# Town of Middlebury Annual Report



Photo courtesy of Caleb Kenna Photography

For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

Dedication of Town Report	4
Acknowledgements	5
Recognitions	6
Elected and Appointed Officials	7
Reports of the Selectboard and Town Departments	
Selectboard	11
Police Department	13
Middlebury Fire Department	14
Town Clerk's Office	18
Treasurer/Accounting Office	20
Lister/Assessor's Office	20
Planning and Zoning Office	21
Public Works Department	23
Highway and Equipment	23
Water	25
Wastewater	27
Capital Improvements	32
Parks and Recreation Department	35
Library Services	37
Town Health Officer	41
Means Woods Trustees	43
Middlebury Energy Committee	44
Middlebury Tree Committee	46
Maple Broadband	48
Contact Information for Municipal Offices and Departments	49
Agencies and Organizations	
Addison Central Teens	50
HOPE: Addison County Community Action Group, Inc.	50
Addison County Home Health & Hospice	51
Homeward Bound: Addison County Humane Society	51
Addison County Parent Child Center	52
Addison County Readers, Inc.	52
Addison County Regional Planning Commission	53
Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc	54
Addison County River Watch Collaborative	55
Addison County Solid Waste Management District	56
Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR)	58
Age Well	58
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	59
Charter House Coalition	59
Community Health Services of Addison County: Open Door Clinic	60
Counseling Service of Addison County	60
Elderly Services/Project Independence	61
End of Life Services (formerly Hospice Volunteer Services)	62
Green Up Vermont	62 62
Habitat for Humanity of Addison County	63

John Graham Emergency Shelter	63
Mary Johnson Children's Center	64
Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT)	65
Middlebury Community TV (MCTV)	65
Middlebury Regional Emergency and Medical Services (MREMS)	66
Otter Creek Child Center	66
Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District	67
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	67
Turning Point Center of Addison County	68
WomenSafe, Inc.	69
Vermont Adult Learning	69
Middlebury Dog Park	70
Vermont Department of Health – Local Office	71
Downtown Improvement District Budget	72
FY2021 Revenue Summary	73
FY2021 Expenditure Summary	74
FY2021 Capital Expenditure Improvement Expenses	75
FY2021 Equipment Fund	76
Water Budget – Approved FY20	77
Wastewater Budget – Approved FY20	78
Estimated Municipal Tax Rate FY2021	79
2019 Town Meeting Minutes	80
Town of Middlebury, Vermont Warning	97
Addendum: FY2021 Budget	

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# **DEDICATION OF TOWN REPORT**

# Middlebury Citizens

This Town Report is dedicated to the good citizens of Middlebury for coming together as a community to face the unprecedented challenges of 2020: COVID-19 pandemic and the downtown shutdown during the Bridge & Rail Project.



Photo by Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**



Courtesy of Addison Independent

#### Victor Nuovo

Victor Nuovo served the Town of Middlebury with distinction as a member of the Selectboard from March 2006 to January 2014, and again from March 2016 until his resignation from the Board in November of 2020. During his tenure on the Selectboard Victor served on many Town committees, including Personnel Committee; Town-School Committee; Town Offices-Recreation Center Building Committee; and Library Building Committee; and represented the Selectboard on the Addison County Transit Resource Commission and the Middlebury Area Land Trust. Victor also played a role in several major projects within the Town, such as the construction of the Cross Street Bridge, the new Town Offices and Recreation Center and the replacement of the railroad bridges on Main Street and Merchants Row; and always maintained an attitude of professionalism and courtesy and genuine caring for the concerns of citizens and the town.

Victor's love of knowledge and commitment to truth has been both a solid foundation and a guiding light for many of the Selectboard's discussions about important community issues and we thank him for his extraordinary dedication and outstanding service to the Middlebury community.

# RECOGNITIONS



Willie Glen receives Danforth Pewter gift from Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay.

#### Willie Glen

October 23, 2020 was Willie Glen's last day of employment with the Town of Middlebury, after a long and successful career as the Water Department Division Chief (2005 - 2020). Willie always had a smile on his face and a kind word to offer regardless of whether it was the first thing in the morning or late at night, after a long day working on a major water leak. He took the safety of the town's drinking water personally, kept abreast of the latest water quality regulations, and drafted the annual Consumer Confidence Report. Willie will be missed but we wish him well in his new endeavor working for the City of Burlington's water department. To thank him for his long tenure with the town, he was presented with an engraved plate from Danforth Pewter and treated to a "socially distanced" goodbye lunch alongside his peers.

# **ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Hudson Tilford

3/18-3/21

Moderator Susan Shashok	3/20-3/21	Middlebury Members of	
Town Clerk, Ann Webster	3/20-3/23	Addison Central School District	
Treasurer, Jacqueline Sullivan	3/20-3/23		
		Davina Desmaris	2018 - 2021
SELECT BOARD		Peg Martin	2018 - 2021
		Victoria Jette	2020 - 2023
Brian Carpenter, Chairman	3/20-3/23	Lorraine Gonzalez Morse	2019-2022
Nick Artim	3/19-3/22	Betty Kafumbe	2019 - 2022
Dan Brown	3/20-3/23	James Malcolm	2019 - 2022
Farhad Khan	3/18-3/21	Mary Gill	2020 - 2023
Victor Nuovo	3/19-3/22		
(Resigned November 2020)			
Laura Asermily (Appointed)	12/20-3/21	LISTERS	
Heather Seeley	3/19-3/22		
Lindsey Fuentes-George	3/18-3/21	Beth Dow	3/19-3/22
		Gary Baker	3/20-3/23
HIGTICES OF THE DEACE			2/10 2/21

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

February 1, 2019– January 31, 2021

Brian Bauer	Carolyn Kuebler					
Margret Kloch	Dave Silberman					
Margaret Martin	Dean C. George					
Kevin Newton	Ellen Kurrelmeyer					
Michael Olinick	David Dorman					
Julie Coons						
Maurice A. Cook (Resigned 6-1-2019)						
Alice George (Appointed to replace Cook)						
Nathaniel Miner (Resigned 7-14-2020)						

#### **BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY**

The Board of Civil Authority consists of the Select Board, the Justices of the Peace, and Town Clerk.

#### LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Joe McVeigh	3/18-3/22
Amy Mincher	3/18-3/21
John Freidin	3/18-3/21
Andy Hooper	3/20-3/23
Catherine Nichols	3/19-3/22

#### **APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

#### ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION DELEGATES

Ross Conrad Andy Hooper Hugh McLaughlin Jilly dos Santos, Alternate

#### ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE DELEGATE

Jilly dos Santos

#### ADDISON COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE DELEGATE

Ross Conrad

#### ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Eric Murray Andy Hooper - Alternate

#### **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

Kevin Newton, Chair Anne Taylor Jason Larocque Rick Emilo John MacIntyre David Hamilton Gary Baker Mark Wilch, Alt Jennifer Murray, Clerk/Secretary David Wetmore, Staff

#### **MIDDLEBURY PLANNING COMMISSION**

Barbara Saunders, Chair Todd Desabrais Sam Ostrow Erik Remsen Chris Robbins Lucy Schumer Steve Terry Jennifer Murray, Town Planner

#### DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR Kathleen Ramsay

#### **TOWN HEALTH OFFICER**

Tom Scanlon Dustin Hunt, Deputy

#### TOWN CONSTABLES

First – Tom Hanley Second – Gary Barclay

#### **DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Natalie Peters, Chair Glenn Andres Jim Pulver Lillian Snow Chris Zeoli Jennifer Murray, Staff

#### PARKS & RECREATION

#### COMMITTEE

Greg Boglioli, Chair Megan Curran Carl Robinson Mark Wilch Kyle Mitchell Bill Ford – MSC Representative Karen Duguay – ACSD Representative Farhad Khan –Selectboard Dustin Hunt, Parks & Rec Supt. Scott Bourne, Program Dir. Bill Kernan, Public Works Operations

#### **ENERGY COMMITTEE**

Howard Weidlitz, Chair Steve Maier, Vice-Chair Ross Conrad Sullivan "Van" Barth Lisa Bernardin John Snyder-White Liv Herdman Richard Hopkins

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

Heather Seeley, Chair Gary Baker Matt DeBisschop Candy McLaughlin Lindsey Fuentes-George Luther Tenny Judith Wiger-Grohs Erik Remsen, Alternate Dan Werner, Dir. Of Planning

#### ASSISTANT TOWN CLERKS

Melissa Wright Louise Fitzsimmons

ASSISTANT TOWN TREASURER

Madeline Gardner

#### **FIRE CHIEF**

David Shaw

#### **TOWN SERVICE OFFICER**

Kathleen Ramsay

Diane Munroe Lindsey Fuentes-George, Select.

#### TOWN AGENT Fred Dunnington

#### TOWN GRAND JUROR

Chris Zeoli

#### ZONING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Jennifer Murray David Wetmore, Assistant

# MIDDLEBURY STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

#### **Representatives:**

Robin Scheu House Committee on Ways and Means, Clerk rscheu@leg.state.vt.us 802-388-1460

Amy Sheldon House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, Chair asheldon@leg.state.vt.us 802-388-9278

#### **Senators:**

Christopher Bray Senate Natural Resources and Energy, Chair Senate Government Operations cbray@leg.state.vt.us (802) 371-8183

> Ruth Hardy Senate Agriculture Senate Education rhardy@leg.state.vt.us 802-989-5278

# **REPORTS OF THE SELECTBOARD AND TOWN DEPARTMENTS**

### Selectboard

Brian Carpenter, Chairman

Thanks to the continued support of the community and the hard work and dedication of our talented staff, the Town continued to operate smoothly and make considerable progress on several ambitious projects, despite the challenges of working, meeting and governing in a largely remote environment during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout the State of Emergency, first declared by the Governor in March, all town services including police, fire, water, wastewater, Department of Public Works, vital records, land records, elections, and land planning and zoning—continued without interruption. In the initial days of the stayat-home order, library staff quickly pivoted to provide enhanced support for patrons seeking to access materials online, offer virtual story times, and an IT help desk for patrons needing assistance with the new, omnipresent world of virtual conferencing. In June, the library transitioned to much-appreciated and well-used curbside service, and now offers limited in-person access. Parks and Recreation ran successful summer camps and swim lessons and, in the early weeks of fall, served as an education hub for students attending classes remotely before they returned to the classrooms in early October.

With more than 150 e-mail bulletins issued to date, Local Emergency Management Director and Chief of Police Tom Hanley has brightened our days with clever, brief, easy-to-understand summaries of the Governor's Executive Orders, ever-evolving state and federal guidelines, and resources for COVID-19 testing and support. For a quick read on the latest hyperlocal COVID-19 news with a dash of humor, visit the town's website, townofmiddlebury.org, to see the complete library of bulletins or sign-up for the e-mail distribution list. As the point person for the town's COVID-19 response efforts, Chief Hanley has also led outreach and education efforts on the benefits of mask wearing (he also secured 2,000+masks for distribution to businesses), and he continues to confer weekly with the Vermont Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Department of Public Health.

In the early days of the Governor's emergency declaration, the Town, Middlebury College and Porter Hospital formed a workgroup–Middlebury Information-Sharing in Coronavirus Emergency (MICE)– which has been (and continues to be) essential to the coordinated response to the pandemic. It's an exceptional collaboration that has benefited the entire community. These efforts, combined with our community's rigorous observance of the Governor's COVID-19 guidelines, helped Middlebury sustain a low rate of infection, even though we host the majority of our greater community businesses, schools, medical support services and College.

The Town also made significant progress on several major projects. In the summer of 2020, the Main Street and Merchants Row Bridges were replaced and the railroad tunnel was completed within the planned 10-week construction period. Landscaping and finish work on the project will be finalized in the summer of 2021. The Better Middlebury Partnership and a local grassroots community group,

Neighbors Together, promoted shopping local and socially distanced events designed to mitigate the economic impact of the project throughout the year, with grant funding provided by the State Agency of Transportation.

The rehabilitation of the former wastewater treatment facility buildings as a storage facility and cruiser garage for the Police Department are nearly complete and will be in service soon.

The Downtown Master Plan, which provides a supporting framework for economic development in our downtown, was adopted in November. Zoning updates and a branding and marketing effort are planned in 2021 to implement some of the recommendations of the plan.

As we look ahead to the coming year, major projects include:

- Court Street water improvements
- East Middlebury Flood Resiliency improvements, including repair and upgrade of the flood wall at the Gristmill Bridge, sediment removal and reinforcement of the flood berm east of Ossie Road
- construction of the parking lot and site amenities for the state's new rail platform off Middle Seymour Street, and
- repaving of state Class I roads in and near the downtown.

The Board will also continue its critical work to address systemic racism and promote conversations about diversity, equity and inclusion in our community. We recently named a working group of the Board to develop a strategy for this important, ongoing initiative.

Due to COVID-19, Town Meeting will look very different this year in Middlebury. The Selectboard has approved all articles, including the Town's Annual Budget, to be voted by Australian ballot, which means there will be NO evening meeting or floor voting on the Monday night prior to the polls opening on Tuesday, March 2nd. Instead, the Selectboard will host an informational meeting on Monday, February 22nd to present the three warned articles that will be voted upon on March 2nd.

In recognition of the uncertain economic times, your Selectboard has proposed a level-funded budget for voters' consideration on the ballot. Though department heads did exceptional work in proposing FY22 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) budgets that hold the line on expenditures while retaining existing service levels, it can and should be anticipated that there will be budget and tax rate increases in the following fiscal year, FY23.

Voters will also be asked to support FY22 tax due dates in three installments: August 15 and November 15, 2021 and March 15, 2022.

Finally, in addition to the election of Town officers, there will be a vote on whether cannabis retailers and integrated licensees should be allowed to operate in Middlebury, an option provided to Towns by the Legislature in 2020 as a result of the passage of Act 164. The Board decided to add this item to the ballot to maximize the amount of time available to consider adoption and implementation of appropriate public health and safety regulations and zoning ordinances before provisions of the law regarding cannabis sales go into effect in 2022.

In closing, I thank my fellow Board members, Heather Seeley, Nick Artim, Farhad Khan, Lindsey-Fuentes George, Dan Brown and recently retired member Victor Nuovo, for their extraordinary dedication and outstanding service to the Town of Middlebury.



Illustration by Lincoln Brown Illustrations, courtesy of VHB

# **Police Department**

Tom Hanley, Police Chief

The Police Department in 2020 was faced with a number of challenges stemming from events locally, regionally, and globally – racial Justice, homelessness, and COVID-19 being at the top.

In the first 12 weeks of the year, the department worked with a coalition of community and service agencies to work toward solutions to a growing issue with homelessness and public inebriation. This effort ground to a halt with the advent of a pandemic. The homeless issue was stayed to a point when the Agency of Human Service contracted with 3 local hotels to house the homeless with access through 2-1-1. This, in turn, presented the department with opportunities to work closer with social services to deal with the myriad interpersonal, substance abuse, and other issues that arose with an influx of people in need of social services.

In addition to traditional policing roles, the department also manages the town's Emergency Management function, as mandated by law. Coordinating the Town response to COVID fell squarely within the purview of the department. One of the responsibilities of Emergency Management at a time of a pandemic or other large scale emergency is public outreach. Between mid-March and the end of the year, 162 advisory and information bulletins were published providing information on everything from

how and where to get tested, to town service status, regional outlooks, and information from the Vermont Department of Health and various state agencies.

The Police Department has remained through the pandemic as the only town building with open doors. In an arrangement with the Charter House shelter, those needing shelter can come to the police department 24 X 7 where they are provided respite from the weather and a phone to call 2-1-1 to get shelter arranged at one of the nearby hotels. In addition, the police remained fully engaged throughout the pandemic, with unceasing operations providing support to the many social service agencies and individuals in need. The police also conducted in-person outreach providing updated information on pandemic safety protocols. Through the end of the year, utilizing PPE and safety protocols while still fully engaged, we have not lost any staff time.

In the midst of the pandemic, horrendous acts by officers with some agencies throughout the country against persons of color have refocused our own efforts on racial and social justice. Eventually these efforts will become a town-wide effort. Standing by mute while these things occurred elsewhere is not a strategy to encourage faith and confidence in our own agency. All officers have received significant training in understanding implicit bias and its effect on decision making as well the precepts of fair and impartial policing with both formal and informal training. Officers have also come to understand the perceptions of the police by members of the BIPOC community through lived experience in other areas.

Mental health and substance addiction continue to absorb a lot of police time. Calls related to mental health doubled from 2019 to 2020, primarily due to the housing of people from the region with a variety of social needs. Porter Hospital, CSAC, MREMS, and the Charter House Coalition have been terrific supporting partners in our efforts to provide assistance and support to those in need. Among these issues have been a number of Narcan saves, suicide interventions, and other interventions to help things remain calm and safe.

The department moves into 2021 with all officers having gained further experience in dealing with mental health response to augment their training, as well as in applying de-escalation techniques effectively. The challenges of 2020 have presented a wide array of opportunities for continued improvement in policing Middlebury in 2021.

# **Middlebury Fire Department**

David Shaw, Fire Chief

The Middlebury Fire Department is a community-based, paid on call, volunteer, fire department that has been providing fire service to the Middlebury community and surrounding towns since the early 1800s.

On January 6, 1829 the first engine company in Middlebury was organized. This company was to be known as the Middlebury Fire Society. Organized fire protection in Middlebury is over two centuries old. The company had the following officers; one captain, four lieutenants, two hose man, and forty or more privates. The commanding officer had access and right to use the engine and apparatus as deemed necessary. The commanding officer (in time of fire) had complete control of the engine and company. The engine company had four divisions, each under the command of a lieutenant. Section four was in charge of the hooks, ladders, and axes. Also, at this time every homeowner was required to have at hand

a bucket hook, a ladder capable of reaching the eaves of the house and barn, and a 10quart leather pail. Failure to attend a meeting meant a fifty-cent fine. Delay in responding to a fire was a seventy-five-cent fine. Not returning to the station after a fire was a fifty-cent fine, refusing to obey orders of the Captain was a one dollar fine. Roll calls were taken within fifteen minutes after the start of a meeting and immediately after the return of the engine from a fire

COVID-19 has had a drastic impact on emergency services throughout the country and in the state of Vermont. Unlike other organizations, the fire service in the town of Middlebury cannot close its doors and must provide emergency services 24/7, with an entirely volunteer staff. In this historical time, the pandemic has presented enormous challenges to the leadership, staff, and the members of the department.

With support from the Vermont State Emergency Management, and following the CDC guidelines, we have been able to provide service to the community without interruption.

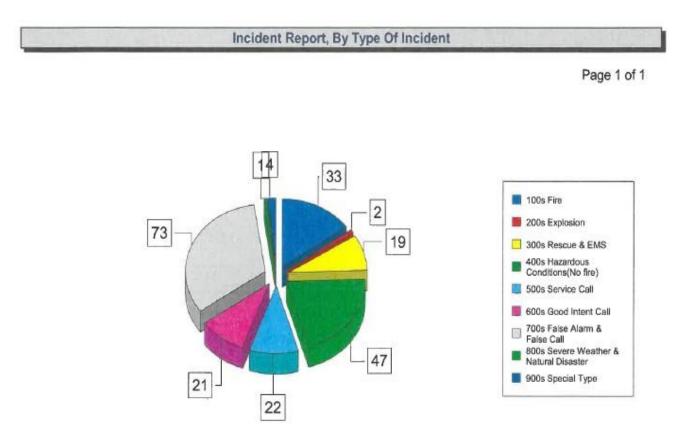
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership of this organization for staying the course and providing service to the community for which we serve, all the while risking your own welfare. The department members participated in the state-wide vaccination program starting the third week of January and concluding with their second shots by the third week of February. This is a huge step toward protecting the members of the department and protecting their families.

On the operations side of this report, the fire department responded to 222 calls for service, which included fifty different types of situations found.

The department's truck replacement committee concluded its work in early fall and presented its recommendation to the town's infrastructure committee and to the Selectboard with its top three selections. Each selection had been vetted through the department's scoring process, and Rosenbauer of America, scoring the highest, was selected to replace our aging Engine 1. The department looks forward to receiving this truck in late fall of 2021.

The funds for this purchase came out of the department's equipment replacement fund, which was established twenty-five years ago. This fund has replaced the entire fleet within the department, saving the tax-payer thousands of dollars by receiving cash discounts at the time of purchase. This model program has been duplicated by other municipalities within the state.

The department is currently looking to increase its membership. If you are a resident of the town of Middlebury and would like to give back to the beautiful community that we live in, there is no better way than by volunteering in your local fire service. Information regarding membership can be found on our website www.middleburyfiredept.org, or simply give Chief Shaw a call at 802-989-3456.



#### Graphed Items are sorted by Incident Type

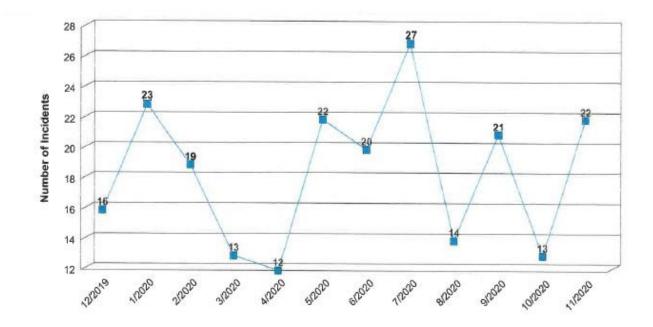
Type Of Incident:	Total Of Incidents:	Percentage Value:
100 Series-Fire	33	14.86%
200 Series-Explosion	2	0.90%
300 Series-Rescue & EMS	19	8.56%
400 Series-Hazardous Conditions(No fire)	47	21.17%
500 Series-Service Call	22	9.91%
600 Series-Good Intent Call	21	9.46%
700 Series-False Alarm & False Call	73	32.88%
800 Series-Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1	0.45%
900 Series-Special Type	4	1.80%

Grand Total: 222 Type Of Incident Most Frequent: 700 Series-False Alarm & False Call

Print Date: 1/12/2021

incident keporting by Month

Page 1 of 2



Plotted points on Graph read from left to right.

Period:	# of Incidents:
12/2019	16
1/2020	23
2/2020	19
3/2020	13
4/2020	12
5/2020	22
6/2020	20
7/2020	27
8/2020	14
10/2020	13
11/2020	22
Print Date: 1/12/2021	Total Incidents: 222

### **Town Clerk's Office**

Ann Webster, Town Clerk

There is no question that the past year has been challenging on all levels for everyone. As we prepared for Town Meeting 2020 COVID-19 was barely on the radar as an area of concern. There was a trickle of information regarding a new virus that could be of significant concern, but in Middlebury we held our evening meeting at the Middlebury Union High School with first-time Moderator Susan Shashok presiding. We were not social distancing or wearing masks. The next day we held Australian ballot voting for both local questions and the Presidential Primary at the Middlebury Recreation Center Gymnasium. There had been 378 ballots cast early and 1957 people showed up at the polls to vote in the local election. With the election on the same day 482 people had voted early for the Presidential Primary and 2,114 voters came to the polls in person to vote in the Presidential Primary.

It is still difficult to grasp that just 10 days later, on Friday March 13, 2020, Governor Scott issued a state of emergency with directions to alter our normal behaviors to mitigate the spread of the virus now considered a pandemic. By the time we held our State Primary on August 11, 2020, our voter participation numbers had virtually reversed from Town Meeting, with 1927 people voting by early ballot and 377 people voting in person at the polls.

Not long after the August Primary the Vermont Secretary of State's office decided to mail General Election Ballots to all active registered voters in the State. This resulted in a participation by Middlebury voters of 3750 early ballots cast and 618 people voting in person at the polls. A big thank you goes out to all the people who stepped forward to help administer this election by processing early ballots and working at the polls. These volunteer efforts helped ensure that many of our regular polls workers who were most vulnerable to the virus could stay home and stay safe this year. I had way more offers of help than I could use and had to turn many willing people away.

Election results for all the elections can be found beginning on page 89.

#### VITAL RECORDS

We did see the continued downward trend in the number of births recorded in 2020, as well as a significant drop in numbers of deaths recorded from two years ago. We were actually surprised by the low number of marriage licenses issued because this past autumn we seemed to be issuing marriage licenses frequently. But our records show that we issued almost no licenses during the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdowns and stay-at-home orders in April, May and June of 2020, which would normally be our busiest time issuing marriage licenses. We are noticing an increase in the number of copies of certified vital records that we produce since we are now able to issue records for birth and death for anywhere in the State.

Below is a 5-year comparison of the number of vital records recorded in Middlebury.

	2016	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Births	407	384	379	335	324
Deaths	177	157	177	143	126
Marriages	51	42	49	50	32

#### LAND RECORDS

Recording of land records is one area where we have not noticed a decrease in demand. Property transfers remained steady while there was an increase in residents setting up trusts and refinancing. During this very difficult time we were thankful that we were well prepared for research to be completed online with our land records available back to 1955. We were also able to assist with most requests by phone or email.

Below is a 5-year comparison of land records recorded.

	<u>2016</u>	2017	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
# of Pages	5562	5913	5487	5502	7354
# of Documents	2113	1890	1596	1604	2007
# Property Transfer	233	274	265	282	292

#### DOG LICENSES

As required by State law all dogs must have a current rabies vaccination and be licensed with the Town Clerk between January 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> each year. After April 1<sup>st</sup> penalties apply for all unlicensed dogs. License fees in Middlebury are currently \$14.00 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$18.00 for an unaltered dog. To register your dog by mail and receive a new tag send a check made out to the Town of Middlebury for the proper fees and include a copy of the current rabies certificate. Below is a 5-year comparison of the number of dog tags issued.

2016	2017	2018	<u>2019</u>	2020
467	474	486	474	416

Due to the anticipated spike in COVID-19 cases following the Holidays, the Town Office building remains locked and closed to the public, but Town Clerk staff remains available by phone and email. We are usually able to talk individuals through accessing services or forms online. We now have a drop-box outside the Town Office building door closest to the Library. This was extremely helpful during the elections but has continued to be useful for individuals to submit documents to be recorded, liquor license applications, request for copies of vital records, payments for dog licenses and documents for Planning & Zoning. The Treasurer also has a separate drop-box specifically for payments of taxes and water bills.

I would like to thank my staff for their extraordinary efforts this year. Louise Fitzsimmons continues to work with me part-time and takes on much of the responsibility for voter checklist maintenance and monthly billing.

Melissa Wright has certainly had an interesting year with the Town of Middlebury as she came on as full-time Assistant Town Clerk at the very end of January 2020. We worked together in-person for the month of February and through Town Meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. One week later we were working remotely or staggering hours and did not work together in-person again until just prior to the August Primary. Although most of her training and getting acclimated to the Middlebury Town Clerk's office was by

phone or email she has expertly handled the demands of the elections and taken on primary responsibility for recording land documents and vital records.

### **Treasurer/Accounting Services**

Jacqueline Sullivan, Treasurer/Accounting Services Manager

#### WATER/SEWER METER UPGRADE

The water meter upgrade is complete. The information available is extremely useful to both the billing process and the home owners. The new meters are very useful and valuable for detecting leaks and conserving water. The information, which is available to both the individual users and the billing office, continues to help detect abnormalities in water consumption and allow for repairs in a timely basis. If you haven't already signed up for the Eyeon Water App to track your water consumption, you can do so by contacting the Finance Office. Enrollment is quick and easy.

#### HOMESTEAD DECLARATIONS - VT STATE

The deadline for filing your annual homestead declaration is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Extensions granted for filing your income tax do not extend the deadline for filing your declaration. We strongly recommend keeping a receipt, if filing online, or a copy with the date filed for the paper filing method. Any questions related to the Homestead Declaration should be directed to the Vermont Department of Taxes.

#### AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS

We are encouraging enrollment in our automatic payment program, those wishing to pay their water/sewer and/or tax bills automatically may sign up to have the payments withdrawn from their checking or savings account. Automatic payments ensure the due dates will not be missed. If you're interested in either of these automatic payment plans you can contact the Finance Office to obtain the necessary forms.

#### PAYMENT DROP BOX

For your convenience there is a payment drop box located between the Library and Town Office – next to the USPS box. The box is secure and is emptied on a regular basis.

Questions can be directed to the Finance Office at 458-8003 or 458-8004

### Lister/Assessor's Office

Alison Joseph, Acting Town Assessor

#### Grand List Summary for 2019-2020

- Municipal Grand List: 9,608,539.74
- Education Grand List: 9,568,557.62
- Grand List increase: The Grand List increased 204,968,190 after the 2019 reappraisal and annual changes due to new construction.
- Common Level of Appraisal (CLA): The CLA increased from 81.54% to 103.06% after the reappraisal.

- Coefficient of Dispersion (COD): The COD is a measure of equity that may be between 0-20. The COD dropped from 16.11% to 6.61% after the reappraisal.
- Listers Grievance Hearings: The Listers heard grievance appeals for 51 properties.
- Board of Civil Authority Hearings: Eleven property owners appealed their assessment to the BCA. Four dropped their appeals before the hearing. Two owners appealed to the Superior Court.
- Property Tax Reduction Summary: Homesteads were declared by 1,634 owners, 1,111 or 68% of whom received education tax credits. The average credit was \$1,616. Municipal tax credits, averaging \$803, were received by 279 owners.
- Current Use: Ninety properties were enrolled, with \$389,462 in property tax saved.

#### Grand List Summary for 2020-2021

- Municipal Grand List: 9,678,437.46; change from 2019 +69,897.72
- Education Grand List: 9,630,069.49; change from 2019 +61,511.87
- Change of Appraisal: Due to COVID-19 there were no interior inspections. Thank you to those who answered questions and provided photos. Values changed for 65 properties.
- Common Level of Appraisal (CLA): The state study of sales from April 1, 2017 April 1, 2020 decreased the CLA from 103% to 100%.
- Coefficient of Dispersion (COD): The COD is a measure of equity. It increased from 6.61% to 7.21%.
- Listers Grievance Hearings: The Listers heard grievance appeals for 18 properties, and approved 14.
- Board of Civil Authority Hearings: There were no appeals to the BCA in 2020.
- Appeals to the Superior Court: The two 2019 appeals were settled by mediation.

#### **General Information**

Property record cards, maps, and Grand List information are available at the Assessor and Lister Office page at the town website http://www.townofmiddlebury.org. Please contact Alison Joseph at 388-8100 x207 or ajoseph@townofmiddlebury.org if you have questions or need assistance. T

If you are a Middlebury resident, file your homestead declaration form by April 15, 2021, to apply for a tax reduction credit. For information on filing go to https://tax.vermont.gov/

Thank you to Deb Stevens who has been assisting in the Listers' Office and to the Board of Listers: Gary Baker, Beth Dow, and Hudson Tilford.

### **Planning and Zoning Office**

Jennifer Murray, Director of Planning and Zoning

The Office of Planning & Zoning is here to answer your everyday planning and zoning-related questions. Our office also develops and implements long-range planning projects and supports various committees. The Planning and Zoning Office includes 3 staff members – Jennifer Murray, AICP

Director of Planning & Zoning, David Wetmore Asst. Zoning Administrator/DRB Coordinator, and Tom Scanlon, Health Officer/Zoning Compliance Officer.

Our department continued to provide uninterrupted service in 2020, finding contact-free ways to safely serve the public. In 2020, the Office of Planning & Zoning saw a consistent number of zoning permit applications compared to 2019. Dave Wetmore issued 130 zoning permits (down slightly from 160 last year), including permits for 7 new single-family homes and 6 apartments. The remainder of the zoning permits issued were for minor changes and accessory uses. We saw lots of zoning permit applications over the summer for people adding outdoor decks and pools! Our office worked with several local businesses to approve outside seating/deck projects and helped Middlebury College with permitting to convert some of their spaces to single-occupancy dormitory rooms.

Tom Scanlon saw a busier-than-usual year, processing a record 146 applications for Certificates of Compliance related to property transactions and refinances. During the COVID outbreak, many properties have sold or changed hands, and people appear to be taking advantage of low mortgage rates to refinance.

In addition to these responsibilities, the Office of Planning and Zoning provides staff assistance to the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Design Advisory Committee and Conservation Commission. What are each of these bodies, and what do they do?

**Planning Commission** The Middlebury Planning Commission (PC) is a seven-member body appointed by the Selectboard, with duties defined by 24 VSA Chp. 117, staffed by the Town Planner. The PC's primary responsibilities are making updates to the comprehensive town plan, the zoning & subdivision regulations, and the town zoning map. They also work with the planner to conduct long-range planning efforts. In 2020, the Planning Commission completed the Downtown Master Plan, which received Selectboard approval in November. This plan contains several recommendations for the Downtown area, many of which we hope to help the community implement in the coming years. In 2021, we will use public input and recommendations from the plan process to develop zoning amendments aimed at the creation of additional housing in and around the Downtown area. In 2020, we used a state grant and in-kind donations to work with Silver Maple Construction to design and build a covered bike shelter and informational kiosk for use at the Amtrak Rail Platform.

Regular meetings of the Planning Commission occur twice monthly by Zoom, generally on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at noon. Their meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Planning Commission members in 2020 were: Barbara Saunders (chair), Chris Robbins, Sarah Peluso, Sam Ostrow, Todd Desabrais, Lucy Schumer, Angela Cobrin-Landis, and Erik Remsen. Many thanks to outgoing member Sarah Peluso for her years of service and valuable insight into the local community and regional housing market. A big welcome to our newest member Erik, who brings his valuable perspective as a downtown area resident, parent and active member of the local bike-ped community!

**Development Review Board** The Development Review Board (DRB) is a seven-member board appointed by the Selectboard with duties defined by 24 VSA Chp. 117, staffed by the DRB Coordinator and Town Planner. The DRB is a quasi-judicial board that reviews development proposals for a variety of projects including subdivisions, conditional uses, some smaller projects and certain appeals. The

Development Review Board has successfully converted to holding its public hearings by Zoom and has continued to perform its function uninterrupted. We have seen the rate of project development and consultant activity slow significantly during COVID. In 2020 the Development Review Board held hearings to review 4 hearing applications, 2 of which were withdrawn by the Applicant without prejudice.

Development Review Board members in 2020 were: Kevin Newton (chair), Gary Baker (vice-chair), Rick Emilo, David Hamilton, John MacIntyre, Anne Taylor, Jason Larocque, and Mark Wilch (Alternate). The DRB meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month on an as-needed basis.

**Design Advisory Committee** The Design Advisory Committee (DAC) is a five-member board appointed by the Selectboard. This committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Development Review Board and the Zoning Administrator, primarily in matters related to the design and appearance of new construction and historic renovations. In addition to providing recommendations to staff and the DRB, the DAC also meets early in the process with applicants to help them refine their design ideas. DAC members in 2019 were: Natalie Peters (chair), Glenn Andres, Jim Pulver, Lillian Snow, and Chris Zeoli. The DAC holds public meetings on Fridays at noon, on an as-needed basis.

**Conservation Commission** The Conservation Commission is a seven-member commission appointed by the Selectboard, with duties defined by 24 VSA Chp. 118. The commission is a working group comprising community residents with various environmental interests and backgrounds. In 2020, the Conservation Commission continued to make progress on the first draft of a town-wide Conservation Plan that will have a multitude of benefits for conservation planning in the coming years. Members of the Conservation Commission in 2020 were: Jeff Howarth (chair), Molly Anderson, Andrew L'Roe, Amy Sheldon, Judy Wiger-Grohs, Christopher Brooks and Carol Harden. Many thanks to outgoing members Monica Przyperhart and Kemi Fuentes-George for their assistance in helping the commission to take shape during its first couple years. The Conservation Commission holds public meetings by Zoom on 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 4pm.

Thank you to the community members who support our work by participating in public meetings and staying informed about land use issues in Town. Much appreciation to the volunteer members of the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Design Advisory Committee and Conservation Commission for all their good work. If think you might be interested in serving on any of these committees, feel free to attend one of our meetings. Copies of town plans, zoning and subdivision regulations, permit forms and checklists, committee agendas and minutes, an interactive land use (zoning) map and other general information are on the Town's web site: www.townofmiddlebury.org.

# **Public Works Department**

#### Highway and Equipment Department

Bill Kernan, Director of Operations

The highway staff include highway division chief Matt Cram and public work maintainers Barry Whitney, Israel Dwire, Shawn Devino, Pete Kimball,



Jordan Fleming, Ken Hastings, Devin Dwire and Eric Kennison. All of these men continued to do a superb job throughout the year keeping roads, drainage and other infrastructure safe and functioning, as well as performing winter maintenance. These tasks mean that they are often away from their families on nights, holidays and weekends. The maintenance department is led by Eric Steele, with assistance from Jeff Warden.

#### **Equipment Division**



The equipment division services dozens of town-owned vehicles and pieces of equipment from multiple departments. Breakdowns throughout the year can have a negative impact on services as trucks and equipment age and wear, but they do an outstanding job of keeping things going. Last year the department established a new equipment replacement schedule and took delivery of a 2019 Western

Star tandem axle dump truck, fully equipped with snow plowing equipment as well as a new Johnson sweeper/vac truck, which replaced a 21-year-old unit that had failed. The sweeper/vac truck is very

efficient and gives us the opportunity to sweep streets more frequently during daytime hours due to the advanced vac/water system provided with the sweeper, which better controls the dust particles, reduces the amount of dirt and debris that enter the storm water system. It also allows us to conduct high pressure vacuuming of catch basins and culverts on a small scale, as well as perform small hydro-excavation jobs when working around gas, water, sewer and other buried utilities. The replacement of these pieces of equipment will help cut cost of repair on major wear items while helping minimize interruptions in service due to breakdowns.



#### **Administration**

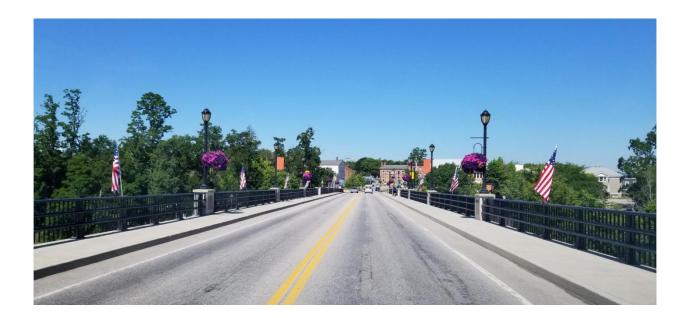
Patti Kirby is our Public Works Administrative Assistant, and is the friendly face and voice of the department when the public calls for service. She performs a wide variety of tasks and plays an important role in the day to day operations at public works. We are lucky to have her.

#### **Initiatives and Projects**

Work to improve our gravel roads continues with the addition of new gravel, better drainage maintenance and improvements. Part of this initiative is spurred by the state's Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) which was established to help control storm water runoff, which impairs our waterways, including Lake Champlain. Maintenance improvements last year were made to Dragon Brook Road, North Branch Road, Cobble Road and Creek Road. Also major drainage rehabilitation was performed on Court Street, South Street extension, Morse Road, Swanage Court, Woodland Park, Meadow Way, Mainelli Road, Seymour Street, Exchange Street, Middle Road, Boardman Street, Wilson Road, Willow

Drive, Burnham Drive, and Forest Ridge, which included excavation and transportation of sediment and debris, culvert replacement, proper grading and restoration including seed, mulch and erosion stone.

The department continues to provide services in other areas on a routine basis. Two major street sweeping events were performed during the night hours with additional maintenance sweeps done regularly during daytime hours. Roadside mowing is performed continually during the summer months with the goal of cutting back everything at least three times during the season. One full week is also dedicated to cleaning out storm water basins and collection lines with the help of a vactor truck and jetting equipment. Other services include bridge cleaning, guardrail maintenance, line painting, pavement markings, sign installation, pot hole patching, tree and brush trimming and removal, rebuilding and maintenance of sewer and storm water structures, winter maintenance, gravel road grading and chloride treatment, repairing sewer leaks, and providing excavation and trucking for water leaks, storm water maintenance and cleaning.





#### WATER DEPARTMENT

The Department staff include Water Division Chief William Glen (recently resigned) and operators Victor LaBerge, and Heather LaDuke. They are dedicated to providing customers with quality water and great service. The Department publishes an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in June. The report includes information about our water sources and water quality, water treatment, health information related to water consumption in general, the Safe Drinking Water Act, as well as other water system information.

#### **General Maintenance**

The staff handles many service requests, collects water monitoring samples, and maintains meters, fire hydrants, service lines and water mains. They also operate Middlebury's water wells, perform leak detection in the water distribution system and locate underground water system infrastructure for contractors and developers.

#### System Components

The Town's water system comprises 3 groundwater wells located at the foot of the Green Mountains along the Route 116 corridor, 54 miles of pipeline with around 2,300 service taps and a 1.5-million-gallon reservoir located on Chipman Hill. During 2020 the department has continued with the conversion of water meters throughout the system from radio-read technology to a cell-based system. Total conversions to-date are 2,325 or 99.5% of the entire system.





#### **Repairs and Production**

Repair and maintenance of the system included 30 water main breaks plus 5 service line breaks, which represents a fair increase over previous years. The system produced a total of 415 million gallons of water in 2020, which was a decrease of 8.4% from the previous year.

#### **Initiatives and Projects**

The Water Department also color coded all the fire hydrant bonnets according to National Fire Protection Association guidelines, based on calculated water-flow capabilities using the most recent hydraulic information available. The color-coding system is grouped into 4 categories; Red is less than 500 gallons per minute (GPM), Orange is 500 - 999 GPM, Green is 1000 - 1499 GPM, and Blue is above 1500 GPM. There are also a few black bonnets at the far end of the system, which has to do with a low pressure rating rather than flow capabilities. The department also continues with its fire hydrant inspection program, with a goal to inspect and operate all of the hydrants on the system every two years or 50% of all hydrants annually.

#### Planning & Construction

As the town's water system continues to age, the department is looking for ways to fund needed upgrades. An old section of AC water main along the Route 116 corridor was replaced this year in anticipation of the state's plans to reconstruct the Dow Pond culvert structure that crosses under the highway. Bid documents were also created and sent out to address the next phase of water main replacement on North Pleasant Street, through Court Square and down Court Street. The water main down Washington Street continues to be problematic and most likely be the next major upgrade area.

#### WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT – Bob Wells, Wastewater Superintendent

The Wastewater Department is responsible for the Treatment Plant, 20 pumping stations and town sanitary sewer lines. The Town's Treatment Plant is located in the industrial park at the north end of Industrial Drive. The staff include Superintendent Bob Wells, Lab Technician Bill Malloy, Assistant Chief Operator Jerry Skira, operators Noah Fleury and Dean Rheaume. I thank them for their assistance and dedication that they have given the town in the operation of our wastewater facility.

#### **Treatment Plant**

The Wastewater Plant's design flow is for 2.72 Million gallons per day. From January 2020 to December 2020 we treated approximately 324,219,000 gallons of wastewater, averaging 888,271 gallons per day or 32.7% of design capacity for flow. We also accepted 2,688,560 gallons of septage from the surrounding non-sewer serviced areas.

**Testing** – Testing of the wastewater (influent and effluent) is required by our discharge permit. The daily testing that is performed includes pH, temperature, flow volume (Includes Maximum, Minimum, Instantaneous Maximum and Total Flow), along with settleable solids. There are three (3) main parameters that define the loading of a wastewater treatment process; flow (gallons per day), BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand) and TSS (Total Suspended Solids). The majority of the testing is done at the facility, with only the metals and pathogen density testing of the biosolids being sent to outside labs.

The design organic load (referred to as BOD) is 8,801 pounds per day and we are now at 4,237 pounds per day average, or 48.1% of design capacity for BOD.

The Total Suspended Solids design load for the plant is 5,853 pounds per day and we are now at 1,763 pounds per day, or 30.0% of design capacity for TSS.

We produced 5,540 wet tons of Class A biosolids that were beneficially reused at a local farm. The cost to produce Class A biosolids was \$55 - \$60. If we produced Non-Class A material, the cost of disposal would be approximately \$130 per ton.

Our discharge permit from the State of Vermont was renewed in August 2008 and we will be going through the steps of renewing our permit starting in June of 2021. Our biosolids certification was renewed in August of 2014 and is good until June 30, 2024.

As the facility is nearing 20 years of service, we, along with engineering firm Tata & Howard, have been working on identifying areas of replacement or refurbishment of the facility. At this time we are going over the Final Preliminary Engineering Report.

#### **Pumping Stations**

**Monitoring** – We have 20 pumping stations throughout the town. The stations are physically checked for proper operation 3 times per week. Of the 20 stations, 13 are hooked up with a radio link so that we can monitor the stations from the treatment plant. This will also send an alarm to the treatment plant or

to the operator on call after hours. During power outages, 5 of the pumping stations have stand-by generators. We have three (3) tow-behind generators that we can use at 12 of the 15 other stations. The remaining three (3) pumping stations that do not have a transfer switch or a hookup for the generators, have very limited flow. We use a septic hauler if we ever needed liquid to be moved from these stations.

**Equipment Maintenance/Repair** – All of the equipment is repaired and maintained in-house, if possible. This year we finished the upgrade of 3 of our pumping stations due to the age and reliability of those stations. This next year we will be rebuilding one pump station at Halladay Road due to age. Halladay was constructed in 1977.

**Grounds** – The grounds at six (6) of the pumping stations are maintained by the wastewater staff. The grounds at the remaining pumping stations are contracted out. During the winter months the wastewater staff plows out all of the pumping stations.

#### Town Sewer Lines

**Monitoring** – Infiltration is something we are always trying to minimize. By removing infiltration, it will lessen possibilities of overflows or sewer backup. A number of areas have been noted for repair/replacement due to the amount of infiltration within the lines. This is ongoing work with the engineering firm Aldrich & Elliot and the wastewater staff.

**Building Inspections** – When there is a sale or a refinancing of a property that is connected to the town sewer system, we are required to inspect the property to insure that there is not an illegal hookup (such as a sump pump or roof leader) to the system. Due to COVID - 19 this practice has been stopped but will continue at a later date.

Periodically we may be called out for a town sewer line that is plugged. The town owns a sewer rodder which we operate to unplug the lines. If we are unsuccessful then we may have to call out a vactor truck, or if the line was collapsed, then the line would have to be dug up and repaired by the Highway crew or a contractor.

Once per year we designate sewer lines for cleaning. The lines are physically checked by our staff during the course of the year; then a list for cleaning is composed. From that list, we attempt to work in a specified area, cleaning the worst areas first. After cleaning, we note any problems discovered or areas that may need to be replaced or have maintenance needs.

The facility is staffed from 7 AM to 3:30 PM. If you are interested in seeing the facility, tours are available upon request.

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow	Septage Gallons	Pressed Sludge Gallons	Wet Tons Class A Produced	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l	Inf TSS mg/l
January	37.588	57,600	1,311,000	480	0	436	256
2014							
February	27.735	48,000	1,649,000	300	0	437	377
March	32.970	68,650	1,568,000	500	0	567	492
April	48.028	124,650	1,557,000	440	30.27	392	244
May	38.946	205,125	1,498,000	360	0	399	186
June	28.991	236,100	1,714,000	240	0	410	233
July	29.983	282,150	1,635,000	400	0	506	386
August	28.747	225,350	1,481,000	280	0	539	349
September	25.301	230,050	1,396,000	280	0	672	753
October	24.560	222,450	1,519,000	160	0	511	291
November	20.624	179,750	1,393,000	480	0	670	666
December	34.636	103,685	1,311,000	460	0	501	335
Total	378.109	1,983,560	18,032,000	4380	30.27	6040	4568
Average	31.509	165,296	1,502,666	365	2.52	503	380

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow -1.90%	Septage Gallons +1.6%	Pressed Sludge Gallons +13.5%	Wet Tons Class A Produced +4.6%	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l +/-0%	Inf TSS mg/l -16%
January 2015	27.644	62,850	1,207,000	360	0	565	309
February	22.784	63,880	1,522,000	280	0	699	566
March	30.212	116,885	2,129,000	560	0	682	568
April	34.966	182,700	1,693,000	540	0	520	266
May	32.999	210,900	1,857,000	420	0	393	305
June	40.189	220,300	2,153,000	320	0	306	193
July	33.804	258,500	2,178,000	380	0	400	219
August	29.595	241,550	1,377,000	440	0	505	270
September	29.115	169,775	1,494,000	260	0	503	287
October	31.007	207,050	1,657,000	440	0	465	276
November	26.882	137,900	1,456,000	320	0	557	308
December	31.472	143,450	1,739,000	260	0	441	263
Total	370.669	2,015,740	20,462,000	4580	0	6036	3830
Average	30.889	167,978	1,907,666	381	0.0	503	319

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow -2.20%	Septage Gallons +2.86%	Pressed Sludge Gallons -5.6%	Wet Tons Class A Produced +/-0%	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l -2.6%	Inf TSS mg/l -25%
January <b>2016</b>	30.237	67,550	1,436,000	440	0	523	241
February	32.924	70,300	1,802,000	440	0	407	214
March	36.452	101,950	2,011,000	360	0	379	203
April	32.496	136,300	1,853,000	560	0	541	233
May	31.147	199,300	1,839,000	460	0	504	253
June	28.085	251,250	1,849,000	460	0	456	251
July	30.218	259,950	1,544,000	380	0	495	262
August	29.265	245,300	1,678,000	140	0	462	261
September	26.490	258,950	1,346,000	420	0	561	246
October	27.879	201,850	1,572,000	320	0	540	222
November	28.516	159,350	1,153,000	300	0	510	234
December	28.790	121,400	1,232,000	300	0	507	259
Total	362.499	2,073,450	19,315,000	4580	0	5885	2879
Average	30.208	172,787	1,609,583	381	0.0	490	239

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow +4.40%	Septage Gallons -11.0%	Pressed Sludge Gallons +4.5%	Wet Tons Class A Produced +1.30%	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l -3.5%	Inf TSS mg/l -10%
January <b>2017</b>	29.610	74,300	1,512,000	340	0	453	230
February	29.293	64,000	1,716,000	420	0	535	233
March	33.698	80,350	2,108,000	640	0	417	196
April	37.619	159,900	1,692,000	340	0	406	200
May	33.395	188,400	1,942,000	480	0	373	186
June	34.968	65,800	1,326,000	480	0	340	155
July	37.311	285,500	1,446,000	280	0	407	179
August	31.811	249,550	1,750,000	300	0	651	218
September	30.433	196,585	1,284,000	320	0	489	193
October	28.072	211,400	1,548,000	300	0	563	310
November	26.398	176,300	2,108,000	240	0	511	232
December	25.972	93,800	1,758,000	500	0	533	251
Total	378.58	1,845,885	20,190,000	4640	0	5678	2583
Average	31.548	153,823	1,682,500	386	0.0	473	215

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow +1.2%	Septage Gallons -6.5%	Pressed Sludge Gallons -0.002%	Wet Tons Class A Produced +5.2%	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l +9.9%	Inf TSS mg/l +9.5%
January <b>2018</b>	33.019	68,200	1,750,000	460	0	460	202
February	29.797	32,900	1,848,000	320	0	472	216
March	35.837	38,650	1,685,000	720	0	448	241
April	36.965	64,250	1,712,000	440	0	529	224
May	31.205	137,200	1,661,000	260	0	581	247
June	28.103	207,950	1,407,000	500	0	644	235
July	29.400	263,800	1,765,000	500	0	497	218
August	29.029	244,500	1,705,000	280	0	594	243
September	28.264	162,400	1,105,000	240	0	547	268
October	29.712	185,200	1,769,000	420	0	593	240
November	36.281	169,600	1,906,000	300	0	418	252
December	35.524	150,300	1,826,000	440	0	460	242
Total	383.136	1,724,950	20,139,000	4880	0	6243	2828
Average	31.928	143,745	1,678,250	406	0.0	520	235

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow +5.97%	Septage Gallons +41%	Pressed Sludge Gallons +15.8%	Wet Tons Class A Produced +9.4%	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l -6.5%	Inf TSS mg/l -2.5%
January <b>2019</b>	32.289	89,100	1,894,000	560	0	462	294
February	31.610	65,350	1,999,000	420	0	545	228
March	36.568	84,250	1,899,000	400	0	469	234
April	41.869	189,350	2,063,000	600	0	426	211
May	37.513	229,300	2,226,000	680	0	445	216
June	32.988	254,300	2,189,000	260	0	449	225
July	32.498	305,750	2,453,000	640	0	472	264
August	31.795	264,875	1,894,000	340	0	491	194
September	28.135	276,050	2,011,000	380	0	768	227
October	35.215	324,550	1,861,000	220	0	418	215
November	34.458	191,750	1,439,000	480	0	520	260
December	31.085	153,600	1,383,000	360	0	372	189
Total	406.023	2,428,225	23,311,000	5340	0	5837	2757
Average	33.835	202,352	1,942,583	445	0.0	486	229

Month	Million Gallons "Q" Flow -20.1%	Septage Gallons +10.7%	Pressed Sludge Gallons -8.6%	Wet Tons Class A Produced +3.7%	Wet Tons Non Class A Produced	Inf BOD mg/l +17.7%	Inf TSS mg/l +3.9%
January <b>2020</b>	33.590	142,400	1,279,000	580	0	474	210
February	26.917	62,750	1,582,000	440	0	610	292
March	32.585	124,700	2,214,000	620	0	506	278
April	26.955	214,050	1,672,000	580	0	548	242
May	27.630	266,250	1,717,000	260	0	595	221
June	24.639	308,800	2,007,000	540	0	582	203
July	25.770	347,450	2,386,000	520	0	603	263
August	27.024	258,950	2,021,000	420	0	588	221
September	25.299	272,850	1,561,000	280	0	576	217
October	24.756	311,410	1,322,000	440	0	520	220
November	23.485	216,400	1,533,000	140	0	660	292
December	25.569	162,550	2,006,000	720	0	610	197
Total	324.219	2,688,560	21,300,000	5540	0	6872	2856
Average	27.018	224,046	1,775,000	461	0.0	572	238

#### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (Highway, Water and Wastewater)**

Dan Werner, Director of Planning

#### Shard Villa Road Bank Stabilization and Road Improvements

This project of bank stabilization and road improvements wrapped up in the spring. The bank stabilization was completed in the fall of 2019.

The road surface from the bridge over the Middlebury River to a point about 2,700 feet south was recycled and paved. PIKE Inc. performed the recycling, paving, and shoulder stone application. G&N Excavating was the contractor for stabilization work. The total project cost was \$348,256. Dubois & King was the engineering firm.

#### Cady Road Culvert

This project was a replacement of a 48-inch diameter culvert underneath Cady Road, about a half mile east of Lower Foote Street. We received a Better Roads grant of \$60,000 towards the project. The old culvert was replaced with a 6ft. high by 7ft. wide by 50ft. long aluminum pipe-arch structure with wingwalls. The contractor dug the pipe trench and installed the gravel base. A flat-bed truck arrived and the contractor picked up the structure with two (2) excavators and lowered it into the trench. Wing-walls with tie-backs were then installed. After backfill and compaction, the road surface was replaced.

Debisschop Excavating was the contractor. Green Mountain Engineering was the engineering firm. Total project cost was \$138,838.

#### Maple Street Storm Water and Rail Parking Lot Project

These two projects have been combined into one design and construction project, since they are in close proximity.

The Maple Street project involves storm sewer improvements to Maple Street and Middle Seymour at the approach to the Marble Works. There is a cross connection between the storm sewer and the sanitary sewer in this area, so it will be corrected. Area residents have struggled with ponding water.

The Rail Platform parking lot will be built along Middle Seymour Street. VTrans will be building a rail platform this spring on the west side of the railroad tracks near Middle Seymour Street. This parking lot will serve the platform. A portion of the project is being funded with a VTrans grant of \$100,000. Otter Creek Engineering has designed both projects and bids have been received, pending Selectboard approval. The project will start after the rail platform is complete, sometime in late July of 2021. The entire project should be complete in November 2021. The estimated cost for the storm sewer project is \$159,000 and the rail parking lot is estimated at \$192,000.

#### **Police Department Building Re-Use Project**

This long-awaited project finally got underway last summer. Town voters approved a bond for this project at last year's town meeting.

The project has many facets – The old wastewater plant buildings were converted into other uses for the Police Dept, hence the "Re-Use Project." The control building & garage has been converted into a storage building and updated garage space. The garage walls were updated with thicker insulation, and new heating, lighting, and overhead doors with openers were installed. New insulation was installed on the roof with a new membrane on top. The bathroom was updated with new fixtures. Everything was repainted. A fire alarm system was installed.

The old sand filter building has been converted into a cruiser parking garage. The walls and foundation were retained, but the building got a new concrete floor, roof structure, insulated interior walls and roof, heating system, and painting. A fire alarm system was added here too.

The vehicle impound lot and main driveway were re-paved. A new manufactured hazardous materials building was installed on a corner of the lot.

The Police Department conference room also received some energy updates. The room has been uncomfortably cold due to large glass walls on the south and east sides. The glass walls were replaced with insulated wood frame and drywall with chair rail. Smaller transom windows were retained for natural lighting.

The project is almost complete. Vermont Integrated Architecture is the design firm. VMS of Rutland is the general contractor.

#### WWTF Decommissioning and Water Main Improvements

Pieces of the old wastewater treatment plant on Lucius Shaw Lane were demolished and removed prior to the Re-Use project described above. Old sludge digester and storage tanks were collapsed and buried. The old digester building was also collapsed.

The water main within the wastewater property was replaced with new water main. We've had several leaks there so we wanted to replace it before the new asphalt paving was installed. Otter Creek Engineering was the design firm. Parker Excavation was the contractor. Project cost was \$403,000.

#### **Court Street Water Main Project**

The water main in Court Street has been troublesome the past few years with several leaks. Otter Creek Engineering has designed a replacement project that begins at Court Square and ends at Cross Street. This project was submitted to the State's Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) for possible funding. We learned in December that some projects ranked above us were not ready to proceed so we received a funding notice. Since our project was 'ready to go' and the State wants to get construction projects underway for economic stimulus, we are eligible for 75% loan forgiveness up to the first million dollars. The project was put out to bid in late December. Bids were recently received and will be presented to the Selectboard for approval. The construction work is currently scheduled to begin April 1 of 2021. Work has to be complete by July 15, 2021 because VTrans will be paving Rt. 30, Rt. 125, and Rt 7 in 2021.

#### Washington Street Water Main Project

The water main in Washington Street from Court Square to Seminary Street has also suffered several leaks in recent years. Replacement of this section was also designed by Otter Creek Engineering at the same time as Court Street. We submitted the project to DWSRF and we received notice on December that it will qualify for the loan program. It will also be eligible for 75% loan forgiveness. We intend to build this in 2022, waiting until VTrans is complete with the Class 1 paving project in 2021.

#### **Route 116 Water Main Project**

This water main project along VT Route116 included replacement of old asbestos-cement pipe, some of which ran through a field to the Route 116 right-of-way (ROW). The State of Vermont will be replacing a very deep culvert underneath Route 116 by Dow Pond this summer and our water main needs to be relocated prior to that work. Approximately 1,500 feet of 12-inch ductile iron pipe was installed along the ROW. Green Mountain Engineering was the design firm. Desroches Construction was the contractor. The project cost was \$306,023. There will be additional water main replacement in the immediate area of the culvert crossing. Those expenses will be the Town's. Construction is expected in 2021. VTrans is managing that work.

#### WW Pump Station Improvement Project

This project begun in 2019 was completed in the spring of 2020. Three wastewater pump stations were rehabilitated: Seminary Street Pump Station (PS), Halpin Road Pump Station, and Painter Road Pump Station. Seminary Street PS received a larger wet well, new pumps, piping, controls and a standby generator. Halpin Road PS got a larger wet well, new pumps, piping and controls. Painter Road PS got a new concrete wet well, piping, valves, and a service building to house controls. Otter Creek Engineering was the design firm. The Belden Company was the contractor. Total project cost was \$1,402,144.16,

#### **WWTF Evaluation Study**

Our consulting engineering firm, Tata & Howard Engineering Consultants has been working to finalize the evaluation report of our Wastewater Treatment Facilities. This report evaluates the current treatment process, equipment, and provides alternatives for upgrades. The report will be submitted to the State soon for their comments. The end goal is to explore funding for the plant upgrade, culminating in a construction project in the future.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Dustin Hunt, Superintendent Scott Bourne, Program Coordinator

2020 proved to be a challenging but rewarding year for the Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department. After the successful completion of the youth basketball season and the popular February Break Camp, our programming came to a complete stop as the country grappled with the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our employees were instructed to work from home for much of March and April but were ready to hit the ground running when we returned in May. Our focus shifted from programming and facility rentals to figuring out how we could help our community fight the pandemic.

After extensive research of COVID-19 regulations and protocols the decision was made to continue with our summer day camp staple Camp Kookamunga. What started as a two-week trial to make sure



we could offer the camp safely within the guidelines turned into a successful 10-week program that saw 300 total registrations. Parents were extremely grateful because the camp allowed them to get back to work, while offering some normalcy to kids that had been remote learning from home since March. For many of the campers it was the first time interacting with other kids in



months. With the understanding that the Town Pool was a big piece of each camper's summer, the difficult decision was made to close the pool to the public so we could safely offer 1 hour time blocks for up to 25 swimmers to various camps, including Mary Johnson and Camp Kookamunga. This allowed

150-200 local kids per day the opportunity to cool off and play with friends in a safe environment. The pandemic also forced us to re-imagine how we would offer our summer food program – Middlebury Nourishes. Thanks to a continued outstanding partnership with Mary Johnson, we were able to offer free summer lunches to all of our campers as well as curbside pickup meals to the general public. While the numbers were lower than a typical year, it was still very apparent that there was a big need for the meals in the community during the 7 weeks we offered the program. Our department would also like to thank Addison County Home Health and Hospice and the Middlebury Rotary Club for stepping up and preparing and serving meals the additional two weeks our camp was in session after the food program stopped.

As the calendar turned to fall it became clear that additional childcare would be needed once the school district made the decision to offer a hybrid model of learning to begin the year. We applied and were selected by the state to become 1 of 11 sites at the time to be designated as a Regional Childcare Hub. This provided grant money to allow us to offer childcare the 3 days a week that students weren't in school. Priority enrollment was offered to essential workers first, then our summer camp participants and then the general public. We had between 15



and 26 students per day until Mid-October when the students went back to school full time. We continue to offer afterschool care as well as in-service and vacation day care at this time. Thanks to an easing of restrictions surrounding youth sports we were also able to offer an in-house soccer program that saw 154 kids participate in grades kindergarten through sixth. In late October we started resuming indoor programs, such as gymnastics, bone builders and tai chi, only to have the Governor close the "spigot" due to high case numbers, which meant halting programming once again. Thankfully, due to the continued support of the American Legion Post 27, we were able to send 2020 out with a bang with a New Year's Eve fireworks display that had record attendance.

The Recreation Center on Creek Rd really showed its functionality during the pandemic and should be a building the community can be proud of. In the past few months, the building has hosted multiple blood drives, presidential election voting, a distribution site for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the southern part of the state, a packing and distribution site for 300 holiday meal kits that went to families in the ACSD school district. It also continues to be the COVID-19 pop-up testing site for Middlebury, which is averaging over 100 tests administered per day. Lastly, thanks to a grant from Green Mountain Electric, we are now proud owners of an electric charging station at the facility!

Since 1974 we have presented the Robert E. Collins award on Town Meeting Day. The award recognizes a deserving individual or organization that has shown commitment and dedication to the Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department. We are pleased to recognize Mark Wilch as the 2020 recipient. Mark currently serves on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and has been a key volunteer for the summer food program, often picking up the food and serving it multiple times a week. It goes without saying that this program would not be as successful as it is without his efforts. Mark has also volunteered at several special events hosted by our department and recently led a fundraising campaign to purchase additional padding for the walls in the gym. Mark is also a strong advocate for animals as he serves on the Board of Directors for Homeward Bound and is a staunch supporter of the Middlebury Dog Park. Mark currently lives in Middlebury with his wife Barbara and daughters Kate and Cari. We are so lucky to have Mark in our community as his contributions make Middlebury a better place to live for all of us. Congratulations Mark on this well deserved award!

Looking forward to 2021, we are excited to resume programming when it is safe to do so and seeing familiar faces we have missed so much. We have several projects scheduled for completion, including a completely renovated, accessible Tot Lot playground, field and court upgrades and new amenities at the pool that are certain to appeal to people of all ages. We are also working on new partnerships within our community, which should allow us to expand our programming to a wide demographic based on age and interests.

Finally, we would like to thank all of our volunteers, patrons and community partners for their continued support of our department throughout this difficult year. We appreciate each and every one of you and the high quality programming we offer would not be possible without you. Hopefully the finish line is in site and we can all get back to the recreational activities we love soon. Here's to a happy and healthy start to your 2021!

# **Library Services**

Dana Hart, Library Director

It is difficult to believe it was only a year ago that the library's 2019 Annual Report concluded with the following: "Ilsley Public Library is here for you, and I look forward to shaping our future together in 2020." At the time, we were in the process of soliciting community feedback on how we could improve library services in the upcoming year. Given what we know now about the historic events 2020 had in store for us, it is easy to reread those words as quaint and optimistic. But the truth is, they get at the core of what a public library should be: an institution both steadfast in its support of, and dynamic in its response to, evolving community needs. This year reminded us just how essential library services are and how quickly community needs can evolve.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, the library building was closed to both the public and the staff, in accordance with the Governor's orders. Several library staff were furloughed. The remaining staff pivoted quickly to provide services remotely. During the shutdown, the library continued to renew existing library cards and create new ones; to provide reference and technology support over email and phone; to build and maintain the library's collections; and to make video recordings of Miss Tricia's Storytime programs available online, providing comfort and stability for Middlebury's youngest residents. Library staff assisted patrons in applying for unemployment benefits. Crucially, the library continued to offer free high-speed Wi-Fi in the library garden. We suspended library fines so that everyone could continue to access library materials during a difficult and trying time.

The closure of the library building proved once again that libraries exist outside the walls of their physical spaces. Ilsley has an extensive collection of digital e-books, audiobooks, and films available to stream from home, all of which saw increased use during the closure. Many library patrons reached out for help accessing digital materials for the first time, several of them commenting that they wouldn't have tried digital audiobooks if they weren't stuck at home, but now planned to keep listening to them even after the shutdown. Digital e-book and audiobook use in the first three months of the pandemic (April, May, and June) increased by a whopping 42%.

Of course, the library's physical collection is a treasure, and once it was safe for library staff to get back in the building, our priority was making the physical collection available again. Starting on June 1<sup>st</sup>, the library offered Outside Pickup Service. This service allowed patrons to request library items online. The library staff would then collect the items and check them out. Finally, the patron would pick up the items at the library. Thanks to Outside Pickup Service, Middlebury residents checked out 30,472 physical materials June through December. This is a testament to the community's enduring desire for books and films, as well as the library staff's commitment and hard work.



Library staff prepare for our first day of Outside Pickup Service.

On August 12<sup>th</sup> we reopened the library lobby and reference room for limited browsing hours. The youth collection moved into the reference room, along with two public access computers. Up to eight patrons at a time were allowed to browse new materials and use the computers, for twenty minutes per visit. Many patrons commented that they missed browsing new materials (some things just aren't the same online), and we were thrilled to see our friends and neighbors back in the library. Unfortunately, as the COVID case count in Addison County rose in the beginning of winter, we again had to close the building to the public and return to Outside Pickup Service on November 24<sup>th</sup>.



The library reference room was transformed into a makeshift children's library.

A common refrain we heard from patrons this year was how heavily they relied on books and films for entertainment and comfort during the pandemic. In 2020, the most circulated books for adults were *The Long Call*, by Anne Cleeves, followed by *Dear Edward*, by Ann Napolitano, and *The Red Lotus*, by Chris Bohjalian. For teens the most circulated books were *With the Fire on High*, by Elizabeth Acevedo, followed by *The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas, and *Firelight*, by Kazu Kibuishi. For youth, the most circulated series were *Dog Man*, by Dav Pilkey, *Wings of Fire*, by Tui Sutherland, and *Pete the Cat* by

James Dean. Ilsley is proud to be a key resource for families with emerging readers: three of our top ten circulating items overall were learn-to-read series.

Our "library of things" continues to grow: as part of a joint project between the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Libraries, Ilsley now has a moisture meter. With a moisture meter, you can quickly and accurately tell if your firewood is at its most efficient–or if it needs to wait a little longer. We also added Family Game Night Kits. Each kit is thematic, and includes a game, a read-aloud book, popcorn or baking mix, and a drink mix.

Library programming got off to a strong start in 2020; in January, Ben Cohen presented "Making Comics," a one-hour workshop designed for teens and adults, and in February we hosted "Junk in the Trunk," an event with three antique appraisers on-site to appraise items brought in by participants. In March, in-person programming ceased, but the library has continued to provide rich and varied digital programs and "programs to go." For adults, the library has offered a monthly book group; participants pick up their copy of the book at the library, and then meet via Zoom for discussion. The Community Classic Film Club continues to "meet"; participants view films at home through the library screening service, Kanopy, and then discuss the film over email and Zoom. Over the summer, the library offered six "Take and Make" craft kits for adults, which proved very popular. Collaborating with MALT, the library installed a mindfulness walk on the TAM in Battell Woods, offering a series of suggested meditation exercises. The library also began a series of digital programs in collaboration with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. The first program in the series focused on how to get started fishing.

For youth, we learned early on that more digital programming on top of remote school was not what most children and teens needed. Instead, the library focused on distributing bags of crafts and activities, and Family Book Bags. We also setup Books on Sticks, an in-person, socially distanced program that displays a children's book (unbound and laminated) on stakes, spread out over a short walk in Riverfront Park in the Marbleworks. The Books on Sticks initiative proved so popular that we set up another installation along Harrow Way in Buttolph Acres. The impact youth programs had on children through the pandemic is best described by three Middlebury residents' comments:

"The 'Books on Sticks' on the Marbleworks green and Harrow Way is brilliant and has provided many hours of entertainment for our family. Tricia was also an incredible resource for our family for books to read to young children about racism."



Two young readers enjoy the Books on Sticks program on a rainy day.

"I would like to thank the library for providing craft kits for kids and adults. This summer I availed myself of the kits every week for my six year old grandson and myself...I cannot tell you how much we both appreciate the library providing this service especially during COVID-19 when our activities are at a minimum."

"I really appreciate you guys making the [family book bags] for families. It seems like it's a good time to teach kids about [elections and democracy] but it is hard to know how to do so, as normal adults are just dealing with every day anxiety of politics, the pandemic, etc. This kit provided a great, kid-friendly framework that worked well for us."

Those of us who work daily in the library are constantly aware of the challenges and shortcomings of a building that has not received significant upgrades in more than 30 years. One such shortcoming became painfully clear in light of the pandemic: a lack of ventilation. Without an HVAC system, the library has zero air exchange unless we open a window or door. This proved to be a challenge during the pandemic, when proper air exchange was necessary to keep the viral load low. In addition to not providing any air exchange, the library's current heating system continued to struggle this year, failing to function in the beginning of the winter and requiring further maintenance. We look forward to pursuing a plan to install cold-climate heat pumps in the library and transition off fuel oil in FY 23.

Additional facilities issues identified by the work of the previous Library Building Committee continue to present challenges to the safe and efficient use of our space. At a special meeting in March 2020, the Ilsley Library Board of Trustees voted to consider alternatives to the design concepts presented by the previous Library Building Committee in the 2017 feasibility study. Although the advent of the coronavirus moved our focus away from pursuing renovation efforts in 2020, we plan to explore possible routes forward for a renovation/expansion project in 2021.

In terms of facilities improvements, we completed the first phase of restoring the library's historic windows. Willard Street Traditions, a historic restoration company that specializes in wooden sashes and doors, addressed areas of wood decay, glazing failure, paint and clearcoat failure, and hardware deficiency on eight of the library's 1924 windows. This work was made possible by a matching grant from the Vermont Department of Historic Preservation. Before the restoration, these windows were very difficult to open and close, and let in cold air during the winter. The newly restored windows function more easily, and offer improved thermal performance. Adding modern weather-stripping and re-sealing the storm windows means we'll be keeping our warm air in and the cold air out. More efficient, and more comfortable–a win-win for the library!

Two longtime members of the Ilsley team retired this year: Anna Benson and Mona Rogers. As the library's gardener for many years, Anna worked tirelessly to cultivate the library's garden. Her dedication and care have created an oasis in downtown Middlebury, enjoyed by all. As the Sarah Partridge Branch Librarian, Mona greeted every East Middlebury resident that walked through the library's door over the past two decades. She shaped Sarah Partridge Library into the center for community, learning, and culture that it is today. We wish Anna and Mona well in their next chapters!

In August, we welcomed Laura Fetterolf as our new Sarah Partridge Branch Librarian. Laura has strong experience in local public libraries, including as a Youth Services Librarian at Bixby, as a substitute at Ilsley Public Library, and as a Trustee on the Cornwall Public Library Board. Despite joining the library

team during a pandemic, Laura has hit the ground running and is settling into her new role in East Middlebury.



Mona Rogers passes the torch to our new branch librarian, Laura Fetterolf. Photo credit: John Flowers.

This past year, the limitations of our new service model forced us to get creative, and we learned a lot along the way. We refocused our efforts on customer service and access: in 2021, we will roll out an updated and improved library website, as well as a new library catalog interface, called Aspen Discovery. This new interface will allow library patrons to search all library materials—physical items, e-books and audiobooks, films available to stream—in one place. The new website and catalog design will make learning about the library's resources and programs, and accessing our collections, much easier. We will also be increasing our capacity to provide high-speed Wi-Fi in the area surrounding the library building.

As we move further into 2021, we can look forward to a return to full library hours and services. While I do not know when we will be able to open our building for full public access or resume in-person programming, the entire library staff look forward to this day very much. After the past year, we can say with confidence that IIsley Public Library remains a vibrant and dynamic institution, able to adapt quickly to our community's changing needs. We look forward to serving Middlebury in 2021.

# **Town Health Officer**

Tom Scanlon, Health Officer Dustin Hunt, Deputy Health Officer

At the end of the 2019 Town Health Officer Report it was indicated that "there are no reported cases of coronavirus in Vermont, the Vermont Department of Health (DOH) is closely monitoring developments as relates to the same". As we all know, this has changed significantly as a worldwide COVID-19 Pandemic is being dealt with. As of the date of this report (1/4/21) there have been 78 new cases in Vermont for a total of 7,873. Addison County has had 12 new cases and 90 cases in just the last 14 days. As reported by the Vermont DOH, Middlebury has had 47 cases from 3/5/20 to 12/30/20.

Middlebury's Emergency Management Director and Chief of Police Tom Hanley has been issuing bulletins with the latest information and guidance regarding COVID-19. This comprehensive and insightful publication is a must for all and I urge everyone to get themselves on the email list. This can

be done by clicking "Join Town Email List" in the lower right corner of any screen on the town website (www.townofmiddlebury.org) and filling out the easy-to-complete form, or you can send your request to Chris English, at cenglish@townofmiddlebury.org.

During the past year many calls were received and answered concerning COVID, ranging from what to do, where to go for testing, non-compliance complaints, etc. These calls were answered seven days a week, almost 24/7. Most were provided the information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and/or the Vermont DOH or referred to the respective website for the appropriate guidance or requested information. Violations of the Governor's Emergency Orders were forwarded to the Middlebury Police Department for follow-up and appropriate action.

The local American Legion, Middlebury Post 27 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State DOH two years ago, wherein that facility could be used as a Point of Distribution (POD) during emergencies when appropriate. Coordination is under way at this time to utilize this facility, with its large hall and ample parking, as a vaccination center. Further information and guidance will be forthcoming from the Vermont DOH - Middlebury Office.

Rental Housing Health Code (RHHC) complaints have dropped significantly for a second year in a row. This is most likely due to the current pandemic and the vast shortage of rental housing units. A reminder to property owners who have rentals that heating systems must be able to provide 65°F/18°C when the outside temperature is less than 55°F/13°C and that mold and lead are major problems that should be monitored and remediated.

Again in 2020 there were two dozen animal bites investigated, as reported by Porter Hospital and Porter Express Care. These were primarily cats and dogs, with an occasional bat contact. For the first time there was a chipmunk bite reported. If your cat brings in a "chippy" don't just try to grab it out of your pet's mouth, assuming it is deceased. They are quite good at "playing dead".....Enough said.... During 2020 there were no in-person trainings, conferences, or seminars for Health Officers. All this was relegated to online video trainings and information. The Middlebury Town Health Officers have taken full advantage of what has been offered online.

The Town Health Officer has, during this past year, maintained representation on the Middlebury Health and Safety Committee as well as with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 8). Additionally the Town Health Officer is a member of the Middlebury College Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC).

Finally, please comply with all the guidance from the CDC, Vermont DOH, and the Governor's Office during this pandemic. Additionally, ensure that all prevention steps are taken during this time: stay home if you are sick, wash your hands frequently, keep your social circle small, stay at least 6 feet apart, and wear a mask. We all have to follow the rules and work together so all can remain safe and healthy. Better days are coming.

## **Means Woods Trustees**

Trustees: Norm Bloom, Brian Carpenter, Cindy Hill, John Murphy and Mark Spritzer

<u>About Means Woods:</u> **The D.M.Means Woods** (29.4 acres) was gifted to the Town in 1969 by Elinor Means with covenant restrictions limiting its use to a green space in conjunction with Battell Woods (located immediately south, across Seminary Street Extension) and Chipman Hill (to the northeast, separated by 1000 feet of private property). The TAM runs the course of the "Old Town Road" traversing the eastern boundary of the parcel, and numerous other walking trails criss-cross the property.

D.M.Means Woods, together with Battell Woods and Chipman Hill are the subject of a Town Ordinance protecting the trees and plants in them from removal without express permission of their respective trustees, and a Town Ordinance prohibiting firearms discharge. All three properties are under the aegis of the Town's Ordinance for the daily closing of parks from 9 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

<u>The Trustees:</u> Although the Means Woods property is owned by the Town of Middlebury, it is managed by a five trustees, under mandate to preserve its woodland character. Those trustees are:

Chair of the Middlebury Selectboard: Brian Carpenter Chair of the Middlebury College Biology Department: Mark Spritzer Three Selectboard Appointees: John Murphy, Norm Bloom, and Cindy Hill

<u>Activities in 2020:</u> The Trustees, particularly John and Sue Murphy and in partnership with MALT engaged in a number of maintenance and stewardship activities on the Means Woods in 2020:

- Metal mesh screening was added to bridges to prevent slipping.
- Ongoing maintenance and path clearing.

As with so many other institutions, COVID Pandemic did disrupt the Means Woods Trustees meetings and planned activities for 2020, so progress on a number of other items was deferred to 2021.

<u>Finances:</u> Means Woods has no endowment or independent funding. The Town allotted Means Woods \$300 for use during fiscal year 2020. This money was expended in its entirety in the purchase of the metal mesh and staples for bridge surfacing.

All work in maintaining Means Woods trails in 2020 was conducted by volunteers, and additional materials beyond the \$300 expended for bridge surfacing was donated.

For 2021, several items necessary for safe and knowledgeable visitor access require expenditures beyond the parameters provided by volunteers and direct donation. Two bridges require work which will necessitate purchase of pressure-treated lumber and related supplies. The Means Woods Trustees have submitted a budget request for \$300 for fiscal year 2021-2022.

<u>Goals for 2021</u>: Continue planning for multi-use trails that appropriate serve the public while protecting the forest character.

Prioritize installing signage precluding bicycle use of paths on which bicycle usage is prohibited, and improving signage for walking paths.

In continued partnership with MALT, the Trustees will work to develop a TAM Easement and Memo of Understanding.

The Trustees will move forward with planning a focal point in Means Woods for student and workshop gatherings in commemoration of the 50th year anniversary of the dedication of Means Woods.

In addition to continued maintenance and stewardship of the Means Woods and its trails, the Trustees also anticipate addressing locating and marking property boundaries, and engaging in resource coordination efforts with the Battell Woods trustees and MALT.

# **Middlebury Energy Committee**

Howard Widelitz, Chair

The mission of the Middlebury Energy Committee is to promote energy savings and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to preserve the character and environment of Middlebury. We make energy-wise recommendations to the town and educate and engage our community.

Despite the pandemic, the nine highly engaged members of the Energy Committee continued to conduct monthly virtual meetings to support the mission of the Energy Committee and address the potentially catastrophic impacts from climate change. The committee refined the comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy for municipal energy use and reached out to the Town of Middlebury department heads and Selectboard for their support and buy-in to this strategy.

The following is a summary of the initiatives taken in by the committee in 2020 to achieve the goal of greenhouse gas reduction and energy savings:

The Energy Committee presented the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy to the Selectboard in February. The Selectboard members were supportive of what the strategy is looking to achieve and requested the Energy Committee obtain feedback from the various town departments to determine the feasibility of the stated goals. The strategy was refined in response to this feedback. A resolution has been drafted with the stated goal of an 80% reduction of municipal greenhouse gases in ten years and will be requesting approval by the Selectboard in January 2021.

An analysis was conducted by committee member Richard Hopkins to determine the CO2 emissions from town operations over the last two years. The findings from this analysis show an increase of 6.9% increase in municipal CO2 emissions from fiscal year 2019 to fiscal year 2020. Town operations account for just over half of 1% of CO2 releases from all activities in the Town, which are dominated by building heat, industrial operations, and vehicle use. We expect some year-to-year variability in the consumption of fossil fuel, partly because of differing weather and other circumstances and partly because of bulk fuel purchases of fuel oil and diesel. It will take several years of monitoring for true trends to become visible in our data.

The committee conducted an analysis to explore options for how the town could take advantage of the remaining 347 kW net metering capacity and expand the town's renewable energy portfolio. This analysis also considers the proposal to include an anaerobic digester at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Upon completion of this analysis, a recommendation will be presented to the Selectboard for how to move forward with the available net metering capacity.

The Energy Committee sponsored a J-Term project for two Middlebury College interns, Bella Pucker and Acadia Hegedus to develop a Climate Action Plan. Committee members provided mentorship to support the project. This project also included populating the Energy Star Portfolio Manager database to help track and assess the town's municipal energy use.

The committee began work on updating the purchasing policy to support the various town departments during the procurement process by researching more energy efficient and preferably fossil fuel free equipment and vehicles as feasible alternatives. The department heads have been implementing the process as the Energy Committee continues to formalize it.

To support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from large diesel equipment, the committee is working with the Department of Public Works to determine the feasibility and extent to which biodiesel can be used to power this equipment with a trial anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2021.

The committee is using its allocated funds to assess the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system in the Police Building to determine more efficient and potentially fossil fuel free alternatives for replacement as the current system nears its end of life.

The Energy Committee worked with Efficiency Vermont to provide outreach to the Middlebury community regarding the many incentives Efficiency Vermont was offering for energy efficiency retrofits, six community members requested more information for making improvements to their homes.

The committee has an ambitious set of initiatives to implement in 2021 to further its mission working toward promoting energy savings and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The Middlebury Energy Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00 am at the Town Offices (currently virtually via Zoom) and we welcome everyone who would like to join us for meetings, to serve on the committee as a voting member, or to simply volunteer to help out on a committee. If interested, please contact: info.middleburyenergycommittee@gmail.com

### Energy Committee Members:

Van Barth - Secretary Lisa Bernardin Ross Conrad Lindsey Fuentes-George - Treasurer Liv Herdman Richard Hopkins Steve Maier – Vice Chair Diane Munroe Howard Widelitz - Chair

# **Middlebury Tree Committee**

## Mission:

The Ad hoc Middlebury Tree Committee mission is the stewardship of the town's public trees. This includes working with the municipality and its residents to plant and care for our public trees under the guidance of a Tree Inventory; promoting street and park trees for their social, environmental, and economic benefits to the town; and educating the community about the benefits and requirements of a sustainable tree canopy.

## Members:

The 2020 Ad hoc Middlebury Tree Committee consists of 7 volunteer committee members, including the Town Tree Warden, Chris Zeoli, and the County Forester, Chris Olson. The other 2020 members were Josh Behounek, Judy Wiger-Grohs, Leslie Kameny, Hans Raum, and Sally Thodal.

The Committee Members are stewards of the health and safety of the Town's "green infrastructure". It is the intention of the Committee to work closely with the Department of Public Works, Infrastructure Committee, Conservation Commission, and Planning and Zoning Office in order to ensure that the benefits from the committee's efforts reach the community.

## **State Training:**

Four members have attended SOUL (Stewards of the Urban Landscape) tree steward training, two members have attended Forest Pest Detection Training, and one member is a certified tree arborist.

### **Regular Meetings:**

The Committee holds monthly meetings that are generally held at the Ilsley Library the third Thursday of every month which are open to the public. In 2020, the majority of meetings were held online.

## 2020 Work:

- EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) AWARENESS & ACTIONS
  - Placed EAB Purple Traps in two locations for detection purposes
  - EAB Infestation Awareness Week:
  - Posted EAB information poster boards to Town Offices.
  - o Created EAB coloring activity in Addison Independent and mounted in town offices
  - o EAB Walk and Talk on Town Green
  - Awarded Community EAB Resource Box by VT Urban & Community Forestry program:
  - Tagged trees with ash tree identification posters by committee members along with the Yellow House community
  - Mounted posters around Middlebury and along trailheads TAM, Middlebury Gap, Long Trail and kiosk at Silver Lake
- AWARDED 2020 CARING FOR CANOPY GRANT (\$1,000):
  - Inventoried trees in the town right of way in specific town sectors for pruning bid
  - Worked with the Department of Public Works to:
  - Create tree maintenance sector map

- Assess the condition of town public trees in a portion of the town and make recommendations.
- Use recommendations to help create an annual maintenance schedule for the town's public trees.
- Assisted DPW to develop a bid request based on recommendations.
- AWARDED 2021 SUPPORTING MUNICIPALITIES THROUGH ASH TREE MANAGEMENT GRANT (\$10,000) through the VT Urban & Community Forestry Program, Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation.
  - Coordinated with the Town of Middlebury and Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) to:
    - Remove 14 ash trees from high-use parking areas at three popular TAM trails
    - Plant a minimum of 18 high quality shade trees along priority streets within the Town's public right-of-way creating a public tree planting campaign opportunity
- NEW TREES FOR ARBOR DAY:
  - Arranged for bare-root trees to be donated by Branch Out Burlington, to be planted by volunteers and committee members. Shared the donation with MALT.
- NEW TREES ADDED TO THE TOWN'S TREE CANOPY:
  - Identified 8 planting sites, and arranged for purchase and plantings on College St along Twilight Park, Mary Hogan Drive and Weybridge Street. 2 trees from the 2019 plantings were replaced along Rte 7 and on South Street.
- MAINTENANCE ACTIONS:
  - Pruned trees requested by DPW on Cross Street, So. Main St, and South Street
  - Assess health of Burr Oak in Cannon Park due scale infestation by request of the town gardener..
- TREE CITY USA:
  - Certified for second year by arborday.org
  - Applied for third year
  - Arranged for a 2020 Arbor Day proclamation that was approved by Select Board
- TOWN TREE POLICY:
  - Reviewed the Town tree policy
- RESEARCHED SAFETY ZONES AT AIRPORT AND PROPOSED TREE REMOVAL RE: ACT 250
- 2021 Goals:
  - Work with Dept. of Public Works to maintain and update the existing tree inventory, verify and identify planting sites within the town.
  - Continue Community Education activities.
  - Use media to reach out to the community regarding pertinent tree issues.
  - Identify possible grants/donations, particularly concerning additional tree plantings and possible EAB infestation. Work with Addison County Solid Waste Management District to plan disposal of EAB infested trees.
  - Complete grant requirements for the 2020 Ash Tree Management Grant.
  - Continue tree pruning and planting volunteer efforts through 2021.
  - Work closely and support Middlebury's Department of Public Works, Infrastructure Committee, Conservation Commission and Planning and Zoning Office, and Community-at-large

# Maple Broadband

The effort to expand the availability of affordable, reliable, high-speed internet service across Addison County is well under way. To date, 16 towns, including Middlebury, have joined Maple Broadband, the municipal collaborative that is focused on bringing high-speed, non-profit reliable. affordable internet access - along with prompt, user-friendly customer service and support - to all households and businesses in Addison County. A combination of user fees; state, federal and private charitable grants; and loans - but no taxpayer dollars - will fund the effort. So far, the select boards that have voted to join this organization, (called a Communications Union District), are: Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Waltham and Weybridge.

Since its formation this summer, and with help from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, Maple Broadband (MB) has already secured grants totaling \$160,000, and is working to apply for additional grant funds as well. It has hired consultants to conduct a feasibility study, which has now been completed. Establishing a public/private partnership with an existing internet provider and developing a business plan will be the next steps. That should be completed this winter. Raising the necessary funds, through grants and loans, and building the pole-to-pole-to-house fiber infrastructure across our county, including our more rural areas, will take time. MB aims to be providing service to its first Addison County customers beginning as early as Spring, 2022.

Steve Huffaker, chair of the Maple Broadband Executive Committee, and a resident of Ferrisburgh, described the mission of the organization this way, "Access to true high-speed internet service (100 Mb/s download and 100 Mb/s upload) is key to community development in our region. Many people in the county who have internet service today are getting speeds well below what the Vermont Department of Public Service deems adequate (25Mb/s download / 3Mb/s upload). Some others don't have internet service at all. Broadly available high-speed internet will enable Addison County residents to have equitable access to information. It will attract new businesses and jobs. It will attract new families, looking to settle in a place where adults and students can work from home, even after this pandemic is behind us. It will enable residents to take advantage of telemedicine services. It will enhance the ability of public officials to communicate with each other and with the communities they serve."

More information about Maple Broadband, including updates and pre-subscription surveys will be available in the coming months on the MB website. In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact Middlebury's representatives on the Maple Broadband Board: Delegate Ross Conrad (<u>dancingbhoney@gmail.com</u> or 349-4279), or one of the Alternate Delegates from Middlebury: Andy Hooper (ahooper.vt@gmail.com or 229-1237) or Hugh McLaughlin (<u>hmclaugh1000@gmail.com</u> or 989-7559).

## Contact Information for Municipal Offices and Departments

If you need help with a Town issue or concern, our Town Manager and Department Heads are here to assist you. If you are unsure where to start, call 388-8100, Ext 202 for assistance.

Town Manager	Kathleen Ramsay	kramsay@townofmiddlebury.org
Assistant Town Manager	Chris English	cenglish@townofmiddlebury.org
Town Clerk	Ann Webster	awebster@townofmiddlebury.org
Treasurer	Jackie Sullivan	jsullivan@townofmiddlebury.org
Public Works	Dan Werner, Planning	dwerner@townofmiddlebury.org
Highway/Water	Bill Kernan, Operations	bkernan@townofmiddlebury.org
Wastewater	Bob Wells	rwells@townofmiddlebury.org
Recreation	Dustin Hunt	dhunt@townofmiddlebury.org
Chief of Police	Tom Hanley	thanley@middleburypolice.org
Planning & Zoning	Jennifer Murray	jmurray@townofmiddlebury.org
Interim Assessor	Alison Joseph	ajoseph@townofmiddlebury.org
Ilsley Library	Dana Hart	dana.hart@ilsleypubliclibrary.org
Fire Chief	David Shaw	dshaw@townofmiddlebury.org

**Town Website:** Visit **www.townofmiddlebury.org** for a complete directory of staff and officials, meeting agendas and minutes, along with other useful forms and information. Also available on-line is the *Citizen's Guide to Local Government*.

Facebook: "Like" us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/middvt .

**Town E-mail List:** The town periodically sends out e-mail information alerts about construction projects, upcoming meetings and events, public hearings and other matters of community interest. If you are interested in being added to this list, click "Join the Town Email List" in the lower right corner of any screen on the town website, or send your request to Chris English, at cenglish@townofmiddlebury.org.

## Other websites you might find useful:

Middlebury Public Access TV (MCTV) Better Middlebury Partnership Ilsley Library Addison Central Teens (Teen Center) Mary Hogan School, MUMS and MUHS Family-Friendly Activities Middlebury College Vermont 2-1-1 (Programs and Services)

www.middleburycommunitytv.com www.experiencemiddlebury.com www.ilsleypubliclibrary.org www.middteens.org www.acdvt.org www.minibury.com www.middlebury.edu www.vermont211.org

# SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

# **Addison Central Teens**

Cicilia Robison, Executive Director

Addison Central Teens (ACT) is a local organization made up of teens, adults, and community members interested in teen culture, activities, and support, located at 77 Mary Hogan Drive in Middlebury.

We offer a teen center with after school drop-in hours, a low-cost summer camp, and more. We have pool and foosball tables, computers, internet access, and comfy chairs and couches where youth can enjoy time with peers. We provide groups for teens navigating their mental health and LGBTQIA+ youth, and life skills workshops. Most importantly, youth know that they can always find supportive and trustworthy adults here, whether they just need to chat or to report something harmful.

Since COVID-19, our drop-in program has expanded to offer 50% more open hours dedicated to providing support to remote learners. We are now open early three days per week, so that remote learners have an additional safe, sanitized space with internet access and adult supervision to complete their work outside the home. If youth have adversity at home that might impact their learning, we are here to help. While our services are for every teen and we see youth from all backgrounds, our programs are designed to provide additional help to those youth struggling most and help them find more equitable footing. Since reopening, teens have utilized every single drop-in hour.

We ask that you support Middlebury teens by voting to continue town funding for **ACT**'s mission to offer a safe, supportive, substance-free and supervised space for our teenagers to grow and mature.

# **HOPE: Addison County Community Action Group, Inc.**

Jeanne L. Montross, M.S., Executive Director

HOPE seeks to assist individuals and families in identifying and obtaining the resources that will help them meet their own basic needs. HOPE provides significant goods and services to people in need, including food, clothing, housing and heating fuel, medical items, job-related needs and more. We work to assist people in accessing information and developing new skills in order to become more empowered and have healthier and more stable lives.

HOPE operates one of the largest food shelves in the state, serving over 700 people each month. Last year, we assisted 123 people with medical needs, helped 168 households end or avoid homelessness, helped 70 people with job related needs, provided 349 vouchers for essential clothing and household goods from our resale store, and much more.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, HOPE provided assistance to 2,952 people, including 786 Middlebury residents.

HOPE respectfully requests that the voters of the Town of Middlebury allocate the sum of \$7,960 to help defray the costs of providing assistance to town residents in the coming year. Thank you for your consideration.

# **Addison County Home Health & Hospice**

Maureen Conrad, Director of Development

Addison County Home Health and Hospice (ACHHH) is a community-focused non-profit home health care and hospice care agency that has been providing care for Addison County residents for more than fifty years. We provide an array of services that help our neighbors receive care in their own homes where they are most comfortable and where they often experience the best quality of life. Our services are offered to all Addison County residents who need them, regardless of their ability to pay. To ensure the future of these vital programs, we turn to our community for support.

Our clinicians provide skilled nursing; medical social work; rehabilitative therapies including occupational, speech and physical therapy; hospice and palliative care; maternal-child health care; IV therapy; Telemonitoring; Chronic Care Management and care of complicated wounds. Our Personal Care Attendants and Homemakers help patients with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing and cooking.

ACHHH serves many patients who are coping with chronic illnesses such as congestive heart failure, COPD and diabetes. Some patients face life-limiting illnesses including cancer, ALS and Alzheimer's. ACHHH strives to help patients and families enjoy the best quality of life possible, in all life stages. We serve patients from birth to end-of-life.

We appreciate the long-time support from the Town of Middlebury. Your financial support makes it possible for our expert team to provide high-quality compassionate care to ALL of our patients and families.

# **Homeward Bound: Addison County Humane Society**

Jessica Danyow, Executive Director

Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, was founded in 1975. We are a private openadmission animal shelter with a mission to be a community-centered shelter that supports the humananimal bond through compassionate care, adoption, education, and advocacy. We serve an average of 950 animals per year, including those who enter the shelter and those who receive services in the community. We receive no funding from federal, state or local government and no unrestricted funding from national humane organizations. With a staff of 14, we rely heavily on volunteers to enhance the lives of the animals here and to help us have wide-spread impact in the community; on average we have 80 active volunteers annually although this number dropped to approximately 35 due to COVID19 and social distancing requirements. We operate the following community programs. Camp Whiskers & Wags: We host an annual humane education full day summer camp for elementary school aged children. Pets in Crisis: We work with local social service agencies to address the animal-related needs of victims of domestic violence, housing crises, health emergencies, and natural disasters. Humane Investigations: We support law enforcement in cases of animal neglect or cruelty and provide resources and support for animal victims. Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR): We operate a seasonal TNR program from April through November to help address the overpopulation of stray, feral, and loosely owned cats in Addison County. Pet CORE (Community Outreach Resources and Education): We provide services—supplemental food, flea/tick medication, spay/neuter subsidies and basic wellness vet care—to income eligible Addison County pet owners at Homeward Bound's HUB.

# **Addison County Parent/Child Center**

Donna Bailey, Director

While the Parent Child Center (PCC) is probably best known for its work with adolescent families and young children, our services are intended for any family who needs and wants them.

The PCC helps families to assess their children's physical and cognitive development and provides support services if needed. We also offer consultation and support to families and childcare providers around young children's social, emotional and behavioral development. Playgroups are offered around the county to promote social interactions for children and parents. All families with newborns are offered Welcome Baby bags and visits to introduce them to available services in the county. Follow up supports are available for those who request it.

Learning Together, our intensive in-house training program, builds parenting and job readiness skills and serves as an alternative education site for Addison County high schools. The program focuses on young parents and other teens at risk of parenting too young. To complement our programs the PCC also provides high-quality childcare to infants and toddlers.

The PCC has renovated 18 Elm Street in Middlebury, which is the cornerstone of a "First Time Renters" program for young adults to learn and practice the skills necessary to be successful tenants in our community. Educational programming happens at the PCC, while the 10 units are occupied by first time renters and 1 unit by a house parent overseeing the tenants and property at Elm Street.

# **Addison County Readers, Inc.**

Dinah Bain

Addison County Readers, Inc, an entirely volunteer organization, sponsors the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program, which mails a free quality book monthly to the homes of registered children. The annual cost to Addison County Readers, Inc (ACR) is approximately \$30 per child. The program is open to any child from age 0 to 5 who resides in Addison County.

Having books in the home has been demonstrated to improve children's readiness and achievement in school. The national United Way website, as part of its education initiative, cites studies which show that reading is an essential gateway for children on the path to success in school and later in the

workplace. It is the mechanism through which many other vital life skills are acquired and improved. Reading to children even before they can hold a book on their own is one of the smartest choices parents and caregivers can make. Speaking to an 8-month old infant improves vocabulary at age three (Hart and Risley, 1995). Books which are returned to ACR as undeliverable are given to child-centered local organizations, such as homeless shelters and child care providers.

More than 1,100 children in Addison County in all 23 towns of the county are currently receiving books. In the past 12 months 13,294 books were shipped to preschool children in Addison County. Parents are enthusiastic about the program! Our parent survey in Spring 2019 showed that the books are read to the children, frequently, and the children really listen to the stories. Most of the children talk about the stories, learn new words, and independently look through the books. Adults use the books to talk to their children about sounds, letters, new vocabulary, and how to take care of books. More than half of the parents reported that they read to their children more as a result of their participation in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library - and are more willing to bring other books into their home!

# **Addison County Regional Planning Commission**

Adam Lougee, Executive Director

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following technical assistance and planning to the Region during its 2020 fiscal year:

## **Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping**

- Assisted member municipalities creating, adopting and regionally approving their municipal plans.
- Assisted member municipalities creating and adopting local regulations implementing their municipal plan.
- Provided data and mapping products to support on-going municipal planning activities.
- Provided technical assistance to municipal officials concerning municipal government.
- Represented the Region in Act 250 and Section 248 hearings.
- Assisted municipalities in applying for Village Center Designation.
- Worked with Ferrisburgh and Shoreham on their 2020 municipal planning grants to create housing
- Continued work on the update of the Population and Housing section of the regional plan.

## **Educational Meetings and Grants**

- Hosted educational workshops, Zoning Administrators Roundtables and monthly public meetings on a wide variety of planning topics, including water quality, housing and planning essentials.
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to secure grant funding.

## **Emergency Planning**

- Worked with Addison County's Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 8) and Vermont Emergency Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning and training.
- Hosted Local Emergency Management Plan training for town Emergency Managers and hosted a Tier II workshop for municipalities and businesses required to report hazardous chemicals.
- Worked with Vermont Emergency Management to exercise local and statewide disaster plans.

- Assisted in development of a hazard mitigation plan for the Town of Lincoln, and completion of FEMA requirements and acceptance for the Town of Ripton.
- Assisted communities in completing Local Emergency Management Plans to maintain ERAF status.
- Provided COVID-19 updates and information to Town Officials and Emergency Managers Assisted in developing a Mutual Aid agreement for Public Works Departments

## **Energy Planning**

- Assisted a Bristol, Panton New Haven and Shoreham in completing their enhanced energy plans and strengthening policies supporting renewable energy.
- Worked with five municipalities; Monkton, Panton, Salisbury, Vergennes and Weybridge through the process of regional approval of their Enhanced Energy Plans.
- Worked with Efficiency Vermont and municipalities to implement enhanced energy plans.
- Hosted 4 roundtables of municipal energy committees and coordinators

## **Transportation Planning**

- Supported the Addison County Transportation Advisory Committee's regional priorities and studies.
- Supported Tri-Valley Transit/ACTR by providing leadership and technical support.
- Worked with municipalities to produce road erosion inventories for local roads.
- Assisted Towns with bike and pedestrian, structures, and stormwater grants.
- Served as a Municipal Project Manager for sidewalk construction projects in Middlebury and Weybridge.
- Sponsored town transportation planning studies, and supported municipal capital budget development.
- Hosted regional Walk/bike council and began planning for a future Bike/Ped Summit in Middlebury.

## **Natural Resources Planning**

- Actively support the efforts of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative.
- Worked with municipalities to support conservation commissions.
- Participated on the Lake Champlain Basin Program technical advisory committee.
- Provided educational outreach supporting the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan update.
- Assisted in stormwater planning projects and Ecosystem Restoration Program grants.

# **Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc.**

Miche Modiba, Executive Director

Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc. provides restorative justice responses focusing on the "balanced approach" in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the offender. The goal is to help the offender develop empathy and accept responsibility while providing compensation of loss for the victims, and compensation of resources for the community. Anyone given the opportunity to participate in our programs is supported to take responsibility for their actions, connect with the community in a positive way, and learn from their experience so as not to reoffend and cause harm to yet another person.

We have expanded our programs beyond Court Diversion and the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program to include the Driving With License Suspended Program, Safe Driving Program, Reparative Restorative Panels, Reentry Navigation and Circles of Support and Accountability for those reentering the community from incarceration, and Pretrial monitoring & Tamarack for those community members who have committed a crime and have a mental illness or substance abuse problem. All programs have the goal for the participant of instilling a sense of belonging and commitment to contribute to the Addison County Community as positive, proactive member and not create any more victims, essentially decrease crime in the county.

The following is a breakdown of the number of individuals from the Town of Middlebury who were provided services through our agency in FY 2019/2020.

Court Diversion:	17
Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program:	9
Reparative Restorative Panels:	8
Reentry Navigation:	7
COSA:	0
Driving With License Suspended:	13
Pretrial Services:	6
Tamarack:	8
Safe Driving:	2

# **Addison County River Watch Collaborative**

Matthew Witten, Managing Director

The mission of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative (ACRWC) is to monitor and assess the condition and uses of our rivers over the long term, raise public awareness of the values and functions of our watersheds, and support stewardship that improves water quality.

We collect samples from: Middlebury River, Otter Creek, New Haven River, Little Otter Creek, Lemon Fair and Lewis Creek. In 2020, during COVID-19 restrictions, our normal water quality sampling routine was curtailed due to the pandemic. However, we monitored several recreation sites for E.coli, including sites near Middlebury (DeMers Park in New Haven and the East Middlebury Gorge). In 2021, we hope to resume a full suite of sampling, including E.coli, phosphorus, chloride and nitrogen.

Principal partners: Addison County Regional Planning Commission, Champlain Valley Farmer Coalition, Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Watersheds United Vermont, and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

Services:

- Monitoring water quality at over 30 sampling stations in 6 Addison County watersheds
- Quality-assured, quality-controlled data in cooperation with the Vermont Agricultural and Environmental Lab ("VAEL")
- Process citizen observations/complaints regarding possible sources of pollution

- Summertime posting of provisional *E.coli* results on Front Porch Forum and at recreation sites (such as Middlebury Gorge and Sycamore Park in Bristol)
- Technical reports on results on all 6 rivers and some tributaries
- Collaboration with other agencies and groups to encourage practices that improve or preserve water quality
- Website with information, both technical and general, about our rivers: www.acrpc.org/acrwc.

# **Addison County Solid Waste Management District**

Teresa Kuczynski, District Manager

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 21 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors (Board) comprised of one representative and one alternate appointed by each of the member municipalities. The Board regularly meets virtually (due to the ongoing pandemic) on the 3<sup>d</sup> Thursday of the month at 7PM, and the Executive Board meets monthly 8 days prior to the Board meeting. All meetings are open to the public.

### **District Mission**

To seek environmentally sound & cost effective solutions for: (1) Promoting waste reduction; (2) Promoting pollution prevention; (3) Maximizing diversion of waste through reuse, recycling and composting; and (4) Providing for disposal of remaining wastes.

District Office and Transfer StationTelephone: (802) 388-2333Fax: (802) 388-0271Website: www.AddisonCountyRecycles.orgE-mail: acswmd@acswmd.orgTransfer Station Hours:M-F, 7 AM-3 PM & Sat, 8 AM-1 PMOffice Hours: M-F, 8 AM-4 PMHazWaste Center Hours:M-F, 8 AM-2 PM & Sat, 8 AM-1 PM

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are co-located at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and single stream recyclables for transfer to out-of-District facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off a variety of other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. A complete list of acceptable items and prices is posted on the District's website. The office is closed to visitors due to the pandemic, but staff can be reached via phone, e-mail, text, and mail.

### 2020 Highlights

COVID-19. The year 2020 has been a difficult year, requiring the flexibility to adapt to the pandemic that disrupted all of the lives of our community residents and businesses. The District staff have been working diligently, despite the risk, toward maintaining the solid waste management and collection system during these challenging times. Deemed an "essential business" by the Dept. of Homeland Security, and state and local emergency declarations, the District has been following the guidance on

how to protect our staff and customers while providing essential services. On March  $30^{th}$  – May 18th, the District Transfer Station was forced to limit residents to food scraps only. The *Reuse It or Lose It!* Centers were closed until further notice. Thankfully, the Transfer Station was able to continue servicing businesses and commercial haulers without interruption.

**Waste Diversion**. The VT Universal Recycling Law instituted a landfill ban of food scraps as of 7/1/2020. All generators had to begin diverting food scraps, either through backyard composting, through a commercial hauler, or at a waste facility. The District has been busy working with its residents, haulers, schools, institutions, and businesses to comply with the new mandate. As a result, the District has collected an average of 14,500 lbs. per week, a 200% increase since the ban took effect. Recycling. The decline in market prices for most recyclables continued in 2020. The District has been able to absorb the recycling losses, estimated to reach \$35,000+ this year. However, the District's commitment to recycling remains steadfast. VT Act No. 69 mandates took effect on 7/1/2020. Single-use expanded polystyrene food service products are banned, along with single-use plastic carryout bags. Expanded polystyrene food service products are not allowed to be sold in VT. Plastic straws are available upon request only, and plastic stirrers are banned. A study committee was formed to further examine ways to manage packaging and printed materials.

**Product Stewardship**. The District has continued to be a strong advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws as a method of controlling costs and keeping unwanted and banned items out of the landfill. EPR laws help distribute the cost of recycling and safe management of these products among industry, government, and consumers. The District continues to serve as a Collector under Vermont's EPR programs for electronics, mercury-containing lamps, primary cell batteries, and architectural paints.

**Illegal Burning/Disposal**. The District contracted with the Addison County Sheriff's Department in 2020 to enforce its Illegal Burning & Disposal Ordinance. The District served again as County Coordinator for Green-Up Day, assisting the many area volunteers who organized collection of roadside litter, and providing bags and gloves. Green-up Day collection totals were lower this year, with an event delay and a drop in participation rates due to the pandemic. The District subsidized the disposal of 6.09 tons of roadside trash, 10.81 tons of tires, and various other abandoned items, for a total economic benefit to its member towns of \$2,293.

### 2021 Annual Budget

The District adopted a 2021 Annual Budget of \$3,818,063, an 8.35% increase. The Transfer Station tip fees will increase to \$130/ton (\$8 minimum fee) for MSW and C&D. The rate for Single Stream Recyclables will increase to \$125/ton. Residential food scraps will be \$1 per 5 gallons or less. Business Food Scraps will increase to \$15 per 32-gal unit and \$20 per 49-gal unit. Leaf & Yard Waste greater than 3 cu.yds. will increase to \$20. Rates on some other items will have nominal increases. The prices of green food scrap buckets, Soil Savers, kitchen collectors and blue recycling bins will also increase. **There will be no assessments to member municipalities in 2021.** For a copy of the full 2020 Annual Report and Adopted 2021 Annual Budget and Rate Sheet, please give us a call, or visit the District website at <u>www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org</u>.

# **Addison County Transit Resources**

Jim Moulton, Executive Director

Thank you for the Town of Middlebury's generous support of Tri-Valley Transit, formerly ACTR, last year. It helped us provide 72,964 free trips for Middlebury residents, visitors and employees. In FY20 Tri-Valley Transit (TVT) provided a total of 226,281 rides by public buses for everyone and door to door Dial-A-Rides for vulnerable residents.

The COVID-19 crisis has emphasized the incredible importance of our work. Public transportation has been on the frontlines of providing essential service to many of the most vulnerable members of our communities. Healthcare staff get to work; dialysis, cancer and methadone patients get to treatment, and at-risk residents get food delivered. Services have been revamped to protect riders, the general public and our staff. At first, we focused on trips to riders with no other means of transportation but whose trips were essential; and then we safely increased capacity to meet growing demand by:

- installing physical barriers between seats and directing riders to use window seats,
- waiving fares to reduce contact,
- ensuring all buses are frequently sanitized and hand sanitizer is available,
- requiring facemasks, even prior to the statewide mandate, and
- implementing screening techniques to ensure riders are not COVID risks.

The state and local grants through which we provide these services require us to raise 20% "local match" dollars. TVT's requests from towns account for approximately 5% of the 20% requirement. TVT seeks the other 15% from other sources including businesses, institutions, individuals, and grants. Middlebury has provided level funding since 2015.

# Age Well

Jane Catton, Chief Executive Officer

For over 40 years, Age Well has provided services and support that allow seniors to stay independent, and remain healthy at home, where they want to be. We have continued to support older Vermonters during COVID-19, with over 500 individuals signing up for meal deliveries, a key lifeline as they self-isolate.

Thanks to past support from the Town of Middlebury, we have been able to offer care & service coordination, Meals on Wheels; community meals; wellness programs; social activities; transportation services; expertise on Medicare, insurance, and long and short-term care options; and a Helpline.

Vermont is ranked as the second "oldest" state in the country and the population of seniors is expected to double in the next fifteen years. Older adults living in rural areas have less access to healthcare, including specialized healthcare, and the services tend to be more costly than those provided in metropolitan areas. Vermonters want to grow old in their own homes; Age Well provides the services and support to ensure that is a possibility.

We are writing to request support in the amount of \$3,000.00 from the Town of Middlebury. As a non-profit, our services are provided at no charge and we rely on donations and town funding to continue to

help our aging population. Your continued support ensures that we are able to continue to provide lifechanging services to all those in need during this pandemic.

Age Well's Mission: To provide the support and guidance that inspires our community to embrace aging with confidence.

Website: www.agewellvt.org Helpline: 1-800-642-5119

# **Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity**

Karen Haury, County Director

At Addison Community Action, we bridge gaps and build future. Our programs serve lo and middle income families and individuals in Middlebury. We help them when hardship strikes (illness, loss of job, loss of ours, death in the family). We run an emergency food shelf, assist with purchasing fuel and help with electric disconnects in winter months (Warmth and Crisis Fuel programs); provide back rent payments and security deposits to prevent homelessness (Housing Assistance Program); and collaborate with community partners to move the homeless into safe and secure housing.

We also support Middlebury residents to build strong futures. Families also take advantage of an participate in our Head Start Program. Their children's futures are enhanced with evidence-based early childhood education. Our Financial Future Program helps families to learn how to budget, build credit, develop assets, and start businesses. Our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program helps families to file taxes for free, to ensure that they receive as strong a refund as possible. And our Vermont Housing Advocacy Team (Vermont Tenants, Mobile Home Program, Fair Housing Program) advocates for those residents who are living in mobile home parks, renting their home or apartment, and protects them against housing discrimination.

# **Charter House Coalition**

Doug Sinclair, Executive Director

Charter House Coalition was founded in 2005 as a county wide volunteer based outreach to provide free meals, emergency housing, and personal support for adults and children throughout Addison County. Between January 1 and December 31, 2020, over 1,250 volunteers prepared and served over 40,500 free meals and provided shelter to 125 children and adults from across our region. It is now possible for anyone to enjoy a free, nutritious meal every day of the week at Charter House. About 495 people from across Addison County benefit from these programs every year.

The Coalition programs are supported by: (1) donations from many individuals, service organizations and churches in our area; (2) student initiated fund raising efforts; (3) grants from the Vermont Community Foundation, United Way, the Fannie Allen Foundation, Ben and Jerry's Foundation, Rotary, Lions, TJX Foundation, the State of Vermont, People's United Bank, the Tarrant Foundation and the Houle Family Foundation. Donations from individuals and grants from local organizations and towns provide 74% of the funding required to operate our emergency shelter, community meal programs and

day station. Substantial quantities of food and truckloads of apartment furnishings, kitchenware, and linens are also donated by the community for these programs.

Our partners in operating these programs include many area churches, Middlebury College, HOPE, the Parent Child Center, Women Safe, John Graham Shelter, Middlebury Police Department, Middlebury Ambulance Association, Porter Hospital, Counseling Services of Addison County, Agency of Human Services, CVOEO, and the Turning Point Center.

# **Community Health Services of Addison County Open Door Clinic**

Heidi Sulis MPH, Executive Director

The Open Door Clinic is a free clinic serving uninsured and underinsured adults in Addison County. Currently, our core program comprises 9-10 monthly health and dental clinics offered in Middlebury and Vergennes, health insurance services, and an outreach program where we annually visit between 30-40 local farms, providing education, flu shots and other vaccines to farm workers. We serve acute and chronic care conditions, and refer to medical specialists when needed.

We rely on volunteers and mentor high school and college students and provide medical professionals with a unique opportunity to get involved with serving underserved populations.

We continue to provide an essential dimension of healthcare in Addison County. Last year, we saw 131 Middlebury residents for a total of 459 medical, dental, case management and health insurance services. As compared to 2019, this represents an 11% increase in number of Middlebury residents served, and a 94% increase in services provided to them. With a \$3,000 allocation from the town, we were able to provide health care and exceptional case management services at \$22.90/person or \$6.54/service.

We continue to see many uninsured Vermonters who feel their insurance options are cost prohibitive and unfeasible for their family budgets. We have become the permanent medical home for our migrant workers, as they don't qualify for benefits in Vermont. As a free clinic, we cannot charge for any of our services, so must constantly seek many sources of funding, including local communities like Middlebury. Your continued support directly impacts our ability to provide services and new programs.

# **Counseling Service of Addison County**

Rachel Cummings, Executive Director

In these unprecedented times, Middlebury will find steadiness with the Counseling Service of Addison County. For over sixty years CSAC has promoted safe, stable communities by helping individuals achieve maximum wellness: people of all ages, income, and abilities; people needing mental health, substance use, and/or developmental services; people in crisis; people such as your neighbors, your friends, and yourself.

In FY20, CSAC served 2,230 individuals, and provided 268,114 service hours to Middlebury residents. In response to the pandemic, the health and safety of clients and staff was (and continues to be) CSAC's

top priority. CSAC developed individualized plans for every resident in supported housing, pivoted to telehealth services, and created a crisis line to supplement 24/7 emergency services.

CSAC opened Addison County's first permanent supervised apartments for people living with serious mental illnesses, which will reduce prolonged emergency department stays. An additional psychiatrist has joined our ranks, and in-person support is increasing. We provide support at seven residential homes, and, despite pandemic hurdles, provide essential services in many schools and employment settings.

CSAC has a responsibility to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination. We strive to understand an individual's life experience from multiple perspectives (including mental status, oppression, poverty, and social determinants) and help people feel safe voicing those experiences. We prioritize helping people who face significant barriers realize their rights, utilize their voice, and find empowerment to foster their resilience and recovery.

CSAC remains committed to improving Addison County's strength, wellness, and positivity.

# **Elderly Services/Project Independence**

Joanne Corbett, Executive Director

Thank you to the residents of Middlebury for your grant to Elderly Services at your 2020 Town Meeting.

In early 2020, Elderly Services was bustling, open 6 days a week with 80-90 Project Independence members attending each day. Our winter term of ESI College Lifelong Learning brought 114 older students in for classes several times a week. Many volunteers and students added to the lively atmosphere. Over the years, Middlebury residents have been members of Project Independence, ESI College, and received our geriatric social work assistance. In 2020, 45 Middlebury residents were regularly attending Project Independence, and 71 were regularly involved in ESI College Lifelong Learning.

On March 18, all in-person services had to halt. Our elderly members are most vulnerable to the threats of the COVID-19 virus. Elderly Services has developed our remote services model and offers the residents of Middlebury the following pandemic-era services:

- Adult Day Center without Walls:
  - Telehealth and telephone check-ins
  - Online entertainment four times daily
- Online ESI College Lifelong Learning classes
- Counseling and advice for elders and families
- Education and respite referrals for caregivers
- Geriatric needs evaluation and planning

Please call Joanne or Kristin at 388-3983 for more information.

# **End of Life Services, (formerly Hospice Volunteer Services)**

Shirley Ryan, Administrative Director

End of Life Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, formerly known as *Hospice Volunteer Services, Inc.* We are requesting level-funding of \$3000 from the Town of Middlebury for FY2021.

The Town of Middlebury has generously supported the work of End of Life Services (*Hospice Volunteer Services*) for 37 years as we have worked with hospice, death, dying and bereavement issues for town and county residents. Our most recent reporting year ended December 31, 2019 before sudden COVID-19 effects.

During FY2019: <u>1780 Middlebury residents received support services from *End of Life Services*, with a <u>\$66,700 value to the community.</u></u>

54 Middlebury residents were on hospice and palliative care programs receiving 718 hours of volunteer service. Hospice Volunteers made 562 visits, driving 5758 miles to patients' and families' homes. Hospice Volunteers provided bedside Vigil Sitting for 22 Middlebury residents during their last 24-48 hours of life. Wellspring singers sang at 27 bedsides and to residents in Middlebury residential care facilities. 293 hours of Bereavement care services was provided to residents.

Services provided through 2019 continued as robustly as EOLS, the Town of Middlebury and its residents have become accustom to: (9-13% increases). 100% of our requests were provided without charge to patients, families and caregivers. We are proud of EOLS volunteers who provide this unrelenting crucial support to the most vulnerable among us.

# **Green Up Vermont**

P.O. Box 1191 Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191 (802)229-4586, or 1-800-974-3259 greenup@greenupvermont.org www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Vermont celebrated its 50th Anniversary of Green Up Day on May 30, 2020. Although 99% of all events were cancelled due to COVID-19, Green Up Day was successfully executed with social distancing by 14,000+ volunteers, cleaning up over 241 tons of litter, and 9,000 tires statewide. It is imperative for all of us to keep building awareness and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment. 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 engagement.

Support from municipalities is essential to our program. Funds help pay for administrative and supplies, including 65,000 Green Up trash bags, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, poster and writing contests, and a \$1,000 scholarship.

Early awareness initiatives for Green Up Day tripled the number of submissions to our annual poster art and writing contests and produced 184 applicants for our first scholarship. We were able to offer "Greener" bags made with 70% post-consumer waste; add a Green Scuba team to clean in Lake Champlain; and had over 100 editorial stories in the news as well as a national mention in the *Washington Post*.

Donations can be made to Green Up Vermont 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).

## Green Up Day, May 1, 2021

# Habitat for Humanity of Addison County

G. Steven Ingram, President

Simply put, Habitat for Humanity of Addison County builds houses. As Vermont's only 100% volunteer Habitat affiliate, we are able to dedicate over 90 cents of every dollar raised to building safe, clean, high performance homes for Addison County families.

With our faithful crew of volunteer builders we are able to deliver a house to a deserving family every year. The generosity of local vendors and subcontractors play no small part in keeping all our homeowner's mortgage payments well below the monthly rents they had been saddled with.

By building well designed, highly energy efficient housing, the homeowners contribute to local economies and neighborhoods. Finally due to the support of communities like Middlebury, Habitat for Humanity of Addison County had been able to offer our homeowners mortgage with a 0% interest rate.

There is an urgent need for more affordable housing in Addison County and in the State of Vermont as a whole. Habitat for Humanity of Addison County will be able to continue to do our work, providing homes for deserving families with the support and generosity of the good citizens of Middlebury.

## John W. Graham Housing and Services

Elizabeth Ready, Financial Officer

We operate a shelter in Vergennes and four apartment houses – including a building with four apartments in Middlebury -- that provide rapid rehousing and permanently supported housing to homeless individuals and families. Our trained service coordinators are available 365 days a year to help people overcome barriers and attain permanent housing and employment. Our licensed clinician provides prevention, counseling and intervention for people in crisis and struggling with mental illness and addictions. John Graham has operated 24/7 housing people during the pandemic and we are adding new housing units and additional outreach and housing navigations services to meet the challenges posed by COVID 19.

# Mary Johnson Children's Center

David Mandel, Executive Director

Best known for its early childhood programs, Mary Johnson Children's Center offers a range of services for families and children services, including:

Early Childhood Programs: MJCC is one of 10% of the programs in the nation accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Both Mary Johnson and Middlebury Cooperative Nursery School have 5 STARS, the highest awarded by Vermont's quality recognition system. The Center also operates an early childhood program, the Orwell Early Education Program in the Orwell Village School. Last year the Center opened a new infant program in Middlebury and in September 2019 the first cohort moved from the infant room at Barrera House into the toddler class at Mary Johnson. This year the Center opened a new infant program at its Water Street location in Middlebury!

<u>Middsummer Lunch</u>: has been providing lunches at "open sites" including the Rec Park, the Memorial Sports Center, and the Middlebury High School. Anyone 2 to 18 can come for a free lunch. Due to the pandemic, this summer lunches were delivered to Salisbury, Ripton and Cornwall, as well as Middlebury. During the summer. MJCC serves over 12,000 meals. This year, however saw lower numbers overall, with few sites and fewer participants.

<u>Afterschool and Summer School Age Programs:</u> This summer we offered a summer program in Middlebury open to others.

<u>Referral Services</u> for anyone searching for childcare,

Eligibility Services for anyone who qualifies for state support for their childcare expenses.

Eligibility Services for anyone who qualifies for state support for their childcare expenses.

<u>Therapeutic Services:</u> In collaboration with families and CSAC we offer additional support services for children with significant social, emotional and mental health needs.

<u>RFD:</u> (Rural Fun Delivery) provides meals, social support, interactions, engaging activities and skills acquisition for over 100 children and youth daily at underserved, remote locations in rural Addison County throughout the summer. This program did not operate this past summer due to the pandemic.

<u>Support for School Re-opening</u>: We collaborated extensively with ACSD schools to provide support around implementing the hybrid model for school reopening. We also consulted with a private Middlebury business looking to create an onsite program for their employee's children.

We are so grateful for the support from the taxpayers of Middlebury. We work hard to give real value for the help we receive.

# Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT)

Jamie Montague, Executive Director

The Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) connects people of Addison County with the lands we protect. MALT is deeply grateful for our strong working relationship with the Town of Middlebury and its investment in our mission. Support from Middlebury allows MALT to:

- Dedicate approximately 200 staff hours (\$5,000 value) to monitoring Wright Park and respond to visitor needs, maintain habitat and park features outlined in the Wright Park Management Plan, and maintain over 9 miles of recreation trail in the park.
- Staff time and resources to engage several community partners and volunteers in caretaking of Wright Park. Annual partners include 10-15 individual volunteers, students from Hannaford Career Center's Natural Resource Program, MUHS's Diversified Occupations program, Otter Creek Audubon Society, and United Way of Addison County's Days of Caring volunteers. MALT annually recruits and coordinates 400 volunteer hours in Wright Park.
- In 2018 and 2019, MALT secured over \$2,000 in grant funding for two major Wright Park trail improvements and installation of new signage on the northern and southern park entrance kiosks.
- In 2020, MALT completed a major trail re-route project for the biking portion of the Trail Around Middlebury (TAM). Concentrated use by pedestrians and bikers caused deep holes and mud pits.
- In addition to the management of Wright Park, MALT provides nearly 30 miles of recreation trail to Middlebury residents and access to over 2,000 acres of conserved lands. We also provide nature based educational experiences to over 300 local youth, each year.

# **Middlebury Community Television**

Kurt Broderson, Executive Director

Middlebury Community Television is your local community media center, and has been since 1986. Our programming is broadcast on Comcast channels 1071 and 1091 and is also available for viewing on our website: www.middleburycommunitytv.org. We produce gavel-to-gavel coverage of local government meetings, and livestream Middlebury Selectboard meetings to YouTube, as well as run them live on our cable channel. We also offer community members the opportunity to produce noncommercial programs and exercise their First Amendment rights, for free, with our equipment and facilities. Our content is primarily about Middlebury and Vermont issues, and is produced by staff and volunteers, both in the studio and throughout the community. We are located on the third floor of the Ilsley Public Library, and work together with the library to offer children's media literacy programs, which have been very popular and well-attended, as well as cover library speakers and events, such as the First Wednesdays series, Otter Creek Audubon Society's Cabin Fever Lecture series, and talks by visiting authors.

We operate under the provisions of federal Telecommunications Acts and Vermont Rule 8. We are a 501c3 with a seven member board that includes representatives of the ACSD School Board, Ilsley Public Library trustees, and Middlebury Selectboard, as well as four at-large members.

We serve approximately 2000 cable subscribers in Middlebury, East Middlebury and Weybridge, as well as provide access to our programs online.

# Middlebury Regional Emergency and Medical Services (MREMS)

Kate Rothwell, Executive Director

Middlebury Regional Emergency and Medical Services (MREMS) is celebrating 50 years of service to ten towns, covering more than 800 square miles and nearly 17,000 citizens. In 2020, MREMS responded to 2,874 incidents including 911, Heavy Rescue, Transfers, Mutual Aid, and Paramedic intercepts. We also provided event coverage, agency assists, and automatic responses with Middlebury Fire Department.

MREMS is committed to providing high quality, timely pre-hospital care to the sick and injured and the inception of the novel corona virus last year brought about many changes and unprecedented challenges. MREMS has maintained its staff and coverage throughout the pandemic and we want to assure you that we have diligently followed the Vermont Department of Health and the CDC's guidelines to protect not only our staff but the individuals that we've served.

We are excited to announce the anticipated arrival of a new ambulance in February 2021, and appreciate your continued support of the critical services we provide. We also want to note that, with the initial shortage of PPE, it was community members that donated surplus N95's until the supply chains opened up. Community members also came through with numerous other gestures of appreciation which buoyed staff morale over the year. This support meant a lot.

Our modest funding request, as compared to other ambulance services in the state of Vermont, will allow MREMS to continue providing the quality care you've come to expect when you need it. As a private, non-profit service, unaffiliated with other organization, MREMS works hard to provide the emergency healthcare needs of the community while remaining financially healthy and viable. We are proud of our 50 year history of providing professional medical services to our community and look forward to the next 50!

## **Otter Creek Child Center**

Linda January, Executive Director

Otter Creek Child Center is a full day, year round, non-profit early care and education center located in Middlebury, Vermont. We welcome approximately 50 children, ages six weeks to six years, and their families. Founded in 1984, Otter Creek Child Center is one of the only area early care and education centers offering continuity of care from infancy to kindergarten. We are play-based, NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited and have been awarded 5 STARS by Vermont's quality recognition system.

Otter Creek Child Center currently serves 55 children. Town funds received from Middlebury, Cornwall, New Haven, Ripton, Shoreham, Vergennes, and Weybridge help support Otter Creeks' Tuition Assistance Program and our mission to provide quality, affordable early care and education to the Addison County Community. We believe that public funds will not only serve those families that immediately benefit, but that those funds will have multiplying effects that positively ripple throughout Middlebury and beyond.

Ultimately, we want all families in Addison County to have safe and reliable early care and education for their children. Providing a safe and stable children's center allows parents to be employed and contribute to the economic and social community in ways that are impossible if they are at home. In addition to parents contributing to the workforce, their children enjoy long-term benefits from negotiating peer groups early on in structured, safe, and enriching environments.

MISSION: To support young children and families in achieving their goals by providing high quality early care and education.

VALUES:

- Each child is an individual who deserves to be treated with love and respect at all times.
- Feeling loved, cared about and safe is the most important aspects of good development.
- Children will let us know what they need to learn.
- In our very hurried world, children need time to be children in an unhurried way.
- Helping children grow into healthy adults is a very important aspect of shaping the future of the world.
- Discipline is an attitude, not just a variety of techniques one uses with children.
- Diversity is essential to a health development experience.
- Family is the foundation of a child's wellbeing.

# **Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District**

Pamela Stefanek, District Manager (www.ottercreekconservation.org)

The Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District works in many ways to increase water quality in the Otter Creek and other Addison County watersheds. The District sells trees, we plant trees along streams. In 2022 we expect to be working with private landowners to remove 3 to 5 small dams in Addison County that are no longer useful and may impact stream flow. We are open to working with any other quality project that arrives our way.. We are active in recruiting and supporting farmers to soil test their farms and write their own Nutrient Management Plans. The District actively supports farmers who participate in programs that will help their business and improve water quality. We support the Agriculture section of the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan and we partner with the Regional Planning Commission on their water quality efforts. If the town is aware of a project that needs implementation and has no other funding sources, please contact us. www.ottercreekconservation.org.

# **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)**

Lynn Bosworth, Program Coordinator

RSVP is a volunteer management program which offers individuals the opportunity to share their experience, skills, and time by volunteering for local non-profit organizations. Needs are met in critical

areas such as human services, health care, and education. RSVP also oversees free community outreach programs to help community members to stay healthy, engaged and financially stable.

In FY20, 115 Middlebury residents served the community by volunteering over 11,700 hours at area organizations. The RSVP Tax Program provided income tax return preparation to 87 low-income Middlebury residents. The Bone Builders Program provided free strength training classes to 154 residents in Middlebury. Our Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program provided assistance to children in various educational settings; and he Warm Hearts Warm Hands Program distributed hundreds of warm clothing items. In response to COVID-19, volunteers distributed over 300 hand sewn masks to Middlebury organizations, provided essential items to children/families in crisis and offered wellness calls to isolated seniors.

Additionally, Middlebury residents who received assistance form a local service organization benefited from the work of our volunteers, such as residents who received free transportation services from volunteers who drive for Meals on Wheels and ACTR. Although the delivery of services was impacted by COVID-19, RSVP volunteers provided 40,000 hours to local organization, a value of \$1,088,000 in donated labor.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help defray the financial impact of COVID-19 on our organization. With your help, we will continue to respond to the increasing needs of the community.

# **Turning Point Center of Addison County**

Jennifer Mayhew, Executive Director Will Porter, President of the Board

We want to thank you for your support at this time of increased need for the addiction recovery and substance-using communities as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our center in Middlebury is one of twelve non-profit recovery centers in Vermont. This network is crucial to Vermont's best-in-the-nation response to the opioid crisis. The centers are peer-run and offer a safe and substance-free environment to support individuals and their families seeking recovery. Our mission is to provide peer-based recovery support to all. We seek to enhance the spiritual, mental, physical and social growth of people in our community affected by substance use disorder and other addictions.

The center serves all 22 towns in Addison County and before COVID in 2019 there were over 10,000 guest sign-ins. Here are the number of the people we served in Addison County in 2020:

269 AA meetings with 5,312 participant check-ins

336 hours in individual peer coaching

41 Mindful Recovery groups with 531 participants

1,219 recovery support calls made/received

The pandemic has caused all of us to face increased isolation and stress. For those coping with addiction it has been particularly harmful, even deadly. According to the Vermont Department of Health, 72 people died of drug overdoses from January to June of this year, compared to 48 in the same period last year. We have seen an analogous uptick in deaths here in Addison County. And that is just the tip of the

iceberg of suffering and hardship that results from the epidemic of addiction presently afflicting our county. We must work together to meet this grave challenge.

It has been observed that the opposite of addiction is connection and this is what the TPC works to provide. Our fundamental interconnectedness means that if any member of our community suffers it is harmful to each and every one of us. We deeply appreciate support from United Way. It helps us provide the essential services that people in Recovery need to be successful in their sobriety.

# WomenSafe, Inc.

Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, Executive Director

Last year WomenSafe staff and volunteers provided the following services:

- 555 total people served
- 5,055 in-person meetings and phone calls through advocacy services.
- o 202 supervised visits and monitored exchanges for 17 children..
- Worked with caregivers of a total of 407 children exposed to violence.
- Prevention Programming reached:
  - o 1,712 adults and youth through 328 presentations and workshops
  - 582 adults and youth through 5 outreach events
- 93 volunteers donated 8,507 hours of service.

In Middlebury, WomenSafe provided:

- Advocacy and supervised visitation services to at least 154 residents\*, including the parents of at least 85 children exposed to violence.
- 98 prevention programming and outreach events at Middlebury schools and within the community reaching 517 youth and 600 adults

\*For safety, some people do not share their town of residence.

## **Vermont Adult Learning**

David Roberts, Regional Manager

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) offers a variety of learning opportunities to help adults achieve their educational goals and enhance their quality of life. We work with each student to develop an individualized learning plan that includes a transition to further education or employment. We offer GED testing, programs for completing a high school diploma, basic skills instruction in reading, writing, and math and classes for English Language Learners (ELL). Instruction is also available to students who need skill preparation for college or employment purposes.

In addition, we are contracted by the Vermont Department of Children and Families to place and support Reach-Up participants in unsubsidized work experiences. <u>Our programs are free and confidential</u>.

This past year Vermont Adult Learning of Addison County provided services to 32 residents of Middlebury.

## **Middlebury Dog Park**

Operated & Maintained by Volunteers, Supported by Community Donations

Financial Report as of December 31, 2019

Expenses

FY 16	\$ 110.60
FY17	\$ 17,522.47*
FY18	\$ 2,290.27
FY19	\$ 2,781.81
FY20	\$ 2,513.84
<u>FY21 Y-T-D</u>	\$ 1,472.00
Total	\$ 26,690.99

Revenue

#### July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2020 \$32,806.64

\*FY17 Expenses include site work, signage and installation of fencing.

Donations may be sent to:

Middlebury Dog Park Town of Middlebury 77 Main Street Middlebury, Vermont 05753

While the Dog Park Committee, which manages and maintains the Dog Park off South Street, is not affiliated with or funded by the Town of Middlebury, the Town supports its efforts by processing donations and payments.

# **VERMONT DEPT OF HEALTH LOCAL OFFICE**

## Middlebury District, 2021

At the Vermont Department of Health our twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters. More info on your local health office can be found here: https://www.healthvermont.gov/local

## COVID-19

2020 has been a challenging year for Vermonters. However, the Vermont Department of Health has been recognized as a national leader in managing the virus. This is what the Health Department has done in your community:

- COVID-19 Testing:
  - Since May 2020, the Health Department has provided no-cost COVID-19 testing. Through November 17, 2020, the Vermont Department of Health has held 509 testing clinics, testing 40,796 Vermonters. This important work helps to identify the spread of COVID-19 and is just one of the many ways your Health Department is promoting and protecting the health of Vermonters.
  - Statewide, 224,284 people have been tested as of November 30, 2020
- COVID-19 Cases:
  - As of November 25, 2020, Vermont had the fewest cases of COVID-19 and the lowest rate of cases per 100,000 population of all 50 states.
  - Statewide, as of November 30, 2020, there have been 4,172 cases of COVID-19
  - Even more up-to-date information can be found on the Health Department's website:

https://www.healthvermont.gov/currentactivity

## **Additional Programs**

In addition to the COVID-19 response, the Health Department has programs such as influenza vaccinations and WIC.

- Flu Vaccinations: Protecting people from influenza is particularly important in 2020, as the flu may complicate recovery from COVID-19. (Data is as of November 17, 2020)
  - Approximately 213,00\* Vermonters have been vaccinated against the flu this season \*(Due to technology outages, flu vaccinations given are underreported by approximately 25%-33%.)
- WIC: The Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Education and Food Supplementation Program remains in full effect, though much of the work that was done in person is now being done remotely through TeleWIC. (Data is as of October 20, 2020)
  - 11,308 infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding people were served by WIC in Vermont, either in traditional format or TeleWIC

Learn more about what we do on the web at www.healthvermont.gov Join us on www.facebook.com/healthvermont Follow us on www.twitter.com/healthvermont

# DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET – FY2021

## (FY22 Budget will be set in the Spring, after Town Meeting)

## REVENUE

	FY20	FY21	Change
Downtown District Taxes	\$ 34,438	\$ 34,438	\$ -
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 34,438	\$ 34,438	\$ -

## **EXPENDITURES**

	FY20	FY21	Change
Maintenance of Previous Projects Better Middlebury Partnership	\$ 3,444	\$ 3,444	\$ -
(BMP) Operations Support	\$ 5,166	\$ 5,166	\$ -
BMP Marketing Position	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Supplemental Support for Bundle	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6.000
Sidewalk Frames	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ (1,000)
Outdoor Ashtrays	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500
Total	\$ 19,610	\$ 25,110	\$ 5,500
Revenue in Excess of Budget	\$ 14,828	\$ 9,328	\$ (5,500)
Year-End Fund Balance (est)	\$ 33,772	\$ 43,100	

# FY 2022 REVENUE SUMMARY

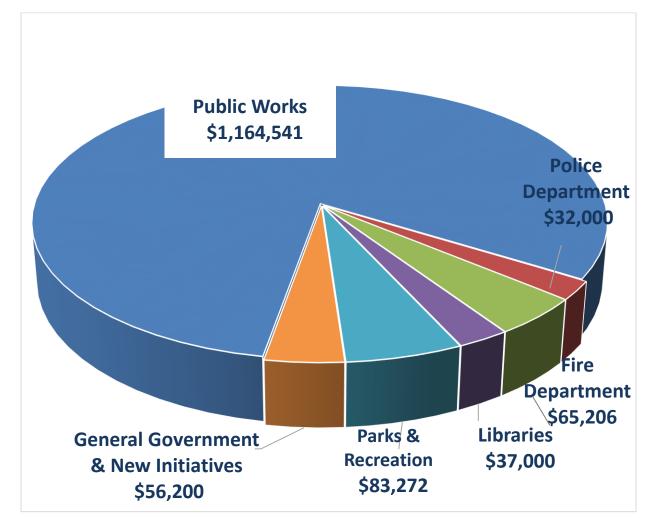
	FY21 Request	FY22 Request	(	CHANGE
Property Taxes	\$ 7,571,924	\$ 7,571,924	\$	-
Tax Collection Fees & Interest	\$ 93,000	\$ 80,000	\$ (1	3,000)
Licenses/Permits/Fees	\$ 32,855	\$ 28,210	\$	(4,645)
Intergovernmental	\$ 387,200	\$ 396,200	\$	9,000
Intragovernmental	\$ 334,420	\$ 371,420	\$ 3	7,000
Charges for Services				
Town Clerk/General Government	\$ 84,900	\$ 90,150		5,250
Public Safety	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$	-
Recreation	\$ 250,000	\$ 240,100	\$	(9,900)
Library	\$ 37,090	\$ 27,090	\$ (1	0,000)
Public Safety Fines	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$	-
Miscellaneous Revenue				
College/Town Office &				
<b>Recreation Bond Debt Service</b>	\$ 337,549	\$ 331,872	\$ (	5,677)
Other College Gifts & Payments	\$ 313,300	\$ 313,300	\$	-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 139,750	\$ 60,250	\$ (7	79,500)
Bridge Revenue				
College Gift	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$	-
Local Option Tax	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$	-
Previous Years' Surplus	\$ 200,000	\$ 275,462	\$	75,462
Previous Years' Surplus for HWY EQ	\$ 192,462	\$ 117,000	\$ (7	75,462)
Cross Street Bridge Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
Business Development Fund	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$	5,000
Total General Government	\$ 11,577,400	\$ 11,510,928	\$ (6	66,472)

# FY 2022 EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

	FY21 Budget		FY22 Request	C	HANGE
General Government	0				
Selectboard	\$ 27,200	\$	27,200	\$	-
Manager's Office	\$ 266,780	\$	266,530	\$	(250)
Planning/Zoning	\$ 179,500	\$	179,500	\$	-
Energy Committee	\$ 2,000	\$	2,000	\$	-
Agencies	\$ 115,689	\$	120,689	\$	5,000
Accounting & General Services	\$ 222,690	\$	225,750	\$	3,060
Town Treasurer	\$ 20,800	\$	21,300	\$	500
Town Clerk	\$ 130,630	\$	131,000	\$	370
Municipal Building	\$ 80,950	\$	60,250	\$	(20,700)
Audit, Annual Rpt & Newsletter	\$ 46,600	\$	46,700	\$	100
Elections	\$ 11,000	\$	5,000	\$	(6,000)
Assessing Office	\$ 32,900	\$	29,100	\$	(3,800)
Legal Services	\$ 30,000	\$	27,000	\$	(3,000)
Board of Civil Authority	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-
Total General Government	\$ 1,166,739	\$	1,142,019	\$	(24,720)
Libraries					
Ilsley Library	\$ 664,883	\$	678,827	\$	13,944
Sarah Partridge Library	\$ 14,000	\$	14,300	\$	300
Total Libraries	\$ 678,883	\$	693,127	\$	14,244
Public Safety					
Police Department	\$ 1,722,824	\$	1,773,085	\$	50,261
Fire Department	\$ 259,917	\$	254,535	\$	(5,382)
Total Public Safety	\$ 1,982,741	\$	2,027,620	\$	44,879
Public Works	\$ 1,911,715	\$	1,844,724	\$	(66,991)
Health & Social Services	\$ 204,424	\$	204,889	\$	465
<b>Recreation &amp; Parks Department</b>	\$ 496,037	\$	473,126	\$	(22,911)
Debt Retirement	\$ 961,321	\$	942,904	\$	(18,417)
Employee Benefits	\$ 1,516,100	\$	1,559,500	\$	43,400
County Tax	\$ 38,150	\$	46,281	\$	8,131
Property & Casualty Insurance	\$ 122,200	\$	148,200	\$	26,000
Capital Improvements	\$ 1,447,810	\$	1,438,219	\$	(9,591)
Cross Street Bridge – Debt & Reserve	\$ 1,038,255	\$ ¢	977,294	\$ ¢	(60,961)
Other Charges & Community Programs	\$ 13,025	\$	13,025	\$	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 11,577,400	\$	11,510,928	\$	(66,472)

# **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENSES FY2022**

	FY21 Budget	FY22 Request	CHANGE
Public Works	\$ 1,165,145	\$ 1,164,541	\$ (604)
Police Department	\$ 47,814	\$ 32,000	\$ (15,814)
General Government & New Initiatives	\$ 44,591	\$ 56,200	\$ 11,609
Libraries	\$ 44,200	\$ 37,000	\$ (7,200)
Parks & Recreation	\$ 88,400	\$ 83,272	\$ (5,128)
Fire Department	\$ 57,660	\$ 65,206	\$ 7,546
Total	\$ 1,447,810	\$ 1,438,219	\$ (9,591)



# EQUIPMENT FUND – FY 2022

### REVENUE

		FY2021		FY2022	C	hange
General Fund Transfers						
Highway	\$	690,771	\$	601,718	\$	(89,053)
Director of Operations	\$	3,273	\$	4,334	\$	1,061
Police	\$	97,020	\$	125,261	\$	28,241
Fire	\$	34,312	\$	27,930	\$	(6,382)
Parks and Recreation	<u>\$</u>	8,237	<u>\$</u>	9,802	\$	1,565
Total General Fund	\$	833,613	\$	769,045	\$	(64,568)
Other Funds						
Water	\$	64,318	\$	67,138	\$	2,820
Wastewater	<u>\$</u>	25,231	<u>\$</u>	29,810	\$	4,579
Total Fund Transfers	\$	89,549	\$	96,948	\$	7,399
Proceeds From Borrowing	\$	80,000	\$	-	\$	(80,000)
Apply Reserves	\$	50,225	\$		\$	(50,225)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	1,053,387	\$	865,993	\$	(187,394)

#### EXPENSE

		FY2021		FY2022	Change
Maintenance of Equipment	\$	282,544	\$	282,453	\$ (91)
Public Works Garage	\$	46,600	\$	43,100	\$ (3,500)
Purchase of Equip./Reserves	\$	520,000	\$	322,842	\$ (197,158)
Communications	\$	1,000	\$	1,000	\$ -
Indirect Charges	\$	110,621	\$	107,310	\$ (3,311)
Debt Retirement	\$	92,622	\$	109,288	\$ 16,666
	•		•		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	1,053,387	\$	865,993	\$ (187,394)

## WATER BUDGET – APPROVED FY2021

### FY22 Budget will be set in the Spring, after Town Meeting REVENUE

	FY20	FY21	Change
Water Charges	\$ 1,468,805	\$ 1,654,375	\$ 185,570
Misc.	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,300	\$ 5,300
Total	\$ 1,473,805	\$ 1,664,675	\$ 190,870

### **EXPENDITURES**

	FY20	FY21	Change
Administration & Salaries	\$ 540,309	\$ 574,583	\$ 34,274
Maintenance Operations	\$ 293,900	\$ 287,500	\$ (6,400)
Meter Program	\$ 90,100	\$ 26,000	\$ (64,100)
Debt Retirement	\$ 204,696	\$ 321,792	\$ 117,096
Capital Improvements	\$ 344,800	\$ 454,800	\$ 110,000
Total	\$ 1,473,805	\$ 1,664,675	\$ 190,870

## WASTEWATER BUDGET – APPROVED FY21

### FY22 Budget will be set in the Spring, after Town Meeting

### REVENUE

	FY20	FY21	Change
Sewer Charges	\$ 2,586,015	\$ 2,530,314	\$ (55,701)
Misc.	\$ 187,000	\$ 262,200	\$ 75,200
Total	\$ 2,773,015	\$ 2,792,514	\$ 19,499

### **EXPENDITURES**

	FY20	FY21	Change
Administrative Services	\$ 673,448	\$ 711,971	\$ 38,523
Operations	\$ 975,860	\$ 990,917	\$ 15,057
Purchase of Equipment	\$ 43,200	\$ -	\$ (43,200)
Debt Retirement	\$ 518,516	\$ 515,754	\$ (2,762)
Capital Improvements	\$ 561,991	\$ 573,872	\$ 11,881
Total	\$ 2,773,015	\$ 2,792,514	\$ 19,499

# **ESTIMATED MUNICIPAL TAX RATE FY2022**

The following tax rate information is provided in accordance with the provisions of the Town of Middlebury's Charter. Tax rates are per \$100 of assessed property value.

	FY21		FY22		Change	
			Est	timated*	FY2	21 –FY22
General Fund	\$	0.7821	\$	0.7823	\$	0.0002
Voted Exemptions (Veterans)	\$	0.0013	\$	0.0013	\$	-
Fire Equipment Fund	\$	0.0200	\$	0.0200	\$	-
Total Municipal	\$	0.8034	\$	0.8036	\$	0.0002
		FY21		FY22		
Amount to be Raised*	\$	7,571,924	\$ 7	,571,924		
Grand List**	\$	9,681,224	\$9	,678,437		

\*FY2022 tax rates are estimated. The tax rate and resulting tax bills will be affected by growth/reduction in the Grand List and the budget approved by voters.

\*\*Property tax rates are applied per \$100 of property valuation; therefore, the full and fair cash value of taxable real property, \$967,843,700, is divided by \$100 to determine the Town's Grand List, \$9,678,437.

## **2020 TOWN MEETING MINUTES**

#### Middlebury Union High School Auditorium Monday, March 2, 2020

Citing the warning to the legal voters of Middlebury, Moderator Susan Shashok called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Susan explained the basic meeting rules, noting that action will be taken only on warned Articles before voters.

#### Article 1 to act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

#### Ann Webster moved to adopt Article 1; John Barstow seconded.

Moderator Shashok introduced Selectboard members Brian Carpenter, Heather Seeley, Nick Artim, Victor Nuovo, Lindsey Fuentes-George, Farhad Khan, and Laura Asermily, as well as Town Clerk Ann Webster and Board clerk Peggy Connor.

Moderator Shashok requested admittance to the meeting for the following non-resident members of the town administration, and representatives of agencies requesting funding: Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, Assistant Town Manager Chris English, Director of Public Works Planning Dan Werner, Director of Public Works Operations Bill Kernan, Library Director Dana Hart, Fire Chief David Shaw, Ben Fuller of Middlebury Regional EMS, and Jeanette Gyukeri of the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity.

#### NO OBJECTION

For those watching the live stream on MCTV at home, Selectboard member Laura Asermily provided an overview of the Town's website at www.townofmiddlebury.org where all of the presentations at Town Meeting can be found online, as well as Town budget information, public notices, and Town staff contact information.

Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter welcomed community members, and reported that the Board has overseen a full slate over the past year, including two successfully completed projects: 1) installation of the Seymour Street/Pulp Mill Bridge sidewalk; and 2) construction of the Lions Club picnic pavilion at the Rec Park. Focus remains on capital planning and infrastructure improvements, which will be addressed under Article 6, while Articles 8-11 will be decided by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the coming months, the Selectboard will consider recommendations from the Creek Road Task Force in the development of policy for siting of solar projects; working with the Ilsley Library trustees on the expansion or new library facilities; addressing homelessness; and the ongoing downtown bridge projects -- for which a full report will be made on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Unitarian Universalist Society on Charles Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

For the dedication of the Town Report, Selectboard member Victor Nuovo noted that it is fitting and with gratitude that the 2019 Town Report is dedicated to the Battell Trustees who have made possible the conservation of hundreds of acres of land throughout the Town, a mission begun by philanthropist and Middlebury College alum Joseph Battell in the 1860's.

Selectboard member Farhad Khan presented a plaque recognizing outgoing Selectboard member Laura Asermily for her service over the past six years, especially her work on the Energy and Health Committees, ACTR, and her continued efforts to make the Town of Middlebury safer for both bicyclists and pedestrians.

Also recognized for his 32 years of service in law enforcement to the Town of Middlebury was Scott Fisher.

Parks & Recreation Department Superintendent Dustin Hunt and Program Coordinator Scott Bourne presented the 2019 Robert E. Collins Award to coaches Karen and Todd Duguay in recognition of their dedication of countless hours volunteering to help coach and referee soccer, basketball, and baseball.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE ARTICLE 1 ADOPTED

<u>ARTICLE 2 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury authorize the Selectboard, pursuant to 24 V.S.A.</u> <u>§1786a(b), to replace Two (2) police cruisers and related equipment and to finance the purchase of same by</u> borrowing funds in a total amount not to exceed \$80,000 over a term not to exceed five (5) years?

#### Heather Seeley moved to adopt Article 2; Farhad Khan seconded.

Selectboard member Nick Artim explained that, in accordance with the ongoing replacement schedule in effect for the past 15 years, voters are asked to authorize the Selectboard to borrow \$80,000 for two police cruisers and related equipment. Nick noted that the Board continues to research the efficiency and performance of hybrid vehicles for the department's fleet in the future.

Noting that voters are asked each year to authorize the purchase of police cruisers, Dave Silberman asked why funds are not allocated in the budget automatically. Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay indicated that allocating funds for replacement vehicles is being proposed in the Highway Department; therefore, voters can expect funding to be part of the budget next year.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE ARTICLE 2 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 3 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to adopt the proposed budget for the Fiscal <u>Vear 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021) in the amount of \$11,503,680, with a portion thereof in the amount of \$7,498,204 to be raised by taxes and \$583,745 to be allocated from annual local option tax receipts in excess of debt and maintenance requirements of the Cross Street Bridge to offset spending for Capital Improvements?</u>

#### John Barstow moved to adopt Article 3; Farhad Khan seconded.

Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay reviewed the proposed 2021 budget, noting an increase of 0.0062 in the municipal tax rate. Major drivers include increases in wages and benefits (\$194,456), the Department of Public Works Equipment Fund (\$239,462), and Capital Improvements (\$175,789). In 2008, voters approved a special tax of 1% assessment on sales, rooms, meals and alcohol as a means of covering the community's annual share of \$600,000 in debt service over 30 years for the \$16 million Cross Street Bridge project. The fund, which now stands at \$2.5 million, has been raising considerably more than is needed to cover debt and maintenance of the Cross Street Bridge. During public hearings on the Local Option Tax/Cross Street Bridge Fund surplus, citizens asked the Selectboard to use cash-on-hand to minimize increases in the tax rate; use reserves and/or Local Option Tax revenue to fund infrastructure improvement projects; and reduce amounts borrowed and/or interest expense. In response, the Selectboard has put forth a budget for FY21 that applies an additional \$50,000 in FY20 to \$583,745 in FY21 (Article 8); uses the local option tax fund balance to defray interest expense for debt incurred for Flood Resiliency Improvements (Article 9), the Police Department Adaptive Reuse Project (Article 10); and applies \$192,462 to capitalize the Equipment Fund. The Board also opted for a shorter borrowing term of 7 years versus the customary 20 years, saving tens of thousands of dollars in interest expense.

Kathleen noted that the proposed budget includes allocations for the following agencies serving the Town of Middlebury: End of Life Services, \$3,000 (an increase of \$1,000 from FY20); Middlebury Area Land Trust, \$7,000 (an increase of \$1,600 from FY20); and Better Middlebury Partnership, \$25,000 (the same amount as FY20).

#### DISCUSSION:

Susan McGarry asked if Middlebury residents should anticipate a significant tax increase following the recent reappraisals. Town Manager Ramsay explained that, because the amount to be raised by taxes is divided by property value, it may be divided differently but represents the same pie.

Roger Desautels asked the cost of health insurance for municipal staff. Kathleen indicated the cost is approximately \$600,000.

Referring to the list of time-sensitive community projects, Thomas Williams expressed concern with the parking layout for the new passenger rail platform on Middlebury Seymour Street, and asked if a sidewalk is included in the plans. Kathleen noted that concerns raised at the public meetings about the project have been relayed to the engineer, but that there is no funding for sidewalks at this time.

George Tucker asked if a street sweeper is included in the budget. Kathleen responded that the Town currently has a 20-year-old sweeper in use.

Regarding the Public Safety Budget and the over-time line item, Jason Duquette-Hoffman asked about the status of hiring additional police officers. Chief Tom Hanley noted that his budget reflected a normal year; however, in the past two years, 3 officers have been out due to injuries. Although the department is careful in managing over-time, it must operate 24/7, with officers typically working 16-hour shifts, with 8 hours off. In terms of replacements, the training process is lengthy from the time an officer completes training at the academy to working full-time for the department.

Incensed that the police department must operate on a 24/7 basis without sufficient staff, Andrea Galiano suggested contracting with the Sheriff's Department or Vermont State Police. Ms. Galiano asked if Scott Fisher would consider coming out of retirement, or if additional funds might be diverted to the police department.

Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay explained that Chief Hanley annually prepares a comprehensive budget, and in turn, the Selectboard has responded with full funding for the department's budget. Chief Hanley reiterated the long process to replace officers, and that injuries are unforeseen. Having four officers out all at once is extraordinary. He noted that, by law, the Vermont State Police cannot contract with the Town Police.

Dave Silberman pointed out that the Police Department budget represents 20% of the budget, and with new cruisers being purchased, he asked that the Selectboard think more broadly in addressing public safety issues with the right tools; i.e. social service programs. Jason Duquette-Hoffman added that, given the significant number of overtime hours, he suggested that the percentage of cases involving mental health issues may be better served by social services. Chief Hanley noted that the department continues to work with the counseling service; however, there is no support from the State having a clinician on Board. He added that his department is strictly first response that requires a police officer.

Brockton Corbett asked the number of employees across all departments. Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay responded that the town employs 55 full-time employees.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE ARTICLE 3 ADOPTED

#### ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to increase its appropriation for Middlebury Regional Emergency & Medical Services (MREMS) by \$63,720, from \$21,240 to \$84,960, to support MREM's mission to provide quality emergency medical services, including paramedic and heavy rescue service, emergency dispatch and answering, medical education, and community research?

MREMS representatives Jeff Carpenter and David Fuller provided an overview of MREM's services to the Town, including paramedic and heavy rescue to 17,000 residents in 10 Addison County towns. Noting that Middlebury generates around 40% of MREM's annual calls for ambulance service, voters are being asked to increase their commitment from \$21,240 to \$84,960 for fiscal year 2021. Residents in the other nine towns covered by MREMS will similarly be asked to support what amounts to a per-capital increase from \$2.50 to \$10. Current revenues are not sufficient to help the organization update its ambulance fleet, and pay its staff competitive wages.

Ken Perine pointed out while there is no question about the level of care and professionalism provided by MREMS, the increase being asked of Middlebury voters is significant. Ken asked if the Selectboard had undergone an interview process with MREMS similar to other non-profits.

Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter explained that although the Board did not follow the normal process, it did meet with representatives of MREMS to ask them questions. He added that with such a significant increase in funding being asked of Middlebury voters, the Selectboard should have full oversight of those funds, and would have preferred to fully vet MREMS.

# Victoria DeWind moved to amend Article 4 to a one-year request, at which time the matter would be revisited and allow time for the Selectboard to more thoroughly consider the request.

#### Max Krause seconded the amendment to Article 4.

#### **DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT:**

Dan Brown asked if the Selectboard would consider a vetting process prior to voter approval this year.

Selectboard member Heather Seeley indicated that the request did not come before the Board in time to fully consider the matter, which is why the Board decided to bring the request before voters for discussion and consideration.

Noting that all agree that MREMS provides a tremendous service, Max Krause pointed out that Article 4 appears to be for one year only, and supports the amendment.

Chip Malcolm also expressed his support for MREMS; however, he noted that the funding being asked of Middlebury voters is not an endowment but rather to replace equipment, which is better done privately by non-profits since the Town has no control over the equipment. Malcolm added that there appears to be a notable discrepancy between the amounts being asked of Middlebury voters versus surrounding towns.

Albert Perry agreed that Article 6 as written appears to be a one-year request, but would support the amendment. Alison Nihart noted that a one-year request seemed reasonable, adding that the Town of Middlebury does not otherwise have a publicly funded service.

May Williams expressed her strong support for MREMS, having received excellent care recently. Mark Mooney agreed; however, compared to other non-profit requests, MREMS is asking for a quadruple increase for one year, a request he believes should be fully vetted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard Heather Seeley clarified that typically only new non-profits are voted by Australian ballot, and while the Board could have opted to include the request made by MREMS on the ballot, because it came to the Board late in the budget process, it was the decision of the Selectboard to bring the Article before voters at Town Meeting.

#### Linda Horn called the question.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO CALL THE QUESTION

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4 ADOPTED

George Tucker stressed the need to look at the issue from a fiscal standpoint, and allow the Selectboard time to do their job. Mary Chapman pointed out that Article 4 is not a budget issue but a responsibility issue, noting that when her daughter was hit by a car, MREMS arrived in minutes and saved her daughter's life.

Bruce Meacham asked if the percentage per capita was the same for surrounding towns. Dave Fuller answered that, yes, every town is being asked to increase their funding at the same level.

Diane Lawson noted that she could not remember another time when voters were asked to contribute to a charity's capital improvement fund, and supported allowing the Selectboard more time to further consider the request. Jason Duquette-Hoffman suggested voters reframe their thinking on these kinds of line items; perhaps the Town should purchase ambulances much like it does police cruisers or, in the alternative, trust MREMS to do so on behalf of the Town. He contended that, as a non-profit, it makes MREMS a better value.

John Balparda asked if Selectboard members had reviewed a budget or financial statement from MREMS. Dave Fuller noted that the organization had provided the Selectboard it's most recent audit, and welcome their participation, as well as community members, to serve on the MREMS Board.

#### John Tenny moved to table the motion to allow vetting by the Selectboard; Farhad Khan seconded.

#### MOTION TO TABLE FAILED BY SHOW OF HANDS

Tyler Ayers offered an alternative to approve the budget, allow the Selectboard to do its due diligence to vet MREMS, and then amend the budget should anything inappropriate be discovered. Moderator Susan Shashok pointed out that the motion was out of order as the Article had been warned.

#### Nancy Morgan called the question.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE TO CALL THE QUESTION

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE ARTICLE 4 ADOPTED AS AMENDED

<u>ARTICLE 5 shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to collect taxes on real property for fiscal year</u> <u>2020/2021 in TWO equal installments due in the Treasurer's Office on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 and the</u> <u>15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021?</u>

#### Ann Webster moved to adopt Article 5; Gary Baker seconded.

Steve Gross recalled that three installment payments were reduced to two for one year only last year. Town

Manager Kathleen Ramsay explained that the decision to do so was to lessen downtown traffic during bridge construction. She added that for anyone who wishes to spread payments into three installments may make arrangements with the Town Treasurer. Maja Zimmermann opposed the change for two installment payments per year, citing a significant burden to taxpayers, and that most do not drive into town just to pay their taxes. Town Treasurer Jackie Sullivan noted however that she has seen about a third of the Town's residents come to her office to pay taxes. Jackie added that it is not uncommon to receive some 150 revised bills from the State, and that payment plans are encouraged.

Chip Malcolm noted that voters approved two installment payments last year as a result of property re-appraisals, and he agreed that three payments works better for taxpayers. John Barstow concurred, and suggested that the goal is to attract people to the downtown area during construction. Ann LaFiandra understood the Town Treasurer's point, but hoped to revert back to a three-payment plan next year.

Ross Conrad asked what the results would be should voters not approve Article 5.

Robin Scheu moved to amend Article 5 to three equal installments due in the Treasurer's Office on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2020, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020, and the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

Andrew Anderson seconded the amendment.

Linda Horn called the question on the amendment.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO CALL THE QUESTION ON THE AMENDMENT

#### <u>MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE</u> <u>AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 5 ADOPTED</u>

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE ARTICLE 5 ADOPTED AS AMENDED

<u>ARTICLE 6 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote, pursuant to 24 VSA § 2409(a), to authorize</u> the Selectboard to apply up to One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) from the Cross Street Bridge Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding water system improvements for the Court Square area (including the intersection of Main Street/North Pleasant Street (Route 7/Seymour Street) Court Street (Route 7) from Court Square to Cross Street, and Washington Street from Court Square to Seminary Street?

#### John Tenny moved to adopt Article 6; Lindsey Fuentes-George seconded.

Selectboard member Heather Seeley explained that the project will replace 3,210 feet of outdated and deteriorating water main with new 12-inch main. Work is scheduled to begin this fall after the new downtown tunnel is installed. Noting that the Vermont Agency of Transportation is scheduled to repave Class 1 highways, including Routes 30, 125 and 7, it is important to complete the water main project prior to paving to avoid the cost of re-digging. In addition to the one million dollars from the Cross Street Bridge Reserve Fund, it is anticipated that the remaining \$1.5 million for the project will be funded by potential grants and phased-in rate increases for water system users.

Thomas Williams asked if any of the work could get done before the tunnel project is completed. Heather noted that it is anticipated that work will begin after the tunnel project is finished, with most of the work being done at night.

Bruce Meacham asked about the condition of the Town's other utilities. Director of Public Works Planning Dan Werner indicated there have been some recent storm sewer repairs on Court Street in anticipation of the Class I paving project.

Tyler Ayers asked about the impact on ratepayers. Selectboard member Heather Seeley noted that the project is not out to bid yet, and that the Board may offer only estimates at this time. If voters approve, the next stage would be to put the project out to bid, and following phases A and B, numbers should be available by the end of April. Dan Werner added that bids are scheduled to go out on Thursday and due back by the end of March. Heather also pointed out that with community support, comes greater opportunities for grant funding.

#### *Tim Williams called the question.*

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO CALL THE QUESTION

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE ARTICLE 6 ADOPTED

#### Article 7 to transact other business proper to be done.

#### [For voting by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, polls open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.]

<u>Article 8 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an amount not to exceed</u> <u>Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), subject to reduction from available alternate</u> <u>sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of financing construction of water system transmission and</u> <u>distribution improvements related to the Court Square area (including the intersection of Main</u> <u>Street/North Pleasant Street (Route7)/Seymour Street) Court Street (Route 7) from Court Square to Cross</u> <u>Street, and Washington Street from Court Square to Seminary Street project, the estimated cost of such</u> <u>improvements being Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars?</u>

Selectboard member Heather Seeley reiterated that a successful bond vote will open the door to state grant opportunities, including low-interest-rate financing and/or loan forgiveness programs that could potentially offset or eliminate the need to bond for the water system projects. The programs, however, require evidence of community support in order for the town to qualify.

Frank Winkler noted that the budget does not address infrastructure in general, and suggested that with the water main and pavement projects, now would be a good time to consider installing all underground utilities. He pointed to the recent infrastructure improvements in Brandon, and encouraged the Selectboard to consider accomplishing underground utilities for the Town of Middlebury. Ross Conrad agreed, adding that underground utilities are more resilient to extreme weather events.

Article 9 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an amount not to exceed Two Million (\$2,000,000), subject to reduction from available alternate sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of financing construction of Flood Resiliency Improvements for the Village of East Middlebury including: (1) repair the existing flood wall and extend the flood wall 150 feet downstream (\$1,000,000); (2) armoring sections of the Ossie Road Berm (\$800,000); and removing sediment from chute entrances and the top of large bars (\$200,000), the total estimated cost of such improvements being Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), with the Town's portion of the project cost estimated at Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000)?

Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter explained that the East Middlebury Flood Resiliency Project has been in the planning stages for several years. Tropical Storm Irene deposited several feet of sediment upstream of the Grist

Mill Road Bridge, and more than six feet of scour took place along the retaining wall just downstream from the span. Officials estimate the 2017 flood shaved up to 50 feet off the riverbank. While voters are being asked to support up to \$2 million in bond financing, the town's obligation will be limited to \$500,000 because the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has agreed to fund \$1.5 million. Also, the Selectboard is actively researching sources of matching funds, such as state clean water grant funds, to further reduce the cost of the project.

<u>Article 10 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an amount not to exceed</u> <u>Eight Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000), subject to reduction from available alternate</u> <u>sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of rehabilitating the former wastewater treatment facility,</u> <u>including the Control Building for Police Department storage, the sand filter building for cruiser parking,</u> <u>a small hazardous material storage building, and energy upgrades to the PD building; all on Lucius Shaw</u> <u>Lane?</u>

Steve Gross asked if solar panels are being considered for the police station. Selectboard member Lindsey Fuentes-George noted that although solar panels are not currently part of the project, town officials have spoken to the engineers and plans to add solar panels may be considered in the future.

Dave Silberman contended that this is the second year voters have been asked to approve the use of the surplus to fund infrastructure projects, adding that the police department is receiving a significant portion of the budget. Mr. Silberman suggested that the PD storage project be part of the PD budget since the Town's infrastructure needs are significant.

Selectboard member Heather Seeley pointed out the need to complete decommissioning the former wastewater facility. Leveling the site was considered; however, because the buildings still have value, and the police department needs storage, it was decided that the most cost-efficient course would be to repurpose the facility. Heather added that the buildings are considered part of the Town's infrastructure that need to be maintained. Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter also pointed out the difference in cost for repurposing at \$130/square foot versus \$300/square foot to build new.

Chief Thomas Hanley noted that the project is not new. When the police building was designed in 2003, the size and scope was scaled back with the intent of re-using on-site buildings, such as the control and sand filter buildings and another structure for temporary storage of hazardous materials. In the meantime, those buildings have deteriorated due to lack of maintenance and funding

#### <u>Article 11 Shall the Town of Middlebury appropriate \$5,000 to the Turning Point Center of Addison</u> <u>County for the purpose of supporting its mission to assist persons, their</u> <u>families, and their friends in recovery from substance use disorder and addictive behaviors?</u>

Turning Point Executive Director Stacy Jones urged voters to support a \$5,000 appropriation to the non-profit which is part of the Vermont Recovery Network (VRN), a system of 9 member and 3 affiliate peer recover centers that focus on support for individuals and their families seeking recovery from substance use disorder and other addictions.

Noting that Turning Point continues to provide a valuable service to the Town, Mary Chapman encouraged voters to support the Turning Point Center of Addison County.

#### <u>Article 12 Shall the town appropriate \$5,000 to Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity</u> (CVOEO) to support its efforts in providing housing, fuel & food assistance to town residents in need of these services in accordance with 24 V. S. A. § 2691?

Representing Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO), Jeanette Gyukeri asked voters to support CVOEO's efforts to work with people to achieve economic independence, and to address fundamental issues of economic, social, and racial justice.

#### Article 13 to elect officers as required by the Middlebury Town Charter.

The following candidates asked voters for their support:

Victoria Jette - Addison Central School District School Board (Middlebury) Dan Brown - Town of Middlebury Selectboard Mary Gill - Addison Central School District School Board (Middlebury) Kristin Gardner - Addison Central School District School Board (Middlebury) Jennifer Nucedar - Addison Central School District School Board (Salisbury) Brian Carpenter - Town of Middlebury Selectboard Ann Webster - Middlebury Town Clerk Susan Shashok - Middlebury Town Moderator

Selectboard member Laura Asermily encouraged all to participate in the Town Meeting poll, and that voting by Australian ballot on Articles 8 through 13 on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center, 154 Creek Road in Middlebury.

Jason Duquette-Hoffman moved to adjourn; Adam Franco seconded.

#### MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

The 2020 Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

### TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

### Town Meeting & Presidential Primary Election Results 3-3-20

LOCAL OFFICE	Vote for:	CANDIDATE	TOTAL VOTES
President Democrat	1		
		Joseph R. Biden	523
		Michael R. Bloomberg	238
		Pete Buttigieg	58
		Julian Castro	0
		Tulsi Gabbard	11
		Amy Klobuchar	47
		Deval Patrick	1
		Bernie Sanders	947
		Mark Stewart	3
		Tom Steyer	0
		Elizabeth Warren	510
		Marianne Williamson	1
		Andrew Yang	2
President Republican	1		
		Rocque "Rocky" De La	
		Fuente	4
		Donald J. Trump	183

	Term	Vote for:		
Moderator	1 yr	1	Susan Shashok	1942
Town Clerk	3 yr	1	Ann F. Webster	2012
Treasurer	3Yr	1	Jacqueline Sullivan	1964
Selectboard	3 yr	2		
			Dan Brown	1717
			Brian R. Carpenter	1747
Lister	3 yr	1	Gary F. Baker	1876
Library Trustee	3 yr	1	Andy Hooper	1869

Bill Weld

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Article 8 Water system transmission & distribution	YES	1899
improvements (\$2,500,000)	NO	277
Article 9 East Middlebury flood resiliency improvements	YES	1836
project (\$2,000,000)	NO	332
Article 10 Rehabilitate former wastewater treatment	YES	1772
facility (\$850,000)	NO	405
Article 11 Turning Point Center of Addison County	YES	1973
appropriate \$5,000	NO	243
Article 12 CVOEO appropriate \$5,000	YES	2020
	NO	214

### VERMONT STATE PRIMARY

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August 11, 2020

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY RESULTS

	Candidate	TOTALS
Representative to Congress	Ralph "Carcajou" Corbo	0
	Peter Welch	1624

	Candidate	
Governor	Ralph "Carcajou" Corbo	14
	Rebecca Holcombe	639
	Patrick Winburn	82
	David Zuckerman	820

	Candidate	
Lieutenant Governor	Tim Ashe	491
	Molly Gray	803
	Debbie Ingram	180
	Brenda Siegel	132

	Candidate	
State Treasurer	Beth Pearce	1524

	Candidate	
Secretary of State	Jim Condos	1536

	Candidate	
Auditor of Accounts	Doug Hoffer	973
	Linda Joy Sullivan	497

	Candidate	
Attorney General	T.J. Donovan	1518

	Candidate	
State Senator	Christopher Bray	1340
	Ruth Hardy	1494

	Candidate	
State Representative	Robin Scheu	0
	Amy Sheldon	1506

	Candidate	
High Bailiff	Ron Holmes	480
	Dave Silberman	1028

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY RESULTS		
	Candidate	TOTALS
Representative to Congress	Miriam Berry	131
	Jimmy Rodriguez	58
	Justin Tuthill	76
	Anya Tynio	65

Candidate		
Governor	Douglas Cavett	1
	John Klar	81
	Bernard Peters	2
	Emily Peyton	9
	Phil Scott	366

	Candidate	
Lieutenant Governor	Dana Colson Jr	18
	Meg Hansen	116
	Jim Hogue	14

Scott Milne	243
Dwayne Tucker	14

	Candidate	
	Carolyn Whitney	
State Treasurer	Branagan	332

	Candidate	
Secretary of State	H. Brooke Paige	322

	Candidate	
Auditor of Accounts		

	Candidate	
Attorney General	H. Brooke Paige	162
	Emily Peyton	168

	Candidate	
State Senator	Peter Briggs	354

	Candidate	
State Representative	Thomas A. Hughes	353

	Candidate	
High Bailiff		

PROGRESSIVE PRIMARY RESULTS		
	Candidate	TOTALS
Representative to Congress	Chris Brimmer	2
	Cris Ericson	0

	Candidate	
Governor	Cris Ericson	0
	Boots Wardinski	0

	Candidate	
Lieutenant Governor	Cris Ericson	1

Candidate		
State Treasurer	Cris Ericson	1

Candidate		
Secretary of State	Cris Ericson	1

	Candidate	
Auditor of Accounts	Cris Ericson	0

Candidate		
Attorney General	Cris Ericson	1

Candidate		
State Senator		

	Candidate	
State Representative		

	Candidate	
High Bailiff		

### **Town of Middlebury Election Results**

**General Election November 3, 2020** 

President / Vice President	Vote for One	Total
BIDEN / HARRIS		3479
BLANKENSHIP / MOHR		2
CARROLL / PATEL		5
COLLINS / PARKER		4
DE LE FUENTE /		
RICHARDSON		0
DUNCAN / BUPP		2
SWING / OLSZTA		0
HAWKINS / WALKER		16
HUBER / ATWOOD		1
JORGENSON / COHEN		39
KENNEDY / JARRETT		3
KOPITKE / IWANOW		1
LAFONTAINE / SPEED		4
LARIVA / FREEMAN		4
MCCORMIC / BLASIAK		0

PAIGE / WITMAN	11
PIERCE / BALLARD	1
SCALF / LYDA	0
SEGAL / GRAAF	1
TRUMP / PENCE	732
WEST /TIDBALL	11

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Rep to Congress	Vote for One	Total
PETER R BECKER		62
MIRIAM BERRY		670
CHRISTOPHER HELALI		63
MARCIA HORNER		25
SHAWN ORR		8
JERRY TRUDELL		19
PETER WELCH		3344
Governor	Vote for One	Total
WAYNE BILLADO III		9
MICHAEL A DEVOST		9
CHARLY DICKERSON		12
KEVIN HOYT		18
EMILY PEYTON		37
PHIL SCOTT		2545
ERYNN HAZLETT		
WHITNEY		8
DAVID ZUCKERMAN		1625
Lieutenant Governor	Vote for One	Total
WAYNE BILLADO III		31
RALPH CORBO		29
CRIS ERICSON		86
MOLLY GRAY		2776
SCOTT MILNE		1267
State Treasurer	Vote for One	Total
CAROLYN WHITNEY		
BRANAGAN		834
CRIS ERICSON		165
BETH PEARCE		2934
ALEX WRIGHT		134
Secretary of State	Vote for One	Total

JIM CONDOS	3114
CRIS ERICSON	127
H. BROOKE PAIGE	686
PAMALA SMITH	181

Auditor of Accounts	Vote for One	Total
CRIS ERICSON		490
DOUG HOFFER		3316
Attorney General	Vote for One	Total
T.J. DONOVAN		3249
CRIS ERICSON		164
H. BROOKE PAIGE		657
State Senator	Vote for Two	Total
CHRISTOPHER BRAY		2704
PETER BRIGGS		953
JON CHRISTIANO		617
ARCHIE FLOWER		140
RUTH HARDY		3016
State Representative	Vote for Two	Total
THOMAS A. HUGHES		1042
ROBIN SCHEU		2874
AMY SHELDON		3137

High Bailiff	Vote for One	Total
MICHAEL ROBERT		
ELMORE		435
RON HOLMES		1029
DAVE SILBERMAN		2584

	Vote for	
Justice of the Peace	Fifteen	Total
BRIAN BAUER		1298
PETER BEVERE		1540
DAVID DORMAN		2297
KERRI DUQUETTE-		
HOFFMAN		2327
RICK EMILO		1568

ALICE GEORGE	1590
DEAN GEORGE	1553
DON KEELER	1445
MARGARET KLOHCK	2137
CAROLYN KUEBLER	2181
ELLEN KURRELMEYER	1985
MARGARET "PEG"	
MARTIN	2562
KEVIN NEWTON	1336
MICHAEL OLINICK	2277
STEPHEN RAGAN-	
SELECKY	1018
DAVE SILBERMAN	2329

# **TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT WARNING**



## TOWN of MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

#### WARNING Annual Town Meeting Tuesday, March 2, 2021

The legal voters of the Town of Middlebury, in the County of Addison, the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 1 through 5 on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 7:00 A.M. through 7:00 P.M. at the Recreation Center, 154 Creek Road in Middlebury, as provided by the Middlebury Town Charter and Act 162, which, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, temporarily allows a municipality to apply the Australian ballot system to any or all of its Town Meetings.

The legal voters of the Town of Middlebury are further notified that the Middlebury Selectboard will hold an informational meeting on Articles 1 through 5 on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Videoconferencing, with details provided below.

- Article 1 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to adopt the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) in the amount of \$11,510,928, with a portion thereof in the amount of \$7,571,924 to be raised by taxes and \$622,706 to be allocated from annual local option tax receipts in excess of debt and maintenance requirements of the Cross Street Bridge to offset spending for Capital Improvements?
- Article 2 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to collect taxes on real property for fiscal year 2021/2022 in THREE equal installments due in the Treasurer's Office on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021, the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 and the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022?
- Article 3 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury permit the operation of cannabis retailers and integrated licensees within the Town of Middlebury, pursuant to 7 V.S.A. §863(a)(1)?
- Article 4 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury ratify the Town of Ripton's vote of January 12, 2021 to withdraw the Town of Ripton from the Addison Central School District?"