

TOWN OF CALAIS VERMONT

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016



SCHOOL AND TOWN MEETINGS ~ TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017

**CALAIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
321 LIGHTENING RIDGE ROAD**

**SCHOOL MEETING 9:00 AM ~ TOWN MEETING 9:30 AM
POLLS OPEN 7 AM TO 7 PM**

PLEASE BRING THIS BOOK TO TOWN MEETING.



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Schedule of Meetings

Cemetery Commission, 4th Wed @ 7:00 pm..... Town Office
 Conservation Commission, 1st Wed @7:00 pm Town Office
 Development Review Board, 1st & 3rd Thurs as needed @7:30 pm Town Office
 Elementary School Board, www.calaisschool.org..... Elementary School
 Planning Commission, 1st & 3rd Tuesday @7:00 pm..... Town Office
 Selectboard, 2nd & 4th Mon @7:00 pm Town Hall, May thru Oct and
 Town Office, Nov thru April
 U32 School Board, https://u32.tandemcal.comU32 High School

Community Buildings to Rent

Adamant Community Club Beth Ann Porter 223-1610
 East Calais Community Center Scott Bassage 456-8971
 Maple Corner Community Center (223-4702) Ann Marie John.....(802)585-7730
 Old West Church..... Peter Harvey 229-4026

Dog Licenses

The deadline for licensing dogs is April 3. After that date, a late fee of \$4 is charged or \$6 if your dog is not fixed. Puppies must be licensed when they are six months old. You may license your dog at the town office or through the mail. To license your dog by mail, please make sure we have the following information: Current rabies certificate; a description of the dog (name, breed, size, color, age); a check for the appropriate fee made payable to the Town of Calais.

Fees: \$9 neutered/spayed, \$13 after April 3
 \$13 unneutered/unspayed, \$19 after April 3

Rabies Clinic

Vaccinate your dog at The Hardwick Veterinary Clinic, 64 N. Main Street, where rabies clinics will be held each Saturday in March, 8:30 to 10:30 am for \$15.00. For more information call 802-472-8400.

A rabies clinic for dogs will be held on Thursday, March 23, 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the East Montpelier Fire Station, 54 Village Acres. For more information call the East Montpelier Fire Department non-emergency number at 802-225-6247.

Trash and Recycling

- Trash and recycling: Transfer Station, Moscow Woods Road, East Calais, 8 am to noon, Saturdays
- Additional Recyclables Collection Center, 540 North Main St., Barre, 229-9383
- Electronics recycling: www.vtecycles.org or call 1-855-6ecycle
- Hazardous waste and special collections: www.evswmd.org or call 229-9383

Fireworks Permits

To request a permit, contact the Chief of the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD), a department officer, or designee *15 days in advance of the fireworks display date*. For more information, call the EMFD non-emergency number at 225-6247.

Thank You, Roger and Denise Wheeler

Every year town residents donate their time to serve on committees and commissions with little or no pay and with little public acknowledgement of the important contributions they make to the town of Calais. These are the folks that run your town. Referred to as “public servants,” they must often feel like servants, doing the bidding of state statutes, the citizens of Calais and their own high expectations. Receiving absolutely no credit are the spouses and partners at home – making supper, doing the dishes, getting the kids to do their homework and into bed, and keeping the home fires burning (literally) while the volunteer is at night meetings or doing their own homework or taking phone calls.

Roger Wheeler has done that for Denise Wheeler – since 2000! Patience of a saint? I’d say so. Roger makes it possible for Denise to have served on the selectboard for these past 17 years. Those of you who know Denise are aware that she serves, and has served, on several other boards in our area as well. Roger and Denise have made a home for two special needs adults who have been with them for several years. In addition, Denise is guardian to other special needs people who live elsewhere, but whose lives are her responsibility.

It is fortunate for the town that Denise retired a couple years ago so she can do even MORE work in her role on the selectboard and as its chair. She spends an inordinate amount of time preparing for meetings, creating agendas, following up and researching issues, mediating controversial issues and differences of opinion, interfacing with town committees, assuring that the laws of the State of Vermont are followed, responding to citizens and many other tasks that come her way. While she’s doing all this, Roger is not home with his feet up drinking a beer. When Denise retired, I asked Roger how he felt about it. “As long as she stays out of the kitchen,” he said. But I know she’s been in the kitchen because we are lucky enough to be the beneficiaries of her home baked goodies, her homegrown and canned salsa and fruit, and her Christmas treats.

When Denise receives her annual selectboard pay (as chair her pay was increased from \$500 a year to \$1,000), she gives half to Roger. They both deserve so much more, but as John Lennon and Paul McCartney wrote, “Money can’t buy you love.” But community service can! So on behalf of the town, we want to acknowledge Denise as one of the most kind-hearted, generous people you’ll meet, always striving to do her best in her interactions with people and in her responsibilities on the selectboard and for choosing a spouse who helps her help the community.

Thank you, Roger and Denise!



Town Officers

Gus Seelig	Town Moderator
Craig Line	School Moderator
Donna Fitch.....	Town Clerk & Treasurer
Judy Robert	Assistant Clerk & Treasurer

Selectboard

Rose Pelchuck (3-year term).....	Term expires 2019
Toby Talbot (3-year term).....	Term expires 2017
Scott Bassage (2-year term).....	Term expires 2017
John Brabant (2-year term).....	Term expires 2016
Denise Wheeler (3-year term).....	Term expires 2018

Elementary School Directors

Chauntelle Eckhaus (2-year term)	Term expires 2018
Katie Reed (3-year term)	Term expires 2019
Drew Lamb (3-year term).....	Term expires 2017
Michael Giammusso (2-year term).....	Term expires 2017
Susanna Culver (3-year term).....	Term expires 2018

U32 School Director (3-year term)

C. Scott Thompson.....	Term expires 2018
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Listers (3-year terms)

John McCullough.....	Term expires 2019
Janice Ohlsson	Term expires 2017
Laura Fillbach	Term expires 2018

Justices of the Peace (2-year terms)

Scott Bassage	Dillon Burns
Cornelia Emlen	Judy L. Copa
Charlotte Hanna Bassage	

***Elected from the Floor at Town Meeting (1-year terms)**

Donna Fitch	Agent to Convey Real Estate
Kristina Bielenberg	Town Law Agent
Kristina Bielenberg	Town Grand Juror



Town Officers, continued

***Trustees of Public Funds (3-year terms)**

Steve Killoran	Term expires 2019
Rodney Buck.....	Term expires 2017
William Russell.....	Term expires 2018

***Cemetery Commissioners (5-year terms)**

Jennifer Whitman.....	Term expires 2021
Fletcher Dean.....	Term expires 2017
Juanita Nunn	Term expires 2018
John Simanskas.....	Term expires 2019
Randy Koch	Term expires 2020

****Appointed (1-year terms)**

Wilson Hughes.....	Animal Control Officer
Paul Rose	Delegate to CVRPC
David Ellenbogen.....	Delegate to CVRPC-TAC
William Powell	Delegate to CVSWMD
Nedene Martin	Delinquent Tax Collector
Rolf Mueller.....	E-911 Coordinator
Toby Talbot	Emergency Plan Coordinator
William Powell	Energy Coordinator
Greg Pelchuck.....	Fire Warden
Chris Tuller	Asst. Fire Warden
Wilson Hughes.....	First Constable
Greg Pelchuck.....	Inspector of Lumber
Alfred Larrabee.....	Road Commissioner
Ernie Parrish.....	Gospel Hollow Warden
Mary Melekos	Town Health Officer
Neal Maker.....	Tree Warden
Drew Lamb	Assistant Tree Warden
Cat Fair, Principal	Truant Officer
Peter Harvey.....	Weigher of Coal
John McCullough (3-year term expires 2017).....	Zoning Administrator

****Development Review Board (3-year terms)**

Walt Amses	Term expires 2019
Ruth Porter	Term expires 2017
Denise Wheeler, alternate	Term expires 2017
Anne Winchester, alternate	Term expires 2018



Town Officers, continued

Barbara Weedon.....	Term expires 2018
Steve Owens.....	Term expires 2018
Margaret Bowen.....	Term expires 2018
Jan Ohlsson, alternate	Term expires 2019

****Planning Commission (4-year terms)**

Gary Root.....	Term expires 2017
John McCullough.....	Term expires 2018
Janice Ohlsson	Term expires 2019
Paul Rose	Term expires 2019
Ronnie Shaw	Term expires 2019
Melanie Kehne.....	Term expires 2020

****Conservation Commission (4-year terms)**

Julie Hand	Term expires 2016
Drew Lamb	Term expires 2017
Neal Maker.....	Term expires 2017
Grant Orenstein.....	Term expires 2018
Stephanie Kaplan	Term expires 2019
Larry Bush	Term expires 2019
Lou Cherry	Term expires 2018
Richard Maizell.....	Term expires 2018

****Design Advisory Board**

Peter Brough	Term expires 2017
Kurt Janson	Term expires 2018
David Schutz.....	Term expires 2019
Karen Lane.....	Term expires 2018
Ernie Parrish.....	Term expires 2019

****Historic Preservation Commission (3-year terms)**

Ernie Parrish.....	Term expires 2017
Susannah Blachly.....	Term expires 2017
Scott Bassage	Term expires 2016
David Schutz.....	Term expires 2019
Curtis Johnson.....	Term expires 2019
Susan Weber.....	Term expires 2018
Larry Bush	Term expires 2018
Karen Lane.....	Term expires 2018

Town Officers, continued

****Trails Committee**

Reed Cherington, Chair	Term Expires 2019
Tom Blachly	Term Expires 2019
Randy Allen	Term Expires 2019
Michael Fullerton.....	Term Expires 2017
Toni Kaeding.....	Term Expires 2017
Denise Wilder.....	Term Expires 2017
Charlotte Hanna Bassage.....	Term Expires 2018
Gail Graham.....	Term Expires 2018
William Russell.....	Term Expires 2018

** Elected from the floor at town meeting*

*** Appointed by selectboard*



Rolf Mueller was happy to take over the job of E-911 Coordinator from former E-11 Coordinator, John McCullough.

***Names to be Printed
on the Australian Ballot
for Town and Elementary School***

**Australian Ballot Voting
Tuesday, March 7, 2017
Polls open 7 am to 7 pm
Calais Elementary School
321 Lightening Ridge Road**

Offices filed for:

Elementary School Director, 2-year term
Elementary School Director, 3-year term

Drew Lamb
Sage Kennedy
Keith MacMartin
Dorothy Naylor

Selectboard, Balance of 2-year term (1 year)
Selectboard, 2-year term
Selectboard, 3-year term
Lister, 3-year term
Town Clerk, 3-year term
Town Treasurer, 3-year term

John D. Brabant
Robert G. Richert, Jr.
Sharon Winn Fannon
Janice Ohlsson
Judy Fitch Robert
Donna Fitch



Notice to Voters before Town Meeting Day

The voters' checklist will be posted by February 5, 2017 at the Town Office, the Maple Corner Store and the East Calais Post Office. If you have registered to vote recently, you may want to check to make sure your name is on it.

Register to Vote

Applications for addition to the checklist are available at the Town Office or you can download one from the Secretary of State's web site at www.sec.state.vt.us. (Click on "Elections" and then on "Voters.") You can also register online at the same web site and your application will be forwarded to the Calais Town Office.

Vermont now allows for same-day voter registration. A person may submit an application for addition to the checklist to the presiding officer at the polling place during voting hours. A separate table will be set up for this.

Early Voting

You may request an early or absentee ballot from the town clerk by telephone, mail or in person up until closing of the town clerk's office on the day before the election. You can also vote in the town office. Only a voter, family member or health care provider may request a ballot by phone. Any other person authorized by the voter, including a friend, may request a ballot in person or in writing and must sign an absentee ballot request form; the ballot will be mailed to you. You CANNOT pick up a ballot for your spouse or anyone else. Your ballot must be returned to the town office by 4 pm March 7th or the polling place by 7 pm the day of the election (March 7). If you are ill or disabled, you can call the town office and request that a pair of justices of the peace bring a ballot to you, and they will return the ballot to the town clerk. The Calais Elementary School is handicapped accessible, but we will also bring ballots out to your car.

Sample Ballots

Sample ballots will be posted by February 25, 2017 at the Town Office, the Maple Corner Store, the East Calais Store and at www.calaisvermont.gov.

On Election Day

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, explain the situation to the town clerk and ask that it be put back on. If the problem isn't cleared up to your satisfaction, have the town clerk, a selectperson or other member of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) call an immediate meeting of those BCA members who are present at the polls. They should investigate the problem and clear it up. If you are still not satisfied, you may take a brief written request to a superior court judge, who will rule on your request before the polls close that day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (8603) for more information.

Calais Town Warning ***Tuesday, March 7, 2017***

The legal voters of the Town of Calais are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Calais Elementary School on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., following the conclusion of the school meeting which begins at 9:00 a.m., to transact the following business from the floor. Polls for Australian ballot voting on the Articles so indicated will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Calais Elementary School.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the reports of Town boards and officers.

ARTICLE 3. To elect the following Town officers from the floor:

Trustee of Public Funds	3-year term
Cemetery Commissioner	5-year term
Agent to Convey Real Estate	1-year term
Law Agent	1-year term
Grand Juror	1-year term

ARTICLE 4. Shall the voters approve total highway and general fund expenditures of \$1,579,980 of which \$1,259,100 shall be raised by taxes and \$320,880 by non-tax revenue?

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters appropriate \$25,760 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library for its operating expenses?

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters appropriate \$1,607 for the Cross Vermont Trail's Winooski Bridge Project?

ARTICLE 7. Shall the voters appropriate \$2,400 as matching funds for a grant to identify opportunities in East Calais Village and create a practical action plan to increase economic activity through public visioning, greater use of community assets, safer bicycle and pedestrian pathways, historic trails, improved parking, and links along Vt. Rte. 14?

ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters appropriate the indicated sums as requested by the following organizations in Calais and the Central Vermont area, as follows:

Adamant Community Club	\$3,000
Calais Community Connections	\$1,000
Capstone Community Action	\$ 300
Central Vermont Basic Education	\$1,000
Central Vermont Council on Aging.....	\$1,400



Calais Town Warning, continued

Central Vermont Development Corp.....	\$ 500
Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice.....	\$3,200
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center.....	\$ 800
Circle.....	\$ 700
Family Center of Washington County.....	\$ 500
Friends of Winooski River.....	\$ 300
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont.....	\$ 300
Green Mountain Transit Agency.....	\$ 859
Greenup Vermont.....	\$ 100
Home Share Now.....	\$ 600
Montpelier Senior Center.....	\$3,200
Old West Church.....	\$ 100
Peoples Health and Wellness Clinic.....	\$1,500
Sexual Assault Crisis Team.....	\$ 200
Twin Valley Senior Center.....	\$3,000
Vermont Association for the Blind.....	\$ 650
Vermont Center for Independent Living.....	\$ 415
Washington County Diversion Program.....	\$ 300
Washington County Youth Service Bureau.....	\$ 500
Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf.....	\$ 300
Washington County Mental Health Services.....	<u>\$1,400</u>

TOTAL..... \$26,124

ARTICLE 9. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$281,789, for a term not to exceed five years, for the purpose of retiring the FY 2015 and FY 2016 budget deficits?

ARTICLE 10. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00, for a term not to exceed five years, for the purchase of a used excavator and a new trailer for that excavator?

ARTICLE 11. Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Maple Corner Community Center, Inc., for a period of five years, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §3840?

ARTICLE 12. Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Calais Community Recreation Association, Inc., for a period of five years, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §3840?

ARTICLE 13. Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Adamant Community Club, Inc., for a period of five years, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §3840?

Calais Town Warning, continued

- ARTICLE 14. Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Aldrich Memorial Association, Inc., for a period of five years, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §3840?
- ARTICLE 15. Shall property taxes be paid to the Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in two equal installments, as follows: The first installment will be due on or before 4:00 p.m. 30 days after the tax bills are mailed, but not earlier than August 1, 2017, and the second installment will be due on or before 4:00 p.m. on November 15, 2017.
- ARTICLE 16. Shall a grace period be established after the property tax due dates of payments of property taxes as provided in 32 V.S.A. §1674(3)(B)? The grace period for the first payment will be two weeks after the due date. The grace period for the second payment will extend through November 29, 2017. Taxes become delinquent on November 30, 2017, and a 7% penalty is applied.
- ARTICLE 17. Shall the Town of Calais be a Town of Sanctuary for refugees and asylum-seekers and not participate in Federal efforts to deport undocumented immigrants?
- ARTICLE 18. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting

The following Articles will be voted by Australian Ballot:

- ARTICLE 19. To elect the following Town officers by Australian ballot:
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Selectboard Member | Balance of 2-year term (1 year) |
| Selectboard Member | 3 year term |
| Selectboard Member | 2 year term |
| Auditor | 3 - year term |
| Auditor | Balance of 3-year term (2 years) |
| Auditor | Balance of 3-year term (1 year) |
| Lister | 3 - year term |
| Town Clerk | 3 - year term |
| Treasurer | 3 - year term |
- ARTICLE 20. Shall the Town of Calais Land Use and Development Regulations which were adopted by the voters of the Town on March 1, 2005 and last amended on March 4, 2014 be further amended as recommended to the voters after public hearings by the Calais Planning Commission on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 and by the Calais Selectboard on Monday, December 19, 2016?

Calais Town Warning, continued

ARTICLE 21. Shall the Town approve, and submit to the Vermont General Assembly for enactment, the municipal charter proposed by the Selectboard? The proposed municipal charter is available for inspection at the Calais Town Office during regular office hours and on the Town's website at www.calaisvermont.gov

Dated at Calais this 25th day of January, 2017 by the Calais Selectboard:

Denise Wheeler, Chair
Scott Bassage
Toby Talbot

John Brabant, Vice Chair
Rose Pelchuck



First time voter McKinley Schaeffer casts his ballot in November.

Town of Calais, Vermont Town Charter

Section 1. Corporate Existence Retained

- (a) Pursuant to the authority granted by the General Assembly, there is hereby enacted a charter to govern the organization and operation of local government in the Town of Calais.
- (b) The inhabitants of the Town of Calais, within the geographical limits as now established, shall continue to be a municipal corporation by the name of the Town of Calais.

Section 2. General Law; Application

- (a) The Town of Calais shall have all the powers granted to towns and municipal corporations by the Constitution and laws of this State and this chapter, together with all the implied powers necessary to carry into execution all the powers therein granted.
- (b) Except when changed, enlarged, or modified by the provisions of this chapter, all provisions of the statutes of the State applying to towns and municipal corporations shall apply to the Town.
- (c) In this chapter, any mention of a particular power shall not be construed to restrict the scope of the powers that the Town would have if the particular power were not mentioned unless this chapter otherwise provides.
- (d) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to in any way limit the powers and functions conferred on the Town, the Selectboard, or its elected or appointed officers by general or special enactment of State statutes or rules in force or effect or hereafter enacted, and the powers and functions conferred by this chapter shall be cumulative and in addition to the provisions of the general or special enactment unless this chapter otherwise provides.

Section 3. Treasurer

The Selectboard shall annually appoint a Town Treasurer who shall perform all the duties of Town Treasurers as required by State statute and those additional duties specified by the Selectboard. The Town Treasurer shall be the collector of current taxes. The Town Treasurer shall not be treasurer of the Town School District; such Town School District Treasurer shall be elected by the voters of the Town School District. The Town Treasurer need not be a resident or voter of Calais and shall serve at the pleasure of the Selectboard.

Section 4. Auditor

The Selectboard shall annually appoint a Town Auditor who shall perform all the duties of Town Auditors as required by State statute and those additional duties specified by the Selectboard. The Town Auditor need not be a resident or voter of Calais and shall serve at the pleasure of the Selectboard. Not less than every three (3) years, the Selectboard shall contract with a public accountant, licensed in this State, to perform a financial audit of all funds of the Town.

Section 5. Severability

If any provision of this chapter is held invalid, the other provisions of the chapter shall not be affected thereby.

Section 6. Transitional Provisions

(a) The Town Treasurer in office immediately prior to the effective date of this act may continue to hold that office until July 1, 2017. On that date, the term of the elected Town Treasurer shall expire and a Town Treasurer shall be appointed by the Selectboard as provided in Section 3 of this act.

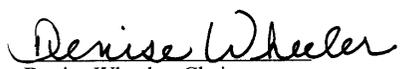
(b) The Town Auditors in office immediately prior to the effective date of this act may continue to hold that office until July 1, 2017. On that date, the terms of the elected Town Auditors shall expire and a Town Auditor shall be appointed by the Selectboard as provided in Section 4 of this act.

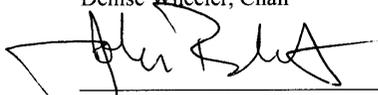
Section 7. Effective Date.

This act shall take effect upon passage.

Approved with revision to Section 3 indicated by underline, this 30th day of January, 2017.

CALAIS SELECTBOARD


Denise Wheeler, Chair


John Brabant, Vice Chair


Rose Pelchuck


Toby Talbot


Scott Bassage

Received for record this 31st day of January, 2017.


Donna Fitch, Town Clerk

2016 Town Meeting Minutes

The 2016 town meeting was called to order at the Calais Elementary School on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 10:25 a.m. by Gus Seelig, moderator. The ballot boxes had been officially opened by the town clerk at 7 a.m. and remained open until 7 p.m.

ARTICLE 1. Gus Seelig was elected moderator.

ARTICLE 2. Officers elected by Australian ballot: Chauntelle Eckhaus, Elementary School Director 2-year term and Katie Reed 3-year term; Rose Pelchuck, Selectboard 3-year term; John McCullough, Lister 3-year term.

ARTICLE 3. Revisions to Calais Land Use and Development Regulations were passed over to be revised and voted on at Town Meeting 2017.

ARTICLE 4. To provide the opportunity to ask questions regarding the reports contained in the town report. Barry Bernstein questioned the increase in legal expenses. Selectboard member John Brabant explained the town experienced two major litigations this year. The town and the East Montpelier Fire Department were sued by CCS Construction for an incident related to the rollover of a Hutch Concrete crane, and there was litigation around a proposed VTEL tower resulting in substantial legal expenses. The Selectboard's philosophy is to ensure that town zoning is upheld and that sometimes incurs legal fees.

Donna Fitch noted corrections to the articles as they are presented in the town report: 1) Page 9, article 5: The correct amount to be raised in taxes is \$1,050,340 with \$334,975 to be raised by non-tax revenue. 2) Page 10, article 13: The dollar amount for the town garage addition should read: \$36,500. 3) Page 20, article 26: The dollar amount for town meeting appropriations (social service organizations) was corrected to match Article 26 with the additional inclusion of Old West Church.

Point of order: A community member asked whether it is okay to make these changes on the floor. Mr. Seelig believes this is appropriate according to Robert's Rules of Order. Rick Kehne applauded the Selectboard for its stand on the issue related to the VTEL tower. Stephanie Kaplan noted a correction on Page 6: The Lakes and Streams Committee is an independent committee and is not appointed by the Selectboard.

2016 Town Meeting Minutes, continued

- ARTICLE 5 Approved total highway and general fund expenditures of \$1,385,315 of which \$1,050,340 shall be raised by taxes and \$334,975 by non-tax revenue with the changes that had been noted by Ms. Fitch.
- ARTICLE 6. Approved the appropriation of \$2,700 for the Calais Swim Program.
- ARTICLE 7. Approved \$4,000 to be transferred to the reserve fund established pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2804 for conservation and other lawful purposes of the fund.
- ARTICLE 8. Election of town officials: Town Law Agent: Motion was made and seconded to elect Kristina Bielenberg. A motion was made and seconded to elect Tommy Blachly. He respectfully declined. Motion was made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Kristina Bielenberg. Town Grand Juror: Tina Bielenberg was elected. Trustee of Public Funds: Steve Killoran was elected. Cemetery Commissioner: Jennifer Whitman was elected. Agent to Convey Real Estate: Town Treasurer Donna Fitch was elected
- ARTICLE 9: The article was defeated by a paper ballot vote of 33 “yes” and 112 “no” defeating a vote to adopt the Calais Town Plan, and any amendments to the Plan, by Australian ballot vote pursuant to 23 V.S.A. §4385(c). (The Town Plan is currently approved and amended by the Selectboard.)
- ARTICLE 10. Approved \$7,500 for the second phase of a two-phase natural resource inventory to identify the town’s significant natural resources to support the planning process.
- ARTICLE 11: Voted to establish a “Cemetery Fund” for the purpose of retaining any cemetery fund balance available at the end of the fiscal year.
- ARTICLE 12. Approved the appropriation of \$14,000 for cemetery special projects and deferred maintenance, to include fence repair and replacement, and stone repair and washing.
- ARTICLE 13. Approved a sum not to exceed \$36,500 for an addition to the town garage.
- ARTICLE 14. Voted to establish a “Computer, Software and Technology Reserve Fund” to cover future purchases of technology-related equipment to include computers, servers, printers, copy machine.

2016 Town Meeting Minutes, continued

- ARTICLE 15. Approved the appropriation of the following sums: \$25,000 to the Calais Highway Heavy Equipment Reserve Fund; \$5,000 to the Computer, Software and Technology Reserve Fund; \$20,000 to the Town Office and Town Hall Reserve Fund.
- ARTICLE 16. Approved the appropriation of \$17,963, contingent upon the awarding of a structures grant from the State of Vermont, for construction of the North Calais retaining wall.
- ARTICLE 17. Voted to authorize the selectboard to purchase a 10-wheel truck at a cost not to exceed \$168,000 to be financed over a period of five years.

The meeting recessed at 12:35 for lunch and reconvened at 1:50 pm.

- ARTICLE 18. Voted to authorize the selectboard to use \$25,000 of the Calais Highway Heavy Equipment Fund to pay for fiscal year 2017 heavy equipment purchases and loans.
- ARTICLE 19. Approved the following with the addition of “reasonable” before “responsible and legal.” It was then amended to remove “and legal” from the article and change to be rewritten as “... should take reasonable and responsible actions within...” Whereas, the earth’s temperature continues its historically rapid rise, polar ice is melting at an increasing rate, and we seem to be experiencing more extreme weather events than in the past; Whereas, scientists largely agree the temperature rise is the cause of the changing weather, the rise is primarily caused by the combustion of fossil fuels and, unless these emissions are cut substantially, we will leave to future generations a much less desirable place to live; Whereas, Calais town government and its various committees have the ability to effect the reduction of fossil fuel use through decisions about town infrastructure and operations, through education and assistance to residents to reduce their fossil fuel use and through implementing climate sensitive requirements in land use regulations; Resolved, all elements of Calais government and committees should take all responsible and legal actions within their respective subject areas and in collaboration with others to reduce fossil fuel use by the town’s operations and to assist residents to do the same. Further Resolved, the selectboard or its designee should provide a report on progress under this resolution in the 2016 town report.
- ARTICLE 20. Approved the appropriation of \$25,760 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library for its operating expenses.

2016 Town Meeting Minutes, continued

- ARTICLE 21. Voted to have all property taxes paid to the treasurer in two equal installments: The first installment will be due on or before 4:00 p.m. 30 days after the tax bills are mailed, but not earlier than August 1, 2016, and the second installment will be due on or before 4:00 p.m. on November 15, 2016.
- ARTICLE 22. Voted to institute a grace period after the established due dates for payment of property taxes. The grace period for the first payment will be two weeks after the due date. The grace period for the second payment will extend through November 29, 2016.
- ARTICLE 23. Voted to contribute \$2,000 to the Calais Historical Society for the reprinting of the Calais history book “Forever Calais.”
- ARTICLE 24. Voted to replace the “Calais General Fund Contingency Reserve Fund” with a “Calais General and Highway Contingency Reserve Fund” to cover unanticipated revenue shortfalls and pay nonrecurring and unanticipated expenses.
- ARTICLE 25: Authorized the selectboard to apply any General Fund surplus at the end of the fiscal year to the “Calais General and Highway Contingency Reserve Fund” with the fund to be capped at \$50,000 and with any surplus remaining going to reduce the following year’s taxes.
- ARTICLE 26. Authorized the appropriation of the sums of money requested by the following organizations with the following changes: \$100 to the Old West Church; the addition of \$200 to Home Share Now increasing the amount to \$600.

Calais Community Connections \$1,000; Central Vermont Basic Education \$1,000; Central Vermont Community Action Council \$300; Central Vermont Council on Aging \$1,400; Central Vermont Economic Development Corp \$500; Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice \$3,200; Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center \$800; Circle \$700; Family Center of Washington County \$500; Friends of Winooski River \$300; Good Beginnings of Central Vermont \$300; Green Mountain Transit Agency \$859; Greenup Vermont \$100; Home Share Now \$600; Montpelier Senior Center \$3,200; Old West Church \$100; Peoples Health and Wellness Clinic \$1,500; Sexual Assault Crisis Team \$200; Twin Valley Senior Center \$2,000; Vermont Association for the Blind \$650; Vermont Center for Independent Living \$415; Washington County Diversion Program \$300; Washington County Youth Service Bureau \$500; Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf \$300; Retired & Senior Volunteer Services \$200; Washington

2016 Town Meeting Minutes, continued

County Mental Health Services \$1,400; TOTAL \$22,224.

ARTICLE 27. Approved the appropriation of \$5,000 for the “Calais/East Montpelier Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund.”

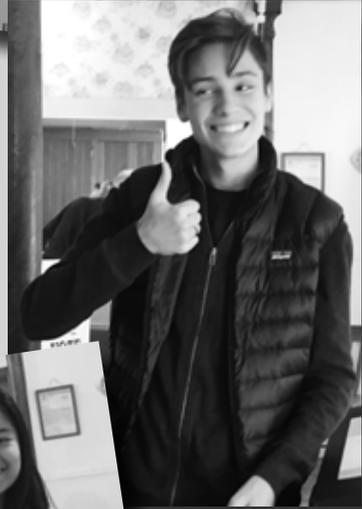
ARTICLE 28. Additional discussion included: Wilson Hughes reminded attendees to register their dogs by April 1, 2016. There is a one-month grace period after the due date. After the grace period, a substantial fine is imposed by the town and by the state. Mac Gardner-Morse expressed appreciation for dedicating the town report to the Morse family. Tina Bielenberg expressed appreciation for the format and clarity of the town report. Abby Rose Hannan was thanked for running the microphone. Fletcher Dean, Green Up Day coordinator, reminded people Green Up Day is Saturday, May 7th, 9 to noon and asked for volunteers.

ARTICLE 29. The meeting adjourned at 2:55.



First time voters Claire Mills and Silas Miller voting at the 2016 Town Meeting.

More First Time Calais Voters (and their proud parents)



FY2018 Tax Request & Estimated Tax Rate

EXPENSES:

Highways \$ 849,761
 Selectboard..... \$ 681,219
 Cemeteries..... \$ 49,000
Total Expenses \$1,579,980

INCOME:

Current Use \$ 77,000
 State Aid Highways..... \$ 194,240
 Licenses and Fees \$ 30,025
 Other Income \$ 19,615
Total Income \$ 320,880

Amount to be raised in taxes (Art. 4) \$1,259,100

	Proposed FY18 Town Tax		Estimated Local Agree. Tax*		Estimated FY18 School Tax		Total Tax Rate
ESTIMATED TOWN TAX FOR EXPENSES ABOVE:	0.6350	+	0.0036	+	1.708	=	2.3466
ESTIMATED TOWN TAX ADD- ING EXPENSES BELOW:	0.6632	+	0.0036	+	1.708	=	2.3748
Compared to FY2017 town tax rate:	0.6769	+	0.0036	+	1.6355	=	2.3160
Grand List* \$1,982,721							

Other Town Disbursements:

Art. 5 Kellogg Hubbard Library\$25,760
 Art. 8 Social Service Organizations..\$26,124
 Art. 7 E. Calais Better Conn. Grant ..\$ 2,400
 Art. 6 Cross VT Trail Bridge\$ 1,607
\$55,891

Amount to be raised in taxes if budget and all articles pass \$1,314,991

If all articles and budget items pass, the tax impact on property valued at \$200,000 is calculated below. You can use this calculation to estimate your own 2017 taxes.

Your property is appraised at \$200,000. Divide by 100 = 2,000 x Town Tax Rate and Local Agreements Tax .6668 = \$1,333. That's your town tax. Your school tax is \$3,416 for total property taxes of \$4,749. In 2016, your taxes would have been \$4,632.

* Local Agreement Tax - Disabled Veterans and Non-taxed Properties

Income

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY17 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
2000 · Taxes				
2010 · Real Estate Taxes - Current	1,153,887	1,133,473.91	1,236,537	1,314,991
2030 · State Current Use	81,500	77,072.00	77,000	77,000
2040 · Prior Year Surplus Expended	0	0.00	24,000	0
2050 · Penalty on Late Filed HS122	0	5,213.59	0	0
Total 2000 · Taxes	1,235,387	1,215,759.50	1,337,537	1,391,991
2500 · Highway Funds				
2510 · State Aid	159,200	158,863.87	159,000	158,840
2520 · Miscellaneous Credits	2,800	661.50	1,000	500
2522 · VLCT PACIF Grant	0	402.26	5,000	2,500
2523 · Better Roads Grant	0	9,988.00	0	0
2524 · Center Rd Culvert Grant	0	39,008.54	0	0
2525 · County Rd Pave Grant	0	175,000.00	0	0
2530 · Hayden Rd Structures Grant	0	0.00	0	32,400
2541 · Highway Equipment Reserve Fund	0	0.00	25,000	0
Total 2500 · Highway Funds	162,000	383,924.17	190,000	194,240
3000 · Licenses & Fees				
3010 · Dog Licenses	3,000	3,969.00	3,000	3,900
3020 · Liquor Licenses	325	325.00	325	325
3030 · Zoning & Curb Cut Fees	4,000	3,160.00	3,500	3,000
3040 · Traffic Fines	3,000	3,023.42	3,000	2,000
3050 · Marriage Licenses	350	245.00	300	360
3060 · Fish & Wildlife	550	245.00	300	0
3070 · Tax Collection Fees	7,500	8,568.19	6,100	5,440
3080 · Recording Fees	20,000	16,581.45	15,000	15,000
Total 3000 · Licenses & Fees	38,725	36,117.06	31,525	30,025
4000 · Other Income				
4020 · Interest Earned	12,000	64.51	5,000	65
4021 · Delinquent Tax Interest	0	3,926.01	0	3,000
4022 · Delinquent Tax Penalty	0	12,798.73	0	12,500
4070 · Green-Up Day Reimbursement	250	497.93	150	150
4080 · PILOT Funds	4,500	3,700.18	3,700	3,900
4170 · Town Hall Preservation Grant		14,800.00		
4250 · Other income	0	13,000.00	3,600	0
Total 4000 · Other Income	16,750	48,787.36	12,450	19,615
Total Income	1,452,862	1,684,588.09	1,571,512	1,635,871

Expenses

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
5000 · Highways				
5003 · Highway Wages	200,141	201,222.65	210,015	210,015
5005 · FICA & Medicare - Highway	15,311	15,360.28	16,066	16,448
5007 · Insurance-Health, Disability	64,504	60,444.22	52,820	63,420
5008 · Workers Compensation	12,435	15,121.00	14,682	13,716
5010 · Fuel - Gas, Oil, Diesel	70,000	49,035.09	65,000	60,000
5013 · Equipment Repairs & Maint.	35,000	55,276.85	60,000	55,000
5014 · Hayden Rd Bridge	0	0.00	0	36,000
5015 · Equipment Hired	20,000	25,090.00	30,000	25,000
5016 · Equipment Purchase & Loans	60,000	60,282.59	60,000	80,000
5017 · Gravel	120,000	163,338.63	110,000	110,000
5018 · Sand	60,000	1,493.40	60,000	65,000
5020 · Chloride	20,000	15,980.00	20,000	20,000
5021 · Salt	14,000	10,147.37	20,000	25,000
5022 · County Rd Pave Mile 3	0	227,104.04	0	0
5023 · Bridges & Culverts	10,000	27,156.34	10,000	15,000
5024 · Center Rd Culvert	0	43,431.71	0	0
5025 · Garage Maintenance	5,000	1,597.79	5,000	7,500
5026 · Supplies	0	1,299.63	0	0
5027 · Utilities	3,600	4,099.66	6,000	4,600
5028 · Communications	1,000	1,350.45	1,000	1,000
5029 · Computer Expenses	500	99.84	200	200
5030 · Uniforms	3,000	3,895.97	4,000	4,800
5033 · Trash Removal	150	375.89	25	0
5034 · Tire Recycle	400	129.60	150	150
5035 · Welding, Shop Supplies, Tools	2,500	8,587.81	4,000	4,500
5037 · Roadside Mowing	5,000	5,000.00	5,000	5,000
5040 · Guard Rails	1,000	14,896.25	3,000	3,000
5043 · Road Signs	5,000	2,600.50	3,000	3,000
5045 · Pavement Crack Seal	1,000	246.25	500	1,000
5046 · VLCT PACIF Grant Match	2,500	309.95	5,000	2,000
5047 · Miscellaneous	2,500	2,927.95	3,000	3,000
5050 · VMERS Retirement Fund	13,000	12,248.11	13,905	15,212
5056 · Education & Training	750	90.00	200	200
Total 5000 · Highways	748,291	1,030,239.82	782,563	849,761

Expenses

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
6000 · Selectboard				
6010 · Interest on Debt				
6013 · Short-term Debt Interest	1,000	1,308.94	1,500	3,050
6015 · Long-term Debt Interest	26,801	27,180.33	26,308	20,134
Total 6010 · Interest on Debt	27,801	28,489.27	27,808	23,184
6020 · Principal on Long Term Debt				
6021 · Town Office Bond	10,000	10,000.00	10,000	10,000
6023 · EMFD Station Bond	35,000	35,000.00	46,389	35,000
Total 6020 · Principal on Long Term Debt	45,000	45,000.00	56,389	45,000
6030 · To Reduce FY2015 and FY2016 Deficits	0	0.00	5,240	56,358
6050 · Fire and Ambulance Costs				
6053 · East Montpelier FD	53,134	53,133.67	52,520	53,347
6054 · East Montpelier Ambulance	55,041	55,041.67	64,690	72,668
6055 · Woodbury FD	22,627	22,627.00	26,768	28,650
6056 · Woodbury FD Truck	13,500	13,500.00	13,660	14,000
6057 · Dispatching	3,812	3,811.20	0	0
6058 · Rural Fire Protection Program	0	0.00	100	100
Total 6050 · Fire and Ambulance Costs	148,114	148,113.54	157,738	168,765
6100 · Salaries and Related				
6103 · Town Clerk	29,416	30,548.08	30,004	36,000
6104 · Town Treasurer	29,416	30,548.34	30,004	36,000
XXXX · Selectboard Administrator	0	0.00	0	40,000
6105 · Selectboard	3,000	3,735.54	3,450	3,420
6107 · Listers	6,000	6,000.00	14,500	3,000
6108 · Delinquent Tax Collector	0	13,000.00	0	12,500
6109 · Constable/Animal Control Officer	0	0.00	0	1,000
6113 · Election Pay	100	0.00	500	500
6117 · Assistant Town Clerk	34,900	37,383.42	35,598	15,000
6120 · Secretary - DRB	1,000	1,000.00	1,000	1,000
6125 · Professional Auditor	500	0.00	0	6,000
6123 · Selectboard Recording Secretary	1,500	415.00	1,500	1,500
6130 · FICA & Medicare	8,394	8,629.67	9,240	11,900

Expenses

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
6132 · FICA & Medicare - Del Tax	1,000	818.97	0	0
6133 · Worker's Compensation	393	1,685.00	611	1,167
6135 · Health & Dental Insurance - Office Staff	30,301	38,167.70	29,418	54,490
6137 · Disability Ins - Office Staff	425	751.90	573	836
6140 · Retirement Fund - Office Staff	6,376	6,655.55	6,765	7,924
6141 · AccountantsWorld	0	460.05	0	0
Total 6100 · Salaries and Related	152,721	179,799.22	163,163	232,237
6200 · Washington County Tax	16,367	16,367.00	16,367	15,998
6300 · Town Office Expenses				
6305 · Town Reports and Postage	3,500	3,340.90	3,665	3,600
6307 · Printing and Forms	300	224.54	0	0
6310 · Listers Expense	740	578.16	1,510	500
6313 · Postage	2,000	1,469.94	2,500	2,500
6315 · Supplies	3,000	2,253.22	2,500	2,500
6317 · Land Record Books	250	269.69	300	300
6320 · Microfilming Land Records	365	0.00	0	0
6323 · Ads	500	1,194.12	1,300	1,600
6325 · Copier Lease & Maintenance	650	1,200.92	1,400	1,200
6330 · Computer Expenses	500	384.27	1,100	1,620
6333 · Telephone and Internet	1,920	1,657.71	1,620	1,600
6335 · Contracts - NEMRC and Cott	5,832	5,962.10	5,937	7,737
6337 · Equipment Town Office	500	1,244.13	0	800
6341 · Computer Backup Disaster Recov	1,000	7,541.25	6,156	6,578
6342 · Maintenance	1,840	1,715.74	2,410	2,075
6343 · Town Office - Heat, Electric,	5,000	2,872.20	4,000	3,500
Total 6300 · Town Office Expenses	27,897	31,908.89	34,398	36,110
6400 · Insurance				
6405 · Vehicles, Bldgs, Liability	27,520	25,431.00	25,155	27,212
Total 6400 · Insurance	27,520	25,431.00	25,155	27,212
6500 · Other Operating Expenses				
6506 · Election Expenses	1,250	1,372.87	2,900	800
6507 · Selectboard PC Expense	500	355.00	0	0

Expenses

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
6509 · Bank Service Charges	40	-59.70	40	0
6510 · Legal Fees	30,000	101,084.10	30,000	25,000
6511 · Professional Fees	2,000	3,550.00	2,500	2,500
6512 · Mileage Reimbursement	150	223.10	150	200
6514 · Selectboard Misc	500	220.00	500	500
6990 · Professional Audit	0	0.00	9,000	0
6520 · Dues				
6521 · CVRPC	1,768	1,767.70	1,768	1,768
6522 · VLCT	2,694	2,694.00	2,695	2,812
6523 · CVSWMD	1,610	1,602.00	3,204	1,600
6524 · CVSPAB	50	0.00	50	50
6530 · Dog Expenses and CVHS	540	279.99	600	300
6535 · Tax Collector Supplies	100	135.91	200	300
6540 · Tax Map Revisions	2,000	1,250.00	3,350	3,200
6541 · Digitizing Survey Maps	0	0.00	300	660
6550 · Sheriff's Patrol	2,800	2,572.79	3,000	3,000
6557 · East Calais Street Lights	1,300	1,277.76	1,300	1,280
6560 · Conservation Commission	100	104.00	200	200
xxxx · Conservation Fund	0	0.00	0	4,000
6567 · Green-Up Day	600	340.10	200	200
6573 · Education & Training	2,000	1,838.15	1,000	750
6575 · Planning Commission Expenses	800	139.10	800	200
6577 · Town Website	600	575.00	575	900
6580 · Town & School Generator Maint.	1,760	2,842.49	2,318	1,135
6583 · Gifts	200	0.00	200	200
6584 · Calais Swim Program	0	0.00	0	2,700
6585 · State Dog License Fund	1,500	1,901.00	2,900	1,900
6588 · Marriage licenses	350	280.00	315	300
6589 · Fish & Wildlife Licenses	700	303.50	400	0
6597 · Reconciliaton Discrepancies	0	-36.04	0	0
Total 6500 · Other Operating Expenses	55,912	126,612.82	70,465	56,455
6515 · Town Hall				
6515.1 · Windows & Steeple Pres. Grant	7,220.00	7,220.00	0	0
6515.2 · Planning & Use Pres. Grant	0.00	14,800.00	3,000	0
6515.3 · Grant Match - Flood Engineer	0.00	564.25	0	2,000

Expenses

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
6516 · Utilities	1,500.00	1,537.37	800	1,500
6517 · Maintenance & Janitorial	800.00	776.16	570	1,000
6518 · Janitor	200.00	210.00	100	0
6519 · Supplies	100.00	0.00	0	0
6520 · Town Hall & Office Reserve Fund	0.00	0.00	0	10,000
Total 6515 · Town Hall	9,820	25,107.78	4,470	14,500.00
6650 · Zoning Administration				
6651 · Zoning Wages	5,200	5,710.40	4,800	4,800
6652 · FICA & Medicare - Zoning	398	406.24	367	0
6654 · Zoning Expenses	725	712.14	600	600
Total 6650 · Zoning Administration	6,323	6,828.78	5,767	5,400
Total 6000 · Selectboard	517,475	633,658.30	566,960	681,219
6800 · Social Service Appropriations				
6974 · Adamant Community Club, Inc.	0	0.00	0.00	3,000
6803 · Circle	700	700	700	700
6805 · Calais Community Connections	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
6807 · CV Adult Basic Education	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
6813 · Capstone Community Action	300	300	300	300
6815 · CV Council on Aging	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
6817 · CV Economic Devel. Council	0	0	500	500
6820 · CV Home Health & Hospice	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,200
6823 · CV Memorial Civic Center	800	800	800	800
6825 · Friends of Winooski River	300	300	300	300
6827 · Family Ctr of Washington County	500	500	500	500
6828 · Good Beginnings of Central VT	300	300	300	300
6830 · Green Mtn. Transit Agency	859	859	859	859
6831 · Greenup	100	100	100	100
6832 · Home Share	400	400	400	400
6833 · Kellogg-Hubbard Library	25,760	25,760	25,760	25,760
6835 · Montpelier Senior Center	2,000	3,200	3,200	3,200
6840 · Old West Church Assoc.	100	100	100	100
6843 · Peoples Health & Wellness Clinic	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
6847 · Retired Senior Volunteers	200	0	200	0
6850 · Sexual Assault Crisis Team	200	200	200	200
6853 · Twin Valley Senior Center	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,000

Expenses

	FY2016 Proposed	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Proposed	FY18 Proposed
6854 · Vt Assoc for the Blind	500	500	650	650
6857 · VT Ctr for Independent Living	415	415	415	415
6860 · Wash. County Diversion Program	150	150	300	500
6863 · Wash. County Youth Service	500	500	500	500
6865 · Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf	500	500	300	300
6866 · Wash Cty Mental Health	0	0	1,400	1,400
Total 6800 · Social Service Appropriations	44,484	45,484	47,884	51,884
6600 · Cemetery				
6603 · Equipment Hire	9,000	11,785.00	9,000	14,798
6605 · Cemetery Wages	22,479	20,261.00	22,479	25,000
6607 · FICA & Medicare - Cemetery	690	1,600.97	1,720	1,912
6608 · Workers Comp - Cemetery	1,293	180.00	1,293	190
6609 · Cemetery Projects	0	0.00	0	6,100
6610 · Cemetery Supplies	800	1,486.87	800	1,000
Total 6600 · Cemetery	34,262	35,313.84	35,292	49,000
6950 · Other Town Disbursements				
6941 · Town Hall/Town Office Reserve F	20,000	20,000.00	20,000	0
6952 · Heavy Equipment Fund	25,000	25,000.00	25,000	0
6954 · Calais Conservation Fund	4,000	4,000.00	4,000	0
6960 · Lakes and Streams	3,000	3,000.00	0	0
6969.2 · Pave or Shim County Rd	45,000	52,104.00	0	0
6971 · Capital Res Fund Calais EMFD	5,000	5,000.00	5,000	0
6980 · Calais Swim Program	2,700	2,700.00	2,700	0
6986 · North Calais Wall	17,000	0.00	17,963	0
6988 · Natural Resource Inventory	9,500	5,540.00	7,500	0
6989 · Cemetery Special Projects	14,000	14,000.00	14,000	0
6990 · Professional Audit	9,000	8,420.00	0	0
6995 · Technology Reserve Fund	0	0.00	5,000	0
6996 · Historical Society Book Fund	0	0.00	2,000	0
xxxx · E. Calais Better Connection Grant	0	0.00	0	2,400
xxxx · Cross Vermont Trail	0	0.00	0	1,607
6997 · Town Garage Addition	0	0.00	36,500	0
Total 6950 · Other Town Disbursements	154,200	139,764.00	139,663	4,007
Total Expense	1,498,712	1,884,459.96	1,572,362	1,635,871

Balance Sheet

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 · Merchant's Bank Checking	-37,679.35
1001 · Merchants Bank Fire Equipment	10,003.21
1002 · Merchants Bank GF Surplus Acct	785.61
1004 · Merchants Bank HRA	1,603.04
1005.1 · Merchants Conservation	78,249.19
1006 · TD Bank Savings	0.12
1007 · TD Bank Money Market	1,756.00
1010 · Northfield Savings Highway	8,785.59
1011 · Vanguard Swim Fund	5,381.74
1012 · T. Rowe Price Cemetery Fund	122,447.77
1013 · Petty Cash	19.93
Total Checking/Savings	191,352.85
Accounts Receivable	
11000 · Accounts Receivable	53,808.54
Total Accounts Receivable	53,808.54
Other Current Assets	
1101 · Delinquent Taxes Receivable	38,586.17
1103 · Property tax interest rec.	2,610.18
1105 · Sand and Gravel Reserves	45,709.39
Total Other Current Assets	86,905.74
Total Current Assets	332,067.13
TOTAL ASSETS	332,067.13

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	25,946.73
Total Accounts Payable	25,946.73
Other Current Liabilities	
1419 · Line of Credit Merchants	100,000.00
1430 · Due to Tax Collector	1,077.98
1431 · Unavailable taxes and int	31,389.45

Balance Sheet, continued

1460 · Prepaid Taxes	19,834.04
1500 · Payroll Liabilities	
1501 · 941 Tax Payable	1,828.68
1502 · Vermont W/H Tax Payable	188.00
1503 · BCBS Payable	444.02
1504 · Dental Insurance Payable	153.40
1505 · VMERS Retirement Payable	2,225.06
Total 1500 · Payroll Liabilities	4,839.16
Total Other Current Liabilities	157,140.63
Total Current Liabilities	183,087.36
Long Term Liabilities	
1800 · Unexpended Program Funds	
1801 · Lakes & Streams	3,851.64
1802 · Town Hall Windows and Steeple	1,999.61
1803 · Reappraisal Fund	51,722.39
1804 · Curtis Pond Dam	5,608.45
1806 · Ancient Roads	897.93
1807 · EMFD Reserve Fund	10,003.21
1808 · Highway Equipment Fund	108,785.59
1809 · Conservation Commission	78,249.19
1811 · Town Hall/Office Reserve Funds	42,574.69
1812 · Adamant Community Club	3,000.00
1813 · Trails Committee	2,066.52
1815 · Swim Program Funds	7,499.13
1816 · Cemetery Funds Invested	122,447.77
1820 · Cemetery Special Projects	-2,700.00
Total 1800 · Unexpended Program Funds	436,006.12
Total Long Term Liabilities	436,006.12
Total Liabilities	619,093.48
Equity	
1810 · GF Surplus Acct	785.61
1950 · Retained Earnings	-46,872.09
1966 · FY14 Hwy Surplus	-5,426.00
1972 · FY15 GF Deficit	-76,057.00
1973 · FY15 HF Deficit	-11,689.00
Net Income	-147,767.87
Total Equity	-287,026.35
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	332,067.13

***Town of Calais Audit
Schedule of Findings and Responses
Year Ended June 30, 2015***

In 2016, the accounting firm of Fothergill, Segale & Valley audited the financial statements of the town as of June 30, 2015. The complete audit is available in the Calais Town Office or can be emailed to you. By statute, a summary of material weaknesses and significant deficiencies are to be printed in the town report.

Internal Control – Material Weaknesses

Segregation of Duties – The town does not have policies and procedures in place to provide for adequate segregation of duties. Office personnel have custody and control of the town’s financial resources and unrestricted access to the accounting information system. This is primarily due to the town having limited staff and resources. We recommend that someone without signature authority over the bank accounts be responsible for reconciling the bank statements on a monthly basis.

Transaction Cutoff – The town had not recorded revenues and receivables for grant revenue earned. When eligible grant expenditures are incurred, a matching receivable and grant revenue should be recorded. The town recorded expenditures and accounts payable primarily by invoice date. Expenditures are required to be recorded based on when goods were received or services performed.

Accounting Information System – The town currently uses QuickBooks to account for its financial activity. While appropriate for many users, QuickBooks is extremely flexible and allows users unlimited opportunities to edit transactions after the original posting. There are currently no controls in place that would mitigate the risk of misstatement whether due to errors or fraud. Fund accounting is particularly difficult in Quickbooks. In order to prevent activity from the town’s other governmental funds from being presented within the General Fund, the current system is set up without a complete set of self-balancing accounts for each fund. This causes the activity to be recorded on the balance sheet only and to bypass the profit and loss. We recommend that the town expand its use of NEMRC to include other accounting modules. We also recommend that password controls be put in place to appropriately restrict access to individuals using NEMRC modules. We believe this will improve internal controls and financial reporting.

Property Tax Levy - When setting the property tax rate for FY2015, the town calculated the levy based on the articles approved by the voters at Town Meeting and adjusted the amount for differences known at that time. The adjustments made to reflect currently known facts and circumstances resulted in approximately \$120,000 less in taxes. \$90,000 of the adjustments were related to highway projects being delayed or canceled and the other \$30,000 was due to a reconciliation of the fund balance from fiscal year 2013. Title 17 V.S.A. § 2664 requires that the town set a tax rate necessary to raise specific amounts voted. We recommend that you request legal opinion from an attorney to decide if your practice of setting the tax rate after making adjustments is in compliance with State Statute.

Town of Calais Audit, continued

Internal Control - Significant Deficiency

Controls Over Disbursements – Invoices are not required to be individually coded and approved for payment by a department head prior to appearing on a warrant. We also noted that some payments were made without any invoice backup. We recommend that department heads review and code each invoice to make sure those products and/or services billed were received and that the appropriate general ledger accounts are charged.



Schedule of Indebtedness

	Original Principal Balance	Principal Due FY16	Annual Interest FY16	Principal Due FY17	Annual Interest FY17	Principal Due FY18	Annual Interest FY18	Principal Due after FY2018
Bond Debt								
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (Town Office) Interest 4.45% semi-annually, principal \$10,000 annually until 2024	200,000	10,000	4,538	10,000	3,453	10,000	3,000	70,000
Bond Indebtedness (Fire Station) Principal \$35,000 plus variable interest due annually until 2030	693,000	35,000	23,264	35,000	18,459	35,000	17,134	455,000
Total Bond Debt		45,000	27,802	45,000	21,912	45,000	20,134	525,000
Equipment Debt								
Merchants Bank #8708 (2015 Ford 550 dump truck) Interest 2.75%, principal \$16,963 for 5 yrs.	84,815	16,963	2,332	16,963	1,865	16,963	1,399	33,926
Merchants Bank #5699 (2016 Western Star & 2016 FordF20 trucks) Interest 2.55%, principal \$37,993 for 5 yrs	189,961	0	0	37,993	5,946	37,993	2,906	75,984
Merchants Bank #1842 (2017 Western Star truck) Interest 2.65%, principal \$17,561 for 5 yrs	87,809	0	0	0	0	17,561	2,327	70,248
Total Equipment Debt		16,963	2,332	54,956	7,811	72,517	6,632	180,158

Heavy Equipment Capital Plan FY18

Equipment inventory:

Model Year	Make	Type	Model/ Purchase Year	Estimated Life - New	New Replacement Cost	Current mileage/ hours
2012	International	Dump	2012	7	\$163,725	70,165
2009	International	Dump	2009	7	\$163,725	107,472
2015	Ford	Dump	2015	7	\$84,815	19,782
2017	Western Star	Dump	2017	7	\$155,699	15,413
2016	Western Star	Dump	2016	7	\$156,704	6,004
2016	Ford	Pickup	2016	9	\$33,305	11,529
1981	Home Made	Trailer	1981	43	\$5,000	
2002	Econoline	Trailer	2005	30	\$18,000	
1997	Caterpillar	Grader	1997	20	\$250,000	11,702
1997	Caterpillar	Excavator	1997	20	\$100,000	5,242
1997	John Deere	Grader	1997	20	\$100,000	8,351
2010	Caterpillar	Loader	2010	20	\$160,000	1,736

The service life reflects the normal standard for vehicle life, with the understanding that we maintain 74 miles of Class 2 and Class 3 roads, more miles to maintain than any town nearby.

The plan uses a 5-year financing plan for trucks and for heavy equipment.

Annual funding is then established with a line item in the highway budget. For this fiscal year, that amount is \$85,000.

- Toby Talbot

Highway Capital Plan

Truck Principle Payment	Service Years	Cost	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26
2009 Truck and 2010 Cat Loader	7 & 20	79,714										
10 Wheel Truck (1)	7	158,957	31,791			34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000		
1-ton Truck	7	85,000	16,963	16,963	16,963	16,963			17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
10 Wheel Truck (2)	7	155,699		17,561	17,561	17,561	17,561	17,561			35,000	35,000
6-Wheel Truck	7	156,704	31,340	31,340	31,340	31,340	31,340			33,000	33,000	33,000
F250	10	33,257	6,651	6,651	6,651	6,651	6,651					
Loader	20	160,000										
Grader Cat (Used)	20	100,000			20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000			
Grader JD (Used)	20	100,000							20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Excavator (used)	20	100,000		20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000				
Trailer	20	21,700		4,350	4,350	4,350	4,350	4,350				
		1,071,317										
Interest	3.0 rate		86,745	96,865	116,865	150,865	133,902	95,911	91,000	104,000	105,000	105,000
			6,636	7,410	8,940	11,541	10,244	7,337	6,962	7,956	8,033	8,033
			93,381	104,275	125,805	162,406	144,146	103,248	97,962	111,956	113,033	113,033
Bal Oct 2016	65,905	Balance Forward	65,905	57,524	38,249	2,444	-9,963	-4,108	2,644	14,682	2,726	9,694
		Highway Surplus										
Annual funding		Annual Budget	85,000	85,000	90,000	150,000	150,000	110,000	110,000	100,000	120,000	110,000
		Balance	57,524	38,249	2,444	-9,963	-4,108	2,644	14,682	2,726	9,694	6,661

2016-2017 Policy for Collection of Delinquent Taxes *Adopted in consultation with the Selectboard September 2015*

Summary

In general, Calais taxpayers will have six months from the date of delinquency to become current IF a signed monthly payment agreement is on file. A payment agreement must be reached within two months of the delinquency. Without a payment agreement, or if any month goes by without a payment, collection action, including possible tax sale, may occur at any time.

To be fair to all town taxpayers, the collection policy recognizes that individuals may go through periods of financial difficulty. However, the policy asserts that, in general, shifting the burden of one property owner's debt onto other property owners in the town is not appropriate. A taxpayer who becomes delinquent will be encouraged to find alternative resources to pay in full as soon as possible.

It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to contact the Collector of Delinquent Taxes to make arrangements to pay over time if time is needed. By written agreement with the Collector of Delinquent Taxes, a time period longer than six months may be allowed, provided that every scheduled payment is timely made and that the property does not go further delinquent.

Any property that has been delinquent for two months may be processed for tax sale or other method of collection unless an agreement specifying monthly payment timetable, signed and dated by the taxpayer and by the Collector, is on file. Any property on which a payment agreement is not faithfully fulfilled or that falls further delinquent may be processed for collection at any time. In general, a payment must be made every month. Processing for tax sale increases the cost to the taxpayer, even if no tax sale actually occurs. It is always less expensive for the property owner to pay sooner.

Delinquent taxes represent a lien on the property and remain in effect until the delinquent tax, penalty, and interest have been paid in full.

The full policy in detail may be viewed at www.calaisvermont.gov. If you do not have internet access, you may request a copy of the Policy for Collection of Delinquent Taxes by mail or at the Town Office. A copy of the full policy will be enclosed with the first mailed statement of any delinquent account.

Delinquent Tax Report as of

<i>December 31, 2015</i>		<i>December 31, 2016</i>	
Tax Year	Amount	Tax Year	Amount
2011	\$ 3,323.06		
2012	\$ 5,440.92		
2013	\$ 6,285.99		
2014	\$ 7,543.68	2014	\$ 2,050.52
2015	\$ <u>147,426.63</u>	2015	\$ 2,695.55
		2016	\$ <u>152,612.69</u>
Total	\$ 170,020.28	Total	\$ 157,358.76

Report of Vital Statistics

Births

Name of Child	Sex	Date of Birth	Parents
Benjamin, Everleigh Taylor Muriel	F	June 8, 2016	Sabrina Nutter and Aaron Benjamin
Flower, Haylee Anne	F	January 16, 2016	Jennifer and Charles Flower, III
Gucciardo, Caspian David	M	June 4, 2016	Amanda Copeland and Vincent Gucciardo III
Keeney, Henry Bayard	M	June 1, 2016	Adrian Wade-Keeney and Daniel Keeney
Kilburn, Avery	M	August 14, 2016	Tiffany Campbell and Joshua Kilburn
Moore, Declan Clayton	M	August 1, 2016	Cortney Bador and Brian Moore
Plunkett, Arya Jade	F	January 28, 2016	Stanzi Scribner and Robert Plunkett
Reed, Clara Emmeline	F	April 8, 2016	Josie and Benjamin Reed
Stokowski, Oliver Knox	M	June 18, 2016	Karin Cioffi and Douglas Stokowski

Marriages

Spouse	Residence	Spouse	Residence	Date
Cady, Danielle Jean	Calais	Luce, Roy Collins	Calais	July 23, 2016
Conlon, Lisa Kumari	Burlington	Fitch-McCullough, Robin James	Calais	October 9, 2016
Corriveau, Manda Lynn	Calais	Baker, Timothy Karl	Calais	September 24, 2016
Hudson, Michele Julie	Calais	Bailey, Kevin Nelson	Calais	August 21, 2016
Johnson, Patricia Knoerl	Calais	Kane, Dennis Michael	Calais	September 3, 2016
Low, Elizabeth Marie	New York	Alworth, David Douglas	New York	June 25, 2016
Miller, Hillary Elizabeth-Ann	Newport, Vt	Luce, Christopher Michael	Calais	August 27, 2016
Richards, Mary Elizabeth	Florida	Perkins, Stephen Marr	Calais	February 14, 2016

Report of Vital Statistics, continued

Deaths

Name	Age	Date of Death	Town	Residence
Beall, Seamus Whalen	17	August 11, 2016	Calais	Calais
Cadorette, Paul Andrew	58	December 3, 2016	Calais	Calais
Coppersmith, Estelle	91	September 19, 2016	Calais	New York
Farmer, Patrick Alan	64	November 29, 2016	Boston	Calais
Luce, Shirley Averill	84	June 2, 2016	Calais	Calais
Mihina, Karen J.	60	October 25, 2016	Colchester	Calais
Moskowitz, Betty	86	June 21, 2016	Calais	Calais
Rogers, Audrey V.	77	February 25, 2016	Burlington	Calais
Searight, Martha Van Doren	73	January 16, 2016	Calais	Calais



Photo by Judy Copa

Calais Reports

Adamant Community Club Inc.

This has been an exciting year for the Adamant Community Club as we proceed with renovations both exterior and interior. A \$10,000 grant from the Division of Historic Preservation (with matching funds provided by the Town of Calais and Preservation Trust of Vermont) enabled us to replace the crumbling chimney, replace the main roof (thanks Alan Beaugard and crew!), repair the porch roof, and replace the front steps. Another \$10,000 grant, this one from the Vermont Arts Council, enabled us to rewire, insulate the attic and walls, and purchase exterior storm windows. A Kickstarter campaign gave us a Rennai heater for the main room, which had its first use at the annual meeting of the Adamant Coop.

The next projects will be a ramp for greater accessibility, a repainting and reconfiguring of the kitchen, and more preservation work on the exterior. In the meantime, there will be concerts and other events planned for the spring and summer. Thanks to our wonderful community for supporting this project!



Barney Carlson works on the porch roof of the Adamant Community Club

Cemetery Commission Report

The Calais cemeteries continue to be well-maintained and improved thanks to Sexton Wyatt Healey and his crew. Following our long-term goal to address deferred maintenance and repairs, certain cemeteries were the focus of special projects in 2016.

Highlights:

- ✓ Shortt Cemetery – The headstones were pressure-washed and repaired. The granite post and chain fencing was completed.
- ✓ Ainsworth Cemetery - Also saw the completion of granite post and chain fencing.
- ✓ Chairman John Simanskas has begun creating computerized maps so that eventually all cemeteries will have a consistent and user-friendly data base.
- ✓ The Cemetery Commission and Maple Corner Community Center co-sponsored a public forum and presentation on end-of-life planning which included considering new eco-friendly alternatives to caskets, vaults, and cremations, such as “green burials.” It has become clear to Commissioners that a paradigm shift is necessary in order to confront the high costs of headstone repairs versus public expectations of cemetery appearance and perpetual care. It is an important discussion that needs to continue.
- ✓ Lot prices were increased to be more in line with nearby towns. See www.calaisvermont.gov

One aspect of addressing long-term cost control is by replacing old painting- and repair-dependent wooden fencing with maintenance-free granite post and black chain fencing, which still has a dignified, traditional appearance.

You will notice a shift in our budget allocation requests for 2017 although the total amount is level funded from last year. The annual hedge trimming at Old and New Fairview Cemeteries has been moved from “special projects” to the regular maintenance budget. That line also reflects increased employee wages. The “special projects” request is consequently lower.

2017 Looking Forward:

The headstones in Old and New Fairview cemeteries are scheduled to be pressure washed and repaired.

We have asked Representative Ancel to shepherd two bills to passage in the Legislature:

1. The Trustees of Public Funds have requested an update of state statutes from 1957. This will allow a more flexible and higher return long-term investment strategy for the cemetery endowment.

Cemetery Commission Report, continued

2. To amend a statute requiring minimum burial depth from the present 5 feet to 3 ½ feet (green burials).

We encourage townspeople to visit our cemeteries to see the improvements made every year. Feel free to call any Commissioner and/or attend our meetings. Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month May - September, and bi-monthly from November through March.

*Respectfully submitted,
John Simanskas, Chair; Fletcher Dean,
Juanita Nunn, Randy Koch and Jennifer Whitman*



Work on Ainsworth and Shortt Cemeteries has been completed with brush cut and stones washed and repaired. The granite posts have been straightened and black chain hung. These two cemeteries should be almost maintenance free, except for mowing and brush cutting.



Climate and Energy Initiatives in Calais

Herein lies a synopsis of initiatives by and for the Town of Calais and its people to address climate change, such as energy consumption, adaption and education/outreach. Groups working together and separately are the Calais Climate Action Team (CCAT, formerly Calais Vermontivate), Calais Energy Group (CEG), Planning Commission (PC) and Select Board (SB).

Multi-modal Transportation- Carpooling, Vanpooling, Transit, Walking, Biking:

- Calais Carpool Exchange facebook page - CCAT
- Signed official resolution supporting the establishment of Park & Rides - CCAT, SB
- Researched land for Park & Rides in East Calais and along County Road - CCAT, CEG
- Researched State grants for Park & Rides - CEG
- Coordination to set up a commuter vanpool along Rt 14 with Go!Vermont - CEG
- Kept Green Mountain Transit informed to encourage their investment in a Rt 14 bus - CEG
- Began Better Connections Grant proposal with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC), for a practical implementation plan for small business development, safer passage and trails in East Calais Village - PC, CEG

Community Outreach, Local Food, Energy Planning, Energy Siting, Solar, Building Efficiency:

- Potluck & discussions: Calais Trails, Cross VT Trail, Energy in Calais, CV Climate Action Group, plus movie showings "This Changes Everything" & "Where to Invade Next" - CCAT, CEG
- Community root cellar and nut tree plantings at the Maple Corner Community Center now in use! - CCAT
- Reviewed state regulations that impact town planning and renewables - namely Act 174's regional and town level energy planning and the 2017 Net Metering Rule - CEG, PC, SB
- Researched how Washington Electric Coop rates effect residential solar development in Calais - CEG
- Home Energy Visits: 5 HEVs in early 2016, hope to revive this in 2017 - CEG

Plus more in 2017:

- Presentations and discussions about residential solar - CEG
- Calais Community Energy Dashboard to track usage - CEG
- More potlucks and celebrations on energy topics – CCAT

Please contact Karin McNeill, CEG or Ginny Sassaman, CCAT to learn more and join in.

Conservation Commission Report

The Conservation Commission's work came to fruition on several major initiatives. A highlight for the year was the protection of agricultural lands and forests and high value water resources through the permanent conservation of the Armstrong Farm on the Pekin Brook Road. Other work included Phase Two of the Natural Resources Inventory, several educational hikes, a bobolink survey, discussions about the management of Bliss Pond Town Forest, a Calais groundwater mapping presentation, and consideration of establishing a Town Tree Committee.

Natural Resources Inventory

Matthew Peters, Consulting Ecologist and Botanist, submitted the final report for Phase One of the Calais Natural Resource Inventory. The inventory encompassed approximately 10 percent of the town, resulting in the identification of 26 different wetland and aquatic community types, including some considered to be quite rare. Site visits where owner consent was obtained yielded the "documentation of 16 new state significant natural community occurrences and numerous new rare plant records. This brings known records from Calais to 22 state-significant natural community occurrences (9 different types) and 27 rare, threatened, or uncommon species (4 vertebrate animals, 5 invertebrate animals, 16 plants, and 2 mosses)." Matt presented his results to the Commission and at a public meeting held on February 18, 2016. The full Phase One report can be viewed at: http://www.calaisvermont.gov/vertical/sites/%7B226D684E-C864-4AFA-B4A5-59BE32741B77%7D/uploads/CalaisNRI_Phase1Report_FINAL.pdf

Phase Two of this project is underway with the support of many community members and financial support from the Town. This phase involves additional identification of significant wetlands and natural community types in Calais, as well as significant habitat blocks. Matt will present the Phase Two report at a public meeting in February and copies will again be available at Town Meeting and linked on the Town website.

Land Conservation

The Armstrong Farm was conserved after much community input, a site visit by members of the Conservation Commission and Selectboard, two open houses, and numerous meetings with representatives of the Vermont Land Trust, the farm's owner, and prospective farmers. This partnership between community, state, federal and private contributors will result in the conservation of an important resource in the community for use as a working farm, along with the establishment of a buffer to protect the water quality of the Pekin Brook which runs through the farm. Access to the brook will be maintained for recreational purposes. The Conservation Commission recommended – and the Selectboard approved - \$30,000 for this project from the Town's Conservation Fund.

Bliss Pond Town Forest Plan

Renewal of the Bliss Pond Town Forest Management Plan is still under discussion with various management options under consideration.

Conservation Commission Report, continued

Community Activities

The Conservation Commission organized several outdoor activities to support the mandate of environmental education and facilitating the connection of community members to their local environmental treasures. This included a hike in Bliss Pond Town Forest and a Chickering Bog Walk as part of Calais's Fall Foliage Festival. Both were well attended and provided an enjoyable and educational experience for participants. Rose Paul from The Nature Conservancy led the walk through Chickering Bog, at which the attending members of the public learned the difference between a fen and a bog and that the Chickering Bog is really a fen rather than a bog. Rose and geologist George Springston shared their extensive knowledge of the formation of the bog and its flora. The Conservation Commission plans to organize another Chickering Bog/Fen walk to view it in a different season.

Bobolinks

As the result of a compelling presentation by Michael Sweatman from Friends of Bobolinks, the Conservation Commission surveyed potential bobolink habitats throughout Calais in an effort to identify the presence of these threatened birds in our community, and to promote mowing practices that will preserve their habitat.

Groundwater Mapping

In August, the Conservation Commission sponsored a public meeting to discuss findings from recent groundwater mapping in Calais. The research was presented by George Springston, Geologist from Norwich University, and Marjorie Gale, Vermont State Geologist. The audience was treated not only to specific information about the variability and controls of groundwater and groundwater flow in Calais, but also the interesting geologic history of Calais and Vermont.

Urban and Community Forestry Program

Members of the Conservation Commission, including Tree Warden Neal Maker, met with staff from the Urban and Community Forestry Program to explore the potential benefits of creating a Town tree committee to inventory the Town's trees and develop plans for tree planting in Calais, as well as to develop policies to interpret the state Tree Warden statute. This Program offers organizational and technical assistance as well as grants, and is considering providing extra support for Calais as a pilot program. Any members of the public interested in being involved in this venture are encouraged to contact the Conservation Commission.

Highway Department Report

The highway crew worked hard again this year. We oversaw two major projects: a culvert replacement in front of the Adamant Co-op and a retaining wall in North Calais. Both projects were well received. This year we replaced over 20 culverts, resurfaced portions of 14 roads, cleaned out ditching on 11 roads and did many repair jobs. We replaced a bridge deck on Still Brook Road, removed beaver dams in a couple of places and added paved aprons to three roads that intersect with Route 14.

We have had many meetings with state officials concerning the future Town Highway Permit that hopes to tackle the issue of road sediment getting into waterways. We did three projects this year with grants from the Better Roads program to fix some trouble areas near streams and waterways. We are trying to get ahead of the upcoming new push from the state to prevent sediment in our waterways.

We received grants for the Center Road culvert, the North Calais wall project, three Better Roads grants for Mirror Lake Rd., Apple Hill Rd. and Jack Hill Rd. and a Better Roads grant for a large culvert replacement on Apple Hill Rd. The total grant revenue for these projects was \$303,485. We continue to pursue state grants to get highway projects completed.

This year we are asking your support to replace the 1997 Cat excavator. It has hit its 20-year milestone. We are planning to replace it with a slightly more powerful excavator with a longer reach. It will also have a twist bucket that will make ditching much easier and more effective. Because it is a larger machine, we will also have to replace the trailer. It is our plan to purchase a two-year-old machine that has been used for rental purposes. We actually rented it last year. We will sell the old excavator and trailer to offset the purchase price. We are asking for you to support funding in the amount of \$100,000. The used excavator costs \$113,700 and a new trailer is \$21,750. We hope to sell our excavator and trailer for \$35,000.

Last year we asked for \$165,000 for a new ten-wheel truck. With great negotiating and trade-in, we only needed \$155,699 for that purchase. We also found a municipal discount for the pickup truck that you approved for \$35,000. That cost \$33,305 for the new truck, rather than a used one. We continue to do our best to save you tax dollars.

*Alfred Larrabee, Road Commissioner
Toby Talbot, Operations Manager*

Historic Preservation Commission Report

On behalf of the Town and the Selectboard, the Calais Historic Preservation Commission (CHPC) continues to make progress with repair and restoration of our Town Hall.

Calais is one of 12 communities statewide to have achieved designation as a Certified Local Government (CLG) and who must maintain an historic preservation commission. Consequently, we are eligible to receive federal matching grants to plan and promote the preservation of the Town's historic resources. The results so far include an updated National Register district at Kents Corner, rewritten design review guidelines for that district, a new National Register district in North Calais, and, at the direction of the Selectboard, for the past five years, four grants that have centered on the Town Hall.

- ❖ *With the first grant (2011), we hired architects Arnold and Scangas to study the building's needs and come up with a project that addressed those needs. Plans addressed new ADA compliance, a new foundation, roof and numerous other items such as window rehabilitation, clapboard repair and painting.*
- ❖ *The Town voted at 2014 Town Meeting to replace the building's roof.*
- ❖ *The second grant (2014) was a "bricks and mortar" grant that allowed the Town to repair the six monumental upstairs windows and related shutters.*
- ❖ *The third grant (2015) was a preservation planning grant to hire a consultant to survey the community and work with a Town-appointed task force to identify new potential uses for the structure. In the midst of that survey, a number of residents expressed concern with the potential for flooding despite the recently redrawn FEMA map. The Town was essentially told by Vermont officials that the Town Hall is most probably in a floodplain, and thus plans are needed to address that potential threat before any further work is done on the building—particularly its compromised foundation which has been only temporarily repaired. Thus it was vital to settle the question of the flood status of the Town Hall.*
- ❖ *The fourth CLG grant (2016) enabled us to hire a consulting professional civil engineer to conduct a Base Flood Elevation and Alternatives Analysis. We needed the information from the environmental study before we could go any further with repair and restoration. We needed to know how the potential 100-year flood will impact the Town Hall for a number of reasons. Our zoning regulations require the study; potential funding sources will also require the study; and most importantly, before we invest in plans and contractors, we need to know how the next big flood will impact the Town Hall in order to design an adequate replacement for the foundation. The engineer collected data and analyzed the data in*

Historic Preservation Commission Report, continued

order to recommend which course of action the Town should take. The engineer calculated that our best option is to replace two culverts on Kent Hill Road. This action will ensure that the 100-year hazard area no longer includes the Town Hall. Replacing the culverts will also protect access to the Town Office and the important East-West road corridor.

The Historic Preservation Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the Town Hall or Town Office. For more information see the Calais website or contact one of our members.



Listers Report

The Calais Listers would like to share with you what we do since you, the residents, pay our salary! Our primary function is to **maintain Calais's property records** to be as accurate and up to date as possible. This requires continuous maintenance, since property ownerships are always changing and being combined or divided.

For those interested in the nitty gritty details, below is a more detailed look at the systems we use and things we do to fulfill our role:

- 1. Computer Systems and Online Tools:** We maintain and collect all pertinent data on the 1,011 Calais parcels into two (2) computer systems. One system stores the detailed information of the land and each building on the property and generates the lister card that we use to explain the assessment used for tax purposes. The other system is used to exchange data with the Department of Taxes on homestead declarations and current use. It is this system that generates the Grand List, that then is uploaded to the tax system to produce tax bills.
- 2. Property Transfers:** Listers record all property transfers, boundary line adjustments, and subdivisions into the systems. To do that we check the deeds, any tax maps or surveys related to the properties transferred.
- 3. Annual Sales Study:** As transfers occur, we monitor how sales prices compare to the town assessments. We also review what we know about each sale in order to determine if it should be included in the annual sales equalization study that determines our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), which in turn affects the school tax rate. Only arm's length, valid sales are included in this study, which is produced by the Vt. Department of Taxes.
- 4. Building Permits and Subdivisions:** Working closely with the Zoning Administrator, we review all building permits for any new building greater than 100 square feet. We also review all subdivisions and record the changes in our systems, creating new parcels, and making sure they get mapped appropriately.
- 5. Inspections and Data Collection:** We inspect all new buildings recorded in the permit applications completed over the course of the last 3 years. Inspections are to assure accurate data. We sometimes inspect properties where it appears there is a large discrepancy between a potential sale price and our current assessment. And we inspect properties when requested, to avoid grievance hearings.
- 6. Current Use:** We must maintain Current Use records in separate files for the 139 parcels that are enrolled in current use. The State, this past year, enacted a new method for calculating land excluded from current use, necessitating us to review all 139 parcels. Calais has 12,887 acres [out of 24,707 acres] in current use.
- 7. Parcel Maps:** We continually work to maintain the tax/parcel maps. This requires researching deeds, road records, and surveys. We work with R.J. Turner who produces the maps both in paper and digitally. We

Listers Report, continued

successfully made changes so that we have a 2016 version of tax/parcel maps, and are keeping apprised of the statewide mapping requirements.

We all work to be as accurate and transparent as possible while being equitable. To that end we have routine office hours: currently Monday 10 – 12; Tuesday 9 – 11; and Thursday 2-4. We are available for Saturday appointments as needed. One of us is available during these hours to assist you in any way possible. We truly appreciate the support and cooperation we have received from our Calais community.

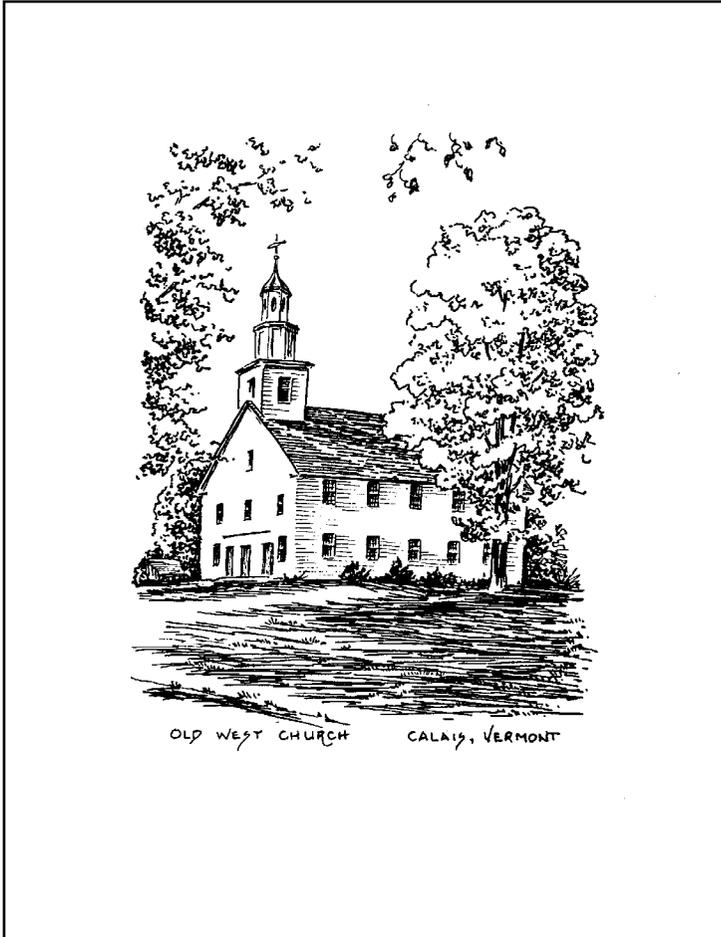
*Respectfully submitted by Janice Ohlsson,
John McCullough and Laura Fillbach
Calais Listers/Assessors*



Listers review parcel data in the town office, while the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk work nearby.

Old West Church Association Report

Erected in 1825, over 191 years ago, this Calais landmark is the only unadulterated historic public use building in our town and one of only a very few such meeting houses in Vermont that remains “standing as the builders finished it.” A copy of the original pew plan with names and amounts of the pew purchasers is mounted on the wall of the lower vestry.



In the fall of 2015 and spring of 2016 we had the bell tower of the Old West Church (OWC) inspected as a precaution. It is too high and inaccessible for anyone but steeple jacks to properly inspect it. Rot was found in several support posts, the mast, and siding. All these parts are original to the building. Although we know that the main roof has been re-shingled a number of times, most recently in 1993, we do not know how old or in what condition the bell tower roofs are because they are so difficult to reach. It was found that unrecorded “make do” structural repairs have been done to the bell tower timber frame over these many

Old West Church Association Report, continued

years. We need to restore the bell tower to its original condition before its condition becomes critically dangerous.

The first modern Christmas Eve Service was held in the OWC in 1953. The traditional service has continued since and fills the pews to capacity. Betty Davis remembers that at first it drew only enough people to fill a few pews in the back of the church around June Morse playing the piano. This past Christmas is the first time we were not able to fire the old stoves for the Christmas Eve Service. Our insurance company of many years will no longer allow us to have stove fires. When the Meeting House was originally built in 1823-1825, there was no plan for wood stoves; but in 1831 six pews in the back of the house were cut out in order to make a place for the two that are there now. We are looking for the best heating solution that would be historically consistent and safe. We will keep the Calais community informed of our progress in this matter.

Originally shared by five denominations, the last regular church services in the "Old Church" seem to have been held around the time of the Civil War. Several groups have rallied sporadically since then to do needed repairs, most notably reroofing the building and doing repairs after the steeple was stuck by lightning in July of 1953. We currently have several small endowments, the interest from which is used for maintenance. However, our bell tower will require us to ask the Calais community for some help.

The Old West Church is open to the public for weddings, funerals, memorial services, concerts, and the annual Christmas Eve Service. It is offered free of charge to Calais residents. Non-Calais residents are asked to make a donation.

Donations may be mailed to: The Old West Church, PO Box 142, Calais, VT 05648-0142. Reservations may be made by phoning 229-4026 or emailing peterharveyvt@gmail.com

President – Wayne Whitelock
Vice President – Peter Harvey
Treasurer – Tom Bennet
Secretary – Nancy Bennet
Director of Music – June Morse

Planning Commission Report

The Planning Commission is a seven member board (currently with a vacancy) appointed by the Selectboard and operating under state statute Title 24 Chapter 117 to keep the Town Plan and Zoning Bylaws current with changing federal and state regulations and with the interests of the town. The Planning Commission solicits input from the Development Review Board, the Zoning Administrator, and other town commissions, boards, and individuals in order to identify areas of concern. The Commission then gathers data and may then propose changes to the Town Plan or Zoning Bylaws. This year we spent considerable time and effort investigating issues around shoreland protection, and runoff and buffer management, and that effort will continue. We are also reviewing town maps and developing strategies for upgrading our maps and our capacity to use mapped information.

The Planning Commission's volunteer members bring an amazing balance of interests and talent to the table. I appreciate the effort and positive attitudes of the members and am honored to serve alongside them.

*Respectfully submitted,
Gary Root, Chair*

Local Talk on Front Porch Forum

Helping neighbors connect and build community.

Have you joined our local Front Porch Forum? FPF helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting a statewide network of online local forums. More than half of Vermont households participate with hundreds more joining every month. People use FPF to find lost animals, offer assistance to neighbors, organize local projects, share crime reports, draw crowds to events, highlight small businesses, seek contractor recommendations, and much more. Started 10 years ago, FPF is a free service and it's based in Vermont.

Learn more at <http://frontporchforum.com> or call 802-540-0069

The Calais Selectboard and Calais committees and Commissions and office staff use FPF to post agendas and keep you informed and updated about town business. It's easy to sign up and keeps you informed about what's going on in town.

Selectboard Report

The purpose of this annual report is to not only inform the residents of Calais but also to promote a greater understanding of the responsibilities and priorities of operating town government. We are frequently challenged with more complex statutory and regulatory requirements as a result of State and Federal legislation and finding ways to implement these requirements. We are always seeking to be proactive on behalf of the Town of Calais and its residents. We have heard from many of you on various issues and thank you for your thoughts, ideas and suggestions. Our goal is to be open, accountable and responsive to you. We value and respect your participation and input.

During the past year, we have dealt with the usual assorted items including, but not limited to, roads, signage, bridges and culverts; animal control and complaints; zoning issues and violation(s); curb cut and ROW applications; liquor licenses; Town employee benefits; utility line placements; grants; VTrans projects; ordinances; review of the budget and on-going work and collaboration with other Town Boards, Committees and Commissions.

Some notable highlights from this past year include:

- Attended trainings offered by various organizations (i.e., VLCT, CVRPC) to keep current on changes to the statutes and other issues and to provide suggestions and plans for effective administration of local government;
- Collaborated with the Historic Preservation Commission to develop a long term plan for preservation of the historic Town Hall;
- Met with various State Law Enforcement personnel (Scott Williams, Washington Co. State's Attorney, Washington Co. Sheriff and representatives of the VT State Police) to learn more about unlawful activities creeping into small communities, including the increased presence of the opiate crisis and to address other resident concerns. We learned that VT Law Enforcement officials are understaffed and how calls are prioritized and dispatched;
- Completion of Phase II of a town-wide natural resources inventory;
- Worked collaboratively with the Planning Commission to adopt the revised Town Plan and Approved revisions to the Land Use & Development Regulations (Zoning) to be voted on by Australian Ballot on Town Meeting Day;
- Collaborated with the Agency of Natural Resources, Conservation Commission and local residents regarding the continued beaver problem at Curtis Pond on humane ways to moderate the problem including volunteers who spent countless hours removing debris from the dam spillway;
- Contracted with Jim Barlow, Esq. as the Town's attorney to provide an ongoing level of expertise in municipal law in order to better manage legal fees. This will not, however, avoid unexpected and unpredictable situations that arise and must be addressed in the Town's best interests;
- Voted to do away with the penalty for late filers of HS-122 (homestead declaration) to provide taxpayer relief and ease of accounting for the Clerk and Treasurer;

Selectboard Report, continued

- Worked with East Calais residents on ways to improve pedestrian safety, traffic calming measures, park and ride opportunities and reinvigorating the village economy. This led to a Better Connections Grant application, which will be used to conduct a feasibility study for improvements in East Calais village;
- Readopted the Calais Road and Bridge Standards (approved by VTrans);
- Arranged for a joint Selectboard & Planning Commission meeting with ANR's Lakeshore Manager to learn about ways to improve water quality of the many lakes and ponds in town in order to protect these resources;
- Applied for and received grants for various highway projects to provide cost savings to taxpayers while improving town infrastructure;
- Collaborated with CVRPC staff to investigate the creation of a storm-water master plan in coordination with the towns of East Montpelier and Woodbury for flood mitigation to protect resources and infrastructure;
- Collaborated with the Vermont Land Trust and the Conservation Commission to approve conservation of the former Armstrong Farm property on Pekin Brook Road;
- Completed a professional audit with Fothergill, Seagle and Valley, CPAs, which identified some areas that are in need of improvements, including the full implementation of NEMRC financial accounting system and software requirements.
- Collaborated with the Trustees of Public Funds regarding a long term investment strategy for the Cemetery Funds to obtain the best return on our investments and to ask our Legislative Representative to introduce legislation to update investment options;

Town Charter

We recommend that the town adopt a Charter. We cannot continue to effectively and realistically provide services to the Town within the existing municipal structure as we have done in the past. The increased pressure on local municipalities to provide services, respond to countless State and Federal reporting requirements and mandates, and the need for enhanced municipal accounting requirements, including the statutory requirement to have town auditors, no longer makes the current structure responsible or practical.

Reviewing the audit results was a defining moment for the Selectboard. We examined the current structure and duties and looked at other options. We explored the possibility of additional staff, updating computer software, and finding a way for required separation of duties to protect the town from any future liabilities, but still did not solve the bigger problem of too much to do and no one to do it. Over the years, more and more non-statutory duties have been absorbed by the Town Clerk and Treasurer and the Assistant. We systematically examined all the duties that need to be accomplished and determined that our Town Clerk and Treasurer and Assistant cannot continue to do everything. Through many discussions, the evolution of a Charter rose to the top as the best solution to the problem.

Selectboard Report, continued

Upon completion of the professional audit this summer, we soon learned that in order to implement the recommendations of the accountant, the treasurer would need to concentrate all efforts on those tasks exclusively. The complexities of changing from QuickBooks to NEMRC and learning a new municipal accounting system present a real challenge. We concluded we had to restructure the positions in the town office because this was much more than one person could do. In coordination with Donna and Judy, the Selectboard agreed to separate out the treasurer duties and town clerk duties and then list all the other things that have been done by the town clerk, which are the responsibility of the Selectboard. A new position and job description was created for a Selectboard Administrator to perform those other duties.

A Town Charter will allow the Board to hire a qualified individual (resident or non-resident) to be the Treasurer and a single Auditor. We look forward to your support in approving this change to the current structure of our town governance. We unanimously feel this is in the best interest of the town as we move forward.

Deficit Reduction

The town incurred significant budget over-runs in FY 2015 and FY 2016 due to the town's inability to accurately assess ongoing income vs. expenditures and legal fees. The circumstances that led to this situation will be corrected through the restructuring provided under the proposed town charter initiative. The Selectboard has a plan to retire the debt over the next five years as detailed in the budget.

Fire and Ambulance Services

The Calais and East Montpelier Selectboards continue to work closely with the East Montpelier/Calais Fire Department (EMFD) and Woodbury Fire Department (WFD). We continue to hold quarterly meetings with the EMFD to stay informed on operations, budget and revenue and funding needs. Our community is a safer place to live thanks to these dedicated, committed and professional volunteers. We recognize that fewer people these days are stepping up to the challenge to serve as firefighters and as EMS personnel. We extend sincere thanks to members of both departments.

Roads

Road Commissioner, Alfred Larrabee, and crew members, Ed Rowell, Bruce Campbell and Dan Durkee, work to maintain our 73.07 miles of Class 2 and Class 3 roads (69 miles of which are gravel roads). They have a very challenging and often dangerous job. The crew strives to meet the standards of road safety and maintenance while being sensitive to the varying resident views on road maintenance. The crew attends annual trainings to stay up-to-date on the best practices of road maintenance. The road crew members are dedicated professionals who work sometimes grueling schedules to keep the traveling public safe. When you see them, please take the time to thank them – it means a lot!

As we write this report in January, winter so far has been a mix of rapidly chang-

Selectboard Report, continued

ing and unpredictable weather making road conditions difficult and maintenance demanding. The Winter Operations Plan is posted on the Town's website to explain the process of winter road maintenance. We appreciate your respectful input to help us track and identify trouble spots, and we happily accept compliments as well.

The Selectboard and Operations Manager continue to manage the highway budget and strive to make sure that necessary road maintenance is performed in compliance with our adopted Road and Bridge Standards, with some oversight assistance by the Roads Advisory Committee. General maintenance performed by the road crew includes but is not limited to replacing culverts, grading, ditching in the Town's right-of-way for better drainage, crowning the roads for proper drainage, replacing signs, cutting brush and resurfacing gravel roads. The Selectboard now requires that new guardrails be the type that naturally weather to a rust color or are wood faced to better blend in to our rural landscape.

The Selectboard continues to pursue the implementation of more accountability to you the taxpayer in the management of the highway department. Operations Manager, Toby Talbot, and Road Commissioner, Alfred Larrabee, use spreadsheets to track equipment use, maintenance and replacement schedules; road maintenance; project planning; and capital budgeting.

Reminder: You need to obtain a permit to work in the Town's Right-of-Way before commencing any activities.

The Selectboard wishes to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to our committed and dedicated Town Clerk and Treasurer, Donna Fitch, and Assistant Town Clerk and Treasurer, Judith Robert, who keep the Town running professionally and efficiently.

As always, we also recognize and appreciate all town employees, school employees, elected officials and volunteers who work countless hours to make Calais a vibrant and caring community.

*Respectfully submitted,
Denise Wheeler, Chair
John Brabant, Vice Chair
Scott Bassage
Rose Pelchuck
Toby Talbot*

Swim Program Report

Emily George was the instructor for the 2016 swim season. This was her fourth season teaching at Curtis Pond. Several local youth also served as swim assistants. This past summer, a total of 84 children participated in four one-week sessions. The American Red Cross method of instruction was used.

In addition to organizing swim lessons, the Swim Committee is responsible for the dock system, trash removal, porta-john, mowing and the general upkeep of the area. The program's success is dependent on the continued involvement of community volunteers. If you are interested in joining the Swim Committee, please contact one of the members listed below.

During the 2016 summer, swim lessons were offered in four one-week sessions. It is anticipated that swim lessons will be offered in this format again for the 2017 summer. The cost is \$12 per session for Calais residents and \$20 per session for non-residents. Registration forms will go home with each child from school during the first week of June. Extra registration forms are available at the Maple Corner Store beginning on June 10th or by contacting Lisa McCarthy at lisamccarthy1567@gmail.com. We will additionally post information about registration on Front Porch Forum.

The swim program began over 35 years ago by Marcy Bayne.

RESIDENTS \$12 PER SESSION
NON-RESIDENTS \$20 PER SESSION
DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED

Committee Members:

Lisa McCarthy, 456-1161

Dillon Burns, 223-7390

Laurie Grigg

Katie Lane-Karnas

Mark Whitman and Drew Lamb (docks)

Trails Committee Report

The Calais Trails Committee has had another successful year, creating two new trails and maintaining its existing six-mile network of trails on the ridges west of Maple Corner.

One of the new trails leads from Maple corner (behind the Community Center) east to Robinson Cemetery. The cooperation of five public-spirited landowners has made this possible. The second trail provides access to the “Wheelock Monument,” site of the first house in Calais. The site is hidden, quite close to Kents Corner, on land belonging to the Low family. The family and neighbor, Craig Line, have generously provided access along a route starting from the east side of Old West Church Rd, on the hill south of Kents Corner, and traveling in a northeasterly direction about ½ mile to the site. Beautiful views of Kents Corner can be enjoyed from the trail, in addition to the stirring experience of coming upon the monument and old cellar-hole.

Copies of a map of the trail network west of Maple Corner are available at the Town Office.

The three key supports for the Town Trails system are: Cooperating landowners (currently 14); active volunteers who help build and maintain the trails; and private donors whose contributions pay for trail infrastructure. In 2016, 13 individuals and families donated a total of \$790. The Maple Corner Store put out a donation Jar in the fall which yielded an additional \$57 from store patrons. So we begin 2017 with a modest surplus.

We should mention that the Trails Committee is not “the only game in Town.” The Snowmobile Clubs provide an excellent, well-established trail system for motorized and non-motorized winter recreation. The Town Conservation Commission provides marked trails in the Bliss Pond Town Forest. The Nature Conservancy provides trail access to its preserve, the Chickering Fen, from a newly-built parking area off Lightening Ridge Rd.

The Trails system still very much needs to be expanded into the eastern half of the Town. The Committee will be working hard on a variety of possibilities during the coming year. We welcome your participation!

Reed Cherington, Chair (rcher@sover.net; 223-5427)

Randy Allen

Tom Blachly

Gail Graham

Charlotte Hanna

Toni Kaeding

Bill Russell

Denise Wilder

Trustees of Public Funds Report

The Trustees of Public Funds continued working with the Town Clerk/Treasurer to implement and oversee the Calais Cemetery Endowment Fund's long-term investment strategy. The primary objective of this strategy is to increase the income generated by the Cemetery Fund's investments and to earn a rate of return which exceeds the rate of inflation so that the purchasing power of the fund can keep pace with the rising cost of cemetery maintenance. The Trustees believe that cemetery funds are very similar to long-term endowment funds that allow the income and earnings on the fund's investments to be spent annually, but the principle is maintained in perpetuity. For cemetery funds the principle provides perpetual care for cemeteries. Historically, most cemetery funds were invested in bank savings accounts and CDs, however, banks continue to pay very low rates of interest and in some cases no interest, meanwhile costs continue to rise.

Most endowments use a long-term, broadly diversified investment management strategy with a goal of earning a real return while assuming an appropriate level of investment risk. The Trustees have been gradually transitioning the Calais Cemetery Fund to this kind of investment approach over the last three years. Currently the Calais Cemetery Fund is invested in a broad mix of conservative equity securities (36%), fixed income securities (27%), and short-term investments (37%) using T. Rowe Price mutual funds. T. Rowe Price is a highly regarded investment manager with a strong investment performance track record. One of our investment goals has been to increase the income return on the Fund's investments. Over the past year, income from all of the Fund's investments totaled \$3,572.46, which equals 2.77% of the Fund's assets. The Calais Cemetery Fund's assets have increased in each of the last four years and on December 31, 2016 totaled \$129,031. The value of the Cemetery Fund's assets increased by 8.6% over the last year.

The Trustees view the current investment strategy as an interim step toward endowment fund investment management. The long-term plan is to have the cemetery fund managed by a professional endowment manager such as the Vermont Community Foundation that manages more than 120 endowments for non-profit organizations throughout Vermont. Currently, we are unable to do this because the Vermont Statutes that govern cemetery fund investment management and provide guidance to Trustees of Public Funds on investment matters do not provide for this. We have been working with our House Representative, Janet Ancel, on a bill that would update Vermont's cemetery fund investment statutes. The legislative counsel has just finished drafting a bill, H-5, which addresses these issues, and Representative Ancel has introduced the bill and referred it to the Government Operations Committee. Public hearings will be held on the bill in coming months and we are hopeful that it will pass this year.

*Trustees of Public Funds,
Rodney Buck, Steven Killoran, William Russell*

Cemetary Endowment Report

Receipts CY2016:			
Perpetual Care Income	2,900.00		
Northfield Savings Bank Interest	672.46		
T. Rowe Price Interest	3,572.46		
Total Income	7,144.92		
	12/31/16	12/31/15	12/31/14
CD (60 month) - NSB	0	0	44,177.00
T. Rowe Price	129,031.01	118,766.36	72,003.25
TOTAL	129,031.01	118,766.36	116,180.25



Calais Land Use & Development Regulations Proposed Amendments

For the full text of the proposed zoning regulation changes go to [www.calaisvermont.gov/ Zoning Regulations and Permits/ Proposed Zoning Changes 2016](http://www.calaisvermont.gov/Zoning%20Regulations%20and%20Permits/Proposed%20Zoning%20Changes%202016).

Section 1.4, Page 5: Role of Zoning Administrator. Defining curb cut and driveway permit process.

Section 1.5, Page 6-7: Changed and improved exemptions. Added requirements for bus shelter.

Section 1.5B: Added Section B for non-chargeable project review to insure setback requirements are met.

Table 1.1, Page 8: Corrected Agency that grants permit for development within 250 feet of lakes.

Table 1.2, Page 12: Updated approval process for curb cuts and driveways.

Tables 2.1-2.7, Pages 16-28: Updated and corrected various standards for each district. Added driveway standards to each district. Added reference to Section 3.2 (A). 1) for ROW standards used by DRB in each District. Described Historic District to match other town documentation. Allowed for use of current FEMA Flood Hazard Map in Flood Hazard Area Overlay District.

Section 3.2 (B), Page 29: Curb Cut Driveway definitions

Section 3.2 (D), Page 30: Added Driveway standards

Section 4.7, Page 43: Deleted Historic Barn Reuse in its entirety

Section 5.3, Page 50: Conditional Use Review, labeled as required standards

Section 5.5 (C), Page 59: Added a process to shorten time frame for Design. Advisory Board, Planning Commission Approval for Historic District permit applications.

Section 9, Pages 82: Added or changed definitions: Access Path, Boat House, Cleared Area, Curb Cut, Driveway, Impervious Surface, Mean Water Level, Mitigation, Natural Ground Cover, Right of Way, Shoreland Protection Act.

Reports from Regional Organizations that Serve Calais

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

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

2016 Calais Activities

- ❖ Organized trainings to qualify the Selectboard to certify the Local Emergency Operations Plan adoption.
- ❖ Provided traffic studies, current data, radar feedback, and sign information to support traffic calming in East Calais.
- ❖ Identified funding sources for culvert upgrades.
- ❖ Inventoried culverts and bridges and made available online.
- ❖ Assisted with a Better Connections Grant for enhancing East Calais Village/ recreation field connections, traffic calming, and park and rides.
- ❖ Assisted the fire department with grant application for rural fire protection.

CVRPC Projects & Programs

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

Regional Reports, continued

agencies, and regional groups with mapping and data analysis in support of their projects.

- ❖ *Special projects*: Complete special projects, such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
- ❖ *Grants*: Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, and write grant applications

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

Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource -- please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Report

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management (CVSWM) is made up of 19 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. Bill Powell represents Calais on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors, with John Brabant as alternate.

In FY16, CVSWMD provided \$7,578 in School Zero Waste and Lawrence Walbridge Reuse Grants and \$3,194 in Green Up Day Grants to businesses and schools in member municipalities. Calais received \$340 in funding for Green Up Day.

The District continues to provide award-winning programming, including:

- **Residential Composting:** CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soilsaver composting units and kitchen compost buckets at cost to district residents.
- **Business Composting:** CVSWMD has 67 participating businesses and institutions throughout Central Vermont which, combined, diverted an estimated 1,007 tons of food scraps to composting facilities in FY16.
- **School Composting (part of our School Zero Waste Program):** There are 26 public schools in the District participating in this program. Over the course of the 2015-2016 school year, CVSWMD schools diverted an estimated 109 tons of high quality food scraps.
 - Calais Elementary School diverted 2.56 tons
 - U-32 High School diverted 5.5 tons
- **Special Collections:** In 2016, nine events were held, in which CVSWMD collected hazardous waste, paint, batteries and fluorescent bulbs.

Regional Reports, continued

- Collection events for household hazardous waste were held in Barre Town, Montpelier and Hardwick. With an additional paint, battery and bulb collection in Hardwick.
- **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC at 540 N. Main St. in Barre is open M, W, F noon-6pm and every third Sat. 9-1pm. The Additional Recyclables Collection Center is a recycling drop-off for over 40 hard-to-recycle materials, cvswmd.org/arcc. {Blue bin recyclables are not accepted at the ARCC.}
 - In FY16, 181 visitors to our Additional Recyclables Collection Center came from Calais.
- **Web Site:** CVSWMD posts useful information about what can be recycled, what can be composted, how to dispose of hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste, composting, Act 148, Paint Care guidelines, details of our special collections, and an “A to Z Guide” listing disposal options for many materials in the alphabet, along with other useful information for reducing waste in central Vermont.

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District
137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 cvswmd.org 229-9383



East Montpelier Fire Department and Ambulance Service

We find ourselves at the height of a new year. This year promises to bring new achievements and new challenges for East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD). Leadership at EMFD has committed to the continued development and growth of our safety and wellness programs, as well as enhanced levels of training. As we strive to reach our goals, we anticipate hard work ahead to provide our communities with high quality fire and emergency management services (EMS). Recently, Deputy Chief Toby Talbot, Assistant Chief Paul Guare and I participated in a day long leadership class taught by a Deputy Chief from New Jersey that provided us with many new and fresh ideas on leading forward into the future.

2016 brought several exciting changes to EMFD. In July we welcomed Megan Cannella as our new Administrative Secretary / Treasurer. Megan lives in East Montpelier with her husband and three little girls. We also welcomed three new Junior members, Thomas Parker, Justin Lamson and Riley Cook. Thanks for becoming a part of East Montpelier Fire Department.

In 2017 we will be continuing forward with recruiting new members and supporting members through training classes. As in many organizations, volunteerism is waning and we want to encourage our townspeople to step up and volunteer. We are looking for new firefighters as well as EMS personnel. There may be some of

Regional Reports, continued

you who are already certified who work elsewhere and would, hopefully, consider joining EMFD. In 2016 we were able to sponsor four new members in becoming certified EMR's and we currently have two members that will soon be finished with the A-EMT class being held at EMFD.

Where are we at with Para-medicine? In late 2016 EMFD raised its State ambulance license to the paramedic level. This will allow us to provide a higher level of advanced level care in the field, including drug administration, advanced airway management, etc. We currently have two paramedics working for us and are in the process of hiring a full time paramedic/firefighter, and we have a staff member in paramedic school in NH. As our program grows, we will continue to maintain paramedic intercept agreements with Barre City and Barre Town allowing us to provide continuous 24 hr. coverage. This is an exciting change for our communities as we watch the advancement of field medicine continuously change.

Fire highlights for 2016 include the usage of the town property in East Montpelier across from the fire station. We have been able to utilize the farmhouse for advanced self-contained breathing apparatus training (SCBA) as well as search and rescue training. We will continue to use the farmhouse for ladder drills and additional SCBA and search drills. The department also engaged in several extrication drills using our hydraulic tools, hand tools and air tools. This training continues to be valuable to shorten the time in an actual extrication situation. We are also working closely with the State engineers to provide a point of access to the river for water supply at the new bridge to better protect East Montpelier Village.

Thank you for your support again this year with the holiday food and toy drive in collaboration with your local schools. Your contributions go a long way towards make a difference within our communities. Please continue your support and look out for your neighbors, especially the elderly.

Please remember to change your batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Check the dates to make sure they are still good. If you don't have smoke detectors or carbon monoxide detectors you should get them to protect your families with advanced warning. If you are unable to afford a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector please call the East Montpelier Fire Station. We have some available. Take time this year to have a fire safety plan in place for your home and practice this with your children. Don't forget the importance of a fire extinguisher.

Thursday March 23rd we will be hosting the annual rabies clinic at the East Montpelier Fire Station located at 54 Village Acres by the RT 2 traffic light. Times and cost will be announced as we get closer. This is a great fundraiser for the fire department so please come and see us.

For Calais burn permits please call Forest Fire Warden Greg Pelchuck at 454-7377.

Regional Reports, continued

For fireworks permits call East Montpelier Fire Department at 225-6245 or 225-6247. Permits do need to be submitted at least 15 days in advance.

Thank you for your continued community support and to the men and women of the East Montpelier Fire Department for serving our communities.

Come down and see us anytime, see what we are about and the exciting things going on. Staff is onsite throughout the day and our regular meetings and trainings are Tuesday nights from 7-9 pm.

Call 911 for emergencies.

*- Ty Rolland, Fire Chief
Toby Talbot, President*

East Montpelier Fire Department 2016 Call Statistics					
	Calais	East Montpelier	Plainfield	Mutual Aid	Total
Ambulance Transport	42	108	56	47	253
Ambulance No Transport	29	103	22	11	165
Fires	26	42	5	8	81
Car Accidents	17	34	3	3	57
Burn Permits		114			114
Fire assist Ambulance	3	3			6
Ambulance assist Fire	10	15			25
Annual Total by Town	127	419	86	69	701

Regional Reports, continued

EMFD Membership by Seniority with Rank, January 2017		
1	Morse, Elliott	Safety Officer, Founding Member
2	Brazier, Tom	Firefighter
3	Winston, Jon	Firefighter
4	George, Bill	Firefighter
5	Parker, Todd	Lieutenant, Firefighter
6	Pelchuck, Greg	Firefighter
7	Huoppi, Karl	Firefighter
8	Rolland, Ty	Fire Chief, Firefighter, EMT
9	Copping, Jay	Firefighter, AEMT
10	Copping, Robin	Asst. Chaplain, Firefighter, AEMT
11	Chase, Steve	Active Supporting Member
12	Barstow, Rick	Firefighter
13	Talbot, Toby	Deputy Chief EMS, President, Firefighter-1
14	Tuller, Chris	Firefighter
15	Wong, Jason	Lieutenant, Firefighter, Board Member
16	Quesnel, Sara	Firefighter-1, AEMT
17	Boucher, Jon	Asst. Chief, Firefighter-1
18	Quesnel, Chris	Captain, Firefighter-2, EMT
19	Guare, Paul	Asst. Chief, Firefighter
20	Conti, Sandy	Firefighter, Board Member
21	Brown, Larry	Deputy Chief Fire, Firefighter-1, AEMT
22	Nutbrown, Brad	Firefighter
23	Fleury, Brad	Firefighter, ECA, Board Member
24	Carrien, James	Captain, Firefighter-1
25	Boguzewski, Alex	Firefighter
26	Amell, Bill	Firefighter, AEMT
27	Matthew, Sarah	Firefighter-1, AEMT
28	Petrella, Albert	Firefighter, Board Member
29	Ouellette, Gary	Firefighter, Vice President

Regional Reports, continued

30	Lowe, Veronica	EMT
31	McAllister, Ben	Firefighter
32	Glass, Matt	Firefighter
33	Casto-Gordon, Melissa	Firefighter
34	Bransfield, Bettie	Active Supporting, EMT
JUNIORS		
	Cook, Riley	Junior Firefighter
	Parker, Thomas	Junior Firefighter
	Lamson, Justin	Junior Firefighter
ACTIVE SUPPORTING		
	Gray, Jason	Firefighter-2, AEMT
	Larrabee, Jake	Firefighter-1, AEMT
	Gouge, Joshua	AEMT
	Gouge, Rachael	AEMT
	Hersey, Doug	EMT
	Thurston, Peter	Firefighter, AEMT
	Bagg, Scott	Firefighter, Paramedic
	Morgan, Hannah	EMT
	Morse, Chad	Firefighter-2, AEMT
	Wood, Jay	Paramedic
	Cannella, Megan	Treasurer/Administrative Assistant

Regional Reports, continued

Kellogg-Hubbard Library Report

One of the busiest libraries in Vermont, the Kellogg-Hubbard Library is an independent non-profit organization that serves Calais and several other Central Vermont communities. Founded in 1894, the library is open 55 hours and six days per week. We have a collection of over 74,000 items, and last year's circulation topped 268,000—the second largest in the state. Borrowing printed books is still what patrons like to do best; however, we also lend other items, provide public computers, free wi-fi and e-books, and offer over 500 programs each year.

Technology continues to be important to library users. We have 14 public computers, and last year patrons used them an average of 325 times per week. In addition to general internet access, we provide free access to 60 subscription databases. Using our computers or their own devices, patrons used the library's wi-fi to access the internet an average of 1,122 times per week. Plus, anyone with a KHL library card can take out e-books without even coming into the library; they can do this from home or from anywhere with internet access. We offer two online e-book services, and last year patrons borrowed e-books 9,408 times, about 1,000 times more than last year. Over 900 patrons received technology training at the library, ranging from how to do internet research to how to download e-books onto their personal devices.

Last year we offered 542 programs—322 for children and 220 for adults. Attendance totaled 9,686. PoemCity, our month-long celebration of poetry, continues to be extremely popular, as is the Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesday program, for which we are the Central Vermont host. Besides making occasional story time visits in our towns, at the library we offer two every week. In the summer our children's library offers a reading program and three, week-long camps.

Our Outreach program provides a lending library at the Adamant Coop that many Calais residents use. The program also provides a book exchange at the East Calais General Store. We provide occasional story times, including at the preschool in the spring and fall. Using donations and grant money, we distributed 85 free new books at Outreach story times in Calais.

Calais residents are active library patrons: 440 adults and 85 children have active library cards. Last year they checked out 12,937 items—not including e-books, which are not tracked by community. The library has a strong Board of Trustees, and Craig Line is the Calais representative.

This year the Kellogg-Hubbard Library is asking Calais to provide \$25,760 towards our operations, the same amount we requested and which voters approved last year. The library asks our towns to pay \$16 per capita in local taxpayer support; this is well below the statewide average of \$30.38.

Regional Reports, continued

The library's current budget is \$915,000. Fundraising, donations, grants and earnings on the library's endowment, provide half the library's revenue and allow it to offer high quality service to our communities at far less than the statewide average. The library is asking Calais residents to pay 2.8% of our operating costs, and for that support they receive full access to one of Vermont's premier public libraries.

Tom McKone, Executive Director

Washington County Sheriff's Department Report

The Washington County Sheriff's Department, as are other sheriff departments in the State, is a jack-of-all-trades law enforcement agency. Sheriffs were the first law enforcement in the State, originating in our State's Constitution, and have evolved into performing many essential functions for our counties and the State.

By statute, a sheriff's department is tasked with transporting prisoner, mental health patients and juveniles who are in the custody of the State of Vermont. During FY16 we transported 593 persons. Besides our statutory mandates, we contract for patrol, court security, security details (from Public Service Board Hearings, to football games, to court ordered move-outs to name a few), provide Uniformed Traffic Officers (UTO's) and cruisers for road construction, as well as take applicant fingerprints for individuals. During the summer months on any week day, it is not uncommon to have 15 to 20 staff on duty performing various functions.

The department also does outreach and education, offering hunter safety courses, assisting with snowmobile safety classes, addressing Northfields Citizens Academy, teaching at the Vermont Police Academy and sending letters to high school graduates reminding them to make safe choices. In an effort to better serve the community, we sent two deputies to the 16-week full time academy in 2015. Two long-time deputies retired. Retired State Trooper Ted Hislop, who became a deputy after retirement, retired after over 32 years with the department. Howard Curtis retired after over 40 years. They will be greatly missed.

We continue to work to enhance safety within the county from searching out wanted persons to patrols and motor vehicle check points and snowmobile patrols. Countywide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2016 generated 380 incidents reports and 836 Vermont Traffic Citations. The Department arrested 11 persons for DUI, 22 persons for driving with a criminally suspended license and arrested 44 persons on arrest warrants.

Regional Reports, continued

Total Traffic Citation Report by Violation

<i>Violation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Total</i>
23V1003	STATE SPEED ZONES	1
23V1004	INTERSTATE HIGHWAY REGULATIONS	1
23V1007A	LOCAL SPEED TOWN HIGHWAY	22
23V1222	INSPECTION OF REGISTERED VEH	6
23V301	NO REGISTRATION	2
23V301	ATV-OPERATE ALONG PUB HIGHWAY	1
23V513	MISUSE OF PLATES	2
23V800A	INSURANCE CERTIFICATE	2
<i>Report Totals</i>		37

We are proud of the work we do and take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work.

*Professionally,
W. Samuel Hill, Sheriff*

Woodbury Calais Food Shelf Report

We would like to thank Calais for their generous financial support. The Woodbury Calais Food Shelf currently serves 20 Calais residents vegetables, canned and packaged goods and meat, including turkeys, as well as USDA commodities

Our cost for Food Shelf grocery items is \$0.063 per pound. If we follow the Foodbank's recommendation that we provide individuals with 2/3 of a pound of food each day then our cost per day per pound is \$0.042 or \$15.33 per year per client.

Our 2017 request for \$300 covers the \$15.32 per client per year or 100% of what the Vermont Foodbank recommends. During 2017 we will be open from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. on the third Saturday each month and on Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7 pm that follows our Saturday opening. If you want to donate food or money or have questions about the Food Shelf or have an emergency need for food please call Carol Ray at 472-6292.

The Woodbury Calais Food Shelf is a non-profit community organization. It began as a project by students at the Woodbury Elementary School in 1995, the same year that we became members of the Vermont Foodbank. The Food Shelf is available to any resident of a funding town, regardless of income. We encourage use of the Food Shelf by anyone whenever there is a need. We offer a hand up, not a hand out. We are also a USDA food site, which means that we distribute monthly

Regional Reports, continued

commodities supplied to us by the United States Department of Agriculture to clients from across Washington County. An income eligibility requirement must be met prior to receiving USDA commodities. These income eligibility requirements are higher than you would think. A family of four can make up to \$44,955 per year and qualify for USDA commodities.

We are funded by the towns of Calais, Woodbury and Cabot and by private donations. We appreciate being able to make a request for funds to the town of Calais and thank you for your continued sustaining support.

*Sincerely,
Jan Brough*

*The Woodbury Calais Food Shelf and Joanne Eldred Elder Care Program
P.O. Box 142
Woodbury, Vermont 05681
jan@janbrough.com*

Woodbury Fire Department Report

The Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department responded to 72 emergency calls last year that included 29 calls in Woodbury, 40 in Calais, and three mutual aid calls to Hardwick and East Montpelier.

The emergency call volume was significantly higher this year, almost doubling last year's call volume. We also provided fire prevention programs at the local schools to teach our children to be fire safe and we held our annual open house. We are interested in keeping people informed about our calls as well as anything that could have impact such as hazardous weather. The Woodbury Fire Department has a website and a Facebook page that is updated regularly. Please go to our website at www.wfdvt.org or like us on Facebook.

We are happy to announce that some of our firefighters have been trained and have become first responders for Hardwick rescue. Over the past several years we have seen the need, and seven of our members spent the summer taking the 70-hour class as well as completing a rigorous practical skills and written examination to become National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, Emergency Medical Responders. We began providing service on December 1. All medical squad members are members of Hardwick Rescue. When you need emergency medical care and call 911, the fire department responders will be dispatched along with Hardwick Rescue, and one of our members should be there to help you within a few minutes. Hardwick Rescue will continue to be Woodbury's primary EMS service provider. I would like to personally thank the people who gave their time to make this possible.

Regional Reports, continued

	Woodbury	Calais
Building Fires	0	2
Chimney Fires	1	2
Pellet Stove Fire	1	0
Fire Investigation	1	1
Carbon Monoxide	0	3
Fire Alarms	4	6
Motor Vehicle Crashes	4	12
Vehicle Fire	1	1
Amulance Assist	2	0
Medical Emergency	2	0
Power Lines Down	4	6
Transformer Fire	0	1
Trees Down	2	0
Smoke in Building	1	0
Propane Leak in House	0	1
Gasoline Spill	0	1
Search for Missing Swimmer	0	1
Body Recovery	0	1
Rescue Dog from Ice	1	1
Rescue Dog Runaway Boat	1	0
Outside Illegal Burning	2	0
Woods Fire	1	0
Good Intent	1	1

The budget overall is rising around 2% this year primarily due to increases in the cost of dispatching (+9.58%) and vehicle maintenance (+ 26%). In keeping with last year's plan, we included a line item to upgrade our second 15-year-old thermal imaging camera at a cost of \$5,000. We propose to replace the second camera this year. The fire department has two cameras purchased with grant funds which are used to locate people who are trapped in a burning building and to help us locate fire in a smoke-filled environment. They are also very useful in finding a fire that is hidden in voids and behind walls, limiting the damage we must do to find it. The cameras are a must-have tool and the cost to replace them in kind would be around \$13,000 each. Our proposal would not require us to increase our funding request from last year.

Calais residents will see a small increase in the cost for fire services from Woodbury this year, while Woodbury residents will see a small decrease. We are proposing a \$340 increase in the truck payment for both Calais and Woodbury. Last

Regional Reports, continued

summer we refinanced the lease for engine 4 and reduced the term by two years. We also reduced the interest from 5.5% to 2%. This will result in a significant savings in interest over the remaining term and allows us to replace one of the older vehicles sooner in an attempt to reduce maintenance costs. The average age of our fleet is sixteen years old.

Space for our vehicles, training, and day-to-day operations continues to be a problem. The current fire station facilities are inadequate, and we are working to find a solution to this difficult problem. A couple of solutions were identified in the Woodbury Village study. The village study group is currently working with FEMA on a hazard mitigation project in the village, so there are no new developments at this time.

I would like to thank you for the support that we have enjoyed from the community. Our goal is to provide the best service possible and to create safety for our members by having a properly staffed, equipped and trained fire department. Without your support this would not be possible, and for this we are truly thankful.

We have 16 active firefighters and nine active members. Our dedicated staff of volunteers has worked hundreds of hours serving our communities between emergency calls, training and equipment maintenance. This is indeed a sacrifice that has reaped immeasurable benefits for people in their time of need. I would like to personally thank everyone who has given so selflessly of their time and energy to this worthy cause. If you would like to find a way to serve your community and make a difference, we are always looking for new members. Feel free to contact me if you would like more information on how you could help the fire department. We will provide all necessary equipment and training. If you have any questions I may be reached at 472-6181 or email me at pcwoodbury@gmail.com.

*Respectfully submitted,
Paul Cerutti, Fire Chief
Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department*