets).
8. Development of Joint Winter Operations Plan (first plan for the Village) by in-house personnel.
9. Use of Town 13 CY truck to assist Village in hauling leaves.
10. Assistance from the Village to cover sidewalk clearing along a portion of VT117 within the Town to address a long-standing service complaint.
11. Issuance and award of a single paving bid for both communities with prices 4% lower for the Town and 9% lower for the Village from FYE2014 bid prices.
12. Initiation of digital communication discussions and vendor inputs for future consolidated communications system.
13. Initiation of joint effort for equipping vehicles with GPS locators and with discussions on joint See-Click-Fid software integrated into consolidated operations.
14. Planned temporary use of Village salt sheds for mixing of winter products to be paid for by the Town, hauled by the Town and used in the Town (Magic Salt mix).

**TABLE 2**

<b>FYE 2017 TOWN BUDGET</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>CHANGE FROM FYE 2016 %</b>	<b>TAX RATE</b>	<b>TAXES</b>
FYE 2016 Approved Town Budget	\$12,587,464				
FYE 2017 Proposed Town General Budget*	\$12,982,890	\$395,426	3.14%		
Town General Rate				\$0.0102	\$29
Village Paving Costs Assumed	\$200,000	\$200,000	1.59%		
Town Highway Rate				(\$0.0113)	(\$32)
Village General Rate				(\$0.0183)	(\$51)
Town General Rate				\$0.0143	\$39
Total FYE 2017 Proposed Budget	<u>\$13,182,890</u>	<u>\$595,426</u>	<u>4.73%</u>		
Town Highway Rate				(\$0.0113)	(\$32)
Village General Rate				(\$0.0183)	(\$51)
Town General Rate				\$0.0245	\$68
<b>Net Tax Change for:</b>					
Village Taxpayer				\$0.0062	\$17
Town Outside Village Taxpayer				\$0.0132	\$36

**Notes:**

\* Proposed FYE2017 budget before including \$200,000 of Village paving previously carried in Village budget

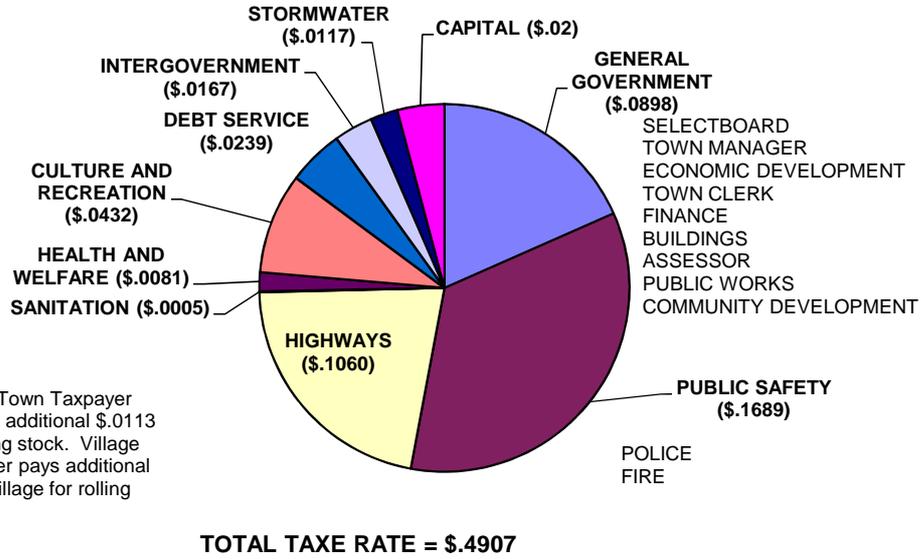
Combining Highway paving budgets increases Town General tax rate by \$.0143  
Combining Highway paving budgets decreases Town Highway tax rate by \$.0113  
Combining Highway paving budgets decreases Village General tax rate by \$.0183

**Assumptions:**

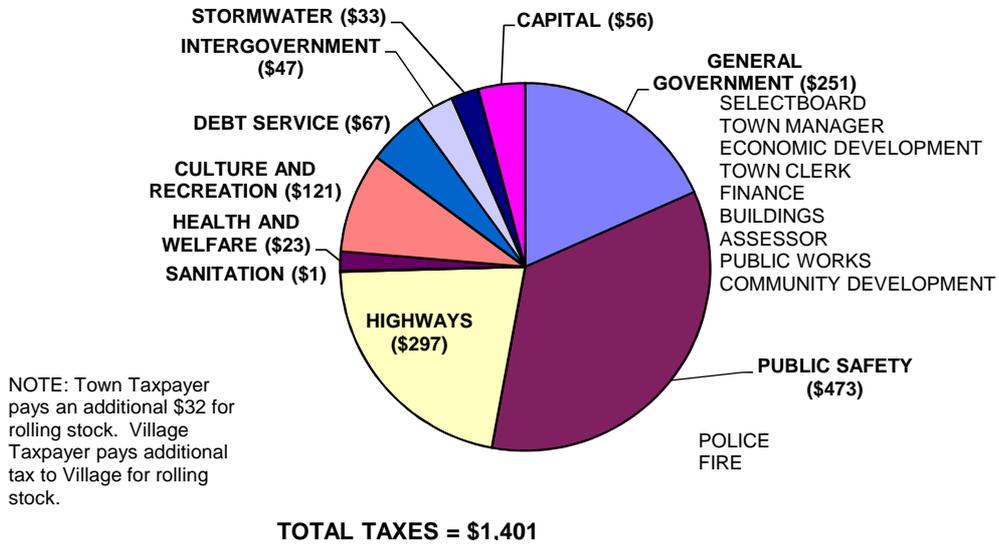
Estimated tax rates and taxes are based on 1% grand list growth.  
Estimated taxes are based on average residence value of \$280,000  
Non-Tax Revenue includes the use of \$125,000 of Fund Balance

# PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

## ESTIMATED TAXE RATES BY CATEGORY



## ESTIMATED TAXES ON \$280,000 HOME



**TOWN OF ESSEX CAPITAL BUDGET AND PROGRAM**  
**FYE 2017 - 2021**

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	FYE 6/17	FYE 6/18	FYE 6/19	FYE 6/20	FYE 6/21	POST FYE 6/21
<b>BUILDINGS</b>							
HIGHWAY GARAGE / TREE FARM IMPROVEMENTS	\$403,000	\$12,000**	\$12,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$319,000
LIBRARY DEFERRED MAINTENANCE & EXPANSION	\$124,000	\$18,000**					\$106,000
MEMORIAL HALL RENOVATIONS / ADDITION	\$365,000	\$0					\$365,000
RECREATION PROGRAM SPACE FEASIBILITY STUDY	\$30,000	\$0	5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
ENERGY RETROFIT OF EXISTING BUILDINGS	\$56,000	\$3,000**	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$41,000
HISTORIC WATER TOWER	\$224,000	\$0					\$224,000
SLATE ROOF REPAIRS	\$25,000	\$25,000					\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL BUILDINGS</b>	<b>\$1,227,000</b>	<b>\$58,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$28,000</b>	<b>\$28,000</b>	<b>\$28,000</b>	<b>\$1,065,000</b>
<b>HIGHWAYS</b>							
HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$1,357,000	\$282,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$175,000
GRAVEL ROADS	\$228,500	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$108,500
ALLEN MARTIN PARKWAY	\$4,100,000	\$0					\$4,100,000
GENTES ROAD BRIDGE	\$106,423	\$53,000	\$53,423				\$0
VT15/ALLEN MARTIN INTERSECTION ANALYSIS	\$114,000	\$0					\$114,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL HIGHWAYS</b>	<b>\$5,905,923</b>	<b>\$355,000</b>	<b>\$298,423</b>	<b>\$245,000</b>	<b>\$255,000</b>	<b>\$255,000</b>	<b>\$4,497,500</b>
<b>WATERLINES</b>							
PINECREST DR TO VILLAGE RT 2A	\$184,000	\$0					\$184,000
DOUGLAS TO WILLOUGHBY	\$233,000	\$0					\$233,000
SAND HILL ROAD WATERLINE	\$110,000	\$0					\$110,000
LINE IMPROVEMENTS - S.W./KELLOGG/VT2A	\$22,700	\$22,700					\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL WATERLINES</b>	<b>\$549,700</b>	<b>\$22,700</b>					<b>\$527,000</b>
<b>SEWERS</b>							
PAINESVILLE AREA	\$1,367,000	\$0					\$1,367,000
CEMETERY RD	\$75,000	\$0					\$75,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL SEWERS</b>	<b>\$1,442,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>					<b>\$1,442,000</b>
<b>HEAVY EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES</b>							
HIGHWAY - EQUIPMENT/VEHICLES	\$2,100,000	\$327,000	\$170,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$1,078,000
FIRE - EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES	\$1,897,586	\$150,000**	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$1,347,586
PARKS - EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES	\$224,434	\$80,033	\$3,000	\$6,535	\$0	\$66,539	\$68,327
SENIOR BUS	\$70,000	\$10,000**	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
ASSESSOR/COMM DEV VEHICLE	\$10,000	\$10,000					\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL EQUIPMENT / VEHICLES</b>	<b>\$4,302,020</b>	<b>\$577,033</b>	<b>\$283,000</b>	<b>\$291,535</b>	<b>\$285,000</b>	<b>\$351,539</b>	<b>\$2,513,913</b>
<b>PARK FACILITIES</b>							
PARK ASSETS REPLACEMENT	\$227,268	\$47,053**	\$21,257	\$19,000	\$74,546	\$10,000	\$55,412
MILFOIL MITIGATION AT INDIAN BROOK	\$66,000	\$13,000**	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$1,000
INDIAN BROOK DAM REPAIRS	\$181,000	\$13,000**	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$116,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL PARKS</b>	<b>\$474,268</b>	<b>\$73,053</b>	<b>\$47,257</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	<b>\$100,546</b>	<b>\$36,000</b>	<b>\$172,412</b>
<b>PATHS &amp; WALKS</b>							
ROUTE 15 - CIRC TO MINI-GOLF COURSE	\$21,500	\$0					\$21,500
PINECREST DRIVE - SUFFOLK TO 2A	\$357,770	\$357,770					\$0
GENERAL PATHS AND WALKS	\$300,000	\$40,000**	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$100,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL PATHS &amp; WALKS</b>	<b>\$679,270</b>	<b>\$397,770</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$121,500</b>
<b>STORMWATER</b>							
STATE PERMITS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS	\$3,500,000	\$663,012	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$2,576,988
<b>INFORMATION MANAGEMENT</b>							
DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT	\$125,000	\$25,000**	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
<b>CONSERVATION</b>							
CONSERVATION INITIATIVES	\$100,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$10,000	\$50,000
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$18,205,181</b>	<b>\$2,180,568</b>	<b>\$787,680</b>	<b>\$750,535</b>	<b>\$809,546</b>	<b>\$810,539</b>	<b>\$12,966,313</b>
<b>FUNDING SOURCES</b>							
VEHICLE / EQUIPMENT FUND		\$407,033					
OPERATING FUNDS		\$135,000					
GRANTS STATE / FEDERAL / OTHER		\$672,626					
PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED CAPITAL FUNDS*		\$475,909					
<b>UNDESIGNATED CAPITAL FUNDS</b>		<b>\$490,000</b>					
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>		<b>\$2,180,568</b>					

\* Previously Committed Funds include contributions from developers in prior years

\*\* Amounts for these projects include funds to be designated for future expenditures

**Expected Adoption: February 1, 2016**

## PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET SUMMARY FOR FYE 2017

	BUDGET FYE2015	ACTUAL FYE2015	BUDGET FYE2016	ESTIMATED FYE2016	PROPOSED FYE2017
<b>REVENUES - SUMMARY</b>					
PROPERTY TAXES	\$10,405,368	\$10,065,514	\$11,352,328	\$11,352,000	\$11,951,764
LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$56,200	\$69,327	\$58,000	\$69,327	\$71,500
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$249,200	\$273,645	\$375,100	\$374,287	\$375,200
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$491,350	\$407,290	\$457,035	\$431,650	\$434,425
FINES	\$115,000	\$172,757	\$155,000	\$163,451	\$160,000
MISCELLANEOUS	\$72,001	\$59,855	\$67,001	\$62,501	\$65,001
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,389,119</b>	<b>\$11,048,388</b>	<b>\$12,464,464</b>	<b>\$12,453,216</b>	<b>\$13,057,890</b>
FUND BALANCE (INCREASE) DECREASE	\$0	(\$58,367)	\$123,000	\$104,955	\$125,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$11,389,119</b>	<b>\$10,990,021</b>	<b>\$12,587,464</b>	<b>\$12,558,171</b>	<b>\$13,182,890</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES - SUMMARY</b>					
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
SELECTBOARD	\$54,444	\$64,273	\$61,294	\$60,191	\$63,510
TOWN MANAGER	\$526,457	\$490,224	\$421,341	\$421,341	\$648,054
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$13,725	\$11,315	\$13,725	\$11,285	\$14,285
ELECTIONS	\$20,000	\$13,143	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$20,000
FINANCE	\$497,473	\$545,618	\$637,135	\$690,901	\$582,362
TAX COLLECTION	\$5,550	\$5,988	\$6,020	\$6,650	\$6,850
LEGAL SERVICES	\$55,000	\$41,958	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
TOWN CLERK	\$225,773	\$200,612	\$227,785	\$227,685	\$226,617
BUILDINGS AND PLANT	\$346,375	\$333,831	\$327,020	\$286,480	\$285,340
R/E APPRAISAL	\$222,576	\$226,549	\$225,302	\$225,302	\$200,584
PUBLIC WORKS	\$106,888	\$124,589	\$116,042	\$127,623	\$135,924
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$426,609	\$429,591	\$432,588	\$432,588	\$450,267
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>\$2,500,870</b>	<b>\$2,487,691</b>	<b>\$2,529,252</b>	<b>\$2,551,046</b>	<b>\$2,688,793</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>					
POLICE	\$3,888,800	\$3,586,956	\$4,028,123	\$4,035,792	\$4,011,006
FIRE	\$398,645	\$395,921	\$401,040	\$401,040	\$475,091
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$48,145	\$47,835	\$50,163	\$50,163	\$0
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$4,335,590</b>	<b>\$4,030,712</b>	<b>\$4,479,326</b>	<b>\$4,486,995</b>	<b>\$4,486,097</b>
<b>TOWN HIGHWAYS AND STREETS</b>					
TOWN HIGHWAYS AND STREETS	\$1,953,569	\$2,010,944	\$2,091,226	\$2,125,446	\$2,185,036
VILLAGE HIGHWAYS AND STREETS	\$0	\$0	\$780,095	\$780,095	\$1,000,641
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAYS AND STREETS</b>	<b>\$1,953,569</b>	<b>\$2,010,944</b>	<b>\$2,871,321</b>	<b>\$2,905,541</b>	<b>\$3,185,677</b>
<b>TOWN STORMWATER</b>					
TOWN STORMWATER	\$264,407	\$220,822	\$185,294	\$185,294	\$248,898
VILLAGE STORMWATER	\$0	\$0	\$96,975	\$0	\$59,352
<b>TOTAL STORMWATER</b>	<b>\$264,407</b>	<b>\$220,822</b>	<b>\$282,269</b>	<b>\$185,294</b>	<b>\$308,250</b>
<b>SANITATION</b>					
SANITATION	\$12,500	\$13,449	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500
<b>HEALTH AND WELFARE</b>					
HEALTH AND WELFARE	\$166,126	\$165,052	\$203,493	\$202,526	\$223,075
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>					
RECREATION - ADMIN	\$299,021	\$283,428	\$315,394	\$315,494	\$301,727
PARKS	\$237,444	\$221,105	\$249,265	\$249,265	\$268,709
POOLS	\$110,498	\$118,151	\$121,398	\$121,398	\$135,346
SENIOR BUS	\$66,318	\$67,416	\$71,356	\$71,356	\$113,837
LIBRARIES	\$385,291	\$329,933	\$398,336	\$403,469	\$397,030
CONSERVATION	\$22,960	\$6,802	\$20,900	\$20,900	\$20,900
<b>TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>	<b>\$1,121,532</b>	<b>\$1,026,835</b>	<b>\$1,176,649</b>	<b>\$1,181,882</b>	<b>\$1,237,549</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>					
DEBT SERVICE	\$610,900	\$610,899	\$607,488	\$607,488	\$602,765
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>					
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$423,625	\$423,617	\$425,166	\$424,899	\$438,184
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$11,389,119</b>	<b>\$10,990,021</b>	<b>\$12,587,464</b>	<b>\$12,558,171</b>	<b>\$13,182,890</b>

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017

	BUDGET FYE2015	ACTUAL FYE2015	BUDGET FYE2016	ESTIMATED FYE2016	PROPOSED FYE2017
<b>REVENUES - DETAIL</b>					
<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>					
1	\$9,323,368	\$8,965,047	\$11,046,328	\$11,046,000	\$11,791,764
2	\$1,082,000	\$1,100,467	\$306,000	\$306,000	\$160,000
	<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>	<b>\$10,405,368</b>	<b>\$11,352,328</b>	<b>\$11,352,000</b>	<b>\$11,951,764</b>
<b>LICENSES AND PERMITS</b>					
3	\$4,000	\$4,345	\$4,000	\$4,345	\$4,500
4	\$40,000	\$55,330	\$42,000	\$55,330	\$55,000
5	\$500	\$188	\$300	\$188	\$300
6	\$1,500	\$1,117	\$1,500	\$1,117	\$1,500
7	\$8,500	\$7,299	\$8,500	\$7,299	\$8,500
8	\$200	\$230	\$200	\$230	\$200
9	\$1,500	\$818	\$1,500	\$818	\$1,500
	<b>TOTAL LICENSES AND PERMITS</b>	<b>\$56,200</b>	<b>\$58,000</b>	<b>\$69,327</b>	<b>\$71,500</b>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>					
10	\$143,000	\$142,818	\$243,000	\$243,000	\$243,000
11	\$1,900	\$2,242	\$1,900	\$2,242	\$2,000
12	\$28,000	\$25,840	\$28,000	\$25,840	\$28,000
13	\$23,000	\$24,382	\$23,000	\$24,382	\$23,000
14	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
15	\$0	\$580	\$0	\$580	\$0
16	\$10,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
17	\$7,700	\$7,340	\$7,700	\$7,800	\$7,700
18	\$35,000	\$70,443	\$70,500	\$70,443	\$70,500
	<b>TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>	<b>\$249,200</b>	<b>\$375,100</b>	<b>\$374,287</b>	<b>\$375,200</b>
<b>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</b>					
25	\$12,000	\$9,416	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
26	\$56,000	\$66,361	\$66,000	\$66,000	\$64,575
27	\$3,500	\$2,545	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$3,000
28	\$190,000	\$128,698	\$140,000	\$130,000	\$135,000
29	\$1,500	\$1,400	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
30	\$7,500	\$6,920	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
31	\$100	\$39	\$100	\$100	\$100
32	\$6,000	\$8,625	\$8,000	\$8,500	\$8,500
35	\$15,000	\$14,867	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
36	\$1,000	\$1,435	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,200
37	\$300	\$313	\$300	\$300	\$300
38	\$6,000	\$6,945	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$6,500
40	\$500	\$26	\$500	\$100	\$100
41	\$24,450	\$24,437	\$24,450	\$24,450	\$24,450
42	\$65,000	\$43,335	\$65,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
43	\$1,500	\$1,215	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
44	\$59,500	\$52,139	\$62,685	\$63,000	\$64,200
45	\$8,500	\$9,074	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
46	\$33,000	\$29,500	\$33,000	\$32,000	\$30,000
	<b>TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES</b>	<b>\$491,350</b>	<b>\$457,035</b>	<b>\$431,650</b>	<b>\$434,425</b>

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017

	BUDGET FYE2015	ACTUAL FYE2015	BUDGET FYE2016	ESTIMATED FYE2016	PROPOSED FYE2017
<b>FINES</b>					
50	\$55,000	\$106,868	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$95,000
51	\$60,000	\$62,438	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000
52	\$0	\$3,451	\$0	\$3,451	\$0
	<b>TOTAL FINES</b>	<b>\$115,000</b>	<b>\$172,757</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>	<b>\$160,000</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
60	\$17,000	\$9,496	\$12,000	\$7,500	\$10,000
61	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,001
62	\$24,000	\$17,031	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000
63	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
64	\$25,000	\$32,327	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
	<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>\$72,001</b>	<b>\$59,855</b>	<b>\$67,001</b>	<b>\$65,001</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,389,119</b>	<b>\$11,048,388</b>	<b>\$12,464,464</b>	<b>\$12,453,216</b>
	FUND BALANCE INCREASE (USE)	\$0	\$58,367	(\$123,000)	(\$104,955)
	<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$11,389,119</b>	<b>\$10,990,021</b>	<b>\$12,587,464</b>	<b>\$12,558,171</b>

### EXPENDITURES - DETAIL

<b>SELECTBOARD</b>					
100	\$5,414	\$4,331	\$5,414	\$4,331	\$5,414
101	\$12,000	\$17,331	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
102	\$6,000	\$6,301	\$6,500	\$6,480	\$7,200
103	\$9,750	\$11,308	\$10,100	\$10,100	\$10,400
104	\$21,280	\$25,002	\$21,280	\$21,280	\$22,496
	<b>TOTAL SELECT BOARD</b>	<b>\$54,444</b>	<b>\$64,273</b>	<b>\$61,294</b>	<b>\$60,191</b>
<b>TOWN MANAGER</b>					
110	\$335,024	\$329,444	\$278,905	\$278,905	\$452,662
111	\$176,118	\$154,435	\$126,961	\$126,961	\$179,577
112	\$200	\$45	\$200	\$200	\$200
113	\$5,000	\$2,598	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
114	\$1,200	\$1,104	\$1,360	\$1,360	\$1,700
115	\$5,465	\$1,715	\$5,465	\$5,465	\$5,465
116	\$650	\$44	\$650	\$650	\$650
117	\$2,650	\$722	\$2,650	\$2,650	\$2,650
118	\$150	\$117	\$150	\$150	\$150
	<b>TOTAL TOWN MANAGER</b>	<b>\$526,457</b>	<b>\$490,224</b>	<b>\$421,341</b>	<b>\$421,341</b>
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>					
130	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
131	\$3,275	\$835	\$3,275	\$835	\$3,275
132	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
133	\$3,450	\$3,480	\$3,450	\$3,450	\$3,510
	<b>TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>\$13,725</b>	<b>\$11,315</b>	<b>\$13,725</b>	<b>\$11,285</b>

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017

	BUDGET FYE2015	ACTUAL FYE2015	BUDGET FYE2016	ESTIMATED FYE2016	PROPOSED FYE2017
<b>ELECTIONS</b>					
141	\$20,000	\$13,143	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$20,000
	<b>TOTAL ELECTIONS</b>	<b>\$13,143</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>					
150	\$113,133	\$118,117	\$185,434	\$192,000	\$98,102
151	\$60,890	\$55,260	\$94,751	\$94,751	\$58,210
152	\$20,000	\$15,700	\$20,000	\$17,500	\$20,000
153	\$31,000	\$24,802	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$36,000
154	\$246,500	\$299,145	\$280,000	\$324,700	\$339,000
155	\$1,350	\$868	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$1,350
156	\$3,600	\$2,941	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600
157	\$20,000	\$27,886	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
158	\$250	\$275	\$250	\$250	\$350
159	\$750	\$624	\$750	\$750	\$750
	<b>TOTAL FINANCE</b>	<b>\$545,618</b>	<b>\$637,135</b>	<b>\$690,901</b>	<b>\$582,362</b>
<b>TAX COLLECTION</b>					
165	\$2,750	\$2,968	\$3,000	\$3,600	\$3,750
166	\$2,800	\$3,020	\$3,020	\$3,050	\$3,100
	<b>TOTAL TAX COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$5,988</b>	<b>\$6,020</b>	<b>\$6,650</b>	<b>\$6,850</b>
<b>LEGAL SERVICES</b>					
167	\$55,000	\$41,958	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
	<b>TOTAL LEGAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$41,958</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>					
170	\$147,057	\$132,243	\$149,911	\$149,911	\$153,388
171	\$59,016	\$57,582	\$58,174	\$58,174	\$54,429
172	\$200	\$36	\$200	\$100	\$100
173	\$100	\$62	\$100	\$100	\$100
174	\$16,400	\$8,810	\$16,400	\$16,400	\$15,600
175	\$3,000	\$1,879	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
	<b>TOTAL TOWN CLERK</b>	<b>\$200,612</b>	<b>\$227,785</b>	<b>\$227,685</b>	<b>\$226,617</b>
<b>BUILDINGS AND PLANT</b>					
180	\$2,335	\$2,290	\$2,380	\$2,380	\$3,390
181	\$28,800	\$59,633	\$27,800	\$27,800	\$24,500
182	\$4,800	\$5,314	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,900
183	\$15,200	\$35,094	\$13,400	\$13,400	\$16,450
184	\$17,500	\$11,503	\$17,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
185	\$8,190	\$8,743	\$8,260	\$8,600	\$9,200
186	\$27,000	\$21,794	\$23,800	\$23,800	\$22,100
187	\$28,150	\$20,906	\$27,380	\$27,000	\$24,000
188	\$10,400	\$11,015	\$9,500	\$10,000	\$12,100
189	\$192,000	\$147,117	\$180,000	\$140,000	\$140,000
190	\$10,000	\$10,422	\$10,700	\$10,700	\$10,700
191	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	<b>TOTAL BUILDINGS &amp; PLANT</b>	<b>\$333,831</b>	<b>\$327,020</b>	<b>\$286,480</b>	<b>\$285,340</b>

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017

	BUDGET FYE2015	ACTUAL FYE2015	BUDGET FYE2016	ESTIMATED FYE2016	PROPOSED FYE2017
<b>ASSESSOR</b>					
200	\$132,049	\$132,547	\$137,128	\$137,128	\$126,734
201	\$87,742	\$92,816	\$85,459	\$85,459	\$68,050
202	\$630	\$239	\$635	\$635	\$635
203	\$600	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
204	\$200	\$83	\$200	\$200	\$200
205	\$1,225	\$864	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,335
206	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100
207	\$30	\$0	\$30	\$30	\$30
208	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
<b>TOTAL ASSESSOR</b>	<b>\$222,576</b>	<b>\$226,549</b>	<b>\$225,302</b>	<b>\$225,302</b>	<b>\$200,584</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>					
210	\$66,256	\$83,170	\$73,782	\$84,000	\$86,663
211	\$28,762	\$29,726	\$29,405	\$30,693	\$32,736
212	\$50	\$450	\$50	\$450	\$450
213	\$500	\$262	\$500	\$500	\$400
214	\$750	\$613	\$765	\$765	\$875
215	\$3,330	\$2,638	\$3,370	\$2,900	\$2,900
216	\$1,480	\$1,625	\$1,480	\$1,600	\$2,100
217	\$300	\$70	\$300	\$300	\$200
218	\$4,890	\$5,767	\$5,840	\$5,840	\$8,000
219	\$500	\$155	\$500	\$500	\$1,500
220	\$70	\$113	\$50	\$75	\$100
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>\$106,888</b>	<b>\$124,589</b>	<b>\$116,042</b>	<b>\$127,623</b>	<b>\$135,924</b>
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>					
230	\$243,241	\$263,716	\$255,561	\$255,561	\$250,065
231	\$152,303	\$140,721	\$145,127	\$145,127	\$124,102
232	\$8,000	\$2,880	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$45,000
233	\$5,650	\$4,613	\$5,650	\$5,650	\$5,300
234	\$5,000	\$4,593	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
235	\$200	\$751	\$200	\$200	\$200
236	\$3,450	\$3,091	\$4,250	\$4,250	\$4,300
237	\$3,400	\$3,321	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$4,000
238	\$1,765	\$2,305	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$3,700
239	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$6,600
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>\$426,609</b>	<b>\$429,591</b>	<b>\$432,588</b>	<b>\$432,588</b>	<b>\$450,267</b>
<b>POLICE</b>					
250	\$2,394,416	\$2,241,685	\$2,463,460	\$2,463,460	\$2,527,781
251	\$1,168,744	\$1,023,553	\$1,196,452	\$1,196,452	\$1,087,115
252	\$16,275	\$19,509	\$17,250	\$17,250	\$17,500
253	\$500	\$465	\$500	\$500	\$500
254	\$28,000	\$27,969	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,250
255	\$3,600	\$5,482	\$3,400	\$3,400	\$3,600
256	\$3,500	\$3,506	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,550
257	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
258	\$38,000	\$31,137	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,500
259	\$0	\$0	\$42,181	\$50,000	\$55,050
260	\$31,000	\$28,585	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$33,000

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017**

	<b>BUDGET FYE2015</b>	<b>ACTUAL FYE2015</b>	<b>BUDGET FYE2016</b>	<b>ESTIMATED FYE2016</b>	<b>PROPOSED FYE2017</b>	
<b>POLICE (CONTINUED)</b>						
261	REGISTRATIONS, FEES & LIC	\$365	\$300	\$130	\$130	\$110
262	TRAVEL	\$7,500	\$4,033	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
263	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$12,500	\$12,290	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,500
264	CRIME PREVENTION	\$5,000	\$5,126	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
265	POLICE TRAINING	\$10,000	\$19,834	\$10,000	\$10,700	\$11,000
266	POLICE COMMUNICATIONS	\$19,000	\$19,087	\$15,800	\$15,800	\$15,800
267	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$4,000	\$3,105	\$4,250	\$3,200	\$3,200
268	R & M SERVICES - BLDGS	\$15,000	\$18,742	\$29,600	\$33,000	\$35,700
269	UTILITIES	\$15,900	\$23,582	\$33,600	\$30,400	\$29,000
270	R & M SVCES - VEH & EQUIP	\$19,000	\$20,918	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$19,500
271	R & M SUPPLIES-VEH & EQUIP	\$13,000	\$4,465	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,250
272	RENT	\$7,500	\$6,563	\$0	\$0	\$0
273	BUYING & MAINT VEHICLES	\$75,000	\$66,020	\$73,500	\$73,500	\$91,600
	<b>TOTAL POLICE</b>	<b>\$3,888,800</b>	<b>\$3,586,956</b>	<b>\$4,028,123</b>	<b>\$4,035,792</b>	<b>\$4,011,006</b>
<b>FIRE</b>						
280	SALARIES	\$128,581	\$121,453	\$133,556	\$133,556	\$145,760
281	BENEFITS	\$28,837	\$27,037	\$26,217	\$26,217	\$27,150
282	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$1,740	\$3,372	\$1,830	\$1,830	\$1,830
283	COMMUNICATIONS	\$3,700	\$2,728	\$3,700	\$3,700	\$3,700
284	TRAVEL	\$0	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0
285	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$5,560	\$3,419	\$5,560	\$5,560	\$7,174
286	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$9,250	\$14,897	\$9,250	\$9,250	\$12,100
287	UNIFORMS	\$19,080	\$21,325	\$19,080	\$19,080	\$21,780
288	MACHINERY	\$7,390	\$9,138	\$7,390	\$7,390	\$8,890
289	FIRE PREVENTION	\$4,000	\$3,217	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
290	FIRE TRAINING	\$4,950	\$3,993	\$4,600	\$4,600	\$4,600
291	TRAINING / MEDICAL	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
292	FIRE COMMUNICATIONS	\$25,100	\$8,536	\$25,100	\$25,100	\$27,050
293	R & M SERVICES - VEHICLES & EQUIP	\$26,250	\$39,288	\$27,250	\$27,250	\$40,250
294	R & M SUPPLIES - BUILDINGS	\$850	\$844	\$850	\$850	\$850
295	R & M SERVICES - BUILDINGS	\$3,750	\$1,611	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$10,800
296	R & M SUPPLIES - VEHICLES & EQUIP	\$2,050	\$313	\$2,050	\$2,050	\$2,050
297	WATER / GAS	\$7,500	\$8,073	\$7,800	\$7,800	\$7,800
298	BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$1,000	\$9,416	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$6,000
299	BUILDINGS - OTHER PURCH SVCES	\$1,750	\$894	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$2,000
300	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL - VEHICLES	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$125,000
301	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL - EQUIPMENT	\$16,307	\$16,307	\$16,307	\$16,307	\$16,307
	<b>TOTAL FIRE</b>	<b>\$398,645</b>	<b>\$395,921</b>	<b>\$401,040</b>	<b>\$401,040</b>	<b>\$475,091</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>						
310	SALARIES	\$29,706	\$31,917	\$31,883	\$31,883	\$0
311	BENEFITS	\$18,289	\$15,918	\$18,130	\$18,130	\$0
312	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$150	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$0
	<b>TOTAL EMERGENCY MGMT</b>	<b>\$48,145</b>	<b>\$47,835</b>	<b>\$50,163</b>	<b>\$50,163</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017**

	<b>BUDGET FYE2015</b>	<b>ACTUAL FYE2015</b>	<b>BUDGET FYE2016</b>	<b>ESTIMATED FYE2016</b>	<b>PROPOSED FYE2017</b>
<b>HIGHWAYS AND STREETS</b>					
320	\$610,124	\$579,605	\$663,148	\$663,148	\$696,929
321	\$356,230	\$319,960	\$374,921	\$374,921	\$329,867
322	\$4,800	\$10,021	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000
323	\$28,000	\$47,417	\$29,000	\$45,000	\$35,000
324	\$52,000	\$57,172	\$53,000	\$56,000	\$56,000
325	\$8,400	\$7,936	\$9,100	\$9,100	\$8,900
326	\$2,500	\$3,845	\$2,500	\$3,200	\$2,500
327	\$650	\$587	\$750	\$750	\$750
328	\$5,290	\$3,067	\$4,300	\$3,900	\$20,640
329	\$1,400	\$1,889	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$1,800
330	\$1,650	\$1,246	\$1,990	\$2,000	\$2,040
331	\$13,800	\$11,158	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$12,400
332	\$1,200	\$3,581	\$1,400	\$2,500	\$2,400
333	\$275	\$447	\$350	\$275	\$400
334	\$2,300	\$4,305	\$2,300	\$3,500	\$3,000
335	\$9,200	\$6,066	\$9,000	\$8,500	\$8,500
336	\$7,250	\$8,075	\$7,530	\$7,530	\$7,500
337	\$4,500	\$4,197	\$5,100	\$4,700	\$4,900
338	\$11,400	\$11,087	\$12,000	\$11,500	\$11,800
339	\$7,200	\$6,610	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$7,100
340	\$9,400	\$12,772	\$9,400	\$9,400	\$9,000
341	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$165,000
342	\$8,300	\$6,529	\$13,150	\$13,000	\$11,500
343	\$192,000	\$170,766	\$201,772	\$201,772	\$221,410
344	\$61,000	\$72,043	\$58,000	\$58,000	\$64,000
345	\$10,500	\$14,801	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$12,000
346	\$11,000	\$22,763	\$11,800	\$12,000	\$11,800
347	\$20,000	\$19,500	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
348	\$4,000	\$4,504	\$2,700	\$6,000	\$9,200
349	\$164,900	\$187,577	\$189,855	\$189,855	\$203,600
350	\$2,000	\$3	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
351	\$48,300	\$101,638	\$89,000	\$100,000	\$108,000
352	\$18,000	\$43,950	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$23,600
353	\$116,000	\$105,827	\$105,560	\$104,095	\$103,500
	<b>\$1,953,569</b>	<b>\$2,010,944</b>	<b>\$2,091,226</b>	<b>\$2,125,446</b>	<b>\$2,185,036</b>
358	\$0	\$0	\$780,095	\$780,095	\$1,000,641
	<b>\$1,953,569</b>	<b>\$2,010,944</b>	<b>\$2,871,321</b>	<b>\$2,905,541</b>	<b>\$3,185,677</b>
<b>STORMWATER</b>					
360	\$105,713	\$110,882	\$86,343	\$86,343	\$98,631
361	\$55,694	\$45,322	\$32,651	\$32,651	\$34,317
362	\$12,500	\$11,046	\$15,000	\$12,500	\$19,000
363	\$40,000	\$26,485	\$0	\$0	\$0
364	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000
365	\$14,800	\$7,141	\$29,800	\$29,800	\$37,100
366	\$5,700	\$3,869	\$8,200	\$10,000	\$13,400
367	\$1,300	\$2,193	\$1,200	\$1,900	\$3,510
368	\$15,000	\$4,184	\$12,100	\$12,100	\$30,940
369	\$9,700	\$9,700	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$264,407</b>	<b>\$220,822</b>	<b>\$185,294</b>	<b>\$185,294</b>	<b>\$248,898</b>
370	\$0	\$0	\$96,975	\$0	\$59,352
	<b>\$264,407</b>	<b>\$220,822</b>	<b>\$282,269</b>	<b>\$185,294</b>	<b>\$308,250</b>

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017**

	<b>BUDGET FYE2015</b>	<b>ACTUAL FYE2015</b>	<b>BUDGET FYE2016</b>	<b>ESTIMATED FYE2016</b>	<b>PROPOSED FYE2017</b>
<b>SANITATION</b>					
375	LANDFILL MONITORING	\$12,500	\$13,449	\$12,500	\$12,500
	<b>TOTAL SANITATION</b>	\$12,500	\$13,449	\$12,500	\$12,500
<b>HEALTH AND WELFARE</b>					
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>					
380	PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER	\$10,443	\$10,667	\$10,809	\$10,809
381	DOG CONTROL	\$27,642	\$27,842	\$28,609	\$27,642
382	ANIMAL CONTROL / SHELTER	\$2,500	\$1,990	\$2,500	\$2,500
<b>WELFARE AND OTHER</b>					
383	HUMAN SERVICE GRANTS	\$113,891	\$112,420	\$125,875	\$125,875
384	DONATION ESSEX RESCUE	\$7,700	\$7,700	\$31,750	\$31,750
385	CEMETERIES - PURCH SVCS	\$2,450	\$2,931	\$2,450	\$2,450
386	E.C. HISTORICAL MUSEUM	\$1,500	\$1,502	\$1,500	\$1,500
	<b>TOTAL HEALTH AND WELFARE</b>	\$166,126	\$165,052	\$203,493	\$202,526
<b>RECREATION ADMINISTRATION</b>					
390	SALARIES	\$178,112	\$176,044	\$186,827	\$186,827
391	BENEFITS	\$106,619	\$96,693	\$114,017	\$114,017
392	PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$2,240	\$0	\$2,600	\$2,600
393	COMMUNICATIONS	\$950	\$612	\$950	\$950
394	ADVERTISING	\$0	\$465	\$0	\$0
395	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$2,500	\$1,132	\$2,500	\$2,500
396	TRAVEL	\$1,100	\$982	\$1,000	\$1,100
397	MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
	<b>TOTAL RECREATION ADMIN</b>	\$299,021	\$283,428	\$315,394	\$315,494
<b>PARKS</b>					
410	SALARIES	\$106,740	\$100,380	\$114,021	\$114,021
411	BENEFITS	\$45,447	\$45,099	\$44,137	\$44,137
412	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SVCS	\$10,800	\$11,124	\$12,000	\$12,000
413	R & M SUPPLIES	\$13,300	\$17,428	\$16,500	\$16,500
414	COMMUNICATIONS	\$700	\$1,120	\$700	\$700
415	ADVERTISING	\$425	\$0	\$425	\$425
416	DUES / SUBS / MEETINGS	\$300	\$85	\$300	\$300
417	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$18,330	\$6,851	\$19,330	\$19,330
418	TRAVEL	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100
419	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$4,850	\$3,050	\$5,000	\$5,000
420	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$500	\$567	\$800	\$800
421	UNIFORMS	\$1,452	\$1,260	\$1,452	\$1,452
422	UTILITIES	\$3,500	\$3,141	\$3,500	\$3,500
423	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000
	<b>TOTAL PARKS</b>	\$237,444	\$221,105	\$249,265	\$249,265

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017**

	<b>BUDGET FYE2015</b>	<b>ACTUAL FYE2015</b>	<b>BUDGET FYE2016</b>	<b>ESTIMATED FYE2016</b>	<b>PROPOSED FYE2017</b>
<b>SWIMMING POOLS</b>					
430	\$69,274	\$63,973	\$75,822	\$75,822	\$76,000
431	\$5,299	\$4,890	\$5,801	\$5,801	\$6,571
432	\$2,000	\$4,075	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$6,500
433	\$750	\$399	\$850	\$850	\$850
434	\$700	\$1,797	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$9,200
435	\$425	\$0	\$425	\$425	\$425
436	\$1,700	\$1,488	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$1,700
437	\$1,250	\$750	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
438	\$11,000	\$10,369	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
439	\$3,000	\$5,332	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
440	\$1,400	\$405	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$1,400
441	\$12,700	\$24,673	\$12,700	\$12,700	\$12,700
442	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL POOLS</b>	<b>\$110,498</b>	<b>\$118,151</b>	<b>\$121,398</b>	<b>\$121,398</b>	<b>\$135,346</b>
<b>SENIOR ACTIVITIES</b>					
450	\$48,391	\$46,404	\$50,610	\$50,610	\$75,667
451	\$3,702	\$3,550	\$3,871	\$3,871	\$18,345
452	\$8,000	\$12,603	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$13,000
453	\$900	\$774	\$800	\$800	\$1,000
454	\$425	\$0	\$425	\$425	\$425
455	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$800	\$800
456	\$100	\$85	\$350	\$350	\$600
457	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
<b>TOTAL SENIOR ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$66,318</b>	<b>\$67,416</b>	<b>\$71,356</b>	<b>\$71,356</b>	<b>\$113,837</b>
<b>LIBRARIES</b>					
<b>ESSEX FREE LIBRARY</b>					
460	\$201,418	\$188,121	\$208,492	\$213,492	\$216,901
461	\$104,527	\$70,557	\$110,528	\$110,911	\$101,990
462	\$20,460	\$16,564	\$19,756	\$19,756	\$18,931
463	\$780	\$345	\$830	\$830	\$828
464	\$2,840	\$2,248	\$2,835	\$2,835	\$2,835
465	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$250
466	\$4,700	\$4,520	\$4,700	\$4,700	\$4,450
467	\$4,056	\$5,688	\$4,745	\$4,745	\$4,745
468	\$2,300	\$2,582	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300
469	\$27,510	\$24,233	\$27,500	\$27,500	\$27,500
470	\$900	\$0	\$800	\$800	\$700
471	\$550	\$75	\$600	\$600	\$600
<b>TOTAL ESSEX FREE LIBRARY</b>	<b>\$370,291</b>	<b>\$314,933</b>	<b>\$383,336</b>	<b>\$388,469</b>	<b>\$382,030</b>
<b>BROWNELL LIBRARY</b>					
472	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
<b>TOTAL BROWNELL LIBRARY</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>TOTAL LIBRARIES</b>	<b>\$385,291</b>	<b>\$329,933</b>	<b>\$398,336</b>	<b>\$403,469</b>	<b>\$397,030</b>

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL FOR FYE 6/30/2017**

	<b>BUDGET FYE2015</b>	<b>ACTUAL FYE2015</b>	<b>BUDGET FYE2016</b>	<b>ESTIMATED FYE2016</b>	<b>PROPOSED FYE2017</b>
<b>CONSERVATION</b>					
480	\$20,960	\$5,610	\$19,200	\$19,200	\$19,200
481	\$2,000	\$1,192	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$1,700
	<b>TOTAL CONSERVATION</b>	<b>\$6,802</b>	<b>\$20,900</b>	<b>\$20,900</b>	<b>\$20,900</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>					
<b>PRINCIPAL</b>					
491	\$34,313	\$34,312	\$34,313	\$34,999	\$35,699
492	\$345,000	\$345,000	\$345,000	\$345,000	\$345,000
<b>INTEREST</b>					
494	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$1,414	\$714
495	\$229,487	\$229,487	\$226,075	\$226,075	\$221,352
	<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>\$610,899</b>	<b>\$607,488</b>	<b>\$607,488</b>	<b>\$602,765</b>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSE</b>					
500	\$108,733	\$108,725	\$109,000	\$108,733	\$112,815
501	\$243,230	\$243,230	\$240,610	\$240,610	\$249,331
502	\$48,000	\$48,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,374
503	\$23,662	\$23,662	\$23,556	\$23,556	\$23,664
	<b>TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>	<b>\$423,617</b>	<b>\$425,166</b>	<b>\$424,899</b>	<b>\$438,184</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$10,990,021</b>	<b>\$12,587,464</b>	<b>\$12,558,171</b>	<b>\$13,182,890</b>

The firm of Kittell, Branagan and Sargent was engaged to audit the financial statements of the Town of Essex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. Copies of the audit report, for which they gave an unqualified opinion, are on file at the Town office and can be obtained on the Town website at [www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org).

The budget and actual columns for FYE 2015 above are contained, in summary, in the audit report as a supplementary schedule. The schedule is reconciled with results of operations according to GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). The differences are due mainly to grant and other restricted revenues and expenditures that are not budgetted.

**A complete picture of the Town's financial condition and results of operations can only be obtained by reading the whole audit report and the accompanying footnotes and schedules.**

# RECREATION PROGRAM BUDGET FYE 2017

	BUDGET FYE2015	ACTUAL FYE2015	BUDGET FYE2016	ESTIMATED FYE2016	PROPOSED FYE2017
<b>REVENUES - DETAIL</b>					
<b>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</b>					
RECREATION PROGRAM FEES	\$404,500	\$342,714	\$415,000	\$425,000	\$446,000
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	\$34,400	\$47,513	\$36,400	\$36,400	\$48,000
HERSHEY TRACK	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
MISCELLANEOUS	\$0	\$16,940	\$500	\$17,500	\$18,000
<b>TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES</b>	<b>\$438,900</b>	<b>\$407,167</b>	<b>\$451,900</b>	<b>\$478,900</b>	<b>\$512,000</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>					
<b>EXPENDITURES - DETAIL</b>					
<b>RECREATION PROGRAMS</b>					
SALARIES	\$112,555	\$80,304	\$108,172	\$108,172	\$114,076
BENEFITS	\$10,057	\$7,280	\$9,772	\$9,772	\$10,269
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$2,927	\$3,481	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$5,500
COMMUNICATIONS	\$700	\$0	\$450	\$450	\$450
POSTAGE	\$4,300	\$4,744	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
ADVERTISING	\$450	\$0	\$425	\$425	\$425
PRINTING AND BINDING	\$11,000	\$11,110	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
DUES/SUBSCRIPTIONS/MEETINGS	\$900	\$997	\$1,050	\$1,050	\$1,100
OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$245,000	\$185,005	\$245,000	\$255,000	\$245,000
RENT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,500	\$16,500
UTILITIES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,450	\$3,430
TRAVEL	\$200	\$1,960	\$700	\$700	\$2,000
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$12,200	\$4,235	\$12,200	\$12,500	\$12,200
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FOOTBALL - ESSEX LEAGUE	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
LITTLE LEAGUE / SOFTBALL	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
BABE RUTH LEAGUE	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475
HERSHEY TRACK	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER PROGRAMS	\$750	\$32,173	\$0	\$25,000	\$32,000
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM	\$30,000	\$38,990	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$40,000
<b>TOTAL RECREATION PROGRAMS</b>	<b>\$435,414</b>	<b>\$374,654</b>	<b>\$433,644</b>	<b>\$475,894</b>	<b>\$504,325</b>
<b>NET REVENUE (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$3,486</b>	<b>\$32,513</b>	<b>\$18,256</b>	<b>\$3,006</b>	<b>\$7,675</b>

NOTE: THE FYE 2017 BUDGET WAS ADOPTED BY THE SELECTBOARD ON JANUARY 25, 2016.

## **TRAILS COMMITTEE**

### **Mark Paulsen, Chair**

In September 2000, the Selectboard created the Town Trails Committee as an advisory body to advance the development and maintenance of trails throughout the Town. Our charter tasks us to “assist the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment by providing advisory evaluations pertaining to trails, sidewalks and greenways for applications made to the Commission or Board based on the proposed trails maps in the Town Plan.” In carrying out this duty, the Committee is incrementally building and formalizing a network of trails throughout the Town that provide and promote safe, non-motorized connections for recreational and transportation options. The Committee advocates for public benefits of non-motorized trails in concert with the rights and prerogatives of property owners.

A major portion of our work is devoted to reviewing proposed development projects looking for opportunities to build and connect trails in the Town. Working closely with the Conservation Committee, we reviewed many projects and captured some easements and rights-of-way that could lead to future trails. Members of the Trails Committee routinely attend and testify at Planning Commission meetings where development proposals have potential or existing trail elements.

In 2015 the Trails Committee participated in the Town Plan update process. Citizens of Essex expressed strong support for trails in the Heart & Soul process. We want to insure that non-motorized transportation is well represented in the Town Plan going forward. One outcome of our deliberations was development of seven new Action Items the Committee will accomplish within the next five years.

The Trails and Conservation Committees, strongly supported by Essex Parks and Recreation, hosted the second annual Indian Brook Park Clean-up Day on September 26. A great group of volunteers devoted an afternoon to cleaning debris from drainage swales and identifying/removing invasive species within the park.

The Trails Committee is currently made up of Mark Paulsen, Chair; Ruth LeBlanc, Eric McCarthy, Heather Brochu and Dan Stein. Kevin Macy and Sean Folley stepped down in 2015 and we thank them for their service. Town Parks & Recreation Director, Ally Vile, assists the Trails Committee extensively and Adriane Martin, Program Coordinator, now serves as our staff liaison. The Trails Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. We have been meeting in the conference room at the Essex Police Station on Maple Street for much of 2015 as the Town Offices undergo a major renovation. We look forward to moving our meetings into the refurbished Town Offices at 81 Main Street in early 2016.

**CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT**  
**Tom Bessette, Chair CWD Board of Water Commissioners**  
**Jim Fay, CWD General Manager**

Champlain Water District (CWD) is a regional municipal organization supplying drinking water and fire protection to the following (12) municipal water systems: South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, Essex, Essex Junction, Village of Jericho, Winooski, Milton, Colchester Fire District #1, Colchester Fire District #3, Colchester Town, and the Malletts Bay Water Company since 1973. This past year CWD celebrated our 16th anniversary of continuing to maintain the Partnership for Safe Water Program's Excellence in Water Treatment Award criteria. CWD was the first water supplier in North America to receive the Excellence in Water Treatment Award in 1999, and is presently one of 15 water utilities that have attained this level of water treatment optimization, which signifies continuous performance protective of public health. CWD has maintained this level of excellence through successful submission of a comprehensive annual report that is reviewed for water quality test results, as well as demonstration and documentation of the operational tenacity toward continued quality improvement as required by the Partnership for Safe Water Program. The Partnership for Safe Water program utility membership collectively serves a total population of over 100 million people, or two-thirds of the U.S. population. In June of 2015, CWD was chosen as the People's Choice Award winner as the best tasting drinking water in North America at the American Water Works Annual Conference and Exhibition.

Over the past year CWD has steadily continued its efforts toward completion of its Twenty-Year Master Plan reported by Dufresne & Associates in September 2002. This past fiscal year CWD's accomplishments are as follows:

- Continued to manage a long term asset management contract with Utility Services Company Inc. for on-going inspection, maintenance, and rehabilitation of fourteen (14) of CWD's welded steel water storage tanks.
- Completed the interior and exterior rehabilitation and recoating of two (2) water storage tanks in South Burlington and Essex.
- Completed the construction and installation of a pumping unit at CWD's lake water pumping station.
- Continued design coordination on a joint communications project with the City of South Burlington.
- Completed construction of a water transmission line relocation project dictated by the Vermont Agency of Transportation for a bridge project in Colchester.
- As part of our ongoing annual capital program, a deep bed multimedia filter was rebuilt, along with interior pipe reconditioning at the water treatment facility.
- Continued coordination and remediation plan design for removal of excess fill atop a CWD 24" diameter water transmission line.
- Began design and construction sequence planning for replacement of CWD's High Service Pump Discharge Header at the water treatment facility site.
- Completed construction of expanded water storage at Water Tower Hill for multiple served water systems future needs.
- Continued investment with Efficiency Vermont to optimize daily energy usage and reduce overall annual electrical costs.
- Continued to serve as the Vermont Training Center for the New England Water Works Association
- Continued implementation of a long term asset management database system for all CWD property, plant, and equipment.
- Continued the documentation process toward executing infrastructure ownership Memoranda of Understanding with all served municipal water systems.

We thank our employees and elected officials for their effort, support, and dedication in allowing CWD to be proactively managed and operated to supply a drinking water product protective of public health. As always, we welcome groups of any size to tour our facility. Please call 864-7454 to arrange a tour, or if you have questions, or need further information on Champlain Water District.

**CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Charlie Baker, Executive Director**

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is a cooperative regional forum for the development of policies, plans and programs that address regional issues and opportunities in Chittenden County. Its vision is to be a pre-eminent, integrated regional organization that plans for healthy, vibrant communities, economic development, and efficient transportation of people and goods while improving the region's livability. The CCRPC serves as the region's federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and is responsible to all citizens of the region to ensure the implementation of the best regional and transportation plan for Chittenden County. The CCRPC also provides technical and planning assistance to its member municipalities and the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans).

The CCRPC is governed by a 29-member board consisting of one representative from each of the County's 19 municipalities; transportation representatives from VTrans, Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Burlington International Airport (BIA) and a rail industry representative; and, at-large members representing the interests of agriculture; environmental conservation; business; and housing/socio-economic. The legislative body of each Chittenden County municipality selects its own representative and alternate. The full Commission selects the at-large representatives.

The CCRPC appreciates the opportunity to work with its municipal members to plan appropriately for the region's future to protect the special quality of life that is shared throughout Chittenden County. In FY15, the CCRPC invested about \$5 million in regional land use, transportation, emergency management, energy, natural resources, public engagement, training, and technical assistance. The program leverages \$4.7 million in Federal and State investment with \$245,000 in municipal dues and another \$300,000 in local match for specific projects—a **9:1 return on investment**.

Town of Essex representatives to the CCRPC Board and other committees in FY15 were:

- CCRPC representative – Jeff Carr
- CCRPC alternate – Irene Wrenner
- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) – Dennis Lutz
- Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) – Dana Hanley

Specific activities the CCRPC is engaged in with the Town of Essex, as well as some of CCRPC's regional activities, are discussed in the following sections.

**TOWN OF ESSEX ACTIVITIES**

In FY2015, the CCRPC provided assistance to Essex on the following projects and initiatives:

- Assistance with Town Plan updates including new flood resiliency section, and data.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan: Town of Essex/Village of Essex Junction
- Essex and Essex Junction MS4 Transportation Related Stormwater Planning
- Provided support to Essex GIS Staff in development of online mapping

**Essex Projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

- VT15 Multiuse Path
  - \$2 million for path from Lime Kiln Road to Susie Wilson Road as part of CIRC Alternatives

## Phase II

- Alder Brook Culvert (BR2) on VT 117
  - \$1.6 million for culvert replacement
- Pinecrest Drive Sidewalk
  - \$357,770 Transportation Alternatives grant in 2015 for sidewalk from VT2A to Suffolk Lane
- Susie Wilson Road Corridor and Intersection Improvement Project
  - \$8.5 million CIRC Alternatives Phase III project – funding schedule to be determined
- Towers Road Sidewalk
  - \$216,000 VTrans Bike/Ped Award in 2014 for 1,000 feet of new sidewalk
- VT 117 Paving
  - \$3.9 million for paving 1.2 miles east of 5 Corners to Jericho Town Line
- VT 117/North Williston Road Hazard Mitigation Improvements
  - \$1.9 million CIRC Alternatives Phase III project – funding schedule to be determined
- VT 128 Slope Stability System
  - \$390,000 to stabilize the road’s north embankment
- VT 15 Sidewalk – Old Stage Road to Essex Way
  - \$160,000 CIRC Alternatives Phase III project – funding schedule to be determined
- VT 15/Sand Hill Road Intersection Improvements
  - \$1.3 million for installation of a signal (CIRC Alt Phase II Implementation Project)
- VT 2A Bike Path – Old Colchester Road to Pinecrest Drive
  - \$229,000 combined VTrans Bike/Ped award and CCRPC Sidewalk Grant awards
- VT2A/VT289 Intersection
  - \$1.7 million project for traffic signal upgrades and geometric improvements (CIRC Alt Phase I & II)

## REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **Legislative Forum** – Hosted a Legislative Forum in December to discuss priority issues of jobs & the economy; smart growth; state & municipal budgets; and water quality. Developed positions on integrated permitting reform and water quality (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/aboutus/policies/>)
- **ECOS Plan Annual Report** – The [2014 Annual Report](#) is a summary that highlights a number of regional accomplishments, trends, and high priority actions. The ECOS Plan is the combined Regional Plan, Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Chittenden County. The ECOS Scorecard is our new online platform that hosts the ECOS Partners’ shared measurement system that monitors how Chittenden County is doing with regard to achieving our shared ECOS goals. (<https://app.resultsscorecard.com/Scorecard/Embed/8502>)
- **Emergency Management** – CCRPC, with Local Emergency Planning Committee 1 (LEPC 1 <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/em/lepc/>), served as a key conduit between the City and the State in sharing damage assessment information after disasters, helped with emergency preparedness for hazardous materials incidents, hosted workshops on a wide array of emergency preparedness topics, and facilitated Incident Command System training.
- **Transportation Demand Management** – The CCRPC, along with regional and state partners, continued hosting **Go! Chittenden County**, a one-stop-shop for information and advice about our region’s transportation resources ([www.gochittendencounty.org](http://www.gochittendencounty.org)). The CCRPC promoted the 12<sup>th</sup> annual **Way to Go! Smart Trips Challenge** ([www.waytogovt.org](http://www.waytogovt.org)) the week of May 4-15 to encourage sustainable transportation (non-single occupant vehicle travel) and demonstrate the environmental and financial benefits.

- The **Intelligent Transportation System Plan** was drafted which describes how to best use telecommunications and computing technology to boost the efficiency of the transportation system for passenger cars, trucks, busses, emergency and maintenance vehicles, and provide timely information on travel options.
- **Diversity & Equity** – The CCRPC updated the **Public Participation Plan (PPP)**, which focused on diversity and equity. We are currently soliciting assistance from outside organizations to help with implementing the PPP for specific projects. (<http://www.ccrpevt.org/aboutus/public/>)
- **Regional Technical Assistance** – Includes GIS mapping, model municipal plans, bylaw and ordinance revisions, Act 250 application reviews, grant administration, build-out analyses, orthoimagery acquisition, and improving the VT Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory Tool (<http://www.vtculverts.org/>). We also provide Transportation Technical Assistance, Scoping and Corridor Study programs to help individual communities address their transportation needs.
- **Education & Training** – The CCRPC held the Development Review Board Summit, and hosted a Regional Highway Safety Forum with VTrans. We surveyed municipal interest in shared services and explored opportunities to implement. We continued hosting meetings and online webinars open to municipalities and regional partners covering topics such as Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide, Emerald Ash Borer, Modeling a Carbon Tax's Impact on State Economies, New Tools for Estimating Walking and Bicycling Demand, Putting Equity on the Map: Innovative Tools to Measure Access to Opportunity, VOBCIT/VTCulverts (<http://www.vtculverts.org/>) and more.
- **MS4** - Provided ongoing staff support to the Chittenden County Stream Team (<http://www.ccstreamteam.org>) and the Chittenden County Regional Stormwater Education Program (<http://www.smartwaterways.org>) to facilitate multi-municipal cooperation to comply with EPA stormwater permit requirements for Public Participation and Involvement.
- **ERAF** - Staff assisted with information and details regarding new rules for Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) and flood resiliency planning requirements.
- **Neighbor Rides** – Since Spring 2013, CCRPC has been investing in Neighbor Rides to integrate volunteer drivers into human services transportation in order to increase access to transportation for seniors and persons with disabilities by offering a lower-cost mode of transport. (<http://www.unitedwaycc.org/volunteer/neighbor-rides-2/>)
- **Traffic Count Program** – <http://vtrans.ms2soft.com/>

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For further information about the CCRPC please visit <http://www.ccrpevt.org/> or contact CCRPC Executive Director, Charlie Baker, [cbaker@ccrpevt.org](mailto:cbaker@ccrpevt.org), 802-846-4490 x23.

**CHITTENDEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**Karen Walton, General Manager**

**Year in Review:**

Chittenden County Transportation Authority: Urban Area Annual Report Summary, FY15

Throughout the past year, the Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) has continued to provide valuable public transportation services to Burlington and the greater Burlington area. In FY15, services included local fixed-route bus service; inter-regional commuter service; supermarket and school tripper shuttles; and contracted ADA para-transit service for individuals who are unable to ride fixed-route service.

In FY15, a 13 member Board of Commissioners governed CCTA with two Commissioners representing Burlington and one Commissioner from Essex, Hinesburg, Milton, Shelburne, South Burlington, Winooski, Williston, Washington County, Franklin County, Lamoille County, and Grand Isle County. The annual FY15 operating expenses, for the urban area, were, \$15,919,768.

**Breakdown of Revenue by Source:**

Federal = 47%	Passenger Fares = 16%
Local = 20%	Miscellaneous = 1%
State = 16%	

**Ridership:**

CCTA provided 2,690,209 fixed route trips in FY15. This represents a 6.1% increase over FY14. Most LINK Express and Local Commuter routes experienced increased ridership over last year. The Essex Junction route saw a 7.8% increase over last fiscal year. CCTA provided 54,211 Paratransit trips in FY15, which represents a -1.2% decrease in trips over FY14.

GMTA provided 376,334 trips in FY15, a 2.1% increase over FY14. Over the last fiscal year, GMTA provided 91,483 Medicaid/Volunteer Driver trips as compared to 87,173 trips in FY14.

**Safety Improvements:**

In conjunction with our Labor partners, we have instituted a new cell phone policy, reflective vest policy, and a 30-days accident free incentive program. The new safety initiative included changing maintenance staff uniforms to more visible, staff members were provided a safety vest to wear while on the property and at night, safety meetings have been implemented at all sites as well as safety audits of all facilities.

**Improved Passenger Amenities:**

Downtown Transit Center – Work is progressing well on the Downtown Transit Center (DTC). Over the next few months, utility work will be completed, which includes the relocation of a combined sewer line (removal of the existing service and installation of a new connection), removal of a retired gas line, removal of a City water line, relocation of the sanitary sewer and storm drains serving the Zampieri State Office Building, installing several new catch basins, and installing the utility lines serving the new Transit Center Building and the outbuilding (driver bathroom) at the north end of the platform.

This work will be done in stages this summer/fall and next spring. Once the utility work is completed at the south end of St. Paul Street, excavation will begin for the Transit Center Building. The goal is to have the foundations poured and the building structure completed before winter sets in. At the same time, curbs and sidewalks will be completed along the east side of St. Paul Street. Over the winter, work is scheduled

to progress on the Transit Center Building. By spring/summer 2016, work will be completed on the platform and canopy, roadways, and curbs and sidewalks along the west side of St. Paul Street. The final phase will include roadway widening along Pearl Street to accommodate the bike lanes proposed by the City of Burlington. Projected completion of the DTC is currently scheduled for late summer of 2016.

**Operational Improvements:**

Vermont Gas has agreed to do a feasibility study for CCTA to evaluate the process of switching the fleet over to compressed natural gas (CNG). Vermont Gas hired a consultant to create a work plan with CCTA. This study will include reviewing 1 and 15 Industrial Parkway facilities, fuel usage now and in the future, big bus purchase cost as a CNG option and all costs and savings associated with these findings.

A section in the State RFP allows for the upgrade of all CCTA and GMTA vehicles and to have automatic vehicle location (AVL) installed in all our fleet. This will allow the passengers to look at where the buses are in real-time using an app on their phone. This will also allow them to set up a real time alert when the bus is near the stop they are at. Meetings continue for a project timeline and roll out.

**Contact CCTA for Route and Schedule Information:**

By phone: 802-864-2282, by e-mail: [info@cctaride.org](mailto:info@cctaride.org), or visit us online: [CCTAride.org](http://CCTAride.org)

**CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT**  
**Thomas Moreau, General Manager**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

CSWD owns and oversees 10 solid waste or recycling facilities in Chittenden County for its 18 member municipalities. A Board of Commissioners, who sets policy and oversees financial matters, governs CSWD. One Commissioner is appointed by each member community.

The **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OFFICERS** include: Chair Paul Stabler of South Burlington; Vice Chair Michelle DaVia of Westford, and Secretary/Treasurer Alan Nye of Essex. **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS** include Paul Stabler, of South Burlington, Michelle DaVia of Westford, Alan Nye of Essex, Craig Abrahams of Williston, and Chapin Spencer of Burlington. **CSWD GENERAL MANAGER** is Thomas Moreau.

**FINANCES:**

The unaudited FY15 General Fund expenditures were \$8.6 million and the revenues were \$9.9 million. This represents a \$310,000 increase in expenditures (3.7%) and a \$684,000 (7.4%) increase in revenues compared with the FY14 General Fund operating results. Of the \$310,000 increase in expenditures for the year, approximately \$226,000 was associated with wages and benefits, as the District increased total Full-Time Equivalents by 3.89 from the prior year – 1.66 FTE for compost, 1.0 FTE for Administration, and smaller increases for several other programs. Additionally, the Printing and Advertising expenditures increased about \$70,000 in FY15 vs. FY14, due to resumption of marketing for compost products after the FY14 herbicide-related hiatus, as well as increased educational efforts surrounding Act 148 implementation. Of the \$684,000 revenue increase for FY15 over the prior year, \$356,000 was generated by the compost program, with full resumption of product sales in FY15 (compared to limited sales in FY14), as well as \$40,000 increase in feedstock tipping fees. Other significant revenue changes in FY15 were: \$135,000 increase in paint product stewardship revenue (Hazardous Waste Program), and a one-time revenue of \$150,000 from litigation settlement.

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES/EVENTS:**

In FY15, CSWD's major initiatives were: 1) completed work on the Consolidated Collection proposal that weighs the advantages and disadvantages of municipal contracts for trash collection in Chittenden County. The conclusion was to put any implementation decision on hold as we encountered some significant pushback from the solid waste haulers and some of the public. The Board asked staff to investigate alternative methods to achieve the same goals; 2) worked with the private sector to implement Act 175 that mandates the recycling of certain construction and demolition materials. A 17% reduction in the amount of construction/demolition materials landfilled was observed in the first six months; 3) prepared and adopted a new Solid Waste Implementation Plan that puts Chittenden County on a track to reduce our municipal waste disposal rate from the current 3.1 to 2.7 pounds per capita per day; 4) developed and adopted 34 revisions to the CSWD Solid Waste Management Ordinance, including a residential unit-based pricing plan for trash collection; 5) prepared a succession plan for a new General Manager due in early 2016; and 6) continued developing a new 5-year strategic plan.

**ONGOING OPERATIONS:**

**DROP-OFF CENTERS** located in Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Milton, Williston, Richmond, and Hinesburg are available to District members who prefer to self-haul their trash and recyclables. Drop-Off Centers collected 3,095 tons of recyclables, a decrease of 0.70% from FY14, and 6,343 tons of household trash during FY15, a 0.30% increase from FY14.

The **MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY** in Williston is owned by CSWD and privately operated by Casella Waste Management. In FY15, 39,940 tons of recyclables were collected, sorted, baled, and shipped to markets. This represents a 1.30% decrease from the previous year. The average sale price for materials was \$91.60 per ton, which is a 2.3% decrease over last year's average.

The **ENVIRONMENTAL DEPOT** and the **ROVER** are CSWD's hazardous waste collection facilities for residents and businesses. In FY15, 9,758 households and 673 businesses brought in 604,103 pounds of waste that were collected and processed at these facilities. This included 67,790 pounds (6,779 gallons) of latex paint re-blended and sold as "Local Color", 5,413 pounds of leftover products given away through the "Hazbin" reuse program, and 101,850 pounds (10,185 gallons) of latex paint processed for recycling in Canada.

FY15 was a busy year for CSWD's **COMPOST** facility. FY15 saw a return of bulk and bagged product to garden centers for the first time since FY12 and bagged compost products were introduced for sale at CSWD drop off centers across the county. The compost facility continues to operate with a significant subsidy and did not meet sales projections for volumes sold of either bulk or bagged products. Bag your own Raised Bed Mix was made available for the first time and was met with great customer enthusiasm. The quantity of diverted food residuals being composted continues to climb steadily with FY15 totals coming in 23% higher than the previous year. A total of 10,254 tons of material was accepted for composting in FY15 which included 4,414 tons of diverted food residuals, 3,754 of which was traditional food scraps.

CSWD brokered 13,821 wet tons of sewage sludge for our member communities in FY15, which is 0.27% more material than last year. Most of the sewage sludge generated from the Essex Junction WWTF was landfilled through the end of winter of FY 15 due to a plant upgrade. The City of South Burlington's thermo-meso anaerobic digestion, 2PAD system, generated class "A" product which was distributed to local farms for land application, beneficial reuse, through FY 15. The **BIOSOLIDS** program is looking at a sludge characterization study and analysis of disposal alternatives to optimize the beneficial reuse of the districts material for the future of the program.

**MARKETING** – The 2014-16 Chuck-It Guide was sent out at the end of June 2014, chock-full of information about the new waste reduction laws, particularly Act 148. Press releases, ads, and social media were harnessed to help residents and businesses understand the changes. This effort was redoubled in 2015 as more Act 148 mandates kick in, as did Act 175 (the Construction & Demolition recycling law) and CSWD's own ordinance changes. Our Web & Marketing Specialist position became full-time, with new staffer Jonny Finity creating successful video and social media projects for waste reduction and Green Mountain Compost brand awareness efforts. Our first recycling commercial spot ran in April on major networks and in movie theaters. The Drop-Off Compost Challenge, run at all DOCs, has been well received and continues to garner interest and participation in residential food scrap diversion.

A variety of **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** and tools were available to assist residents, schools, municipalities, organizations, and businesses to reduce and properly manage their wastes. The CSWD Hotline (872-8111); website: ([www.cswd.net](http://www.cswd.net)), e-newsletter, presentations, technical assistance, displays, workshops, facility tours, informational brochures, recycling bins and compost collectors (over 10,000 distributed), signage, discount compost bins, special event container loans, and grants (\$26,748 awarded) are part of this positive community outreach. Tens of thousands of employees, residents, students, and others were impacted by CSWD's business, school and youth, and community outreach programs.

Educational programs were complemented by the **ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM** with generator, hauler, and facility compliance checks and follow-ups. New procedures and policies were developed in

response to CSWD Ordinance amendments and Act 148 requirements. In addition, 79 haulers, processors, scales, and transfer stations were licensed.

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT** efforts, which have dual goals of reducing the amount of waste generated and landfilled along with making programs more convenient and cost-effective, focused on recycling and composting incentives and collection, trash collection systems, and markets for recyclables.

CSWD provides funding and staff time to support **GREEN UP DAY** efforts in Chittenden County. In May, 31.7 tons of litter, 2,258 tires, and 3.5 cubic yards of scrap metal were collected. CSWD covered the \$5,332 cost for recycling the tires and waived its fee on disposed litter. CSWD also contributed \$8,200 to Green Up Vermont on behalf of its member municipalities for bags, posters, and promotion.

The **COMMUNITY CLEAN UP FUND** helps members keep their communities clean and litter free throughout the year. \$3,321 was expended by CSWD's member municipalities.

**WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DISTRICT**  
**Nick Warner, Executive Director**

The Winooski Valley Park District's mission is to plan, acquire, and manage lands and waters within the boundaries of its member municipalities for purposes of conservation, preservation of natural areas, establishment of parks, and resource-based education and recreation. The WVPD's system of natural areas offers over 13 miles of shoreline and 25 miles of trails throughout the Winooski River Valley. In Essex, this includes a portion of Colchester Pond Natural Area, Essex Overlook and Woodside Natural Area. The Town of Essex has been a supporting member for 43 years and Tom Malinowski is Essex's representative. Please visit [www.wvpd.org](http://www.wvpd.org) to view trail maps and to learn more, or stop by the WVPD's headquarters at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington.

Here are few highlights from the past year:

- **Park Acquisitions and Improvements:** Woodside Park in Essex got a major makeover this year, with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) constructing a large foot bridge and boardwalk with viewing area and bench. The WVPD has received Recreation Trails Grant Funds to help develop the 63-acre Wolcott Family Natural Area in Colchester; work will begin in spring 2016, the VYCC is a partner. WVPD is negotiating with SD Ireland regarding the donation of land and a trail easement off Grove Street in Burlington/South Burlington. This land directly abuts the 18-acre Valley Ridge parcel which is already in WVPD ownership, thus a new 24-acre natural area and trail system would be created, protecting a large swath of riparian forest and floodway. A new irrigation system was installed at the Ethan Allen Homestead to serve the Association of Africans Living in Vermont New Farms for New Americans farm, paid for by a private donor. Numerous other upgrades on a variety of WVPD assets were performed this year.
- **Environmental Education:** The WVPD's educator met with 977 people including 812 children (including people from all of the WVPD's member towns), and served as the activities and curriculum coordinator for the S.O.L.E. (Sustainable Outdoor Leadership Education) Camp which was expanded to four full weeks. Over 60 campers took part in this program, which will be expanded to eight weeks for summer 2016. A Lake Champlain Basin Program grant was acquired to support camper scholarships and to purchase teaching aids and supplies. The WVPD had approximately 300 students and 36 leaders at our 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conservation Field Day. The WVPD also hosted the "Keeping Track" field naturalist program, monthly nature walks, and had numerous schools, including local colleges and universities, and civic groups visiting the parks.
- **Financial Sustainability:** In years past, the funding formula was applied to the entire WVPD operating budget. This year, despite an increase in the overall 2017 WVPD budget, the formula is being applied to the same amount (\$305,400) as FY2015. This is due to enhanced revenues gained by WVPD from leasing building space and camp programs. The WVPD staff works to identify and bring in other funding (especially for capital projects) and leverages resources to help keep costs low for member towns. Volunteers from local schools and community organizations contribute nearly 1,000 hours of labor annually to various WVPD parks and help complete projects such as repainting the Historic Allen House at the Ethan Allen Homestead, removing invasive plant species, repairing trails and cleaning up trash and debris. This year, the WVPD received grants from the Department of Environmental Conservation to hire a greeter at Colchester Pond to help monitor for invasive aquatic plants; a Recreation Trails Grant was awarded to the WVPD for \$16,500 for trail improvements at Woodside Natural Area in Essex; a lease was signed for the Burlington Forest Pre-School Program to operate at the Ethan Allen

Homestead; and the expanded S.O.L.E. Camp program created enhanced revenue streams. A contract with L.L. Bean has also provided income for WVPD, as they conduct snowshoeing and fly fishing programs at the Ethan Allen Homestead.

- **Activities for Residents and Tourists:** The WVPD's 18 regional parks offer nature trails, scenic overlooks and wildlife viewing, picnic facilities, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails, canoe/kayak launches, fishing access, and public garden plots. The Ethan Allen Homestead Museum (a partner organization) provided tours of Ethan and Fanny Allen's 1787 restored farmhouse, historic lectures, programs and special events for a total outreach to 3,895 visitors.
- **A new Executive Director,** Corbett Torrence, was hired at the Ethan Allen Homestead Museum. Under his new leadership, changes are underway that will greatly expand programming and events, and increase rental income from weddings, special events, educational programs, and other uses.
- **Programs Offered by Others at WVPD Parks:** Many school groups, local colleges and universities, summer camps, and scout groups visit the WVPD's parks as part of their curriculum. The Burlington Area Community Gardens, the Vermont Community Garden Network, and New Farms for New Americans lead educational gardening programs at the WVPD's Ethan Allen Homestead.

Children need natural areas to stay in touch with the local landscapes that sustain them. In turn, natural areas need management that assure people and wildlife can peacefully coexist. The WVPD offers 18 natural areas embedded within the most developed county in Vermont. For 43 years, Essex' annual support has made it possible for thousands of Vermonters and tourists to explore our ecologically-diverse system of natural areas – thank you!

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 2, 2015**

**SELECTBOARD:** Max Levy, Chair; Brad Luck, Vice Chair; Irene Wrenner, Michael Plageman, Andrew Watts.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Patrick Scheidel, Town Manager; Doug Fisher, Finance Director; Dennis Lutz, Public Works Director; Greg Duggan, Town Planner; Cheryl Moomey, Town Clerk; Brad LaRose, Police Chief; Ann Paietta, Library Director; Allison Vile, Parks and Recreation Director; Charles Cole, Fire Chief; Randy Viens, Town Assessor; Dana Hanley, Community Development Director; Rick Garey, Police Lieutenant/MIS Director; Bill Ellis, Town Attorney.

**MODERATOR:** Steve McQueen

Mr. McQueen introduced himself as Town Moderator at 7:35 p.m. Mr. McQueen called attention to the State Representatives present: Linda Myers, Deb Evans, Tim Jerman and Paul Dame. Mr. McQueen called attention to the Village Trustees present: George Tyler, Dan Kerin, Andrew Brown, Lori Houghton and Elaine Sopchak.

Next, Mr. McQueen pointed out the location of Senator Doyle's 2014 Town Meeting Day Survey.

At 7:38 p.m., Mr. McQueen called the 2014 Essex Town Meeting to order. The Essex Junction Boy Scout Troop 624 led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Mr. McQueen asked the public to join him in a moment of silence for those who had given the ultimate sacrifice for the community, whether serving in the Armed Forces of the United States or serving the community as police officers, firefighters or rescue workers.

Next, Mr. McQueen explained the Robert's Rules of Order, the General Rules for Town Meeting and the Voting process governing the Essex Town Meeting. The public had no questions regarding the General Rules of Town Meeting.

Next, Mr. McQueen introduced the Essex Selectboard (SB) Chair, Max Levy, who in turn introduced those people sitting at the head table. Mr. Levy thanked everyone for coming to Town Meeting and hoped that they had noticed a difference this year in the Town Meeting schedule with a dinner and childcare provided. Mr. Levy recognized Mr. Steve McQueen, the Town Moderator. Mr. Levy stated that Mr. McQueen has served the Town as Moderator for 18 years since 1995 and has worked as Chief of Police in Winooski for almost 20 years. Mr. Levy announced that Mr. McQueen was going to retire soon and move to Florida with his wife and work at Disney World. Mr. Levy, on behalf of the SB, thanked Mr. McQueen for his many years of wonderful service as Town Moderator. The public gave Mr. McQueen a standing ovation. Mr. McQueen thanked the public and stated that he has been honored to serve the Town over the years and to raise his children in the community. He and his wife are very proud of the Town and they are going to miss it, but it was time to try something fun and new.

**PAULA DUKE MOVED AND LINDA MYERS SECONDED A MOTION TO SUSPEND**

**THE RULES BY REQUIRING A MAJORITY VOTE TO AUTHORIZE A PAPER BALLOT FOR THIS MEETING.**

Mr. Robert Bates understood that the State Statute required a minimum of seven voters to request a paper ballot, and Mr. McQueen agreed. Mr. Bates wondered if the public could suspend the Statute since it was a State Statute and not a Roberts' Rule. Mr. McQueen stated that the Town can suspend the rule, and over the years, it has been determined that it is their right as a body to suspend the rules and require a majority vote to authorize a paper ballot for this meeting. Mr. Bates asked if Mr. McQueen could give an explanation of the purpose of that State Statute. Mr. McQueen stated that the State Statute required a minimum of seven voters versus Robert's Rules, which requires a 2/3 majority to request a paper ballot. Mr. Bates asked if the State Statute was not present and Town Meeting was operating only under Robert's Rules, would a simple majority be required to request a paper ballot. Mr. McQueen replied no, and he reiterated that if there wasn't a State Statute, the Town establishes the rules and the Town would still follow the rules of Town Meeting, which he read earlier in the meeting. In this particular case, the residents are voting to suspend those rules to require a majority for requesting a paper ballot. Mr. Bates understood that the purpose of the State Statute was to protect those individuals who might feel uncomfortable having to stand up in division. He pointed out that the State considered this and asked the voters to consider this, too. Mr. McQueen reiterated that this is a non-debatable motion. If the motion is approved, then it will require a majority vote to authorize a paper ballot for this meeting. If the motion fails, then Town Meeting would continue with the rules as read earlier in the meeting.

There were no further questions or comments on the motion.

Mr. McQueen asked, "All those in favor of the motion please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay."

**THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

***ARTICLE I: SHALL THE REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS BE ACCEPTED?***

**ALAN NYE MOVED AND PAULA DUKE SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ARTICLE I.**

Mr. Levy pointed out errors in the Annual Town Report. On pages 49 through 58, the Town provided a substitute for those pages to include budget lines numbered at the left of the page. Also, on page 5, paragraph 4, 81 Main Street building has served as the Town Office building since 1983, not 1974. He also pointed out the following volunteer vacancies: members for the Business Liaison Group, a member for the Conservation Committee and representatives for the Channel 17 Board. Additionally, he referred to page 48, which is the Town of Essex Capital Budget and Program for FYE 2016-2020. Mr. Levy explained that this budget was a significant change from years past due to the expenses for the renovation project for 81 Main Street. Mr. Levy referred to Mr. Plageman to further discuss this issue.

Mr. McQueen introduced Mr. Plageman, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 81 Main

Street renovations and the proposed repurposing of \$800,000 from the police facility project to be used for renovations of the 81 Main Street building. Mr. Plageman reviewed the history of the Town offices, why the building needs to be rehabilitated, the proposed site plan, the zoning map of this area, the proposed demolition plans, the proposed overall floor plan and renovations, the proposed phasing plans, the project budget worksheet and a summary of the preliminary budget for the expected costs for this project.

There were no questions or comments on the Reports of the Officers.

Mr. McQueen asked “all those in favor of approving Article 1 please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay”.

**THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

***ARTICLE II: SHALL THE TOWN ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,587,464?***

**PAULA DUKE MOVED AND MARY JO ENGEL SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ARTICLE II.**

Mr. Levy stated that because of all the changes in this budget being very forward-thinking, the members thought that a presentation would be best to explain why they decided to move forward with consolidated services, how they proceeded with this proposal, the proposed tax rate and the dollar amount that would impact residents. Mr. Levy reported that there are very few people who come to the public hearings on the budget, and the members wanted the public to have this information. Therefore, the SB members and the Trustees went out into the community where people congregate, such as hockey games, school nights, Rotary, etc. to pass out information ahead of time. He learned at those 14 outreach opportunities that many people did not think they were Town residents if they lived in Essex Junction. Therefore, he wanted to clarify that if you live in the Village of Essex Junction, you are also a Town resident. He then gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Town of Essex FYE 2016 Budget and Finding Efficiencies in Service Delivery Systems via Shared Services. The budget is the outcome of both the Town and Village looking for efficiencies on how they deliver services.

Mr. Levy reviewed the history of gathering information on shared services. This issue was studied by Mr. Jeffrey Carr and Ms. Mary Morris who presented a report in 2014 to the Trustees and SB as to why it would be smart to consolidate services. Mr. Levy also reviewed the current service delivery efficiencies and the proposed service delivery efficiencies. He reviewed the rationale for combining the Village and Town Stormwater and Highway and for creating an Administrative Services Director (ASD) position to manage those shared services. He emphasized that the ASD was cost neutral and that there would be no layoffs as a result of this new position. He also explained the potential areas for cost savings with shared services and the proposed FYE 2016 budget and its impact to the taxpayers.

The total budget increase is \$1,198,345 or a 10.5% increase. Mr. Levy reviewed the following

breakdown of this increase:

- Normal Operations                   \$313,474       2.7% increase
- Village Stormwater                 \$ 96,975       0.9% increase
- Village Highway                    \$787,896       6.9% increase
  
- Total Budget Increase \$1,198,345       10.5% increase
- Estimated increase in Net Tax Rate       <2%    increase

He explained that the Estimated Tax Impact would be \$10/year for Village Taxpayers and \$25/year for Town Taxpayers for one year during this transition. Then, the following year, all taxpayers would begin to pay the same tax increase moving forward into the future. He next explained that the total municipal taxes on a \$280,000 home would be \$1,313, which covers the following services:

- Round the clock police and dispatching services;
- Round the clock volunteer fire services;
- Public Works maintaining 75 miles of roads, bridges, buildings, vehicles, equipment and 1,840 stormwater structures;
- Parks and Recreation services;
- Library offering free educational programs and assistance for all ages;
- Planning and Zoning, Town Clerk and Assessor services;
- Services such as county court system, Winooski Valley Park District, Visiting Nurse Association, Essex Rescue, Regional Planning and Economic Development Assistance; and
- Capital budget expense planning

Mr. Levy concluded that both the Trustees and the SB, which have a good working relationship, have the desire to deliver good quality services. With these changes, the Trustees and the SB expect to improve these services and to help decrease any increases in the future.

Mr. Ron Lawrence appreciated the work from the staff and SB on a big task. However, he expressed that the economy has not been good, and it doesn't seem like the right time for the Town to increase the budget by 10.5%. He stated that he would not suggest an amendment, but would suggest reducing the amount to last year's budget.

Mr. Ciaran Brennan asked for clarification about the difference between the increases in the Town outside the Village (TOV) taxpayers and the Town inside the Village (TIV) taxpayers. He didn't understand the motivation for why it was a good idea for TOV residents to move the Village Stormwater and Highway expenses from the Village into the Town budget, and thereby, raising TOV taxes.

Mr. Levy explained that, by doing this, efficiencies can be found in working together. By working just within our political boundaries, the Town limits the benefit that can be gained by sharing services. He added that this change is an investment to at least be able to bend the curve on the increases that the communities have seen in the past as they try to sustain themselves 10 years or 20 years into the future.

Mr. Carl Wermer felt that it was clear that anything the Village and Town are doing to make progress together on a shared effort is positive. He stated that to see this change as a tax increase rather than an improvement in the way the Town and Village work is short-sighted.

Mr. John Sheppard appreciated the great amount of work and the tremendous complexity of rationale put forward, but expressed that the explanation of the tremendous efficiencies seemed to be somewhat lacking, nebulous and unclear. He understood that the SB is stating that it is a good idea to merge the Town and the Village, which seemed to be something debated against some time ago. He thought that the Town just came up with a lot of fancy language to present a merger again and created another administrative position to do that in multiple different ways. If this is true, Mr. Sheppard asked the SB to tell him the exact efficiencies, why he would want to pay more taxes in the Town and what he would get out of it. He commented that it might be that he gets great benefit on seeing things being done better in the Town and the Village, but he would like to see it laid out in ways that he would want to pay for.

Mr. Levy reiterated that this budget is not a merger. The Trustees are going to continue their business and the SB is going to continue its business, but they are going to try to work smarter together. He stated that the efficiencies can't be quantified at this time, but referred to the areas that he shared where the Town expects to find efficiencies. Mr. Levy stated that Mr. Lutz also provided a whole list of efficiencies that were available tonight and that those are just initial efficiencies. With voter approval, as this budget is implemented, the Town thinks that it will find other areas of efficiencies as well.

Mr. Moshe Braner understood that the increase is presented as a 10.5% increase, but is really a 2% increase, with \$300,000 of new money to be spent. The rest of the money in the budget would be spent anyways, but was just reclassified. He also understood that the \$900,000 that would have been spent on Village Highway and Stormwater separately, would now be under the Town label. The Village taxpayers used to pay for that, but now it's going to be paid for differently. He understood that everyone is going to pay \$180 more for the average household in Town taxes. This was different in the Village because they used to pay a similar tax that will no longer be paid to the Village, but to the Town. The Town is going to pay that extra amount in the Town tax, but less on the Highway tax so it ends up being an increase of \$25. Mr. Levy agreed with his thinking and reiterated that the increase in the Town General rate is going to go up for everyone, but in the Village, there will be a decrease of roughly \$177,000 because of the Highway and Stormwater reduction. In the Town, there will be a decrease from 8 cents to 2.2 cents which equals a decrease of \$162,000, which leaves a \$15 difference between the Town and the Village taxpayers for this one budget year.

Ms. Ramona Sheppard referred to page 44, the Proposed Resource Rearrangement Table, which shows that ultimately the Village Assistant Manager would become the Finance Director. She asked if this meant that eventually there would be an additional position in the future, which would increase it from 4 positions to 5 positions. She wondered how adding a position could be cost neutral. Mr. Levy referred to Mr. Scheidel. Mr. Scheidel clarified that the Finance Director position will be for both the Town and the Village and is going to be shared by the Village Assistant Manager, the Management Information Systems Director and the current Town Finance

Director. He stated that there is no new Full Time Equivalent (FTE) with this rearrangement, and as a result, there has been a decrease of \$894. He added that the intent is that where there are duplications, the Town and the Village are trying to reduce those duplications, and therefore, have savings.

Mr. Mitch Stern understood that the Town and Village are going to make this more efficient, but that it is going to cost more money. If that is so, he stated, "Please don't be more efficient." Mr. Stern supported a merger, but the Town voted down the merger proposed because it was going to result in higher taxes, which he felt was happening with this proposal. He requested that the members go back and do the work again and come back next year with shared services and more efficiency without it costing more money because that is really important. The economy is not that good, some people are on fixed incomes and some on broken incomes, and it is hurting people to keep spending more and more money. He stated that if the Town was going to spend 10% more, then buy more plow trucks and salt, because he felt that the plowing had not been that spectacular lately.

Mr. Dan Feliciano is in favor of shared services as he has seen it work well in other states and other government agencies that he has worked and consulted in. He stated, however, that the fact that the Town can't better articulate on the savings is of great concern to him as someone who has implemented shared services across large organizations. If the Town has not done its due diligence and doesn't have the insight of the savings in a handful of areas, then he is not confident that it will ever realize savings. He has seen that if you don't commit to those savings up front and declare them openly, then the savings will never be realized. Mr. Feliciano knows that shared services can save money and has seen them save money, but only with organizations who give more due diligence in areas of savings. He suggested this be done by the Town.

Ms. Sharon Zukowski agreed that the Town has not quantified the savings. She was also opposed to taking money from the Capital Fund for this issue to "make it not look so bad." She felt that the \$800,000 of money from the police facility bond should be used for tax relief. She stated that the residents knew that they "escaped a bullet" with regard to 81 Main Street when they were voting on the police facility bond, but she wished the budget issue was discussed at that time. She believed that the \$800,000 would be better spent relieving their taxes.

Mr. John Fitz Gerald raised an issue with the relationship between the Town and Essex Rescue. He felt that the relationship was "too cozy" and that Essex Rescue should request funding the same way as the other human service organizations. He was opposed to having Essex Rescue as part of the Town's General Fund.

Mr. Steve Eustis asked about the impact of the normal operating expenses for the Town on the taxpayers without the shared services portion of the proposed budget. He wondered if there would be the same increase and the same \$15 differential between the TOV taxpayers and the TIV taxpayers. Mr. Eustis agreed with Mr. Levy that part of the 10.5% was bringing in the Village and Stormwater and Highway services to the Town budget, but wanted to know if that was the cause for the entire percentage increase. He asked, how much of the 10.5% increase was just normal increases? Mr. Levy confirmed for Mr. Eustis that, without the shared services and after using the fund balance, the increase for taxpayers would be \$6.

**SHERI LARSON MOVED AND DAVID KEENAN SECONDED A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION.**

Mr. McQueen stated that calling the question means that they will cease to debate on the question and that the vote requires 2/3 majority and is non-debatable.

Mr. McQueen asked “all those in favor of calling the question please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay”.

**THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

Mr. McQueen asked “all those in favor of Article II, please signify by saying aye, all those opposed, nay”.

**THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

***ARTICLE III. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD.***

Mr. McQueen introduced Article III. Public To Be Heard and explained that this was an opportunity for the public to discuss Article V, which is warned for tomorrow, and then to have a general conversation. He referred to Mr. Levy and Mr. Plageman.

Mr. Levy noted that last year was the first time Town Meeting had a Public To Be Heard as a warned Article, and he wanted to report back to the public on some of the action taken by the SB as a result of issues raised last year. With regard to the Pinecrest Sidewalk not being completed, the Town has recently been awarded a \$193,600 grant to complete that sidewalk, which will cost a total of \$250,000. With regard to a comment last year about crumbling infrastructure in Town water pipes, he explained that the Town treats depreciation as an operating expense and because the infrastructure is time-limited, it has set aside \$138,000 a year for water pipes and \$148,000 for sewer. With regard to more participation in the budget process, there is a group of very involved and informed residents called the Essex Governance Group (EGG), which is working towards this goal. The Town supported the efforts of the EGG, which took place through the Heart and Soul process. This process was supported partly by Town funds and resulted in an excellent report with recommendations for the SB. Another issue raised last year was a concern about inaccurate information regarding the Saxon Hill proposal and a public member had asked that policies be updated. As a result, the SB created a Communication Policy, a Business Conduct Policy and an Ethics Policy, all of which will be updated every April. These are examples of how the SB gives public input due consideration and takes it seriously. Mr. Levy was happy to have this Article and to have the public willing to talk to the members.

Mr. McQueen emphasized that this is a time to ask Mr. Plageman questions about Article V and also an opportunity to speak on any issue. He reminded the public that no action can be taken by the members at this time. Mr. Plageman can respond to questions regarding Article V, but for other issues, the members would only be listening and receiving comments as informational.

With regard to Article V, Ms. Beth Paul was an integral part of the study group for the new police facility so was acquainted with the effects of a poor environment for the police, and therefore, she understood that effect on the Town employees. Ms. Paul was in favor of rehabilitating 81 Main Street, but she was concerned about reallocating the \$800,000 from the police facility bond for that issue. She felt this way because, as a voter, she had voted in favor of the entire bond being used fully for the police for things like security lines, phones, computers, chairs and everything that the police need to do its job. She did not believe that goal had been met, and therefore, that the \$800,000 was not a true savings. She was in favor of using whatever money is necessary for the police and then of using any remainder to go back to the voters. She suggested that some of the money be used towards the renovation of 81 Main Street, but that the priority was for the police officers first to be sure they had everything they needed and then to the taxpayers.

Mr. Plageman replied that, based on his conversations with police officers, he has heard that they are thrilled to have a new facility. He has not heard that they are “wanting for anything.” He pointed out that any concern that the building doesn't have everything it needs has to be a chain of command request. Mr. Plageman also explained that if the repurposing of the bond is voted down, the project at 81 Main Street still needs to happen. If the vote fails, then the Town will have to take that money from the Capital Budget, which means that somebody is going to suffer because that budget is built for road repair, culvert replacement, other buildings, etc. The reasoning for this recommendation to repurpose the money was because, over two year ago, it was anticipated that there may be leftover money from the new police facility project. The SB voted unanimously to approve the rehabilitation of 81 Main Street. The SB also voted unanimously that whatever bond money was leftover would go to 81 Main because of the volume of work that needs to get done.

Ms. Paul believed that none of the police officers were going to complain after coming from terrible circumstances to a new facility. They are so happy and grateful for the new building that they are not going to ask for a chair or a phone. She was a Shop Steward (elsewhere) so when she hears from people she knows in the police department that there are things lacking in and around the building, she didn't understand why the Town was using this leftover money. Mr. Plageman asked Ms. Paul how she handled complaints that did not come to her, and she replied that she filed a grievance against management. However, she didn't think that police officers were going to do that because they are thrilled with the new building. She wanted to make sure that the officers had all the tools they needed. Mr. Plageman encouraged the police officers to follow the chain of command and go to the Police Chief if they don't have a needed item. Ms. Paul felt that the whole issue speaks to this money that was originally for the police.

Mr. Sam Smith was concerned with using the \$800,000 of funds for a building that is dilapidated and needs a tremendous amount of work, which has been known for a significant amount of time. He asked if the members had taken a serious look at not renovating 81 Main Street and using the funds for a new location that is not on a flood plain with all these problems. He thought that this money might be enough for a 5,000 square foot building on property already owned by the Town. Mr. Plageman pointed out that the Town approached voters in 2008 with a request for a \$4.5 million bond on a 16,000 square foot property to be leased by the Town, and it was voted down. Additionally, after the generosity of the Townspeople voting two to one in favor of a bond

for a police facility, the members felt that approaching voters with new debt on the heels of the police facility bond would be unreasonable. The members felt obligated to use the funds that have been saved over time since 1994 in the Capital Budget for this issue.

Mr. Tim Miller stated that the police have a new facility, but the department also has a \$4 million budget. He felt that they should be able to buy what they need with \$4 million. He expressed that when the police facility bond was sold to the public, part of the information was that it would probably come in under budget and that the leftover money would be used for the rehabilitation for 81 Main Street and would probably be enough by itself to cover the cost of that project. With regard to the American with Disability Act (ADA) requirements, Mr. Miller believed that the building is grandfathered until “you touch it with a hammer.” Therefore, he thought that, right now, there was no need to make 81 Main Street ADA compliant. Mr. Plageman disagreed because the Town has “taken a hammer” to that building over the years. He stated that he is fairly versed in that law, and he did not remember 81 Main Street or any building being grandfathered. The major point that Mr. Miller wanted to make was that it was made clear that when the Town was selling the police facility bond issue, it said that any leftover money would probably be more than enough to take care of the needs for 81 Main Street.

Mr. Mike Sullivan commented that it was a shame that there wasn't a nice building at Five Corners on a nice treed lot that could have been used for the Town offices. He thanked the SB for the work it did this year with getting the merged services moving forward, and he really likes the idea of one Town. Mr. Plageman gave reasons why the SB did not choose Lincoln Hall for the Town offices site, and Mr. Sullivan clarified that he was referring to where the former bank was located.

Mr. Patrick Gorun asked if there was a plan to digitize the Town records in the event of a fire, flood or sprinkler issue so that there are backup versions. Mr. Plageman confirmed that the digitizing of land records has begun and that the Town is moving forward to have them all digitized.

Mr. Mike Marks asked if the Town was also storing the non-digitized versions of records, and if so, he wondered why the Town needed a bigger vault if the volume of what goes in the vault is decreasing. Mr. Plageman understood that the Town is still required by law to maintain paper records. Mr. Marks wondered if there was any way to change that law since everybody in the State is moving towards digitizing records. Mr. Plageman suggested that he speak with the State representatives present tonight about this issue.

Ms. Lisa Goodrich stated that her husband works at a company that deals in Town records from around the country and that nobody knows how long the digitized records are going to last. In addition, the equipment needed to digitize records is constantly changing. It is known that paper lasts 500 years, and it is believed that a compact disk might last 100 years.

Mr. McQueen confirmed for Mr. Braner that any general comments were welcome, but that the members can only respond to questions related to Article V.

Mr. Braner felt that the bottom line is the same if the money is returned to the taxpayers or

repurposed for 81 Main Street. He relayed that a recent government study recommended consolidating the number of votes in any given community, which would increase the turnout. He wondered what process could be put in motion to make this happen in Essex.

Mr. Darren Schibler asked if the storing of records needed to be on-site at 81 Main Street because he thought that might save having to make new vault space and would also address the flood plain issues. Mr. Plageman replied that from a security standpoint, the records need to be located at 81 Main Street.

Mr. Reed Parker from the Essex Energy Committee (EEC), reported that, last spring, the EEC received approval from the SB to renovate all the street lights to Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs). A similar project is now being initiated in the Village, and there are hundreds and hundreds of street lights that need to be verified against the Green Mountain Power inventory. The EEC is asking for help from all residents on March 28<sup>th</sup> to count lightbulbs.

**AT 9:25 P.M., ALAN NYE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL 7:00 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 3, 2015.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

Saramichelle Stultz  
Recording Secretary

Approved this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 2015.

(See minutes of this date for corrections, if any).

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Andrew J. Watts, Clerk, Selectboard

(THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE NEXT SELECTBOARD MEETING)

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire (Outside Village)	911	878-4300 (Administrative)
(Inside Village)	911	878-3315 (Administrative)
Police	911	878-8331 (Administrative)
Ambulance	911	878-4859 (Administrative)

## TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF TOWN SERVICES

<u>For Information Regarding</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Number</u>
Bicycle Registration	Police Department	878-1333
Birth & Death Certificates	Town Clerk	879-0413
Building & Zoning Permits	Zoning Administrator	878-1343
Burning Permits	Police Department	878-1333
Chittenden Central School District	Superintendent	878-1370
Detectives	Police Department	879-4923
Dog Complaints	Police Department	878-1333
Elections (Town & General)	Town Clerk	879-0413
Essex Town School District	Superintendent	878-8168
Health Complaints	Health Officer – CD Dept.	878-1343
Library	Essex Free Library	879-0313
Licenses (Hunting, Fishing, Marriage, Dog)	Town Clerk	879-0413
Planning & Subdivisions	Community Development	878-1343
Public Works/Streets	Public Works	878-1344
Town Parks & Recreation	Parks & Recreation	878-1342
Recycling/Drop Off Center	Chittenden Solid Waste District	872-8100
Senior Center Bus	Senior Center	878-6940
Swimming	Parks & Recreation	878-1342
Tax Maps/Assessments	Assessor/Real Estate Appraisal	878-1345
Tax Collections	Finance	878-1359
Town of Essex	Municipal Manager	878-1341
Village of Essex Junction	Municipal Manager	878-6944
Village Recreation & Parks	Recreation & Parks	878-1375
Voting Registration	Town Clerk	879-0413
Water/Sewer Services	Public Works	878-1344
E-Mail Address	<u><a href="mailto:Manager@essex.org">Manager@essex.org</a></u>	
Web Site	<u><a href="http://www.essex.org">www.essex.org</a></u>	

**NOTE: The Police Department is located at 145 Maple Street, Essex Junction.**