



Town of
Shaftsbury, Vermont

Annual Report for Year Ending June 30, 2021

Proposed Budget For The Year Ending June 30, 2023

2022 Town Meeting and Election

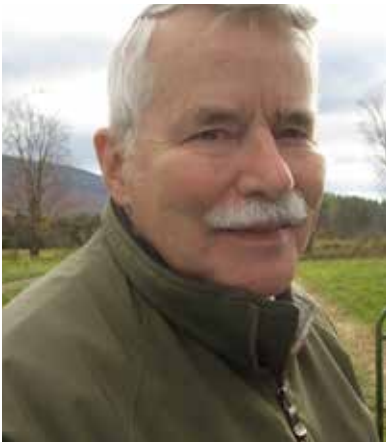
Southwest Tech, MAU & SVUESD Boards
Annual Meetings Monday, Feb. 28, 2022
6 PM – 7 PM via Zoom

Town Informational Meeting
3:00 P.M., Sunday, February 27th, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Balloting

7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 at the Town Garage

This year's annual report is dedicated to an outstanding citizen who has been important in the life of Shaftsbury. *He will be missed. . .*



William "Bill" Pennebaker

October 23, 1935 – September 8, 2021

William Boone Pennebaker Jr., Bill to his friends, was a member of the Shaftsbury Historical Society and the North Shaftsbury Community Club, and served on the Select Board, the Planning Board, and the Waste Management Committee for the Town. He enjoyed skiing, and he made electric bikes for family and friends.

Bill was an engineer with expertise in solid state physics and computer science, one of the vanguard of researchers who developed the videoconferencing technology that has kept the world connected

through the pandemic. At the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., he helped develop a way to compress a photograph, enabling its efficient storage and transport while preserving the quality of the image. He worked with the international Joint Photographic Experts Group, which gave us the JPEG standard for image compression and paved the way for the MPEG standard developed by the Moving Picture Experts Group. Both standards are used extensively on the internet and for streaming video and videoconferencing.



Bill and collaborators at IBM

An expert woodworker, Bill spent his weekends restoring a mid-1800s era farmhouse, doing all the finish carpentry himself, and creating custom toys for his daughters, including a dollhouse with working electricity and plumbing. Bill crafted miniature furniture so exquisite that it was featured in a special exhibit at the Bennington Museum.



Miniature desk built by Bill.



Bill with daughters Elizabeth and Patty riding an electric bicycle he built

He also "tinkered" (as he called it) with electric bikes, and in 1980 he filed one of the earliest eBike patents.

In 1993, Bill and his wife Margaret fulfilled their dream of retiring to Vermont, where Bill was elected to two terms on the Shaftsbury Select Board. While Bill held elected office, the State of Vermont directed the Town of Shaftsbury to close and cap its landfill. Bill took it upon himself to handle the project, researching the best and safest methods to shut the landfill and working with the state to facilitate the closure. His work saved Shaftsbury tens of thousands of dollars.

Bill also worked on restoring the couple's Vermont home. They purchased a late 18-century house in Maine and transported the dismantled structure, piece by labeled piece, to their land in Shaftsbury. Construction workers handled framing and most of the assembly, but Bill helped reconstruct and restore the house, and the couple did some hands-on finish work. Bill made built-in period cabinets with a contemporary twist: a hydraulic lift that moved the TV around.

Bill will be remembered for his modesty, hard work, unwavering commitment to being fair and doing right, and most of all for his soft-spoken kindness.

Town of

Shaftsbury, Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending June 30, 2021

Southwest Tech, MAU & SVUESD

Boards Annual Meetings Monday, Feb. 29th, 6 PM – 7 PM
via Zoom, visit svsu.org for details

Town Informational Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 27, 2022

Balloting

7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

at the Town Garage

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Helpful Names and Numbers	ii-v	Cemeteries	50
		Zoning	51
Section 1 - General Information		Department of Public Works	52
Town Officers Elected	1	Fire Department	53
Town Officers Appointed	2	Legislative Report	54
		Planning Commission	55
Section 2 - 2021 Town Meeting and Minutes		Recreation Committee	56
2019 Town Meeting Minutes	4	Tree Warden	57
2019 Election Results	6	Water Department	58
Section 3 - Annual Meeting Warning	10	Section 7 - Informational Reports	
Section 4 - Financial Information		Bennington County Conservation District	59
Treasurer's Report	19	Bennington Free Library	60
Auditor's Report	20	Bennington Little League	61
Trustees of Public Funds Report	20	BROC Community Action	62
Budget	24	Center for Restorative Justice	63
Section 5 - Town Official's Reports		Green Mountain RSVP	64
Selectboard Report	41	Green Up Vermont	65
Town Clerk Report	42	Habitat for Humanity	66
Listers' Report	43	John G. McCullough Free Library	67
Delinquent Tax Collector Report	44	Lake Paran Recreation	68
Bennington County Solid Waste	46	Martha Canfield Memorial Free Library	69
Section 6 - Operations Reports		Project Against Violent Encounters	70
Animal Control Officer	47	Shaftsbury Historical Society	71
VT Spay & Neuter Program (VSNIP)	48	Shire Kids	72
Bennington County Regional Commission	49	Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	73
		Vermont 2-1-1	74
		Vt. Assoc for Blind & Visually Impaired	75
		Vermont Center for Independent Living, The	76
		Vermont Department of Health	77
		VNA & Hospice	78

This year's town report was produced by Town Clerk, Marlene Hall. Cover Photography and Design by Marlene Hall. Thank you to Shelly Stiles, Gina Jenks and David Kiernan for compilation and proofing.

HELPFUL NAMES AND NUMBERS

Emergency Dial 911 Fire — Medical — Police

Town Officials

BOARD OF AUDITORS

Michael Caslin, Chair (Home) 802-442-3936
Meetings..... As needed

BOARD OF LISTERS

Diana Mayer, Chair (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 4
Email..... listers@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Thursday – 9:30 am - Noon and by appointment

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Jen Holley, Cemetery Superintendent
Kathy Cardiff, Chair..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 8
Meetings..... First Wednesday, 9:00 am, as needed

CONSTABLES

Vacant, First Constable
Vacant, Second Constable

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Tom Hunchareck, Chair..... (Home) 802-375-6928
Meetings..... First & Third Wednesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Art Whitman, Chair..... (Home) 802-733-1186
Meetings..... Fourth Thursday, 8:00 am as needed

FIRE DEPARTMENT (VOLUNTEER)

Joe Vadakin, Fire Chief..... (Cell) 802-384-0061
Fire Station #1: 166 Buck Hill Road (non-emergency) 802-442-4226
Fire Station #2: 364 Old Depot Road (non-emergency) 802-375-9308

State Fire Warden (Burning Ordinance is in effect: please call 24 hours in advance to obtain permit)

Eric Bushee 518-836-7639
Deputy Fire Warden Ed Shewell 802-379-0441

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Yannotti (Office) 802-681-7240

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chris Williams, Chair..... (Home) 802-375-6355
Meetings.....Second and Fourth Tuesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Deena Ruege, Chair..... (Home) 802-447-4741
Meetings..... Fourth Friday of each month, 1:00 pm

SELECTBOARD

Art Whitman, Chair..... (Home) 802-733-1186
Tony Krulikowski, Vice Chair Home) 802-442-6423
Ken Harrington (Cell) 802-366-0015
Mike Cichanowski..... (Cell) (781) 738-2552
Joe Barber (Cell) (802) 379-4960
Meetings..... First and third Monday of each month, 6:30pm

TOWN ADMINISTRATION

David Kiernan (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 3
Email.....administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
Joan Vargo, Bookkeeper..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 6
Email.....accounting@shaftsburyvt.gov

TOWN CLERK

Marlene Hall, Town Clerk..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 1
Email.....townclerk@shaftsburyvt.gov
Gina Jenks, Assistant Town Clerk (Office) 802-442-4038 Ext. 8
Email..... tcassist@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Mon. 9am-3pm and 5pm-7pm, Tues. - Thurs. 9am-4pm, Fri. by appointment

TREASURER

Melanie Dexter, Treasurer (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 2
Email..... treasurer@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Friday 9am - Noon & by appointment

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Rob Steuer, Chair (Home) 802-447-3137
Barry Mayer (Home) 802-447-2614
Bill Hession (Home) 802-442-8919
Meetings..... As needed

VETERANS COMMITTEE

Meetings..... As needed

ZONING

Shelly Stiles, Zoning Administrator (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 5
Email..... zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Wednesday 9am-Noon

STATE OFFICIALS

(www.vermont.gov)

BENNINGTON-3

Representative David Durfee 802-491-7832
Email ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us

BENNINGTON COUNTY

Senator Dick Sears (Home) 802-442-9139
Email rsears@leg.state.vt.us
Senator Brian Campion (Cell) 802-375-4376
Email bcampion@leg.state.vt.us

VERMONT STATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Governor Phil Scott 802-828-3333
Lt. Governor Molly Gray 802-828-2226
Attorney General TJ Donovan 802-828-3171
Treasurer Beth Pearce 802-828-2301
Secretary of State Jim Condos 802-828-2363
Auditor Doug Hoffer 802-864-2281

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

(www.usa.gov)

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Representative Peter Welch 802-652-2450
Senator Bernie Sanders 802-862-0697
Senator Patrick Leahy 802-229-0569

Additional Helpful Names and Numbers

Animal Control Officer, Robyn Champine (802) 430-9564
Arlington Rescue Squad - non emergency 802-375-6589
Bennington Area Chamber of Commerce 802-447-3311
Bennington County Clerk and Bennington County Superior Court, Bennington 802-447-2700
Bennington County Industrial Corporation (BCIC) 802-442-0713
Bennington County Probate Court 802-447-2700
Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) 802-442-0713
Bennington County Sheriff's Department 802-442-4900
Bennington Free Library 802-442-9051
Bennington Rescue Squad 802-442-5817
Delinquent Tax Collector, Merton Snow (Home) 802-442-4526
Emergency Management Director, Paul Dansereau (Home) 802-430-3266
..... emergencymanagement@shaftsburyvt.gov
Health Officer, Jackie Myers (Cell) 802-688-9570
John G. McCullough Free Library, North Bennington 802-447-7121
Mount Anthony Union High School, 301 Park Street, Bennington 802-447-7511
Mount Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Road, Bennington 802-447-7541

North Bennington Treasurer’s Office	802-442-5547
Post Office, North Bennington (05257), 52 Main Street, North Bennington	802-442-4884
Post Office, Shaftsbury (05262), 56 Church Street, Shaftsbury	802-442-2142
Second Chance Animal Shelter	802-375-2898
Shaftsbury Elementary School, 150 Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury.....	802-442-4373
Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union	802-447-7501
Southwest Vermont Career Development Center	802-447-0220
Town of Shaftsbury, Fax Number.....	802-442-0955
Town Service Officer, Jackie Myers	(Cell) 802-688-9570
Tree Warden, Jim White	(802) 375-6454
Vermont Agency of Transportation, Bennington District #1 Office	802-447-2790
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Game Warden (police barracks)	802-442-5421
Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT)	802-229-9111
Vermont State Police Barracks, Shaftsbury Troop D (non-emergency).....	802-442-5421
Village School of North Bennington, 9 School Street, North Bennington	802-442-5955

PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCIES

Shaftsbury Highway

Nights/weekends/holidays - notify State Police 802-442-5421

Shaftsbury Water System (for public water in Shaftsbury Village)

Joshua Brace, Water Superintendent (Cell) 802-375-5621
 water@shaftsburyvt.gov
 Mike Yannotti, Department of Public Works Superintendent (Cell) 802-379-1547

North Bennington Water Systems (for public water outside Shaftsbury Village)

Ted Fela..... (Cell) 802-375-9224
 Truck Cell 802-688-9005

SOLID WASTE FACILITY

(Transfer Station) 510 North Road

Shelly Bordman, Manager

Hours of Operation – Year-round

Tuesday	7:00am - 12:00 Noon
Thursday	11:00am - 4:00pm
Saturday	7:00am - 4:00pm

Transfer Station Holiday Closings 2022 - Please check website at shaftsburyvt.gov

Electronics can be dropped off at the Bennington Transfer Station during their regular business hours.

Located on Houghton Lane in Bennington

Visit our Website

www.shaftsburyvt.gov

All meetings are held at the Town Office Building,
 Cole Hall (upstairs), 61 Buck Hill Road, unless otherwise posted

TOWN OFFICERS - ELECTED

Selectboard

Art Whitman, Vice Chair2-year term expires 2022
Tony Krulikowski, Vice Chair3-year term expires 2023
Mike Cichanowski.....3-year term expires 2024
Joe Barber2-year term expires 2024
Ken Harrington3-year term expires 2022

Town Clerk

Marlene Hall3-year term expires 2024

Treasurer

Melanie Dexter3-year term expires 2024

Auditors

Michael Caslin3-year term expires 2022
Lisa Lent3-year term expires 2023
Vacant3-year term expires 2024

Listers

Diana Mayer, Chair3-year term expires 2024
Larry Johnson3-year term expires 2023
Gina Jenks3-year term expires 2022

Trustees of Public Funds

Rob Steuer, Chair3-year term expires 2024
Barry Mayer3-year term expires 2022
Bill Hession3-year term expires 2023

One-year terms (expire 2022)

Town Moderator..... Thomas Dailey

Delinquent Tax Collector.....Merton J. Snow

First Constable..... Vacant

Second Constable..... Vacant

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (2-YEAR TERM EXPIRES 2023)

Lon McClintock, Democrat.....	802-442-4426
Michael Caslin, Democrat	802-442-3936
Abigail Chaloux, Democrat	802-430-0104
Joseph Coonradt, Independent.....	802-442-2243
Marna Whitman Dailey, Independent.....	802-442-6582
Carl Korman, Democrat	802-442-7959
Maureen Matthews McClintock, Democrat.....	802-442-4426
Anne Mele, Democrat.....	802-447-3859
Karen Mellinger, Democrat.....	802-447-1950
Alice Miller, Democrat.....	802-430-1615
Linda I. Morris, Democrat.....	802-442-3504
Joan Vargo, Democrat.....	802-442-5646

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY CONSISTS OF:

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk

BOARD OF ABATEMENT CONSISTS OF:

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk – Town Treasurer – Listers

TOWN OFFICERS - APPOINTED

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Jen Holley..... Term length at discretion of the Selectboard

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Shelly Stiles 3-year term expires 2023

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Tom Huncharek, Chair.....	3-year term expires 2024
Ted Habberfield, Vice Chair.....	3-year term expires 2024
Lon McClintock.....	3-year term expires 2022
Michael Day.....	3-year term expires 2022

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chris Williams, Chair.....	3-year term expires 2023
Michael Foley	3-year term expires 2022
Naomi Miller.....	3-year term expires 2024
Martha Cornwell	3-year term expires 2023

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Animal Control Officer	Robyn Champine
Bennington County Regional Commissioner	Ken Harrington & Cinda Morse
Emergency Coordinator	Paul Dansereau
Energy Coordinator	David Kiernan
Fire Chief	Joe Vadakin
1 st Asst. Chief	Mike Taylor
2 nd Asst. Chief	Ed Shewell
Fire Warden	Eric Bushee
Deputy Fire Warden	Ed Shewell
Health Officer	Jackie Myers
Deputy Health Officer	Vacant
Town Service Officer	Jackie Myers
Tree Warden	Jim White

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Kathy Cardiff, Chair | Neal Strong, Vice Chair | Betsy Habberfield
Peggy Wilson | Joe Hermann | Jen Holley, Superintendent

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Art Whitman, Chair | Cinda Morse

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Deena Ruege, Chair | Helen Olney | Barb Marino

SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jeffrey Johnson, Principal
802-442-4373

Informational meeting, pre-Town Meeting
February 28, 2021

Call to order

Tim Scoggins called the remote meeting, held via Zoom, to order at 3:05 pm. Tom Dailey took over as moderator. Present were members of the Select Board, the town administrator, assistants to the moderator, and members of the public.

Meeting procedure

Mr. Dailey noted that the remote informational meeting would be a one-time matter only, made possible in the age of Covid by an act of the State legislature.

He asked all attending to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. All did. Mr. Dailey publicly thanked all those who work or volunteer for the town.

Mr. Dailey went over the rules of procedures for the meeting. He described the Town Meeting process going forward, including the voting by Australian ballot on Tuesday March 2.

State legislator report

David Durfee, Shaftsbury's representative to the State Legislature, spoke. He said the legislature hadn't met personally for almost twelve months, but has instead been meeting remotely. He expects this to continue through the end of the 2021 spring legislative session. Vermont has not prioritized legislative members for vaccinations against Covid 19.

Last week the State House passed a nearly \$80 million Covid relief bill, with funding for new businesses, for schools needing help with HVAC issues, for continuation of the Farmers to Families program, and for the line extension program for those just beyond the end of an existing Comcast service line. The legislature will be appropriating out additional federal funds in the offing.

Access to broadband and access to and affordability of child care have risen to the surface as critical issues this year. About a year ago, the town voted to join a southwestern Vermont Communications Union District (CUD), which was chaired by Tim Scoggins. It has accomplished a great deal in the year since its founding.

As to child care, a bill has been proposed that would provide funds for training and additional funds for families.

Shaftsbury residents should probably see very little if any increase in property taxes this year, in part because sales tax receipts have been high.

Pensions are another issue the legislature will address this year.

Mr. Durfee cautioned that those planning on enrolling for a Covid vaccine on March 1, when a new age bracket will become eligible, should expect problems with the website early on. Phone lines will also be busy early in the day.

Select Board report

Mr. Scoggins said the greatest achievement of Town government in the last year is that we've continued to function effectively. He noted that Cole Hall is open by appointment only for land record searches. The roads look better than they ever have, thanks to the road crew. The old garage has been taken down and the new one christened. Additional Frank Howard artwork was donated to the town by a New Hampshire resident and has been hung on the Cole Hall walls.

Looking forward, the Town is seeking grant funding to improve Cole Hall. Engineering of the water distribution pipe replacement has begun. Due to hardships caused by Covid, no special construction projects are planned for the new year (except for a culvert replacement in Shaftsbury Hollow, which has been grant funded).

Public comments on Select Board report

Lon McClintock thanked Tim Scoggins for his eight years of service on the Select Board – for his skill, patience, consistency, and understanding.

Karen Mellinger echoed Mr. McClintock's praise for Mr. Scoggins, and added her thanks for his efforts for the CUD.

Barry Mayer thanked Mr. Scoggins for his responsiveness and for consistently being on an even keel.

Ballot items

Mr. Scoggins noted that a question about the taxes due date will be on the ballot. Shall taxes be due on November 10? (This date is to be the due date no matter what day of the week it falls upon. In the past, the due date was always a Friday.)

Mr. Scoggins described the budget items on the ballot. Projected expenditures are up 1%, a less than 0.5 cent tax rate increase. Over the long run, the budgets have barely been keeping up with inflation. Debt has gone down as contributions to reserves have gone up.

Should the Shaftsbury Community House be exempt from town and school taxes for five years? James Cormier spoke to the issue. He said the House is maintained using funds raised from special events held there – and the help of volunteers. Martha Cornwell spoke highly of the contributions of the Community House.

Should \$10,000 be appropriated to create a new fund to replace the firefighter's airpack breathing apparatus?

Mr. Scoggins shared the list of community appropriation requests. It is identical to previous lists, excepting a new request from Shires Kids. Nicole Campbell spoke about the program, a children's literacy project that delivers to enrolled children, age birth to five years, a free new book monthly. (The program is sponsored by Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which asks for \$25/child per year from the local sponsoring organization.) Shires Kids is an all-volunteer non-profit. The Shaftsbury cost is about \$1500 annually. Ms. Campbell hopes to find support for Shires Kids from special events, town contributions, and grant writing.

Other business

Mr. McClintock said the attendance at that evening's remote meeting was much lower than attendance at traditional Town Meetings. Several folks spoke highly of the pot luck offered at the 2020 Town Meeting and recommended that it be recreated.

The vote by Australian ballot will be held on Tuesday at the new garage.

Mr. Harrington moved to adjourn at 4:05 p.m. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

ELECTION RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
MARCH 2, 2021
461 Votes Cast

SELECTMAN

2 Years Vote for not more than ONE
Joseph E. Barber 333
Write-In 6
Blank..... 122
Total..... 461

SELECTMAN

3 Years Vote for not more than ONE
Michael Chicanowski 357
Write-In 10
Blank..... 94
Total..... 461

TOWN CLERK

3 Years Vote for not more than ONE
Marlene Hall 393
Jim Serrao 43
Write-In 3
Blank..... 22
Total..... 461

TREASURER

3 Years Vote for not more than ONE
Melanie Dexter 377
Write-In 6
Blank..... 78
Total..... 461

MODERATOR

1 Year Vote for not more than ONE
Thomas J. Dailey 388
Write-In 4
Blank..... 69
Total..... 461

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

1 Year Vote for not more than ONE
Merton Snow 373
Write-In 4
Blank..... 84
Total..... 461

LISTER

3 Year Vote for not more than ONE
Diana Mayer 346
Write-In 3
Blank..... 112
Total..... 461

AUDITOR

3 Years Vote for not more than ONE
Write-In 22
Blank..... 439
Total..... 461

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

3 Years Vote for not more than ONE
Robert Steuer 320
Write-In 2
Blank..... 139
Total..... 461

1ST CONSTABLE

1 Year Vote for not more than ONE
Write-In 28
Blank..... 433
Total..... 461

2ND CONSTABLE

1 Year Vote for not more than ONE
Write-In 19
Blank..... 442
Total..... 461

ELECTION RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
MARCH 2, 2021
461 Votes Cast

ARTICLES

1. Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, Wednesday November 10, 2021 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Wednesday, November 10, 2021?

YES 422 NO 30 Blank 20

2. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,174,230 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal year 2022, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?

YES 342 NO 96 Blank 23

3. To Determine: Shall the Town vote to exempt Shaftsbury Community House Inc., from payment of town and school property taxes for a period of five years?

YES 289 NO 133 Blank 38

4. Shall the town raise and appropriate \$10,000 to establish a reserve fund to be called the Fire Department Airpack Reserve Fund to be used for replacement of firefighter breathing apparatus in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804?

YES 415 NO 32 Blank 14

5. Community Appropriations to Determine:

1. Shall the Town appropriate \$8,500 to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?
YES 347 NO 92 Blank 22

2. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,225 to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
YES 385 NO 57 Blank 19

3. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?
YES 373 NO 70 Blank 18

ELECTION RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
MARCH 2, 2021
461 Votes Cast

4. Shall the Town appropriate \$475 to the Bennington County Conservation District?
YES 337 NO 95 Blank 29
5. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Free Clinic?
YES 363 NO 88 Blank 18
6. Shall the Town appropriate \$18,000 to the Bennington Free Library?
YES 306 NO 130 Blank 25
7. Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to Bennington Little League?
YES 330 NO 110 Blank 21
8. Shall the Town appropriate \$4,560 to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?
YES 356 NO 84 Blank 21
9. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,700 to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?
YES 287 NO 148 Blank 26
10. Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to the Center for Restorative Justice?
YES 305 NO 135 Blank 21
11. Shall the Town appropriate \$200 to the Green-Up Vermont?
YES 378 NO 64 Blank 19
12. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,850 to the Habitat for Humanity?
YES 318 NO 119 Blank 23
13. Shall the Town appropriate \$24,000 to the John G. McCullough Free Library?
YES 296 NO 142 Blank 23
14. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,000 to the Martha Canfield Library?
YES 258 NO 176 Blank 27
15. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
YES 356 NO 88 Blank 17
16. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,500 to the Park McCullough House
YES 289 NO 149 Blank 22
17. Shall the Town appropriate \$450 to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
YES 353 NO 91 Blank 17

ELECTION RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
MARCH 2, 2021
461 Votes Cast

18. Shall the Town appropriate \$950 to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
YES 364 NO 77 Blank 19
19. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?
YES 305 NO 132 Blank 24
20. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?
YES 316 NO 125 Blank 20
21. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,100 to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?
YES 351 NO 88 Blank 22
22. Shall the Town appropriate \$900 to the Tutorial Center?
YES 330 NO 108 Blank 22
23. Shall the Town appropriate \$300 to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
YES 381 NO 58 Blank 20
24. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the VT Center for Independent Living?
YES 363 NO 78 Blank 20
25. Shall the Town appropriate \$500 to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?
YES 369 NO 70 Blank 22
26. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)
YES 250 NO 182 Blank 28
27. Shall the Town appropriate **\$500** to Shireskids?
YES 274 NO 154 Blank 32

**STATE OF VERMONT
Bennington County, SS:
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY**

March 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warning

Shaftsbury residents, qualified to vote at the Annual Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet virtually via zoom on **Sunday, February 27, 2022, at 3:00 PM** to hold a public information hearing by electronic means. Upon completion of the information session, the Meeting will stand adjourned until **Tuesday, March 1, 2022, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM** when voting by Australian ballot will commence at the Town Garage on North Road for the election of town officers and consideration of ballot articles.

Shaftsbury residents may submit an application to the Town Clerk to have their names added to the voter checklist no later than **12:00 PM on Monday, February 28, 2022** to be eligible to vote on **Tuesday, March 1, 2022** at the polls. Any voter unable to come to the polls may apply for an early voter ballot with the Town Clerk until **12:00 PM on Monday, February 28, 2022**. Registration to vote can be done online by going to **MVP.VERMONT.gov**. Residents registering on Election Day must do so only at the polling place of their physical residence.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY

REMOTE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

NOTICE and AGENDA

The Selectboard for the Town of Shaftsbury will hold a public informational hearing by electronic means on February 27, 2022 at 3:00pm to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2022 Town Meeting Warning.

Information on how to access the remote hearing:

Shaftsbury Town is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Shaftsbury Informational Hearing

Time: Feb 27, 2022 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89465464638>

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Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Hearings" to understand how these electronic hearing will be managed. If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) to David Kiernan at administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov.

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote hearing software in advance of the meeting. **If you have difficulty accessing the hearing, call 802-442-4038 x3 or email administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov.**

AGENDA

The agenda items will be discussed but not voted on. Voting will be by Australian ballot on Tuesday March 1, 2022.

1. 3:00pm Call to Order
2. 3:05pm Additions or deletions to the agenda
 - o Public comment
3. 3:10pm To hear reports of Town Officers
 - o Public comment
4. 3:40pm Review and discuss Article 1: Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, Thursday November 10, 2022 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Thursday, November 10, 2022?
 - o Public comment
5. 3:45pm Review and discuss Article 2: Shall the Town appropriate \$2,301,468 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal year 2023, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?
 - o Public comment
6. 4:15pm Review and discuss Article 3: Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the office of Town Lister in accordance with 17 V.S.A. 2651c(b)(1) and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor who shall have

the same powers, discharge the same duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to the same liabilities as are prescribed for listers or the board of listers under provisions of Title 32?

- o Public comment
- 7. 4:30pm Review and discuss Article 4: Shall the voters authorize amendments to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws?
 - o Public Comments
- 8. 4:40pm Review and discuss Article 5: Community Appropriations
 - o Public comments
- 9. 4:45pm Discussion of other non-binding business
 - o Public comment
- 10. 5:00pm Entertain motion to adjourn hearing.

**BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022
7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM
Town Garage North Road**

1. Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Thursday, November 10, 2022?
2. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,301,468 to defray the Town’s general and highway expenses for Fiscal year 2023, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?
3. Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the office of Town Lister in accordance with 17 V.S.A. 2651c(b)(1) and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor who shall have the same powers, discharge the same duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to the same liabilities as are prescribed for listers or the board of listers under provisions of Title 32?
4. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendments to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:

Summary of proposed bylaw changes

Grandfathering

Proposed: Amend 8.1.1.ff as follows (changes in italics)

iii. no Nonconforming *Commercial* Use of a building or lot which has been discontinued or abandoned for a period of *two years* shall thereafter be resumed. *No other nonconforming use of a building or lot which has been discontinued or abandoned for a period of one year shall thereafter be resumed.*

No helipads, private landing strips

Add new section (changes in italics)

8.17: Helipads and Private Landing Strips

Private landing strips and helipads are prohibited in the Town of Shaftsbury.

Boundary Line Adjustment

SECTION 5.02 - BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT

5.02 Purpose: This Bylaw grants the Zoning Administrator the authority to administratively review requests for Boundary Line Adjustments involving abutting legal lots within town boundaries. A Boundary Line Adjustment is an adjustment of boundary lines between contiguous lots without creating a new or additional lot and without creating a nonconformity with existing town regulations in the resulting lots. This Bylaw is in addition to any requirement for a permit or exemption under the State of Vermont Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules.

5.02.1 Application and Required Information: Any person desiring approval of a Boundary Line Adjustment shall submit an application to the Zoning Administrator. The application shall include a mylar survey plat completed by a Vermont licensed surveyor containing the following information:

- a) A legal description of properties subject to the boundary line adjustment application;
- b) The date of preparation of the maps, an identified north arrow, and the scale of the map;
- c) The total area of each lot before and after the proposed boundary line adjustment;
- d) The location and dimensions of all structures, driveways, sewage disposal systems, wells, utilities and other improvements on each lot subject to the proposed boundary line adjustment; and
- e) A description of the meets and bounds of the lots that will result from the boundary line adjustment by identifying a beginning point and a description of the length and direction of each course in the tract in sequence and which returns to the beginning point.

Additionally, the application shall contain:

- a) The names, addresses and telephone numbers of all property owners involved in the proposed boundary line adjustment; and
- b) Signed and notarized authorization from all property owners.

5.03 Criteria for Approval: All Boundary Line Adjustments shall be consistent with the following standards:

5.03.1 The Boundary Line Adjustment does not create a new lot or lots.

5.03.2 The parcels resulting from the Boundary Line Adjustment shall meet all dimension, area and land use regulations of the Zoning Bylaws.

5.03.3 If one or both lots, or the structures located thereon, at the time of the application for a Boundary Line Adjustment do not conform to the Zoning Bylaws, the adjustment shall not increase or worsen the nonconformity of the nonconforming lot(s) or structure(s).

5.03.4 The Boundary Line Adjustment does not realign lot lines that create directional changes in the orientation of lot(s), such as changing front yards into side yards or rear yards [and] which result in nonconforming setbacks.

5.04 Zoning Administrator Review and Action: Based on review of the proposed Boundary Line Adjustment, the Zoning Administrator shall determine if the proposed boundary line adjustment meets the criteria for approval stated above. If the Zoning Administrator finds that the proposed boundary line adjustment complies with all the above requirements, the application shall be approved. If the Zoning Administrator finds that the proposed boundary line adjustment does not comply with the above requirements or there is any doubt about the application meeting the above criteria, the application shall be denied. The decision by the Zoning Administrator may be appealed to the DRB.

5.05 Final Approval and Authorization for Property Owners: Approval of the Boundary Line Adjustment shall constitute authorization for the applicant to prepare appropriate documents to transfer the property being adjusted or record the boundary line adjustment agreement, as indicated. A Boundary Line Adjustment shall be completed according to the following:

The owner(s) shall have prepared the appropriate deeds for the transfer of ownership or an appropriate boundary line adjustment agreement, and in each case the necessary transfer tax returns, and a survey map that meets all of the requirements set out in Section 5.01.1 above including the mylar required for recording in the land records. The deed and map shall contain the following language: "This conveyance (or survey) is for the purpose of accomplishing a boundary line adjustment. It shall not create any additional lots, tracts, parcels, or divisions." The map shall contain a signed statement of approval by the Zoning Administrator. The map shall contain a note which references the recording information for the deeds for the actual property transfer.

5.06 Final Approval and Recording: Upon securing signed approval by the Zoning Administrator, the applicant shall submit a Boundary Line Adjustment survey and mylar map to the Town Clerk for recording in the Land Records within 180 days, together with the deeds or boundary line adjustment agreement and transfer tax forms. Boundary Line Adjustments granted under this provision shall expire if approved surveys are not filed and recorded within this 180-day period.

5.06.3 If one or both lots, or the structures located thereon, at the time of the application for a Boundary Line Adjustment do not conform to the Zoning Bylaws, the adjustment shall not increase or worsen the nonconformity of the nonconforming lot(s) or structure(s).

5.06.4 The Boundary Line Adjustment does not realign lot lines that create directional changes in the orientation of lot(s), such as changing front yards into side yards or rear yards [and] which result in nonconforming setbacks.

5.07 Zoning Administrator Review and Action: Based on review of the proposed Boundary Line Adjustment, the Zoning Administrator shall determine if the proposed boundary line adjustment meets the criteria for approval stated above. If the Zoning Administrator finds that the proposed boundary line adjustment complies with all the above requirements, the application shall be approved. If the Zoning Administrator finds that the proposed boundary line adjustment does not comply with the above requirements or there is any doubt about the application meeting the above criteria, the application shall be denied. The decision by the Zoning Administrator may be appealed to the DRB.

5.08 **Final Approval and Authorization for Property Owners:** Approval of the Boundary Line Adjustment shall constitute authorization for the applicant to prepare appropriate documents to transfer the property being adjusted or record the boundary line adjustment agreement, as indicated. A Boundary Line Adjustment shall be completed according to the following:

The owner(s) shall have prepared the appropriate deeds for the transfer of ownership or an appropriate boundary line adjustment agreement, and in each case the necessary transfer tax returns, and a survey map that meets all of the requirements set out in Section 5.01.1 above including the mylar required for recording in the land records. The deed and map shall contain the following language: "This conveyance (or survey) is for the purpose of accomplishing a boundary line adjustment. It shall not create any additional lots, tracts, parcels, or divisions." The map shall contain a signed statement of approval by the Zoning Administrator. The map shall contain a note which references the recording information for the deeds for the actual property transfer.

5.09 **Final Approval and Recording:** Upon securing signed approval by the Zoning Administrator, the applicant shall submit a Boundary Line Adjustment survey and mylar map to the Town Clerk for recording in the Land Records within 180 days, together with the deeds or boundary line adjustment agreement and transfer tax forms. Boundary Line Adjustments granted under this provision shall expire if approved surveys are not filed and recorded within this 180-day period.

8.16 Dog Boarding/Kennels

8.16.1 **Districts Allowed.** These facilities shall be permitted in all districts except Village Center (VC) and Forest and Recreation (RC) as a Conditional Use, including site plan approval, subject to review and approval by the Development Review Board (DRB). In reviewing an application for this use, the DRB shall reference the Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Market's Animal Welfare Regulation promulgated under authority of the VSA T20 Chapter 194 Section 3908 Sections 1.1 thru and including

3.14. (See Appendix, Vermont Animal Welfare Regulations,

https://agriculture.vermont.gov/sites/agriculture/files/documents/Animal_Health/Animal%20Welfare%20Regulations.pdf.) Any proposed facility complying with these provisions in their entirety at all times will be considered compliant.

8.16.2 Requirements and Standards

- a) Five acres shall be the minimum lot size for dog boarding facilities
- b) The total number of dogs shall not exceed 6.
- c) Dog kennels, shelters or runs shall not be located within 1000 feet or fewer of the nearest neighboring residence at the time of the issuance of the permit for that facility.
- d) Animals shall be securely fenced.
- e) No excessive barking shall emanate from the kennels at any time. Quiet hours shall be maintained from 9:00pm to 7:00am weekdays, and 9:00pm to 8:00am weekends and holidays.

- f) The premises shall be kept in a clean and sanitary manner to prevent the accumulation of flies and the spread of disease. Animal odors shall not be detectable beyond the lot lines of the property wherein the kennels are located.
- g) Proof of up to date rabies vaccinations are required before and each time a dog is allowed into the facility.
- h) Personnel shall be available at all times to care for and supervise the animals. Contact information for such personnel shall be registered with the Town Clerk and Animal Control Officer by the kennel owner.
- i) Permit holders must annually hire a consultant veterinarian licensed in the state of Vermont to inspect the facility and confirm it is compliance with the bylaw. If complaints arise from the community and/or adjacent landowners the following mechanism is in place to address these concerns.
 - a. The Zoning Administrator shall provide written warning notice to any person suspected of an alleged violation of any bylaw after it has been adopted pursuant to Chapter 117 of Title 24. The notice must be sent by certified mail and shall advise the alleged offender of the following:
 - i. The nature of the violation referencing the specific provisions of the bylaws.
 - ii. That he or she has seven days in which to resolve the violation.
 - iii. That the fee for the violation shall be in accordance with 24 VSA Section 1974a, 4451, and 4452.
 - iv. That he or she is not entitled to any additional warning notice for a violation occurring after the seven days.
 - v. That he or she has a right to appeal the notice of violation to the Development Review Board.

8.16.3 Definitions

- a) Dog Boarding/Kennel Facility- Any facility that houses as part of a business and/or in exchange for a fee, more than three dogs at a time which are not licensed at the address of the facility. This definition shall not include Veterinary Clinics.
- b) Excessive Barking- Any noise by a dog or dogs audible at the property line of a property on which a kennel is located which occurs repeatedly during at least a seven minute period of time with a three minute or less lapse of time between each bark.

The deletions shown below are proposed to remove a conflict with the allowed uses and setback requirements referenced in sections 4-7.

8.7 ~~Swimming Pools and Ponds~~

~~8.7.1 Swimming Pools~~

~~A swimming pool is considered a permitted Accessory Structure to the principal use of the property provided that the pool is used only by the residents of the premises and their guests. No portion of the water area of the pool shall be closer than 20 feet to any lot line. Any pool less than 3 feet in height and under 1,000 gallons in volume is not subject to these restrictions and does not require a zoning permit.~~

5. Community Appropriations to Determine:

- 1) Shall the Town appropriate **\$8,500** to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?
- 2) Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,225** to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
- 3) Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,000** to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?
- 4) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Bennington Free Clinic?
- 5) Shall the Town appropriate **\$18,000** to the Bennington Free Library?
- 6) Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to Bennington Little League?
- 7) Shall the Town appropriate **\$4,500** to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?
- 8) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,700** to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?
- 9) Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to the Center for Restorative Justice?
- 10) Shall the Town appropriate **\$200** to the Green-Up Vermont?
- 11) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,850** to the Habitat for Humanity?
- 12) Shall the Town appropriate **\$25,200** to the John G. McCullough Free Library?
- 13) Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,000** to the Martha Canfield Library?
- 14) Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,500** to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
- 15) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,500** to the Park McCullough House
- 16) Shall the Town appropriate **\$450** to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
- 17) Shall the Town appropriate **\$950** to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
- 18) Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,500** to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?
- 19) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?
- 20) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,100** to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?
- 21) Shall the Town appropriate **\$900** to the Tutorial Center?
- 22) Shall the Town appropriate **\$300** to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
- 23) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the VT Center for Independent Living?
- 24) Shall the Town appropriate **\$500** to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?
- 25) Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,000** to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)
- 26) Shall the Town appropriate **\$750** to Shires Kids?
- 27) Shall the Town appropriate **\$750** to Bennington Senior Center?
- 28) Shall the Town appropriate **\$450** to Bennington County Conservation District?

DATED at Shaftsbury, Vermont this 27th day of **January, 2022**.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY SELECTBOARD

Art Whitman, Chair

Tony Krulikowski, Vice Chair

Ken Harrington,

Joe Barber

Mike Cichanowski

Remote Only Public Informational Hearing Handout

Town of Shaftsbury

Public Informational Hearing

The process for using the Australian ballot system at town meeting requires a public informational hearing as a precursor to the vote. The selectboard must hold an informational hearing when a town uses this system of voting on any public or budget question. Under temporary changes to the law, the hearing may be held entirely remotely. The informational hearing, which is administered by the selectboard, must be held within the 10 days immediately preceding the town meeting at which the Australian ballot system of voting is to be used. The purpose of the informational hearing is to afford the electorate an opportunity to discuss the article(s) on which they will be voting. The hearing serves as the debate component that would otherwise accompany voting when conducted from the floor. The selectboard of the town of Shaftsbury will offer remote-only access via electronic means to its public informational hearing. Whenever feasible, the public should, at minimum, be able to access and participate in the remote hearing by dialing in through telephone.

Accessing a Meeting

Please refer to the remote only public informational hearing notice and agenda for information on how to access the hearing remotely. Please note that whether you join by telephone, computer, or device, you may be put on hold or in a waiting “room” until granted access to the hearing. You also may be muted or restricted from using any chat function until the public comment portion of the hearing.

Participation

All meetings will be conducted in accordance with the selectboard’s Rules of Procedure , to the extent practicable. The moderator will follow the public informational hearing agenda and, when feasible, allow members of the public attending remotely to participate through voice (audio) means or alternatively using any chat function during the designated public comment periods on the agenda and at other applicable times as needed.

While the moderator will attempt to provide those attending remotely the same reasonable opportunity to comment, please be aware that technical and other issues may interfere or possibly even prevent that opportunity from occurring.

Initially, the meeting's host/organizer will mute all remote attendees. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute remote participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the moderator.

Please review the following guidelines:

- The moderator will invite comment:
 - during the public comment period as designated on the agenda; and
 - other times as determined by the moderator.
- When a remote participant/attendee is unmuted, they must state their name before commenting.

When the selectboard adjoins the hearing, the host/organizer will end the electronic meeting by turning off/closing the remote meeting software. Remote attendees will be automatically disconnected.

The hearing will be recorded unless unusual circumstances make it impossible to do so. Minutes and other public records that are part of the hearing will be made available in accordance with VT's Open Meeting and Public Records Laws. Please be aware that, in the event of a staffing shortage due to COVID-19, the selectboard may extend the time limit for the posting of minutes to not more than 10 days from the date of the hearing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Overview of the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2021 (FY2021):

The Town of Shaftsbury ended the year with a net change to the unassigned fund balance of \$183,403, adjusted to \$188,344 using the Modified Accrual Basis of accounting.

This fiscal year obviously presented many challenges in budgeting and forecasting, with the ongoing effects of the pandemic. Nevertheless, we anticipated in FY2020 that the unassigned fund balance would bounce back up this year, and that is exactly what happened.

Total expenditures came in exactly as budgeted. Total revenues ended the year with a positive variance of just over 8%. This was largely due to two factors: sale of equipment, including the former garage; and increased highway state aid related to the pandemic.

	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget	Variance Favorable/(Unfavorable)
Total Revenue	2,214,906	2,398,261	108.28%	183,355
Total Expenditures	2,237,157	2,237,109	100.00%	48
Total General Fund	(22,251)	161,152		183,403

The auditing firm of Sullivan, Powers & Co. again undertook an external audit of the Town for FY2020. (It is now Town policy to have an external audit done annually.) Their complete final audit report will be available on the Town website and at the Town Offices.

The residents of Shaftsbury are increasingly embracing the online payment options available at shaftsburyvt.gov. (The "e-check" or bank transfer option costs a flat \$1.50.) Especially given the ongoing challenges with mail delivery, I strongly recommend this alternative for everyone with a checking account or credit card. It is available not only for on-time tax payments and water payments, but also for zoning and clerk fees.

Melanie Dexter, Shaftsbury Town Treasurer

AUDITORS REPORT

During fiscal year 2021, The Auditors' met monthly to reconcile the town's bank statement, audit the Reserve Fund, review the General Journal Entries and review Transfer Station Receipts.

At the Close of fiscal year 2021 the Auditor's completed examinations of the Town Treasurer's Records including purchase orders, invoices and checks, comparing these items with the Selectboard Warrants and the Detailed Transaction Report. This examination was on the basis of an estimated 35% sample of records.

The Auditors' have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Shaftsbury as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. These financial statements are based on information supplied by the Town Treasurer and were prepared by the outside auditor, Sullivan and Powers. The Auditors' responsibility is to express an opinion concerning these financial statements based on our review. In our opinion the financial position of the Town of Shaftsbury as of June 30, 2021, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Caslin

Lisa Lent

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2021

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage these funds for the purpose of providing income for fund purposes while protecting the purchasing power of the funds through capital appreciation.

In September 2021, the town received \$15,354.00 as a transfer of income generated from individual accounts between July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021, as follows:

Cemetery Perpetual Trust	5,935
Recreation	4,265
School	1,286
Library - Restricted	533
Library - Unrestricted	451
Grandview Cemetery	2,884
	<hr/>
	\$ 15,354

The funds were established for the benefit of the Town and local townsofolk. The trustees recognize the fund purposes as they strive to make certain the funds are used as they were intended.

Robert Steuer
Barry Mayer
William Hession

Continued on next page

CEMETERY TRUST FUND

These funds, with accruing net income, are set aside by the Selectboard to acquire equipment needed for the care of our cemeteries or for the procurement of additional land if and when that becomes necessary.

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

These funds result from payments made to the Town of Shaftsbury to provide for the perpetual care of cemetery lots. An amount for this purpose is included in the price of each lot sold. Monies received by the Town from this source become part of the principal of the fund and may not be used for any other purpose but to produce income for perpetual care. This income is used by the town for cemetery care under the supervision of the Selectboard. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

HUNTINGTON CEMETERY FUND

An 1890 gift in trust by Calvin Huntington established the Huntington Cemetery Fund to provide income “to keep in repair the family grave stones of his relations in the town grave yard.” The Bennington Probate Court in 2000 appointed the Selectmen of the Town of Shaftsbury as successor trustees to the Huntington Cemetery Trust. The Select Board voted “to turn management of the Huntington Cemetery Fund over to the Trustees of Public Funds” at its June 20, 2005 meeting. The Trustees received the Huntington Fund in July 2005.

The Huntington Fund principal may not be expended for any purpose. Income from the Huntington Fund may only be used for the stated purpose of the Fund.

SCHOOL FUND

The School Fund, derived from any payments or bequests to the Town of Shaftsbury School District, provides that the net income from the fund be paid annually to the school district.

LIBRARY FUND-RESTRICTED

All net income is paid annually upon request to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association to purchase books for the library at the Shaftsbury Elementary School.

LIBRARY FUND-UNRESTRICTED

In June 1994 the trustees received a check for \$10,000 from the estate of Tirzah J. Sweet as an unrestricted bequest to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library, located in the Shaftsbury Elementary School. Net income is credited to the fund. Monies from this fund are requested and disbursed at the discretion of the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association.

HEALTH FUND

All net income is to be credited to the Shaftsbury Health Fund. Income can be drawn from the Health Fund as needed for current activities related to community health.

RECREATION FUND

The Selectboard established this fund to function as an endowment providing income for use in supporting recreation projects in the Town of Shaftsbury. Prior town recreation saving accounts together with Howard Park contributions were either transferred or deposited into this fund to make up its principal. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year for use by the recreation committee.

JULIA MATTISON FUND

A 1919 will of Julia E. Mattison, a Shaftsbury resident established this fund. The Bennington Probate Court distributed the funds to the Town in a 1926 order following Ms. Mattison's death. Fund income provides care, comfort and maintenance of any aged and needful women who are residents of the Town of Shaftsbury under the terms of Ms. Mattison's will. The Selectboard determines recipients of assistance from this fund at its discretion.

GEORGE W. HAWKINS FUND

A generous legacy from a former resident, George W. Hawkins, established this fund in 1976. Net income is credited to the fund. The fund is unrestricted as to use and monies are disbursed at the discretion of the Selectboard. It has been the Selectboard's policy to maintain a minimum principal of \$80,000.

HOWARD PARK FUND

Florence Howard kindly bequeathed half of her estate to the town in 2017. The funds are to be earmarked for any use relating to Howard Park. The funds are invested to protect the principle while net income is reinvested back into the fund. The Selectboard has discretion over the use of the funds as they relate to Howard Park.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY

Land was conveyed to the North Bennington Cemetery Association in 1911 "...for the purpose of purchasing, acquiring and holding real and personal property to be used for and in connection with a cemetery or burial ground in Shaftsbury, Vermont; of selling and conveying lots therein; erecting of the necessary structures; soliciting and holding trust funds and making contracts for the perpetual care of burial lots therein, with authority to do all things requisite and proper to accomplish said purpose." Since assuming responsibility for the cemetery in 2018, the annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Fund	Raymond James Starting Balance 30-Jun-20	Income	Gains (Losses)	Additions	Withdrawals	Investment Fees	Rounding	RJ Ending		People's Bank		RJ & People's		Allocation of Investment Fees				Net Income		
								Balance 30-Jun-21	Balance 30-Jun-21	Ending Balance 30-Jun-21	Ending Balance 30-Jun-21	Ending Balance 30-Jun-21	2021 Income	2021 Gains	Percent to Income	Fees to Income				
Cemetery Trust	30,427	1,528	5,903	-	-	(218)	-	37,640	12	37,653	1,528	5,903	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cemetery Perp Trust	138,318	6,379	25,409	-	(7,397)	(888)	-	161,821	55	161,876	6,379	25,409	50%	444	5,935					
Huntington Cemetery	62,980	3,155	12,199	-	-	(430)	(1)	77,903	25	77,928	3,155	12,199	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
School	30,112	1,390	5,519	-	(1,599)	(208)	-	35,214	11	35,225	1,390	5,519	50%	104	1,286					
Library - Restricted	12,769	583	2,342	-	(670)	(99)	-	14,925	5	14,930	583	2,342	50%	50	533					
Library - Unrestricted	10,727	494	1,958	-	(562)	(86)	(1)	12,530	4	12,534	494	1,958	50%	43	451					
Health	33,083	1,658	6,407	-	-	(236)	-	40,912	13	40,925	1,658	6,407	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recreation	99,299	4,587	18,238	-	(5,288)	(643)	-	116,193	40	116,233	4,587	18,238	50%	322	4,265					
Julia Mattison	36,002	1,804	6,973	-	-	(255)	(1)	44,523	14	44,537	1,804	6,973	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G.W. Hawkins	131,616	6,181	23,971	-	-	(876)	-	160,892	40	160,931	6,181	23,971	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Howard Park	39,920	2,008	7,703	-	-	(281)	-	49,350	-	49,350	2,008	7,703	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grandview Cemetery	65,090	3,098	12,250	-	(3,504)	(428)	-	76,506	-	76,506	3,098	12,250	50%	214	2,884					
Total Public Funds	690,342	32,865	128,872	-	(19,020)	(4,648)	-	828,408	220	828,628	32,865	128,872	50%	1,177	15,354					

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage the funds of the purpose for providing income while protecting the purchasing power of funds through capital investment. D.B. McKenna & Co., Inc. provides investment advice to the Trustees.

Shaftsbury Public Funds were invested as follows at June 30, 2021

		Distributions of FY Income
Money Market Funds and Bank Deposits	\$ 76,365	Cemetery Perpetual Trust
Certificates of Deposit	0	Recreation
Bonds	0	School
Equity Mutual Funds	752,263	Library - Restricted
	<u>\$ 828,629</u>	Library - Unrestricted
		Grandview Cemetery
		<u>\$ 15,354</u>

Respectfully submitted

Robert Steuer
Barry Mayer
Bill Hession

Budget FY2023 **14-Jan-22**

Revenues:	Budget	FY21	1/1/21	Budget	FY22	Budget	FY23
	FY21	Final	YTD	FY22	1/14/22	FY23	
Tax Revenues							
Current Tax Revenue	1,824,101	1,813,379	1,873,283	1,861,076	1,873,283	1,961,422	
Taxpayer Prebates from State	0	0	1,664	0	1,664	0	
Late Homestead Penalty	2051	3016	1,852	2051	1,852	2,051	
Delinquent Tax Revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Delinquent Tax Interest	10,000	18,285	3,887	10000	3,887	10,000	
Education Billing Fee retained	9,000	9,400	9,405	9000	9,405	9405	
Tax sale Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	1,845,152	1,844,080	1,890,091	1,882,127	1,890,091	1,982,878	
Intergovernmental Revenue							
Railroad Taxes	900	992	0	900	0	900	
State Land Use	39000	44,898	0	42,000	0	42,000	
VT Forests and Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	
State PILOT Federal Land PILOT Program	14500	11,102	54,439	14500	54,439	12,000	
Federal Land PILOT	3600	3,657	0	3600	0	3660	
Vermont State Highway Aid	158800	208,251	137,867	165508	137,867	180,000	
Government Grants	0	20,779	26,660	0	26,660	0	
Total	216,800	289,679	218,966	226,508	218,966	238,560	
Charges for Services:							
Water Charge for Labor	2500	0	0	2500	0	0	
Misc. Transfer Station fees	125	0	0	125	0	600	
Access Permits	9000	660	7,586	9000	7,586	9000	
PAYT Revenues	62000	36,237	29,637	62000	29,637	62000	
Town Clerk Fees	xxx						
Zoning Permits	6000	9,980	1,435	6000	1,435	6000	
Total	79,625	46,877	38,658	79,625	38,658	77,600	

	Budget FY21		Budget FY22	
Licenses:				
Dog licenses	3750	3,076	3750	3250
Beer and Liquor Licenses	130	0	130	130
Marriage Licenses	100	920	100	100
Total	3,980	3,996	3980	3480
Fines and Forfeits:				
Dog Fines	400	0	400	400
Civil fines	2000	781	2000	2000
Sheriff Fines	xxxx			
State Police Fines	xxxx			
Total	2400	781	2400	2400
Interest Income	2700	1532	2700	1500
Miscellaneous Income	0	20,544	0	0
Howard Park				
Trustees of Public Funds	3000	5288	5000	5000
Fees	100	50	100	100
Interest earnings	0	0	0	0
Misc. Income	0	0	0	0
Key Deposits	0	0	0	0
Town Rec Fund Transfer	0	0	0	0
Total	3,100	5338	5100	5100
Cemetery Revenue				
Burial fees	1500	1900	1500	2000
				2,800

Burial Permits	0	110	0	0	0	0
Lot Fees	3600	5025	3600	13,890	4000	4000
Cemetery Trusts - perp	3000	7397	5000	5,935	6000	6000
Grandview Lot Fees	0	0	0	3,900	0	0
Misc. Revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corner Markers	1800	600	1800	0	1200	1200
Grandview Perp trust		3504	3500	2,884	3500	3500
Grandview - Other rev.	0	2000	2000	2,000	2000	2000
Total	9,900	21,436	17400	31,409	18700	18700
Clerk Revenue						
Recording fees	42000	46,555	42000	21,837	45000	45000
Birth certificates	0		0	0	0	0
Misc. revenue	300	519	300	162	300	300
Total	42,300	47,074	42300	21,999	45300	45300
Other Income						
Proceeds from long term debt	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance proceeds	0	831	0	7,422	0	0
Trans surplus fund balance	0	0	0	0	20,000	20,000
Sale of Equipment	30,000	115095	0	21,930	0	0
Listers Copies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other income	0	880	0	10,528	0	0
Total	30,000	116,806	0	39880	20,000	20,000
Operating Transfers In						
Prior Fund Balance	0		0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,190,957	2,398,143	2,262,140	2,249,064	2,395,518	2,395,518

Budget FY 2023

DRAFT FY23

1/14/22

	FY21 Budget	FY21 FINAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY22 YTD	FY23 PROPOSED
General Government Administration					
Select Board Stipend	3250	3250	3250	0	3250
Meeting Recording Clerk	0	0	0	0	0
Town Administrator Salary	76000	76000	77520	41741	80,346
Administrative Support Wages	0	0	0	0	0
Employee Health Premium*	0	0	0	0	0
Health Plan Administration	1000	733	1000	327	1,000
Employee Health Ins Deductable*	0	0	0	0	0
FICA	5354	6038	5620	3193	6,330
AFLAC Admin Short term Disability	900	669	927	360	927
Dental Plan	n/a		n/a	n/a	0
Vision Plan	n/a		n/a	n/a	0
Insurance and Bonds	58536	61367	64000	17889	66,560
Retirement Contribution	4246	4560	4457	2608	5,423
Unemployment Insurance	333	836	333	1432	2,712
Professional Services	15000	26193	12000	16401	12,000
Postage	1200	1947	1200	4	1,200
Meetings & Training	500	203	500	0	500
Staff Development	0	0	0	0	0
Video CAT-TV ZOOM	4800	5700	4800	351	4,800
Advertising and Legal Notices	2500	835	2500	1365	1,500
Dues and Subscriptions	12750	13548	13388	12575	14,000
Office Supplies	2000	3793	2000	434	2,000
Office Equipment	2500	5085	2500	11321	2,500
Bank Service Charges	0	0	0	0	0
North Street Property Expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Expenses	1200	3742	1200	234	1,200
Website Management	n/a		n/a	n/a	8,000
Total Administration	192,069	214,499	197,195		214,248

	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23
Cole Hall -Town Offices					
Custodial Wages	5000	215	0	0	0
FICA	362	22	0	0	0
Contract Services	0	3890	6552	2684	6,900
Repair and Maintenance	3000	1442	3000	586	1,000
Operating Supplies	2300	1687	2300	1273	2,300
Utilities	5100	8316	5100	4461	9,000
Heating Fuel	5000	1592	4000	1666	1,776
Total Cole Hall	20762	17164	20,952		20,976
Elections & Vital Statistics					
Town Clerk Salary	43,544	43,544	44,370	23882	46,636
Assistant Town Clerk	10,672	18,172	10,885	6043	16,796
Poll Worker Wages	4000	3395	2000	0	4,000
TC Health Ins.	7,213	8,101	7,790	3686	7092
TC Health Deductable	2,000	2,148	2,000	496	2000
AFLAC Admin Short Term Disability	600	365	618	196	400
FICA	3,640	4,700	4,006	2304	5159
Retirement Contributions	2,389	2,703	2,551	1494	3413
Dental Plan	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	598
Vision Plan	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56
Travel & Meetings - Clerk	500	279	500	1418	600
Travel & Meetings- Elections	500	175	500	0	600
Machine Equipment/Supplies - Elections	5,500	6,579	3,000	173	3000
Operating Equipment Supplies Clerk	4,000	2,513	4,000	0	4000
Professional Services		55		0	
Total	84,558	92,729	82,220		94,350
Finance:					
	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23

Accounting/Payroll- Bookkeeping Wages	8,406	5,855	8,574	2,999	9,353
FICA	801	442	622	248	715
Bookkeeping Supplies	0	0	0	37	0
Payroll	3,000	2,562	3,250	1,544	3,250
Total	12,207	8,859	12,446		13,318
Auditing					
Auditor Wages	1,700	354	1,700	581	1,900
FICA	130	27	130	44	145
Travel & Meetings	200	0	200	0	0
Town Report	3,500	1,177	3,500	0	2,000
Total	5,530	1,558	5,530		4,045
Delinquent Tax Collection					
FICA	1,300	1,642	1,300	799	1,300
Supplies	800	355	800	0	400
Total	2,100	1,997	2,100		1,700
Treasurer Services					
Treasurer Salary	24,000	24,000	24,480	13,181	25,704
Assistant Treasurer	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Service Charge	660	660	660	330	660
Billing Supplies	3,000	1,495	3,000	1,916	2,000
Other Services	250	104	250	0	250
FICA	1,740	1,836	1,775	1,008	1,966
Total	29,650	28,095	30,165		30,580
Listers					
Wages	13,498	14,172	13,798	8,658	16,796
	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23

FICA	979	1085	998	707	1218
Professional Services	15,000	15,759	16,600	7526	16600
Tax Maps	2500	3200	2500	4615	2500
Computer Maintenance	500	1,469	500	1200	500
Travel & Meetings	250	0	250	50	250
Dues & Subscriptions	300	0	300	632	0
Operating Supplies	400	147	400	0	200
Total	33,427	35,832	35346		38064
Public Safety					
Animal Control:					
ACO Wages	600	0	600	3206	6300
Monthly Stipend quarterly	6,494	5,250	6,624	306	1275
FICA	46	0	46	123	482
Veterinary Expense	750	0	750	0	750
Tags/Miscellaneous	450	0	450	0	450
Total	8,340	5,250	8470		9257
Emergency Management					
Equipment Maintenance	800	876	800	0	800
Travel & Meetings	200	0	200	0	200
Operating Supplies	400	0	400	0	400
Emergency Shelter Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1400	876	1400		1400
Fire Department					
Chiefs Stipend	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	2600
FICA	189	0	189	0	199
	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23

Insurance & Bond	2,550	2,130	2,550	0	2550
Fire House Maintenance	5,000	3,788	5,000	1802	5000
Fire Truck Maintenance	8,000	6,195	8,000	417	8000
Communications	3,000	3,711	4,500	395	4500
Training	2,000	395	2,000	0	2000
Operating Supplies	750	616	750	0	750
Utilities	10,000	11,518	10,000	7819	10000
Firehouse Heating Fuel	11,016	5,534	11,016	1614	11016
Gas, Oil & Diesel	4,000	1,855	4,000	0	4000
Extrication Equipment	2,000	0	2,000	0	2000
Equipment Replacement	20,000	20,606	20,000	1818	20000
Total	71,105	58,948	72605		72615
<i>Fire Warden</i>					
Operating Supplies	250	0	250	0	250
Vehicle and Equipment	1500	0	1500	0	1500
Total	1750	0	1750		1750
<i>Law Enforcement</i>					
Constable Wages	200	0	0	0	0
Sheriff Services	33,743	33,851	35,430	11542%	35430
Total	33,943	33,851	35430		35430
<i>Emergency Medical</i>					
	25,000	25,000	22,500	0	22500
HIGHWAY	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23
<i>Highway Administration:</i>					
Highway Wages - Regular	289,400	289,400	295,188	145364	309,139
Highway Wages - Overtime	37,496	19,345	38,246	9294	28,400
Employee Health Insurance - Premium	65,171	77,661	74,936	32777	62,460

Employee Health Insurance- Deductable	16,000	7,982	16,000	2328	16,000
Disability Insurance	0	0	0	0	0
AFLAC Short Term Disability	4,500	2,412	4,635	1298	2,520
Dental Plan	n/a	n/a		n/a	3,590
Vision Plan	n/a	n/a		n/a	332
FICA	23,706	23,024	24,174	12436	25,822
Retirement Contribution	17,162	17,931	19,172	10019	25,315
Uniform Cleaning	10,000	9,456	0	0	0
Travel & Meetings	300	0	300	0	300
Steel Toe Footwear	600	697	600	100	600
CDL Physicals	800	179	800	0	800
FTDPW CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	465,135	447,829	3,000	2500	3,150
Total					478,428
					477,051

Highway Construction & Maintenance

Subcontract Costs	12,000	20,094	0	72	0
Signs	4,000	3,178	4,000	6027	4000
Tree Removal	17,500	8,599	17,500	200	22500
Bridges and Guardrails	0	0	0	0	0
Paving	0	195	0	609	0
Operating Supplies	3,000	5,368	5,000	8583	6000
Gravel	90,000	92,041	90,000	36484	90000
Chloride (Dust Control)	60,000	53,912	60,000	26968	60000
Winter Salt	48,800	40,567	48,800	11958	51000
Winter Sand	52,000	65,303	52,000	7635	52000
Level & Sealing	5,000	4,250	0	2864	5000
Di-Cleaning	0	0	0	0	1000
Rentals	15,000	21,953	3,000	22235	3000
Property Rental	0	0	0	0	0
	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22		FY23
Culverts	5,000	6,087	2,000	4607	0
Capital Improvement Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Highway Vehicle Purchase	0	0	0	0	0
Sidewalk Construction Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0
State MRGP Fees	2,043	1,350	2,043	240	1500

	Total	314,343	322,897	284,343	296,000
<i>Highway Equipment Maintenance</i>					
Truck 1	2,050	9,187	3,075	2104	3,230
Truck 2	2,050	12,131	3,075	2637	3,230
Truck 3	2,050	8,898	3,075	5947	3,230
Truck 4	2,050	19,177	3,075	9090	3,230
Truck 5	2,050	13,260	3,075	6599	3,230
Truck 6	2,050	551	3,075	678	3,230
Truck 7	2,050	754	3,075	86	3,230
Truck 8	2,050	0	3,075	0	3,230
Truck 9	2,050	302	3,075	505	3,230
#10 Dodge 3500	2,050	1,156	3,075	693	3,230
Backhoe	2,050	1,106	3,075	1257	3,230
JD Loader	2,050	271	3,075	0	3,230
CAT Excavator	2,050	1,214	3,075	200	3,230
Cat Grader	2,050	4,838	3,075	0	3,230
JD Grader	2,050	4,771	3,075	1392	3,230
JD Tractor/Mower	2,050	922	3,075	1154	3,230
Cat Traxcavator	2,050	0	3,075	0	3,230
Plows and Sanders	2,050	5,499	2,350	1656	3,230
Sidewalk machine	2,050	2,039	2,350	385	3,230
JD Surplus Loader	0	0	0	0	0
Rentals	0	0	0	0	0
Communications	500	0	500	1968	500
Gas, Diesel & Oil	58,650	46,514	50,000	24063	50,000
Machinery & Equipment	10,000	13,546	12,000	6888	14,000
Total	108,100	146,296	119,475	FY22 YTD	FY23
	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22		
<i>Highway Garage</i>					
Professional Services	1,500	725	1500	1176	2,500
Repair & Maintenance	1,000	585	1,000	4745	1,500
Operating Supplies	4,000	673	4,000	597	4,000
Utilities	4,000	2,638	7,200	2436	5,200
Heating Fuel	6,500	0	6,500	0	6,500

Machinery & Equipment	2,000	2,729	2,000	1233	2,000
Total	19,000	16,904	22,200		21,700
SOLID WASTE FACILITY					
Attendant Wages	16,807	8,317	17,143	15301	37413
FICA	1219	654	1243	1214	2862
Professional Services	2000	800	2000	6724	3,600
Management Contract	72,368	28,370	74,539	21639	N/A
Methane Well Monitoring	400	0	400	0	400
Solid Waste Implementation Plan	19,000	6,666	21,500	12552	24141
Subcontract Costs	0	0	0	0	0
Groundwater Monitoring	26,000	10,515	26,000	11545	26000
Solid Waste Removal	25,000	11,054	26,000	19637	N/A
Tire removal	0	0	0	0	0
CASELLA SERVICES	N/A	N/A		xxxxxxx	99846
Repairs & Maintenance	1,000	100	1,000	8023	1,000
Operating Supplies	1,000	27	1,000	0	1,000
Sticker Costs	2,000	0	2,000	198	2,000
Transfer Station Utilities	500	126	500	128	500
Landfill Utilities	300	0	300	0	300
Gas, Diesel & Oil	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Waste Days	0	0	0	0	0
Total	167,595	143,533	173,625		199062
STREET LIGHTS					
Hawks Avenue	500	338	500	151	500
S. Shaftsbury Village	9,000	10,895	10,000	5546	11,000
Total	9,500	11,233	10,500		11500
Park & Recreation					
Salaries & Wages	0	0	0	0	0
FICA	0	0	0	0	0

Professional Services	2,000	3,388	2,000	895	2,000
Building Construction Maintenance Repair	2,000	4,223	2,000	1212	2,000
Equipment Maintenance	0	141	0	0	0
Refund Key Deposit	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Supplies	500	386	500	42	500
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities	500	442	500	207	500
Reimbursement Gas	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Improvements	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5,000	8,580	5000	5000	5,000

CEMETERY EXPENDITURES

Superintendent Salary	7,500	3,903	7,650	4119	8032
Cemetery Committee Assistant	3120	0	3246	0	3938
FICA	770	580	790	436	915
Contract Services	26,000	25,172	27,000	12823	31200
Repairs & Maintenance	5,000	4,735	5,000	238	2500
Travel & Meetings	400	315	400	131	400
Corner Marker Installation	1,300	0	200	0	200
Corner Markers	1,300	500	1,300	0	1300
Transfer to Perpetual Care Fund	5,400	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	200	0	0	450	0
Total	50,990	38,667	45,586	45,586	48,485

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

<i>Development Review Board</i>					
Board Member Stipends	500	500	500	0	500
Meeting Recording clerk Wages	0	0	0	0	0
FICA	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Services	1900	0	1900	0	1,900
Travel & Meetings	500	0	500	0	500
Advertising & Legal	1000	1617	1000	652	1,000
Operating Supplies	100	0	100	0	100

Town Clerk Recording Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4,000	2,117	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
<i>Planning</i>						
Board Member Stipends	500	1015	500	500	0	500
Meeting recording clerk	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zoning Administrator Wages	11,330	10,664	11,557	5336	12,133	12,133
FICA	822	840	838	441	966	966
Professional Services	500	84	500	908	750	750
Travel & Meetings	250	0	250	48	200	200
Advertising & Legal	500	0	500	0	500	500
Printing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Supplies	200	0	200	0	0	0
Transfer to Planning Grant Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	14,102	12,603	14,345	14,345	15,049	15,049

COUNTY TAXES

County of Bennington	30,200	30,768	31,106	31,106	13,586	32,039
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TRANSFERS TO RESERVES

	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23
Cole Hall	10,000	10,000	0	0	10,000
Equipment	110,000	110,000	115,000	115,000	120,000
Fire Warden truck	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Fire Truck	60,000	60,000	85,000	85,000	90,000
Garage reserve fund	0	0	0	0	0
Paving Reserve	45,000	45,000	18,000	18,000	25,000
Sidewalk Reserve	0	0	0	0	6,400
Cemetery Reserve	4,000	4,000	0	0	0
Park reserve	3,000	3,000	0	0	0

Culvert Reserve	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Audit Reserve	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	16,000
Veterans Memorial	3,000	3,000	0	0	0	0
Class 3 Road Fund	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Reappraisal Reserve Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
AIRPACK RESERVE FUND	n/a	n/a	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	361,000	361,000	354,000	354,000	354,000	388,400

DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES

Interest Expense	1,000	1,372	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Lease Payment 2010 JD Grader	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lease Payment 2012 IH & 2011 JD Backhoe	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lease 2013 IH Tandem 2013 IH Fire Truck	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lease 2014 IH Tandem	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lease 2013 Dodge & 2013 Excavator	0	0	0	0	0	0
492 North Street	0	0	0	0	0	0
510 North Road	0	0	0	0	0	0
Garage Bond Payment	80942	80942	79890	65215	78,770	78,770
2021 Mower State Loan			24000	0	24,000	24,000
2021 Cat Excavator				0	11,932	11,932
Total	81,942	82,314	104,890	104,890	115,702	115,702

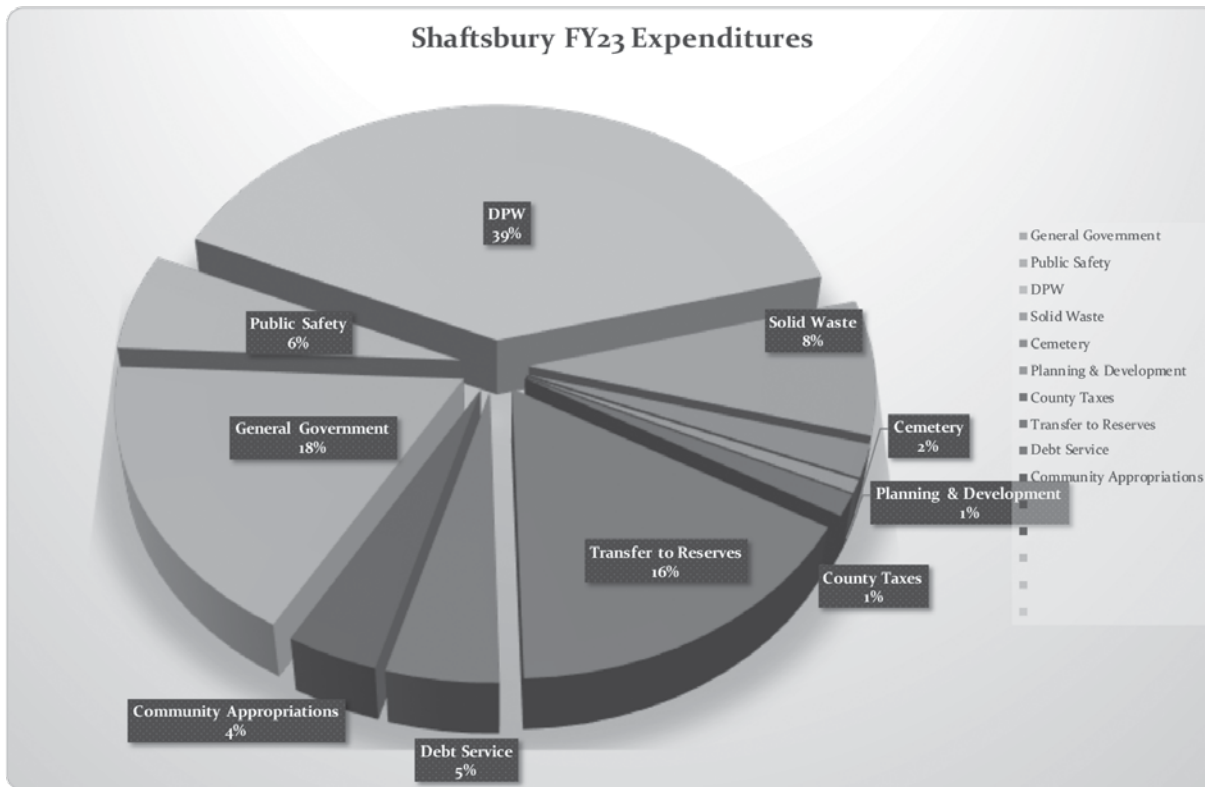
COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS

	FY21	FY21 Final	FY22	FY22 YTD	FY23
Arlington Rescue Squad	8,500	8,500	8,500	8500	8500
Bennington Area VNA	5,225	5,225	5225	5225	5225
Bennington Coalition for the Homeless	1,000	1,000	1000	1000	5000
BCCD	475	475	475	475	475
Bennington Free Clinic	1,000	1,000	1000	1000	1000
Bennington Free Library	18,000	18,000	18000	18000	18000
Bennington Little League	600	600	600	600	600
Bennington Project Independence	4,560	4,560	4560	4560	4500
BROC	1,700	1,700	1700	1700	1700

With local agreement adjust	Tax rate	0.4449	0.4592	0.482
	Tax rate	0.4496	0.4638 estimate	
with local agreement adjust	per 100G	\$444.90	\$459.20	\$482.00
	per 100G	\$449.60	\$463.80 est. FY22	
increase per 100,000		\$23.00	\$14.20	\$22.80

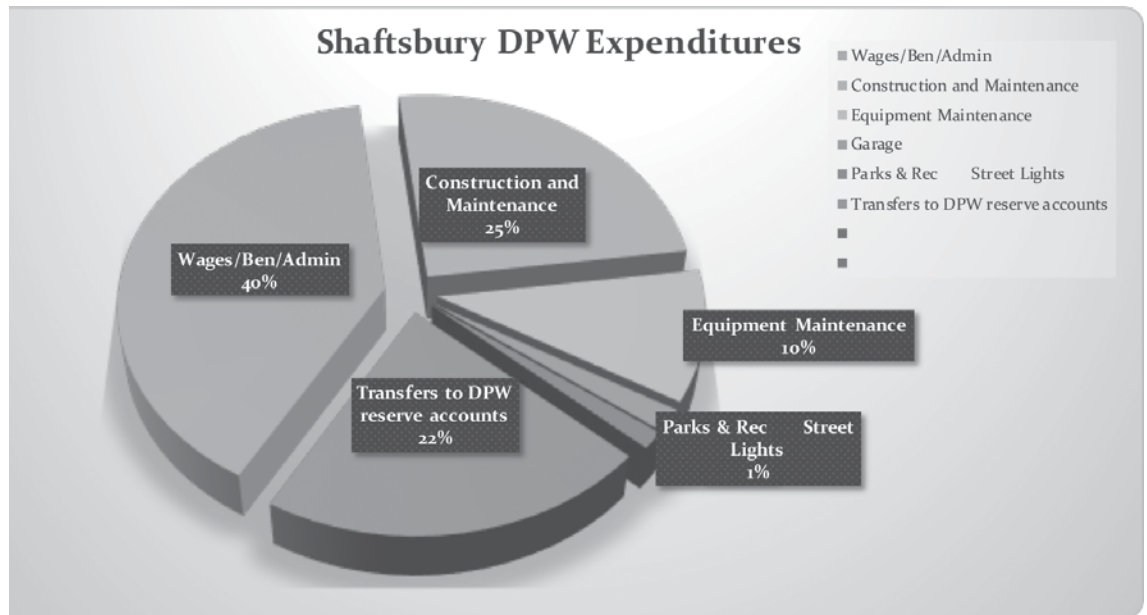
Tax figures based on FY21 Grand List (4,069,000) and FY22 non-tax revenues of \$433,621.

Asset Type	Amount
General Government	\$ 417,281
Public Safety	\$ 142,952
DPW	\$ 938,498
Solid Waste	\$ 199,062
Cemetery	\$ 48,485
Planning & Development	\$ 19,049
County Taxes	\$ 32,039
Transfer to Reserves	\$ 388,400
Debt Service	\$ 115,702
Community Appropriations	\$ 94,050



Asset Type	Amount
Wages/Ben/Admin	\$ 478,428
Construction and Maintenance	\$ 296,000
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 125,870
Garage	\$ 21,700
Parks & Rec	\$ 16,500
Street Lights	\$ 16,500
Transfers to DPW reserve accounts	\$ 261,400

Total DPW 1,199,898



SELECTBOARD REPORT

Planning the FY22 budget in the winter of 2020 presented difficult choices. With a rise in Covid cases and predictions of difficult economic times the decision was made to craft an austere budget. Wage increases were held at 2% and cuts were made to reserve and expense funding. This held the FY 22 budget to a 1% increase.

Now in the winter of 2021 we are facing a more difficult issue of rising inflation of more than 6%. The FY23 budget was designed to address rising inflation, the need to restore some of last year's budget cuts, and remain as a competitive employer in a tight labor market. The end product is a budget increase below the increase for FY21 and below the current and long term inflation rate.

The FY23 budget increase equals \$133,378.00. Twenty-six percent of the increase is to restore contributions to certain reserve funds and increase, as planned, contributions to FD and DPW capital equipment replacement funds. Funding was also restored to sidewalks to cover the Town share of a sidewalk scoping study for the area of Grandview, Hawks and Bank streets.

Allocations to solid waste represent 19% of the FY23 increase. The Town took over operation of the Transfer station in August of 2021 contracting with Casella for removal. Rate increases have gone into effect to defray the new expenses and the Town is also in process of reconfiguring the station to provide easier access and larger containers to reduce hauling fees.

Further increases include restoring and increasing the Highway Maintenance and Construction Account, especially for tree removal. The ash borer will become a larger problem over time and the Town will need to be aggressive in tree maintenance. This represents another 9% of the FY23 increase.

The remainder of the increases are spread throughout the budget and include webpage improvements, elections, increased allocations for DPW equipment maintenance, and if all approved a 6% increase in Community Appropriation funding.

After years of reducing the debt service to only payments on the garage bond the Board approved two new loans in FY22. The first from the State Treasurers Office funded purchase of a new roadside mower with delivery this spring at 2%. The savings from contracting out or renting a mower cover the cost of the loan and after 5 years we will have a mower that will last another twenty. The Town also purchased a new smaller excavator on a five year loan. The Town owned Volvo was traded in greatly reducing the cost while right sizing the equipment used on our roads.

Finally the Board would like to thank the whole staff at Cole Hall and the DPW. Shaftsbury operates with a smaller staff than most towns its size. That can only be achieved by the professional and dedicated work force that we have from accounting to zoning.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The year 2021 saw us still struggling with our new “normal” routines and trying to keep everyone safe. It is nice to, once again, be open to the public and we truly appreciate all who wear their masks when entering the building.

The office continues to be a busy place. People sometimes ask me what exactly is done in the Town Clerk’s Office so I thought I would give you an idea of what goes on here. Of course, you all know that I preside over elections and oversee the voter check list, and if you have a dog you know that the clerk’s office issues dog licenses. I also issue marriage licenses, we have had several marriages take place right at Town Hall since I have become your clerk and I have loved each and every one of them. Recording land records is a large part of my job, these records must be kept accurately so attorneys can search them before a house can be bought, sold or refinanced. Vital Records are also recorded and kept in the vault. We also sell Green Mountain Passports at the office. If you are over 62 you can purchase a pass for \$2.00, it is good for day passes to all Vermont State Parks and even some Historic Sites. This is a one time fee and the pass is good for life. We can’t forget answering phone calls and helping people at the window. There is always a new question to help a resident with and always something new to learn. No two days are alike and that keeps things very interesting.

I’m not sure how I would do this without the help of my wonderful assistant, Gina Jenks. Thank you, Gina!

Below is a report of various fees collected in fiscal year 2021 at the Clerk’s Office.

Fiscal Year	Dog Licenses	Vital Record Copies	Vault Copies	Marriage Licenses
2021	\$5,044.00	\$540.00	\$2,597.00	\$1,200.00
	Recording	Miscellaneous	Total	
	\$54,887.00	\$493.00	\$64,761.00	

Marlene Hall, CVC
Town Clerk

VITALS REPORT

Births	Marriages	Deaths
20	22	28

LISTERS' REPORT

2021

Lots of changes in our office this year. Of course, with Covid still around we have avoided contact with people as much as possible, but being diligent about wearing masks and seeing how effective they are has enabled us to relax a bit, and we who work in Cole Hall do get together to discuss business when necessary. We all are especially careful to have them on when someone from outside comes in, just in case some creepy little virus sneaks in and decides to wander around the building, perhaps to find one us unawares. One cannot be too careful.

As was the case last year when Covid hit, we still ask that you call for an appointment if you wish to come in to discuss something about your property, and to wear a mask when you come.

Gina Jenks, the Assistant Town Clerk, was appointed third Lister (as well) and she has proven to be well up to the job. She is on a fast track for learning all about it, doing tutorials and classes on line with NEMRC, our software company, to learn as much as she can, as fast as she can. She is already a tremendous help as well as very pleasant to work with so we are very pleased to have her aboard.

Now that we are three people in our office, we are open Monday through Thursday, just mornings, 9 AM to 12 noon.. We are happy to have more time to provide our services to the citizens of Shaftsbury and hope you find it a convenience.

Diana H Mayer
Chair, Board of Listers

DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF

6/30/2021

2017 Taxes

Statewide Corporation		2017	40.09
Statewide Corporaton		2017	20.05
Total 2017 Taxes			60.14

2018 Taxes

Burnham	Barbara J.	2018	641.37
Caccamo	Clint E.	2018	960.64
Dalton	Elaine H.	2018	178.46
Erb	Robert G. & Elizabeth H.	2018	98.42
Harmon Jr.	Richard	2018	78.58
Joly	Wendy	2018	751.90
Krawczyk	George C.	2018	1450.33
Shores	Shane	2018	55.85
Statewide Corporation		2018	40.95
Statewide Corporaton		2018	20.48
Val Erb and Son BU		2018	68.88
Walker	Jeff	2018	474.65
Total 2018 Taxes			4820.51

2019 Taxes

Atherton	Mark & Holly	2019	812.98
Burnham	Barbara J.	2019	2484.74
Caccamo	Clint E.	2019	2263.13
Cloud	Michael B. & Amy L.	2019	5.80
Coulter	Wayne D.	2019	3967.56
Dalton	Elaine H.	2019	385.50
Dunn	Cheryl A.	2019	98.49
Erb	Robert G. & Elizabeth H.	2019	101.15
Galusha	Charlotte	2019	707.96
Harmon Jr.	Richard	2019	570.61
Harris	Robert & Teri	2019	314.52
Joly	Wendy	2019	858.78
Joly	Wendy & William	2019	14.31
Krawczyk	George C.	2019	4998.10
Maser	Barbara	2019	1630.24
Shores	Shane	2019	57.25
Statewide Corporation		2019	41.98
Statewide Corporaton		2019	20.99
Val Erb and Son BU		2019	171.75
Walker	Jeff	2019	486.64
Total 2019 Taxes			19992.48

2020 Taxes			
Benson	Lizzie M.	2020	1619.18
Borden	Kevin P. & Jane M.	2020	756.47
Bossong	Rose	2020	542.85
Bouteiller	Alfred & Dorothy	2020	270.96
Brown	Beatrice	2020	462.84
Burnham	Barbara J.	2020	2561.43
Caccamo	Clint E.	2020	931.88
Charpentier	Ida M.	2020	210.51
Church	Allison B.	2020	720.38
Cochran	Elaine	2020	1304.32
Coulter	Wayne D.	2020	4090.02
Dalton	Elaine H.	2020	397.40
Dufresne	Constance	2020	551.82
Dunn	Cheryl A.	2020	1840.96
Erb	Robert G. & Elizabeth H.	2020	104.27
Fox Estate	Mary C.	2020	4934.94
Galusha	Charlotte	2020	5018.58
Gordon	Sandra J.	2020	1162.40
Harmon Jr.	Richard	2020	588.22
Joly	Wendy	2020	885.29
Joly	Wendy & William	2020	1093.14
Kaffan	Stephen	2020	2103.04
Knowlton	David	2020	3276.37
Kozloski	Ronald & Robin	2020	2044.12
Krawczyk	George C.	2020	5152.36
Krawczyk	George C.	2020	1152.84
Levin	Corrinne J.	2020	287.96
Maser	Barbara	2020	4091.99
Mattison	Arthur P.	2020	3666.33
Meaney	Shane	2020	1851.84
Peters	Dan R. & Lynn M.	2020	329.21
Sherwin-Fields	Lisa	2020	2365.62
Shores	Shane	2020	59.02
Statewide Corporation		2020	43.28
Statewide Corporaton		2020	21.64
Strohmaier	Henry M.	2020	1099.00
Swett	Rodney C.	2020	1910.02
Val Erb and Son BU		2020	177.05
Volpi	Jason A. & Noel M.	2020	132.68
Washburn	Stephen F.	2020	1289.12
Total 2020 Taxes			61101.35
GRAND TOTAL UNPAID TAXES			85974.48

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS

YEAR	AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2020	AMOUNT COLLECTED	DELINQUENT AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2121
2014	3367.75	3367.75	0.00
2015	3481.02	3481.02	0.00
2016	3501.40	3501.40	0.00
2017	4328.73	4268.59	60.14
2018	15231.58	10411.07	4820.51
2019	67585.50	47593.02	19992.48
SUB TOTAL	94128.23	69255.10	24873.13
2020	403026.92	341925.57	61101.35
TOTAL	497155.15	411180.67	85974.48

Error last year on 2017 listing. Cheryl A. Dunn owed 13.86 not 693.67.

Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance works to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills by promoting recycling and reuse as well as resource conservation. The Alliance offers education and outreach to businesses, schools, institutions, and event organizers in complying with the Universal Recycling Law and other solid waste management requirements primarily by increasing reuse and recycling. These programs help residents, businesses, schools, and institutions find solutions to recycling, food scrap diversion and the disposal of items such as electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, paint, and others that are banned from landfills.

The Alliance launched an expanded website at www.bcswa.org and hosts a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance) which provide information on:

- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that accept motor oil
- recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including retail stores that accept paint
- prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- recycling of textiles by the Apparel Impact, Goodwill, and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items at transfer stations and retail establishments
- disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill, and retail establishments
- diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen containers
- resources for businesses, schools, events, institutions and residents

During 2021 the Alliance assisted forty businesses, several major event organizers including Garlic Town, made a recycling presentation to summer campers at Lake Paran, and hosted tables at several farmers markets. On-site presentations were provided to Bennington Elementary and Sunderland Elementary schools to teach students about recyclable materials. Forty pieces of composting equipment were also sold through two distribution events.

The Alliance held three household hazardous waste events serving 666 households, a number that continues to increase each year. In 2022, three household hazardous waste events will be held for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns within the Alliance. The spring event will be in Bennington and the fall in Dorset. A third event will be held for residents and businesses of Searsburg and Stamford to accommodate the greater distance they have to either of the other events. Visit bcswa.org for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the thirteen towns along with grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT

In June 2021 I was selected to be the new ACO for Shaftsbury, although new to this job I have many years of experience with both dogs and cats. I would like to thank the previous Animal Control Officer Tracy Mulligan for the years of service that she provided to the community and to her dedication to helping lost dogs. Luckily I have only impounded two dogs from the town of Shaftsbury into my care. One was an older dog who was found running at large without a collar. After posting the dog online and holding him for a week he was brought to Second Chance Animal Center to find a home. It's always a good idea to have a collar on your dog with proper licensing and identification, it is much easier to get them home in a timely manner. Also a good reminder that the local animal shelter is a great resource for spaying and neutering your pets as well as finding them a loving home if you are no longer able to care for them. The second dog that was impounded in my care was quickly reunited with his owners after he had strayed too far from home.

Most of my calls have been about off leash dogs, an important reminder to always have a leash on your dog. Even if your dog has a good recall you never know what can happen. Getting your dog licensed with the town is a great way to reunite them with you faster if they ever get lost or picked up.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns about local dogs. I have gotten quite a few calls regarding wild animals, I do not have the qualifications to handle those types of calls but can point you in the right direction if need be. Thank you for your time and for welcoming me aboard as the new ACO

Sincerely,
Robyn Champine
802-430-9564
Animalcontrol@shaftsburyvt.gov

Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP)

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program aka “VSNIP”, under the oversight of the VT Economic Services Department, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VVSA). VSNIP helps financially challenged Vermont residents spay/neuter cats and dogs for \$27.00. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters when dogs are licensed by an added \$4.00 fee, the major funding for this important program. Funds are determined by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law when a dog is six months of age. A current rabies vaccination is required to register, and a rabies vaccination can be administered after 12 weeks of age for both cats and dogs.

Prostate and mammary cancer is more likely to occur in unsterilized cats and dogs. It's not pretty and they're likely to die. Animals live longer and happier when they're spayed and neutered, are less likely to fight for territory, and mark what they claim to be “theirs”!

Licensing a dog: 1) helps identify your dog if lost, 2) provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal, but would still need immediate medical attention, 3) if your dog bites an animal or person – which could result in quarantine or possible euthanasia to test for infection, and 4) helps pay for VSNIP, addressing the population situation in Vermont.

Farms with cats should especially be aware that one rabid cat or dog can affect an entire population of animals on the premise. The answer is neutering through VSNIP which includes a rabies vaccination and the first of the two part distemper series.

Look for Rabies Clinics in March across the state. You can call your veterinarian and ask the cost of a rabies vaccination only, or call your nearest Tractor Supply Store for their Monthly Rabies Clinic schedule. Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

To receive a VSNIP Application, send a 9” S.A.S.E to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. For more information, call 802-672-5302.

Please visit our website: www.VVSAHS.org

VVSA will be hosting Rabies Clinics in March. Call for dates and locations.

The animals thank you in advance! Together We Truly Do Make A Difference!!

Sue Skaskiw, VVSA Humane Society Executive Director/VSNIP Administrator

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC)

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) works with and on behalf of its member municipalities to build strong, resilient, and sustainable communities, to foster economic prosperity, and to promote a high quality of life for residents of the region. The BCRC plays an important role in coordinating work among local governments, state and federal agencies, regional public and nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and private interests. The organization is governed by local appointees from seventeen area municipalities and commissioners who represent interests ranging from public health to economic development. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of every other month, with frequent special meetings throughout the year (information at: www.bcrcvt.org).

In addition to its ongoing role in supporting the comprehensive planning work of municipal officials, the BCRC is a regional center for programs in community and economic development, transportation, energy, environmental conservation, water quality, public health, solid waste management, and emergency management. BCRC staff is available to provide direct assistance in these areas and to serve as a liaison with state and federal agencies.

During the past year, the BCRC has worked to implement its comprehensive plan through a variety of programs and cooperative work with member municipalities. Economic development planning at the BCRC is conducted by dedicated staff and supported by a committee with representatives appointed by the regional development corporation. The goal of this BCRC program is to support business retention, growth, and recruitment. Related BCRC planning and community development initiatives support redevelopment initiatives in downtowns and village centers, grant assistance for local businesses, and have produced reuse planning studies for key properties such as the former SVC campus and the recently idled Energizer complex. Concern over the state's water quality has led the BCRC to identify and implement local projects that not only reduce stormwater runoff, but also protect roads, bridges, culverts, and private property from damage. Other important activities have included: an assessment of land use regulations affecting housing in each town and village, expanded staff capacity to assist with implementation of local energy plans, village center and neighborhood development area designations, implementation of the regional solid waste management plan, and planning for roadway, bicycle and pedestrian, and public transportation improvements.

In the coming year, the BCRC will continue to provide information and resources to assist business and local governments response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and to take advantage of opportunities created through the federal American Rescue Plan and other programs. We expect to see continued focus on infrastructure (including broadband) improvement projects, pandemic recovery and business support services, planning for workforce housing, and measures to support implementation of the Vermont Climate Action Plan.

While our downtown Bennington offices, located at 210 South Street, have reopened, staff still work remotely at times, so it generally is easiest to contact us via email (see contacts at www.bcrcvt.org). Fortunately, technology has allowed us to continue work with little interruption in progress on any projects. Post-pandemic, we hope to have regular office hours at the Manchester Town Offices as well.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Sullivan, Director

CEMETERY COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Without the assistance and commitment to getting the job done by town employees and volunteers alike, little would have been accomplished during the 2021 season. After the resignation of former superintendent Mike Albans, “retired” Ken Coonradt stepped in to carry us through until a new superintendent could be hired. We can’t thank Ken enough for his commitment and helpfulness to the Cemetery Committee and the Town in general.

We took this time to review the job description of the superintendent, as it is extremely difficult to find an individual who can perform the physical work needed and also has the expertise to modernize our cemetery records. Ultimately the Select Board approved splitting the position, retaining a town employee to perform the administrative and supervisory functions while contracting out the physical projects that need to be done. Jay Coonradt has done an outstanding job of removing bushes and trees that have become overgrown, performing general clean up, etc. in addition to his mowing contract. In September Jennifer Holley was hired as our new Superintendent and has been very busy getting to know the cemeteries, selling lots and overseeing burials.

Up to this time our cemetery records have been a compilation of old maps, historic files, paper records and the town clerk’s files. Jen has been researching software programs that will map and digitize our records. Chronicle, a digital mapping and database software program, has now been purchased and will be installed over the winter months with much input from Jen. Her expertise will be a huge benefit to upgrading our cemetery records from this point forward.

A dedicated cleaning in the spring and fall of tattered decorations, dead flowers, artificial or excessive ornamentation, etc. has been an ongoing success. Our goal is to keep the cemeteries in as good shape as we can afford. We remind folks that trees and bushes are prohibited as they eventually crack and displace surrounding monuments, and artificial ornamentation is discouraged as it tends to blow around the cemetery and create an unsightly environment.

55 additional plots have been gridded in Grandview Cemetery along the north and east perimeter. Also, L&G has been contracted to repair a section of the pipe fence along Lamb Road.

A work day was held at Center Cemetery with volunteers from the Norshaft Lions and others, resulting in 23 monuments being repaired or straightened and countless more cleaned. Thanks to Mike and the DPW crew for providing needed materials and to Tom Giffen of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association for providing the knowledge and leadership.

As required every two years, the Operating Procedures and Rules and Regulations were reviewed and updated this year.

Special thanks, to Cemetery Committee member Joe Hermann for adapting our information boxes in each cemetery to keep the rain out, to former committee member Ellie Hyjek for her care and commitment to our cemeteries during her tenure on the committee, to Dave Kiernan for his guidance and, especially, to Town Clerk Marlene Hall, who has been a tremendous help in all aspects of our accomplishments this year. Most importantly, thank you to Shaftsbury residents who take care of their loved one’s graves and who help us keep our cemeteries looking good.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Cardiff, Chair

Shaftsbury Cemetery Committee

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Shaftsbury Zoning Administrator year end summary

December 1, 2021

Official actions

The table below quantifies zoning administrator actions over the last several years.

Type of permit	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Houses	4	6	3	6	8	0
Mobile home	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	34	35	20	13	13	15
Pools	1	1	0	0	0	0
Subdivisions	5	6	3	6	1	3
Home occupations	1	1	3	3	1	0
Commercial buildings	2	0	0	0	0	0
Camps	1	1	0	0	0	0
Signs	2	1	1	2	0	0
Accessory structure	17	18	25	15	22	31
Other	2	10	4	6	3	1
Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Curb Cut	5	4	4	10	3	0
Zoning letters of compliance	39	60	50	55	55	63
Fence	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	113	143	113	117	116	113

Applications

Most of the year's work was done remotely, so there was slightly more back and forth via email with applicants than in regular years.

Meetings

Most meetings were held remotely. The change made little impact on the ZA other than making an evening commute unnecessary. The Development Review Board and Planning Commission adjusted well, but it is certainly easier to meet in person and jointly review paper documents.

Violations

I issued three violation warnings and one violation notice. All were brought to my attention by residents. All but one has been resolved. They were:

- Erecting a run-in shed without a permit (resolved)
- Stockpiling pallets, erecting a quonset hut (resolved)
- Too many unregistered vehicles (resolved)
- Stockpiling used vehicles, vehicle parts and other scrap (unresolved – the violation notice)

Issues/challenges

Working remotely made it somewhat difficult to efficiently manage my communications with applicants and board and commission members.

Random thoughts

1. The Planning Commission's new practice of assigning times and discussion leaders to agenda items has made the Commission meetings more efficient.
2. The Planning Commission should be congratulated for its unflagging efforts to revise or build new bylaws.

Notes by ZA Stiles.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

All of the road projects completed in FY 2021 represented improvements required by the state's Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). This statewide program was put in place to reduce the impacts of roads on water quality.

Most of these projects were completed with substantial assistance from the state-sponsored grant programs called Better Roads and Grants in Aid. They were put in place by contractors with assistance from the road crew, and included:

- On sections on Murphy Hill Road, 8 under-road drainage structures called Stone mattresses were placed to help disburse runoff, and trees were removed to allow for more than 3500 feet of ditching. All ditches were either seeded or stone-lined.
- On White Creek Road, 2 slope repairs along Cold spring Brook and roadway embankment, where the river of undermining the road. Both wash outs where designed by VTrans and signed off by ANR, then constructed by the town DPW Crew and Contractor.
- On Grove Road, 10 trees where taken down and 3 under-drainage Structures called stone mattresses where installed. And 1500 ft of ditching and 6 inches of gravel resurfacing within that section of roadway.
- Cracking sealing done on Airport Rd, East Rd, and Ledgely Dr. More to be done this following year.
- On Cider Mill Road 2 old failing culverts where replaced and upsized following by 1500 ft ditching.
- Road Side ditching on Mountain View Dr, GlastenView Dr, Laclair Rd, and Bouplon Hollow Rd.
- Tree and brush removal on Trumbull Hill Rd and Rollin Rd
- Trees Cut and Cleaned up on Shaftsbury Hollow Rd, before bridge replacement in July 2021
- Routine grading of gravels roads throughout the Town.
- Roadside Mowing done by DPW with rental mower. Town will be purchasing our own tractor and mid mount mower in April of 2022.

2021 International single axle dump truck with plow equipment Arrived in March of 2021. Town is planning to replace Wheeled Volvo Excavator with a compact tracked machine during the fall of 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Yannotti,
Department of Public Works Foreman

Shaftsbury Fire Department

The Shaftsbury Fire Department responded to 110 calls this past year. The breakdown for the calls can be seen below.

We are currently in the planning stages and in hopes of purchasing an ATV (4 Wheeler). This unit will provide us with the capability to fight Wildland Fires where our current brush truck is unable to go. It will also give us an off road vehicle for search and rescue in the event we have a lost hiker or someone who has become incapacitated in a remote area where conventional vehicles cannot access. In the past we have had to walk great distances to access these areas, wasting precious time and energy to respond to an emergency. This unit will greatly benefit us and the community we serve.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Men, Women and young people of The Shaftsbury Fire Department who have been so supportive and dedicated during this trying time dealing with the COVID pandemic. As a department we have been vaccinated and in many cases with the booster. At the time of writing this letter, we have had no COVID related illnesses.

Emergency Calls 2021

Structure Fires – 3

Car Accidents / Extrication – 33

Vehicle Fires – 4

Hazardous Materials – 1

Wildland Fires – 11

Chimney / Pellet Stove Fires – 3

Weather Related – 11

Good Intent – 23

Assist EMS – 2

Mutual Aid – 19

Total – 110

Respectfully Submitted

Chief Joseph Vadakin

SFD

2021 Legislative Report

Vermont's 2021 legislative session was conducted entirely over Zoom. From our swearing in on the morning of January 6, through our adjournment resolution in May, the House chamber was quiet as we took testimony, debated and voted from our home offices and kitchen tables.

Nevertheless, we managed to do the necessary work—passing a balanced budget and transportation bill, adopting emergency covid legislation and putting federal recovery grants to work—while also making headway on some of the structural challenges facing the state. We moved ahead on redesigning our childcare system and passed a major broadband bill that invests state resources where private telecoms have been unwilling to go. Other legislation restricts PFAS (“forever chemicals”) in packaging, addresses climate change, and makes voting access easier. Two bills that I introduced—one facilitating telehealth, and the other easing tax filing for farmers—passed both chambers and were signed into law.

At the start of the session, I was appointed by the Speaker to serve on the House Ways & Means Committee. This committee is primarily responsible for any legislation involving state revenue (taxes and fees). The Committee's work included in-depth reviews of tax policy and the structure of our tax system, as well as crafting legislation specific to the pandemic that exempted PPP grants and unemployment income from taxation. Significantly, we were also able to reduce the statewide education tax rate, which helped lead to lower property taxes in Shaftsbury.

Much of our revenue work will continue into the 2022 session, including a long-awaited overhaul to the pupil weighting system (which will further reduce our property tax burden), finalizing fees for cannabis operations, modernization of the corporate income tax. and a proposed new child tax credit.

One early casualty of the pandemic was the annual 6th grade field trip to the State House, which had to be cancelled in the spring of 2020. Not wanting to lose another year altogether, in May we arranged a virtual visit to Montpelier for Shaftsbury's classes and their teachers. The morning included remote attendance in the House Chamber, committee meetings, and a private session with Lt. Governor Molly Gray. Students prepared by studying the role and structure of state government, and had lots of thoughtful questions during the Q&A time.

Vermont has benefited tremendously from federal funding in the past year. Partly as a result, state revenues continue to track well above normal and beyond expectations. We begin 2022 with an unprecedented \$200 million surplus. While there are many critical needs that can be addressed with these funds, we will also use some of the money to pay down state debts, thus reducing future costs, and to make a down payment on a recently negotiated overhaul to the pension system.

As of mid-January 2022, the Legislature was back to meeting in person at the State House. You can reach me there at 802 828-2228 or 802 491-7832 with input on legislation, or for assistance with issues related to state government. I can also be reached at ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us.

The past year has been a unique one for state government, and I appreciate the trust you have put in me. I am always honored to speak on behalf of the people of Shaftsbury.

Respectfully submitted,

David Durfee, State Representative, Bennington 3

PLANNING COMMISSION

Over the past year the Commission has worked on a wide variety of issues. At Town Meeting 2022 you will be voting on the following:

- **Boundary line adjustment** The Development Review Board requested clarification on this section of the Subdivision Regulations which is used with some regularity. This is a highly technical issue and the language was unclear. The Commission with the help of the Zoning Administrator and Town Attorney have submitted revised language to clarify this process.
- **Dog Boarding/Kennel Facility** Our bylaws have a hole in this area. Lots of people have pets and we travel occasionally. These facilities meet a need in a town like ours. What became apparent as the Commission began work on this issue is that nobody wants to live next door to one of these. The Commission is aware of two such facilities in town so it seems prudent to have some guardrails. The main features of this bylaw are five acres minimum lot size, one thousand feet buffer from any existing residence, maximum number of dogs – six, annual inspection by a veterinarian, operators available at all times to supervise animals and an enforcement mechanism to deal with violations.
- **Abandonment of nonconforming uses** Last year’s discussion of nonconforming commercial uses around Hidden Valley Road caused the Commission to reexamine this issue. We propose to change the bylaw to allow two years (as opposed to one year) for nonconforming commercial uses to transition before reverting to the underlying zoning. Nonconforming residential uses in Forest and Recreation zone would remain one year.
- **Helipads/private landing strips** The Vermont League of Cities and Towns advises that they are seeing a sharp increase in these facilities. Few towns have bylaws that speak to this issue therefore we think it wise to have an outright ban.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Williams

Planning Commission chair

SHAFTSBURY RECREATION COMMITTEE

Town of Shaftsbury Update for 2021

Shaftsbury town parks offer recreational opportunities for its residents and neighbors. We are dedicated to developing them for active community use. Our new sign at Cleveland Avenue Park is a welcome addition. The Howard Park sign makes its location easier to find and announces the entrance to the park.

The Norshaft Lions continue to support our parks. We thank the Lions for their commitment to the Shaftsbury community. Sarah Case features her Story Boards along the Linda Tilgner Trail. The Recreation thanks Sarah for the time and energy that she contributes to create these popular points of interest along the trail.

Each year our town participates in “Vermont Green Up Day,” the first Saturday in May. If you are interested in taking an active part, please give Dave Kiernan a call at the town office (442-4043).

Howard Park pavilion and fields can be reserved by contacting Deena Ruege. Appropriate forms will be emailed to you upon request.

The Recreation Committee meets on the 4th Friday of the month at 10 a.m. at Cole Hall. If you have questions, need information on reserving the facilities, or would like to join us, contact Deena Ruege at gruege03@aol.com. New committee members are always welcome!

The Shaftsbury Recreation Committee is committed to following all state guidelines in order to provide an inviting recreational experience for our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Deena Ruege, Chairperson/Recording Secretary

Recreation Committee Members:
Helen Olney
Barbara Marino

2021 TOWN TREE WARDEN REPORT

2021 was a uneventful year for trees within the town's jurisdiction, though with emerald ash borer having been confirmed in the town in 2020, the future will not be so quiet. As the emerald ash borer beetle population grows in the coming years, it will begin to cause mortality to most of the ash trees. With many road-side ash trees in town, it will be important to take a pro-active approach to remove the trees before the trees have been dead for too long, when the wood and branches still have integrity and the trees are safer to fell. After being dead for several years, the wood of the trunk and branches becomes brittle and trees do not always fall as predicted when cutting, and branches can drop on the chainsaw operator. Once trees reach this condition, to safely cut them requires removing the tree in pieces from the top down using a bucket truck. This increases the time and cost of tree removal. Residents and landowners in town that have ash trees on their own land that pose a risk to buildings or other infrastructure should keep this in mind.

To monitor the spread of emerald ash borer, in the summer of 2021, the State of Vermont provided two ash borer traps, one placed near Lake Shaftsbury and one in Center Shaftsbury. The Center Shaftsbury trap yielded ash borer insects but the Lake Shaftsbury trap did not. Traps will continue to be placed in the future if they are provided by the state. Thanks to Henry Martinka Jr. and David Mance III for hanging and monitoring the traps in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim White
Shaftsbury Tree Warden

2021 WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

This year has had many challenges for everyone, with highs and lows in connection with Covid-19. With this challenging year, positive things have come for the Shaftsbury Water Department.

With help from the state, many individuals in the town had their water bill paid for, in full, with a possibly for more help to come in the future including utilities. Another positive for the department was that the Lead and Copper testing for the town of Shaftsbury came back below action level. This testing occurs every 3 years, and is mandated by the state of Vermont in order to monitor the levels of Lead and Copper. The action levels at the 90th percentile for Lead are >0.015 mg/L and >1.3 mg/L for Copper, which are the numbers that are issued by the state. From our 10 sample sites throughout the town, the 90th percentile tested 0.0013mg/L for Lead and 0.075mg/L for Copper. These levels were well below the action level demand, and safe according to the state for drinking water.

Looking ahead, the departments plans for continuing the first phase of new water lines and remote water meter readers is still in effect. The remote water meter readers will help aid in leaking toilets, and other possible water running that may be happening inside the house. Which in turn will help in reducing costs for individuals who have unfortunately had to pay more than their average water bill due to missed running water. Adding these meters will be very beneficial for the town.

In sum, our 2021 year has had many positive outcomes, that will lead to new and improved water systems in the future. As well as positives for our Shaftsbury Water Department. Stay safe and have a great 2022.

Joshua Brace

The Bennington County Conservation District

The mission of the Bennington County Conservation District is to protect natural resources and promote rural livelihoods in southwestern Vermont. The goals of the District are, to the extent possible, to:

1. Promote agriculture in Bennington County and adjacent areas.
2. Promote open space and natural resource conservation in Bennington County.
3. Strengthen the county's rural economic base by promoting resource-conserving rural livelihoods.
4. Promote conservation and science education for primary and secondary school-aged children in Bennington County.
5. Build an educated and skilled staff and Board and a secure, predictable funding base so as to guarantee the District's effectiveness and longevity.

Here are a few of the projects that we have been working on this past year.

Trees for Streams: We have partnered with the Poultney-Mettawee Conservation District, the Climate Advocates of Bennington, 350VT and Vermont DEC to plant riparian buffers throughout the county. Over 2,000 trees/shrubs were planted in the Batten Kill, Mettawee, and Walloomsac watersheds this year.

Agricultural: We continue to partner with the Poultney-Mettawee Conservation District to provide local producers with technical assistance, free no-till seed drill rentals, soil sampling and exclusion fencing.

Culvert Replacement: We continue to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, and environmental engineers to develop designs for a large culvert replacement in Danby. Replacing this culvert will improve the natural dynamics of the stream while improving aquatic organism passage including native Brook Trout.

Outreach: The District is providing technical assistance to landowners who wish to learn more about improving their property to enhance water quality and wildlife habitats.

We all have a role to play in local natural resource conservation. Your support enables us to champion the working lands in our community and we are sincerely grateful for your help.

Jim Henderson

Bennington County Conservation Chair

BENNINGTON FREE LIBRARY

Libraries are the public living rooms of our society. Offering a welcoming and supportive environment, libraries play a critical role in fostering education and literacy in their communities. **The library is not just about books!**

Families new to the area come to the library to meet other families through story time, public programming and to learn more about the community. Seniors use library resources and also come to connect and talk with a friendly staff member. Libraries help community members succeed in their lives and businesses through training and access to technology. Teens meet to study and attend programs geared toward their interests. Our Library is the go-to place for the under or unemployed looking to sharpen skills, research job opportunities, apply for employment and engage in home-based businesses.

The Bennington Free Library, after being open to the public since the summer of 2020, closed last winter after the Thanksgiving holiday in order to avoid becoming a vector for the COVID virus. We remained closed to the public based on area infection rates but implemented a phased reopening in May, increasing public hours over several weeks.

Throughout the pandemic, library staff have incorporated new strategies for serving the Shaftsbury community, including library takeout, online and phone reference, virtual programs and “take-and-make” bags for children and adults while continuing deliveries to day care centers, book giveaways at the library and during food distribution events.

Library takeout allowed patrons to continue borrowing video, reading and unconventional materials such as snowshoes while the library was physically closed for public use. Online and phone reference continued 5 days a week and free 24/7 wi-fi service has been available without interruption. The library board recently voted to eliminate fines permanently in order to ensure that critical library sources continue to be available to those most in need.

We expanded our electronic services to include streaming movies, television shows, music and more through Hoopla to Shaftsbury residents. Expanded outreach through virtual programming, social media and our website continues to provide links to a broad variety of online health, educational and recreational materials, and a new program offering home deliveries to homebound seniors sponsored cooperatively with RSVP began this fall.

It is clear that the Bennington Free Library is a unique institution, supporting the lifelong interests of a diverse community. Our success is due, in part, to the financial support received from the Town of Shaftsbury. Shaftsbury residents have been enthusiastic patrons of the library for many years, and with your support we will continue to provide the relevant and quality resources they deserve. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Fonteneau McCann, Library Director



Bennington Little League

P.O. Box 4603, Bennington, Vermont 05201



To the Shaftsbury Community Appropriations Committee,

The Bennington Little League program has been in continuous operation since 1957 offering a quality youth sports opportunity to Bennington County. We pride ourselves in providing a safe and educational environment for all of the 280 plus children we serve. We provide opportunities for players ranging from age 5 through 12 to play on one of 4 different divisions to ensure both safety and progression for each child, customizing our approach for the success of the individual as well as the team.

As you know, Bennington Little League and the Norshaft Little League merged 12 years ago, and in doing so, we were lucky enough to inherit the field in Howard park, as well as one in North Bennington at Lions Park. Though a great benefit to our program and the children playing in it, they are a ton of work. Unlike most youth sports fields, baseball fields require an enormous amount of maintenance. Our plan is to utilize this location for both practices and games from early April through mid July and sometimes beyond depending on post season needs. The onset of Coronavirus has proven tricky, but luckily we were able to hold a great season and look forward to hopefully even more "normal next year".

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Shaftsbury for their past and hopefully continued support. The money we receive goes directly to the maintenance and improvements necessary each season. We look forward to getting back to baseball in 2022.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey M. Metcalfe

President

Bennington Little League



December 04, 2020

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action has assisted **89** residents in the Town of Shaftsbury. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$1,700.00.

We truly value our collaboration with Shaftsbury as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO
tdonahue@broc.org

CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Restorative Justice is a form of community justice; it is a framework by which a community can respond to crime. It holds offenders accountable and places emphasis on repairing the harm done to the victim and community. This is the framework by which the Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) bases its programs.

In Bennington County, CRJ works in partnership with the courts, State's Attorney's Office, defense attorneys, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, schools and other community partners to deliver programs using restorative justice principles. The Restorative Justice philosophy involves the community in the process of holding offenders accountable for repairing the harm caused and helps him/her gain the skills necessary to become a productive member of our society. Restorative Justice also empowers victims and the community to have an active role in the process.

This past year, CRJ was challenged with delivering quality restorative justice programs and services while confronted with the COVID pandemic. CRJ is proud to have successfully served 1,531 Bennington County residents this past year. CRJ is a unique, one-stop restorative justice agency providing a full range of services from helping at-risk youth get on the right track to assisting individuals coming back to the community from incarceration. In addition to CRJ's traditional programs such as Court Diversion, Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, Truancy Programs, Pre-Charge Programs, and Reparative Probation, CRJ helps hundreds of people each year get their driver's license reinstated, file petitions to get their records expunged and support victims to have a voice and be compensated with restitution. A unique program run by CRJ which started in 2020 (unique to anywhere else in the state) is Threads – a clothing boutique that provides free clothes and accessories to all Bennington County teens. The simple gift of clothing and contemporary accessories in many cases is all it takes to help a teen feel good about themselves and succeed in school. Some teens have even gained new confidence to go on job interviews with some new “threads”!

CRJ is a non-profit agency, funded by numerous state and private grants, donations and town funding. More information about CRJ programs can be found on CRJ's website- www.bcrj.org. With your town's support, CRJ is able to continue the important work of strengthening communities, empowering victims, supporting individuals in need, and holding people accountable who may have caused harm to others. It is the strength of our partnership that helps to make our community such a great place to live. Thank you very much for your continued partnership and support.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director



Proudly Sponsored by Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

Serving Bennington, Windham and Windsor Counties
160 Benmont Ave., Suite 90 Bennington, VT 05201
802-772-7875

Shaftsbury Annual Town Report – FY 2021

Green Mountain RSVP (GMRSVP), an AmeriCorps Seniors program, is for people aged 55 and older who want to volunteer in their community. We help local non-profit organizations by recruiting and matching volunteers to meet community needs. Your town's funds help us to continue to support and develop programs for seniors who wish to volunteer. Our staff and administrative costs are covered by federal funds from the AmeriCorps Seniors Program. Our program covers Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties.

Over the past year, AmeriCorps Senior Volunteers residing in Shaftsbury have been a tremendous help to their fellow community members by delivering Meals on Wheels, grocery shopping for clients connected to the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, assisting with registering donors at monthly American Red Cross blood drives, helping to prepare taxes through the AARP Tax-Aide program, as well as assisting at local libraries and food pantries. Volunteers have also been able to assist with leading and participating in the Bone Builders class located at the Homestead Mews in North Bennington. One volunteer has done an excellent job in continuing to keep the members of the Shaftsbury Methodist Church Bone Builders class in contact with each other. It was with great sadness that we learned the leader of that class had passed away and we have not been able to restart that class; however, residents are welcome to attend at classes in neighboring towns.

The pandemic has also allowed us the opportunity to shift some of our programming. One shift we have made is to our MLK Day of service project. This year we created the Sunshine Postcard Project. Our volunteers wrote cheerful messages on postcards that we provided and helped to distribute them to isolated individuals residing in Bennington County by coordinating with our partner agencies. Another shift in programming that we have made, in partnership with the Bennington Free Library, we started a virtual book club called the Third Thursday Readers for adults age 60+. This book club has been a great success and is very much enjoyed by all who attend. Another program that we have partnered with both the Bennington Free Library on, as well as the John G. McCullough Free Library, is books on wheels. A few AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteers have agreed to pick up books from these libraries and deliver to those age 60+. Three weeks from the drop off date, volunteers will return to the patron's home to swap out their books and take returns to the libraries. This service has just begun, so we are excited to get the word out there to community members looking for this type of service.

During the current and unprecedented times, GMRSVP has not seen any increases in funding through any of the stimulus packages provided by the federal or state entities. Our program did not meet the criteria or apply for any of the other funding opportunities. 74% of our volunteers continue to serve during COVID-19 and we are pivoting our programming to continue to serve the community, addressing social isolation, wellness, and food insecurity.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lenora Volkmer in our Bennington County office at (802)447-1546 to learn how you can volunteer in Arlington.



GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Day
May 7, 2022



Green Up Day on May 1, 2021 was a huge success thanks to nearly 22,000 volunteers statewide who Greened Up. The infographic shows that all your hard work to beautify Vermont is needed and that it makes where we get to live, work, and play a very special place. As one of Vermont's favorite holidays, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship.

Along with Green Up Day, we work year-round to further our impact with waste reduction initiatives, additional clean-up efforts, and educational programs.

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. Thank you for your support of this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at www.greenupvermont.org.

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow us on Instagram (greenupvermont). greenup@greenupvermont.org 229-4586



ANNUAL REPORT November 2021
Bill Hoyt – Board President

Habitat for Humanity International (HfHI) is a global non-profit housing organization whose vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat works in all 50 of the United States and in 70 countries. Since its founding in 1976 by Linda and Millard Fuller, Habitat has helped more than 35 million people achieve strength, stability and self-reliance through safe, decent and affordable shelter.

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity (BCHfH) is an affiliate of HfHI. BCHfH works in partnership with Bennington County residents who cannot otherwise become homeowners or afford needed home repairs. Applicants must have a need for better housing, the ability to pay, and the willingness to partner with BCHfH. Once accepted into the homeownership program, each adult family member must complete 200 hours of sweat equity. Homebuyers who become homeowners pay an affordable mortgage thru monthly payments that include escrow for property taxes, insurance, and Homeowner Association fees, where applicable. Homebuyers' monthly payments do not exceed more than 30% of their income. The monthly mortgage payments help build more affordable homes.

BCHfH is locally run and funded. With the exception of some contract services, volunteers build Habitat houses. Businesses, subcontractors, and individuals help build, donate materials, and provide financial support. Town appropriations purchase building supplies and materials for our construction programs.

In Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021), BCHfH brought two families home to houses that had been under construction the previous year when the Pandemic hit. The Greene family moved into their new house at 22 Peggy's Way in the Jennifer Lane Neighborhood of Manchester Center in August 2021; the Furciniti-Julius family moved home to their new house in Bennington in December 2021. By the end of June 2021, we were close to finishing a second house on Peggy's Way in partnership with the Brown Family, who will move home by the time you receive this report. Our home repair program currently is accepting applications from income-qualified homeowners who need minor exterior home repairs, including ramps, to stay safely in their homes.

Our Resale Store in Manchester sells, at reasonable prices, new and gently used furniture, building supplies, appliances, housewares, tools, and home improvement products that have been donated to us. Not only does the store provide people with quality furnishings they can afford, it also keeps items out of the landfill. The proceeds from the store provide meaningful support for our construction programs.

Two Shaftsbury residents are homeowners through our Habitat program, and we have done home repairs for two others. Many Shaftsbury residents have helped with our construction projects. One Shaftsbury resident serves on our Board of Directors. We encourage residents of Shaftsbury to apply for homes and home repair projects and to contact us about available land purchase opportunities. We are grateful for the Town of Shaftsbury's continued support and hope we can count on your assistance in the future. None of our projects would be possible without the support we receive from area towns, businesses, houses of worship, and individuals. Together, we do make a difference in the lives of hard-working, lower-income area residents. For more information about our work, please visit our website at www.benningtoncountyhabitat.org.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Hoyt, President, Board of Directors

John G. McCullough Free Library

2020 Report to Town of Shaftsbury (revised for length)

Please note: a complete, 5- page report is available upon request.

Organization Contact Information:

John G. McCullough Free Library

2 Main Street/ PO Box 339 North Bennington, VT, 05257

802.447.7121 www.mcculloughlibrary.org

Director: Jennie Rozycki mclibrary@comcast.net

Mission: The John G. McCullough Free Library is an essential community center: a comfortable and welcoming place where people of all ages can satisfy their curiosity, stimulate their imaginations, become informed citizens and connect with the online world. The library cultivates a stable, vital, and dynamic community by facilitating lifelong learning and literacy at all levels.

The McCullough Library will enter its 100th year of service to Shaftsbury residents in 2021. The Library provides free access to a wide variety of materials, opportunities, and community events to support lifelong learning, inform and enhance civic engagement, and to bring neighbors closer together. We pride ourselves on friendly, responsive, professional service and a welcoming atmosphere for all.

Membership: Shaftsbury residents are encouraged to activate their free McCullough Library accounts. email McCulloughLibraryClerk@gmail.com or use our new, easy online form to get started: <https://forms.gle/WyBc3Jwh6A9QPdYd8> .

Monthly e-Newsletters: Are a great way to learn about all the McCullough Library offers. Email the Library Director to subscribe.

Continuing Response to COVID-19 and Book Pickup Service: To protect public health, the McCullough Library building closed to the public in mid-March 2020, and has offered safe, reliable Book Pickup service since June. Book Pickup will remain the McCullough Library's method of service until reopening the building to the public is safe. Community events will remain virtual or outdoors. To request books, DVDs, audiobooks on CD and more, please call, email McCulloughLibraryClerk@gmail.com , or use our new, online request form: <https://forms.gle/487y28SV3Nkvk7eJA> . Book pickup times are Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00 PM- 6:00 PM and Saturdays from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM.

Wi-Fi and Digital Services: A strong Wi-Fi signal is detectable outside the library building, and continues to be an essential service for students and those working from home. Use of the McCullough Library's collection of ebooks and digital audiobooks sharply increased this year. With grant funding, the McCullough Library became the first library in Vermont to offer free access to Lynda.com, a collection of 15,500+ job and technology skills courses and video tutorials. Access to Kanopy, a video streaming service, will be available in early 2021.

Lake Paran



Jump In

Summer 2021

Paran Recreations strives to be an asset for everyone in our community. With protected land surrounding it, **Lake Paran** is one of the resources that makes southern Bennington County a great place to live. In addition, **Paran Recreations** focuses resources on being a steward of the Paran Watershed/natural resources. With over 5500 guests this past summer, **Paran Recreations** has provided children, their families, adults and visitors with an array of healthy, fun outdoor activities. Some of our achievements are:

Improvements: We applied for and received a matching grant from the VT Recreational Facilities Grant program to make some improvements in particular regarding accessibility. Through the generosity of our towns and residents we were able to raise the match and complete construction

Free Swim Lessons: Our goal is for every child in our community to learn how to swim! We offered all children in our summer programs access to free swim lessons

Summer Camps: Paran Recreations received a grant from the **State Summer Matters** program to run a very successful eight-week summer camp that focused on outdoor learning and experiences. We hired local residents to staff it and served over 75 kids.



Special Events: Due to continuing COVID risks we have held fewer events. We did host our 2nd annual Ice fishing Derby and our 8th annual Stone Skipping Festival in October with over 350 people in attendance. We plan to host Winterfest in January and the Paran Plunge in February

Free Memberships: There are many families in our region who cannot afford to pay for memberships at the lake. We raise funds to support free and lower cost memberships for families and older adults

Attendance: Between daily users and members, the breakdown amongst our towns is: Bennington 49%, North Bennington 29% and Shaftsbury 22%

Martha Canfield Library Annual Report

Town Report 2021

The Martha Canfield Library is here to help you read, learn and expand your horizons in a variety of ways. Even with a pandemic, we have worked to find ways that you can still access the majority of our services with curbside pickup for books, movies, games and puzzles, interlibrary loan, and printing services. We have 24/7 online access to audio and ebooks, along with other databases for research and classes through the links on our website: marthacanfieldlibrary.org. All you need is your library card barcode. Our library assistant Holly has held virtual storytimes on Facebook, and we have offered virtual programs for adults as well as children. And, thanks to a grant from the Berkshire Bank, we were able to provide activity kits and free books for over 125 children during our summer reading program, Tails & Tales.

Despite fewer in person research visits 2021 was an active year for the Russell Collection. Researchers from as far away as Finland and Oregon contacted us for research on family history and genealogy building histories, local and Vermont history, yearbook and cemetery research, and church history.

There were several important donations. These included two ledgers from a local general store from the 1850 period and one ledger from Kelley Stand hotel from the 1860s (thanks to Kevin Walsh and Tim Thomas). We also received a valuable collection of personal letters between Dorothy Canfield Fisher and Drs. Julita and Carlos Layug following World War II with the help of Don Keelan and Brian Allen. Randy and Claire Clayton donated the Harrington Newspaper Collection containing newspapers from about 1855 through the 1880s. Other items include the early sign from the State Seal Pine site, genealogy of the Prince family, World War II Civil Defense Records and pennant donated by St. James Episcopal Church, photographs, and Vermont history books.

In conjunction with the Arlington Common and Don Trachte, Jr. we installed the popular Rockwell and Arlington exhibit at the Watkins House. We also gave a short outdoor presentation on Lucy Prince. As always, donations of photographs, family history, memorabilia, and local ephemera are always welcome.

We greatly appreciate your support through the years as we strive to provide services essential to a well-informed community. Let us know how we can help: check our webpage, follow us on Facebook, email with requests and questions, call us.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Skidmore, Director, Laura Crosslin, President, Board of Trustees

Martha Canfield Library, 528 East Arlington Rd., P.O. Box 267, Arlington, VT 05250

802-375-6153, marthacanfieldlibrary.org, martha_canfield_lib@hotmail.com.
Russell_vermmtiana_collection@hotmail.com.



**PROJECT AGAINST
VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS**

Mailing: P.O. Box 227, Bennington, VT 05201
Physical: 102 Dewey St, Bennington, VT 05201
Office: 802.442.2370 | Hotline: 802.442.2111
www.pavebennington.org

Town of Shaftsbury

This year marked PAVE's 40 year anniversary of providing compassionate, concrete support to survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. PAVE continues to be the only agency providing these services in Bennington County. Our goal is to promote a world where all peoples can be empowered to have fulfilling, safe relationships free from violence. We do this by providing not only services in times of crisis, but we provide services that educate, heal and empower as well.

In the last 40 years PAVE has grown from a crisis hotline to an agency offering multiple, comprehensive services. The cycle of abuse is often multi-generational and because of this knowledge PAVE offers prevention services through education and community outreach as well as direct services to survivors.

This past year brought unique challenges due to COVID 19 and the precautions that we all needed to take to keep our communities safe. PAVE understood that to quarantine would create new barriers for survivors trying to flee domestic or sexual violence. In response, our hotline remained open and fielded 293 calls. In addition, we received 805 calls seeking services and support to our main agency line during the past year.

Our advocates worked hard to continue offering support to survivors, while working remotely providing 101 interactions through internet contact alone. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, PAVE remained available and vital to the Bennington community. PAVE served 222 survivors, providing 2,313 supportive interactions with survivors in the past year. Shaftsbury residents utilized PAVE's legal advocacy the most frequently. Residents also routinely engaged with PAVE in regards to housing and emotional support as well.

Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families. For this reason our shelter remained open throughout the pandemic. Our shelter offers the only short term emergency housing for survivors of domestic violence in the county. Pave provided 1,057 nights of shelter last year, to survivors fleeing domestic or sexual violence.

PAVE is asking for level funding this year; \$450.00.

On behalf of our board of directors, staff, and the families we served, I thank the Town of Bennington for your ongoing support. It allows us to create greater opportunities for those that are impacted by domestic and/or sexual violence, and need our services each year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Brillon

Lindsay Brillon, M.Ed LSW
Executive Director
PO BOX 227
pave@pavebennington.com
[8024422370](tel:8024422370)

Dara Zink

Dara Zink, Board President

PAVE is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and your donation is fully tax deductible, less the value of any goods or services received. PAVE does not appraise the value of gifts. Our tax ID number is 03-0285583.

Shaftsbury Historical Society

One would have thought we would be done with COVID in 2021, but here we are in 2022 without having beaten this. The last year has not been all it could be but we at the Historical Society are busy. I'm hoping when the 2023 letter is written we have COVID in the rearview mirror. That being said, we would like to thank all members (past and present), volunteers, and the town for allowing us to be the stewards of Shaftsbury's History!

As a team we were finally able to meet in June and even plan for a night with Jane Stickle and a tag sale in September! Both were good events and well attended.

Vicki Dejnozka is still a pseudo treasurer and book keeper. Thank you for your assistance. We have added a few new board members to the organization and welcome Abbie Dansereau, Cheryl King, and Carol Dziubek. They have all been very active with the organization and are willing to step up anytime. Ideas are flowing more freely and it feels like more collaboration is happening.

During the last year we were able to work with the Preservation Trust of Vermont (PTV) to get a matching grant and have Arcadia Restorations visit the Baptist meeting house and the Galusha homestead properties and do assessments on what we needs to be done and an estimate of the cost, accordingly. This was a necessary first step to set up a fund raiser to get these gems in tip top shape. And, believe it or not, they are in good shape for the shape they are in. It is estimated that the total restoration would be in the \$250k – 300k range for both properties. PTV will assist with getting the contractors needed for the work.

As part of our election of officers for 2022 a few changes are on the horizon. I will be stepping down as president. We have a meeting in a week to determine who will replace me and elect the slate of officers for the organization. We would like to have a full time treasurer as a board member in the organization. Anyone interested?

Our goal is to make the Shaftsbury Historical Society and the Governor Galusha Homestead something the town will be proud of. We enjoy being the stewards of Shaftsbury's history and are always looking for new ideas and volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mitchell R. Race, President for the board



This year Shire Kids grew in many ways thanks to the support of our donors, including an appropriation from Shaftsbury in 2021. Over 400 new children in Bennington County enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, bringing the total number of children served by Shire Kids to over 1,300. Currently, 1,010 children are actively enrolled and receive a new book from the Imagination Library every month. They will continue to do so every month until their fifth birthday.

Of those, Shire Kids served 65 children who live in Shaftsbury. Ten Shaftsbury children graduated from the program on their fifth birthday and 55 are actively enrolled, receiving a high-quality, age-appropriate book every month in the mail. If you have a child under five and are not already registered for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, please visit shirekidsvt.org to enroll your child! Here is a selection of some of the books mailed to local children this year.

Welcome Book: The Little Engine That Could

Graduation Book: Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!

Group 6 (Born in 2016)
Last Stop on Market Street
Spend It!
Violet the Pilot

Group 5 (2017)
Raccoon on His Own
The Night is Yours
Llama Llama Loves to Read

Group 4 (2018)
The Rabbit Listened
The Snowy Day
Hair Love

Group 3 (2019)
I Am A Rainbow

Sleep Train
One Leaf, Two Leaves, Count with Me!

Group 2 (2020)
Where is Your Nose?
Llama Llama Red Pajama
Good Night, Gorilla

Group 1 (2021)
Look at the Animals
Night-Night Forest Friends
I Love You, Spot

Shire Kids is addressing the need for exposure to books and print materials at an early age, and increasing opportunities for reading experiences beginning at birth. Literacy is an essential element to a child's development and research shows that cognitive processes develop rapidly in the first few months and years of life. However, traditional education does not begin until age five. The goal of this program is to increase kindergarten literacy readiness. Thank you for your support of early childhood literacy.

Respectfully submitted by:

Nicole Campbell, Founder and Executive Director
Shire Kids
603.759.9415
nicole@shirekidsvt.org



Rutland Office: 802-786-5990
Bennington Office: 802-442-5436
Helpline: 1-800-642-5119

Report to the Citizens of Shaftsbury

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Shaftsbury in 2021:

Nutrition Support

The Council helped provide 2,233 meals that were delivered to the homes of 17 elders in your community. This service is often called “Meals on Wheels”. In addition, 13 Shaftsbury elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 686 meals were provided.

Additionally, SVCOA provided 25.25 hours of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments and resource connections and referrals, to 17 residents of Shaftsbury.

Case Management Assistance:

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 21 elders in your community for a total of 131.75 hours. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder’s home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder’s situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

1) “Senior Helpline” assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues and opportunities via various agency articles and publications 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA’s Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance; 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to elders and younger disabled individuals.

Vermont 211 Referrals in Shaftsbury

Vermont 2-1-1 is an Information and Referral program of the United Ways of Vermont. By **dialing 2-1-1 or by texting your zip code to 898211**, you will receive up-to-date information and referrals on health and human services for your area and region. (Text between 8:00am-10:00pm, Monday-Friday.)

Our 2-1-1 system in Vermont is at the fingertips of every resident and every phone. 2-1-1 is cost-effective, high quality, personal, flexible and community-based.

Can't find what you need? You can always reach one of our trained professionals by phone or by text. Vermont 2-1-1 is here to offer help and to offer hope.

- One call or text gives you access to resources across your community. 2-1-1 is efficient, fast and easy to use.
- No more wrong numbers; no more wasted time trying to find the right resource(s).
- 2-1-1 is a private and confidential call or text; most often the name of the caller is not even taken. Language translation services are also available.
- 2-1-1 maintains the integrity of the 9-1-1 system; saving that vital community resource for life and death emergencies.
- 24-hour availability every day of the year by phone or by clicking on vermont211.org
- 2-1-1 is an easy way to find or give help in your community.

In times of disaster, Vermont 2-1-1 plays a critical role in bringing information to the people most affected by the events and relaying the needs of callers back to the government officials and the first responders.

What are the needs in your community?

Vermont 2-1-1 collects town, county and statewide data and feeds it back to communities to help make systemic change. Monthly reports showing the needs of your county are available on our website.

Residents of **Shaftsbury** made **35** contacts to Vermont 2-1-1 during 2021 for a range of needs, resulting in 52 referrals to services and resources. The top requests were in the following categories of need:

- Organizational and Community Services: including Governmental Offices such as Vermont Department of Health and Department for Children and Families—Economic Services Division; and Information Services - specialized information and referral, such as Help Me Grow and SW Vermont Council on Aging
- Basic Needs: assistance with rent, fuel, and utility payments, and housing, such as BROCC Community Action and Greater Bennington Interfaith Community Services

Other needs resulted in referrals for health care services, public health resources, legal and consumer services, and various departments within state government.

In 2021, residents of Bennington County contacted 211 by phone or text 1,442 times, resulting in 1,633 referrals. The top services sought were housing/shelter, public assistance, and public safety. There were 386 searches of 211's database conducted by people identifying themselves as Bennington County residents, one of whom identified as being from Shaftsbury.

County-wide, 48% percent of referrals were for Basic Needs, most of which were for Housing and Shelter in the form of homeless shelters and other accommodations. Other basic needs included Utility Assistance, Transportation, Food, and Material Goods. Fourteen percent of referrals were for Income Support and Employment, mostly for Public Assistance, including general relief, 3SquareVT applications, and Reach Up applications, as well as Temporary Financial Assistance. Almost 25% of referrals were for Organizational and Community Services, such as specialized information and referral services, which include referrals to Help Me Grow Vermont and SW Vermont Council on Aging. The agencies given the most referrals were the Vermont Department of Children and Families—Economic Services Division, Vermont Department of Health, BROCC Community Action, Vermont Foodbank, Greater Bennington Interfaith Community Services, and Help Me Grow Vermont.

(Note: Contact may result in more than one referral. Contacts do not represent unduplicated callers/texters.)

Want to subscribe to our monthly newsletter?

Our e-newsletter shares monthly statistics on the needs of Vermonters, highlights resources, and keeps you up-to-date on new initiatives. To see or subscribe to our newsletter, go to: <http://www.vermont211.org/news/monthly-newsletter>

Vermont 2-1-1 Partners with Help Me Grow

Vermont 2-1-1 participates in the Vermont Department of Health's statewide Help Me Grow initiative. Help Me Grow provides a centralized telephone access point, via Vermont 2-1-1, for parents, caregivers, and providers to get information and referrals for local services for children birth through age eight. Help Me Grow Child Development Specialists answer questions about children's behavior and development, and help identify children who are at risk for delays, so that services can begin as early as possible. Help Me Grow Child Development Specialists are available from 8:00am – 5:00 Monday-Friday by dialing 2-1-1, x6.



VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926

Report of Services for Town of Shaftsbury

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's 2021 Fiscal Year was filled with "outside the box" solutions to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the absence of in-person fundraising events, we designed a virtual family-friendly scavenger hunt called the Great Brave Little State Challenge. Our new referral system, developed in fall 2020, has successfully resulted in an increased number of people in need of vision rehabilitation being connected to our services. In addition, the overall number of clients we serve has grown over the past year due to the aging population of our state, and this trend is expected to continue well into the future.

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

It is clear to us at VABVI that our mission and services will play a critical role in the lives of many Vermonters well into the future. As the world transitions "back to normal," we continue to work nonstop to support anyone living in Vermont who is experiencing vision loss.

SMART Device Training Program: The SMART Device Training Program served a record-breaking 366 clients across Vermont in FY21. Due to social distancing protocols, technology has become essential for our clients to be able to live independently while remaining social and connected to their communities. In addition, with many healthcare providers transitioning to seeing patients via "telehealth," (which is an ideal option for clients who cannot travel to appointments) it is critical that our clients know how to utilize technology. Clients who received technology training prior to COVID-19 have reported that the skills learned in this program have been invaluable throughout the pandemic.

PALS (Peer Assisted Learning and Support) Groups: PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. PALS groups have been operating remotely via Zoom and telephone over the past year due to social distancing requirements, but arrangements are being made to resume in-person meetings by early fall 2021.

HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence): The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills.

IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience): IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. The 2021 IRLE Camp was redesigned to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions, and students participated in a virtual group setting from their own homes. For maximum peer mentoring opportunities, IRLE Camp was combined with the LEAP (Learn, Earn, And Prosper) Program, which provides blind and visually impaired youth with the opportunity to gain work experience and participate in their communities.

During Fiscal Year 2021, we served 1,195 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont. This included 2 adults and 1 student in Shaftsbury, and 43 adults and 17 students in Bennington County.

For more information about VABVI's services or to volunteer, please contact Shannon Turgeon, Development Associate, at sturgeon@vabvi.org. Visit our website at www.vabvi.org and feel free to "like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/vabvi802/>.

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL), a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, respectfully requests funding from the Town of Shaftsbury for our FY 2022.

Annual support from over 150 cities and towns across the State helps VCIL assist Vermonters with disabilities achieve dignified and self-determined lives. VCIL works to serve individuals who can benefit from our direct services as well as to educate and inform members of the community about disability related issues and independent living. Direct services are available to residents of Shaftsbury in a number of ways. Peer counselors work with residents in their homes; small grants for adaptive equipment; Meals on Wheels for people under the age of 60; Home Access modifications; individual and systems advocacy and programs for youth. Information, Referral and Assistance is available to all residents by calling VCIL's I-Line, at 1-800-639-1522 (Voice and TTY).

We are requesting \$1000.00 from the Town of Shaftsbury to help more people with disabilities in the coming year. Enclosed you will find a summary of VCIL's programs and services for the town and a copy of our FY'22 budget.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Sarah Launderville
Executive Director
slaunderville@vcil.org

2021 Local Health Annual Report

Twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters. Additional information about your local health office and related programs can be found at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local>.

COVID-19

It has been almost two years since the COVID-19 pandemic began, and in response, our families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless other groups have worked to better protect the health of our communities. Together we ensured towns had access to the vaccine, testing, and other services needed to make more informed decisions about their health. As of December 1, 2021, approximately

- 494,000 Vermonters received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- 546,055 people have been tested and a total of 2,570,835 tests completed.
- Many COVID-19 resources are now provided in over 20 different languages.
- Up-to-date information, including town-level data can be found on the Health Department's website: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity>.

Public Health Programs

In addition to COVID-19 response efforts, Local Health offices continue to provide health services and programs to Vermont communities, including but not limited to

- In collaboration with Town Health Officers and other local partners, we help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health at a time when more of us are spending time at home with our families. Find information about environmental health and lead, asbestos, toxic chemicals, child safety, food safety, climate change, drinking water, and more at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment>.
- The WIC nutrition program continues to provide primarily remote access to services with phone appointments. In 2021, an average of approximately 11,300 infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding people were served by WIC in Vermont each month.
- As of November 23, 2021, 193,000 flu vaccine doses have been administered. Protecting people from influenza continues to be particularly important as the flu may complicate recovery from COVID-19.

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting these efforts. We look forward to what 2022 brings, to seeing you in the community, and encourage you to stay in touch with us.

Town of Shaftsbury

TO THE OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY:

In 2020, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region provided Bennington County residents with exceptional home care, hospice, and community health services. From infants with hi-tech needs to seniors who wish to remain independent at home, and those who are facing a terminal illness, we continue to bring medically necessary health care wherever it is needed, regardless of the location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

In the face of shrinking government and state reimbursements and rising healthcare costs, VNAHSR has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective healthcare services to Bennington County's most vulnerable individuals.

In 2020, VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 160,581 visits to 3,298 patients. In the town of Shaftsbury, we provided 1,772 visits to 45 individuals.

In closing, we wish to thank you for your past support. With your vote of confidence, we will continue to meet our mission to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services.

Sincerely,



Sara C. King
CEO



Dan DiBattista
President of the Board of Directors

FROM:

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall
61 Buck Hill Road, P.O. Box 409
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

Please bring this report to Town Meeting. When finished with report, please recycle by depositing in designated receptacle at Landfill.