



99TH ANNUAL REPORT 2020

JULY 1, 2019-JUNE 30, 2020



**2021 ANNUAL TOWN & SCHOOL MEETINGS: BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
VOTE TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 7AM-7PM | ALL VOTE AT HIGH SCHOOL GYM**

Photo Courtesy of Adam Cohen

Annual Report Dedication

Thank You Essential Workers!



This 99th Colchester Annual Report is Dedicated to all Essential Workers

To all essential workers--from those who live or work in Colchester, to people across the world who help us locally--Thank You!

Essential workers include many fields such as health care, food and agriculture, retail/grocery, energy and utilities, education, child care, emergency services, transportation, public works, communications, technology, manufacturing, and financial services. Most town employees and volunteers were deemed essential and worked in person through COVID at their own risk to serve others. These employees range from Rescue often aided by Fire, Technical Rescue and Police in response to medical calls; to Public Works maintaining your roads, paths, stormwater, buildings and equipment; to Parks and Recreation maintaining parks, paths and providing crucial child care; to Planning and Zoning keeping up with a record number of permits on projects from porches to new developments; to Colchester's Burnham Library offering curbside and digital services; to the Town Clerks making voting safer with new options.

Dr. Anthony Fauci congratulated Vermonters for their success in slowing the spread of the coronavirus. The nation's top infectious disease expert said Vermont should be the model for the rest of the country.

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Part A

Town of Colchester



COLCHESTER, VT.
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
January 13 AD. 2021 AT
2 O'Clock 00 Min. 00 M
Recorded in Vol. _____ Page _____
of the Land Records.
Attest: Kissy Jenkins
Asst. Town Clerk

WARNING
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 2021
COLCHESTER, VERMONT

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester, Vermont are notified and warned to meet at the Colchester High School Gymnasium, Laker Lane, in said Town on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to act on the following articles by Australian ballot:

ARTICLE 1 - Town Municipal Services Budget

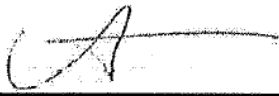
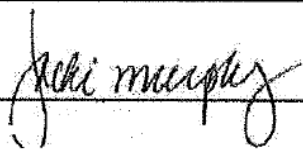
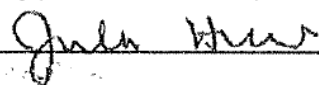
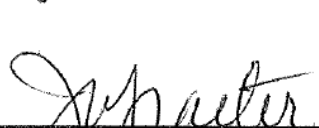
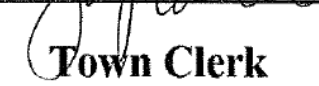
“Shall the voters of the Town of Colchester approve total general fund expenditures of Thirteen Million, Four Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand, Eight Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$13,482,862) of which Eleven Million, Three Hundred Nine Thousand, Twenty Six Dollars (\$11,309,026) shall be raised by taxes and Two Million, One Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty-Six Dollars (\$2,173,836) by non-tax revenues for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022?”

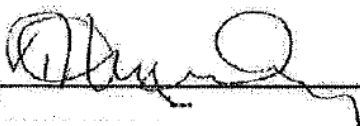

ARTICLE 2 – Town Public Safety Capital Plan

“Shall the Town of Colchester reauthorize the Selectboard to maintain a reserve fund accumulating annually in the amount of Thirty Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$30,750) for a period of five years, for the purpose of financing public safety equipment replacements and upgrades?”

Early/ Absentee Voting: You may request a ballot be mailed to you through the Vermont’s Voter Registration system at “My Voter Page” at <https://mvp.sec.state.vt.us/> or send in/drop off the absentee request postcard, or by phone to the Town Clerk’s Office at (802) 264-5520 (allow time for postal transit). Completed ballots can be deposited into the drive up drop box or mailed using the provided return envelope. **If mailing be sure to allow time for postal transit! Ballots must be received in the Town Clerk’s Office by 4:30 PM on Monday, March 1, 2021 or brought to the polling location at Colchester High School on Election Day, March 2, 2021.**

DATED AT COLCHESTER THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY 2021






Town Clerk



Colchester Selectboard



Town of Colchester Annual Meeting Minutes

**Colchester High School Performing Arts Center Monday,
March 2, 2020**

Moderator Scott Barrett called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM. He then introduced Selectboard Chair, Jeff Bartley, who presented a video overview of some of the Town accomplishments for FY 2018-2019 including construction on two solar arrays that produce local energy and save on municipal electrical costs. Regional dispatch now has an operating model to allow 911 calls to get to Police, Fire and Rescue more quickly. The Planning & Zoning 2019 Town Plan was adopted which includes a comprehensive energy plan and a process for creating preferred sites for energy production. An unsafe property on East Lakeshore Drive was removed through enforcement action. Many new residential sites increased the grand list value by \$6,667,700. New business to Colchester included Green Mountain Surgery Center, VT Nut Free Chocolates, and Easy as Cake. The meeting house was renovated, courtesy of a grant from the Sarah Crocker Estate. Repair of the Colchester Causeway began as well as many other projects. The Moderator asked Selectboard Chair Jeffrey Bartley to introduce the Selectboard. Chairman Bartley took a moment to honor Michael Moffatt who was a long-time employee of the Town. His family was presented with a copy of a resolution that was passed in his honor on July 13, 2019.

Aaron Frank then introduced town staff in attendance and thanked all of the past and present members of all three fire departments for their service.

Roll Call Selectboard: Chair Jeffrey D. Bartley, Newest member Pam Loranger, Herb Downing, Jacki Murphy (Clerk) and Tom Mulcahy (Vice Chair).

Town Staff in Attendance: Steve Bourgeois, Unified Fire Department Chief, Seth Lasker, part-time Town Emergency Management Coordinator; Geoff Urbanik, Deputy Town Manager; Douglas Allen, Chief of Police; Julie Graeter, Town Clerk; Scott Crady, Chief of Rescue; Lara Alemy, Finance Director; Kathi Walker O'Reilly, Director Economic Development; Kelly McCagg, Director Burnham Memorial Library; Robert Vickery, Assessor; Sarah Hodd, Director of Planning & Zoning; Sherry LaBarge, Human Resources; Glen Cuttitta, Director Parks & Recreation; Bryan Osborne, Director of Public Works. Fire Chiefs Dale Newton, Malletts Bay Fire Department; Sandy Ladd, Colchester Center and Eric Haversang of Saint Michaels, Fire and Rescue.

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester, Vermont are notified and warned to meet at the Colchester High School Performing Arts Center, Laker Lane, in said Town on Monday March 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM to act on the following articles not involving voting by Australian ballot (Articles 8-12):

Article 8: To choose a moderator if the elected moderator is not present.

The moderator was present, and no action was necessary.

Article 9: To act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

MOTION was made by Dirk Reith and SECONDED by Chris Cooper to adopt the reports of the Town Officers.

There was no discussion.

The MOTION passed and carried.

Article 10: To set compensation, if any, to be paid to the Selectboard.

MOTION was made by Mike Whalen and SECONDED by Richard Pecor to set compensation to the Selectboard at \$1700 per year.

There was no discussion.

The MOTION passed and carried.

Article 11: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Chair Bartley turned the budget presentation over to Aaron Frank. Mr. Frank presented the Fiscal Accomplishments of the previous year and then explained the approach of the budget process. He then turned it over to Geoff Urbanik, Deputy Town Manager, for an overview of the proposed FY 2020 General Operating Budget. The budget approach focuses on justifying expenses and maximizing non-tax revenues. Lastly, they looked at increasing taxes. The Increases for the past year were in the Fire, Dispatch, Highway, Human Resources and Public Works departments, as well as Intergovernmental expenses. There were decreases in the transfer funds because there were no requirements for special transfers and Rescue was moved to an Enterprise Fund to create more flexibility in the management of the program.

Moderator Barrett asked if there were any questions on the budget. There were none.

Plans need to be reauthorized. He went on to give an overview of these plans and explain the importance of reauthorizing these plans.

Moderator Barrett asked if there were any questions on the budget. There were none.

Moderator Barrett turned the meeting over to Seth Lasker and Steve Bourgeois to give a presentation on the changes to the fire department. The presentation began with a brief review of the history of Colchester Fire Services and a review of the benefits of a combined Fire Department. There was an explanation of the budget which includes four career positions (Chief and three firefighters). As of January 1st, 2020, the work has begun on creating town-wide rules and regulations, training, job descriptions and inventory of each station. They are looking forward to the continued work with CPD dispatch on the new procedures, continue to Honor, Recognize and Reward volunteers, provide stipends and update the radio system. On July 1, 2020 the Fire Department will begin operations as the newly formed Colchester Fire Department.

Q: Jenna Sbardellati "How does this impact the water systems?"

A: Chief Bourgeois stated that it does not affect the water.

Moderator Barrett turned the meeting over to Jeff Bartley to talk about Hazelett and Bayside Parks. He stated that one option for the project would be to use the Local Option Tax. Mr. Bartley then turned the presentation over to Glen Cuttitta, Director of Parks & Recreation. Mr. Cuttitta described the history of the Bayside Hazelett Property. In March 2004 the voters authorized the town to purchase a 14-acre lot on East Lakeshore Drive for public use. A multi-generational recreational facility was supported by the Colchester Community Center Initiative, The Heritage Project and The Malletts Bay Initiative. There was a conceptual design created in 2016 approved by the Park Capital Plan and a Master Plan developed in 2017-2018. In 2019 the Town Selectboard authorized staff to develop the final plans and cost estimates based on the master plans. The Master Plan included an indoor pool, playground, pavilion, walking path, as well as many other amenities for Colchester residents. Phase One would be an outdoor pool and locker room. Phase Two would be to add a community center and a gymnasium with fitness amenities. Phase Three would enclose the pool and add an elevated walking track, weights, fitness and cardiovascular center. He stated that the current amenities at Bayside Park will have to be replaced soon, so now is a good time to discuss the start of this new Community Center vision.

Q: What are the four acres being set aside for?

A: Mr. Cuttitta explained that the Master Plan was not meant to maximize the whole space so there were no plans to use the whole 14-acre property.

Mr. Barret handed it over to Jeff Bartley to honor Herb Downing who will be leaving the Selectboard after nine years.

Mr. Barrett read Article 12: To adjourn said meeting and to reconvene at the Colchester High School, Laker Lane, in said Town on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, for voters in District 9-1 and District 9-2 to vote for Town Officers and to transact any other business involving voting by Australian Ballot with voting to begin at 7:00 AM and to close at 7:00 PM.

MOTION was made by Mike Whalen and SECONDED by Tim Stetson to adjourn the meeting.

There was no discussion. The
MOTION passed.

The meeting was adjourned at

9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Julie Graeter, Town Clerk


Scott Barrett, Moderator

**Statement of Auditor
Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.**

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

77 Barre Street
P.O. Box 947
Montpelier, VT 05601
802/223-2352
www.sullivanpowers.com

Fred Duplessis, CPA
Richard J. Brigham, CPA
Chad A. Hewitt, CPA
Wendy C. Gilwee, CPA
VT Lic. #92-000180

January 8, 2021

Selectboard
School Board
Town of Colchester
Colchester, Vermont 05446

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of Colchester, Vermont and the Colchester School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020.

The financial statements, our reports, and the management discussion and analysis are available for public inspection at the Town and School District offices and web sites.

Sullivan, Powers & Company

DIRECTORY

Municipal Offices

Aaron Frank, Town Manager.	264.5509
Geoff Urbanik, Deputy Town Manager. .	264.5509
Renae Marshall, Deputy Town Manager	264.5509
Bob Vickery, Assessor.	264.5671
Kathi O'Reilly, Economic Development .	264.5508
Lara Alemy, Finance Director	264.5653
Sherry LaBarge, Human Resources. . . .	264.5504
Glen Cuttitta, Parks and Recreation. . .	264.5640
Sarah Hadd, Planning and Zoning. . . .	264.5606
Bryan Osborne, Public Works	264.5620
Julie Graeter, Town Clerk	264.5525
Kelly McCagg, Burnham Library	264.5661
Town Office Fax	264.5503

Police | Fire | Rescue

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency	264.5556
Doug Allen, Chief of Police.	264.5555
Stephen Bourgeois, Fire Chief	862.4415
Scott Crady, Rescue Chief	264.5590
Michael Cannon, Tech. Rescue Chief. .	264.5590
Stephen Gutierrez, Harbor Master	264.3171
Stephanie Gingras, Animal Control . . .	264.5556



Independent Fire (Water Service) Districts

District #2

District #3	878.4337
(Colchester Village)	503.2116

Champlain Water District

Town of Essex (Fort Ethan Allen)	878.1344
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Colchester Schools

Colchester School District	264.5983
Colchester High School	264.5700
Colchester Middle School.	264.5800
Malletts Bay School	264.5900
Porters Point School	264.5920
Union Memorial School	264.5959
Amy Minor, Superintendent.	264.5999

OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

Dig Safe VT	811
GMT - Green Mountain Transit	864.2282
SSTA - Special Services Transportation Agency	878.1527
Colchester Post Office	
218 Malletts Bay Ave	655.1376
Cemetery Lots, Wanda Morin	264.5520

Hours, Days, Fees and Meetings

Hours of Business:

Subject to change due to COVID

Town Offices

Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - Noon

Police | Fire 24 hrs.

Rescue | Technical Rescue 24 hrs.

Library Curbside Hours:

<https://colchestervt.gov/3244/Curbside>

Staff available via phone/email:

Monday-Friday 10-6 and Saturday 10-1

Town Clerk Fees

Amusement License (full year)	\$100.00
Catering Permit	No Fee
Certified Copy of Vital Record	\$10.00
Document Recording (per page)	\$15.00
Dog Licenses - <i>Rabies certificate required</i>	
By April 1st, Spayed Neutered	\$15.00
Not Spayed or Neutered	\$20.00
After April 1st, Spayed Neutered	\$20.00
After April 1st, Not Spayed or Neutered	\$25.00
Green Mountain Senior Passport	\$2.00
Liquor License 1 st class	\$115.00
Liquor License 2 nd class	\$70.00
Marriage License (incl. certified copy)	\$70.00
Mylar Recording	\$25.00
Notary Public Services	No Fee
Passport Processing	\$35.00
Peddler License	\$80.00

Town Office Observed Holidays

New Year's Day
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Presidents' Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Veterans Day
Thanksgiving
Day after Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve (1/2 day)
Christmas Day
New Year's Eve (1/2 day)

Meeting Schedules: Check agendas for dates, times and location due to COVID.

Colchester Selectboard

Town Offices, 781 Blakely Rd.

Outer Bay Conference Room, 3rd floor

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 PM

Cemetery Advisory Committee

Town Offices

Champlain Room, 2nd floor

4th Wednesday of the month at 8:00 AM

Conservation Commission

Bayside Activity Center or location per agenda

3rd Monday at 7:15 PM or per agenda

Development Review Board

Town Offices

Outer Bay Conference Room, 3rd floor

4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM

Library Board of Trustees

Colchester's Burnham Memorial Library

3rd Thursday of the month at 4:30 PM

Planning Commission

Town Offices

Outer Bay Conference Room, 3rd floor

1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 PM

Recreation Advisory Board

Town Offices, Champlain Room, 2nd floor

2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 AM

Town Meeting agendas:

<https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt>

Colchester Board of Education

Colchester High School Library

1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 PM

For school information visit the Colchester

School District website:

www.csdvt.org

Elected Officers and Term Expirations - Report Year

State Legislators Two yr. terms expire Jan. 2021

Senator

Richard Mazza sgtatarms@leg.state.vt.us

Representatives District 9-1

Curt Taylor ctaylor@leg.state.vt.us

Seth Chase schase@leg.state.vt.us

Representatives District 9-2

Patrick Brennan pbrennan@leg.state.vt.us

Sarita Austin saustin@leg.state.vt.us

Library Trustees 5 yr. terms expire on Election Day

Rebecca McMahon March 2024

Leora Black March 2023

Carol Anderson March 2025

Jessica Leary Clarke March 2022

Toni Josey, Chair March 2021

Thomas Buckley (Apt. Youth) September 2021

Listers 3 yr. terms expire on Election Day

Geri Barrows March 2021

Angela MacDonald March 2023

Charlotte Gardner March 2022

Moderator 1 yr. term expires on Election Day

Scott Barrett March 2021

School Board Terms expire on Election Day

Mike Rogers, Chair 3 yr. term March 2021

Craig Kieny, Vice Chair 3 yr. term March 2022

Lindsey Cox, Clerk 3 yr. term March 2023

Nic Longo 2 yr. term March 2022

Curt Taylor 2 yr. term March 2021

Selectboard

Pam Loranger, Chair 1yr. term March 2021

Tom Mulcahy, Vice Chair 3 yr. term March 2022

Jacki Murphy, Clerk 2 yr. term March 2021

Julie Hulburd 3 yr. term March 2023

Charlie Papillo 1yr. term March 2021

Justices of the Peace

Terms expire Jan. 31, 2021

Sarita Austin Carolyn Barnes

Leora Black Ruth Blauwiekel

Patrick Brennan Mary Brennan

Maureen Dakin Peg Gillard

Julie Hulburd Pam Loranger

Marie-Reine Pepin Don Sargent

Kristy Kurt Spengler Jeff Spengler

Curt Taylor

Champlain Water District

2 yr. Term expires

Karen Richard 3.31.2021

Bryan Osborne (Apt. Alternate)

Dates to Remember



Last Monday in January

Election Petitions Due

First Tuesday in March

Town Meeting

First Tuesday in March

Election Day

March 15

Taxes Due

April 1

Dog Licenses Due

August 15

Taxes Due

First Tuesday in November

Election Day

November 15

Taxes Due

Appointed Officers | Volunteer Boards & Commissions | Expiration of Terms

Board of Ethics	Terms (3 yrs.) expire:	Development Review Board	Terms expire:
Inge Schaefer, Chair	9.30.2023	Matthew Gamage, Chair	9.30.2022
Scott Perren	9.30.2021	Evan Fitzgerald	9.30.2022
Karen Richard	9.30.2022	Zafir Bludevich	9.30.2022
		Angela MacDonald	9.30.2024
Cemetery Advisory Committee	Terms expire:	Mickey Palmer (alternate)	9.30.2021
William Glinka	2.28.2021	Bert Severin	9.30.2021
Glen Critchlow	2.28.2021	Colby Fane-Cushing	9.30.2021
Wanda Morin, Vice-Chair	2.28.2021		
Theresa Carroll	2.28.2021	Winooski Valley Park District Representative	
Doug McSweeney	2.28.2021	Susan Gilfillan	9.30. 2023
Chittenden Co. Regional Planning Commission Reps		Health Officers	Terms expire:
Jacki Murphy (2 yr. term)	6.30.2021	Denise Johnson-Terk	3.31.2021
Pam Loranger (Alternate)	6.30.2021	Derek Shepardson	3.31.2021
Chittenden Solid Waste District Representatives		Planning Commission	Terms expire:
Timothy Moran	5.31.2021	Rich Paquette (Chair)	9.30.2021
Tom Mulcahy (Alternate)	5.31.2021	Robert Scheck	9.30.2022
Conservation Commission	Terms (4 yrs.) expire:	Mark Tarinelli	9.30.2021
Theresa Carroll, Chair	9.30.2024	Rebecca Arnold	9.30.2022
Patrick Volz, Vice Chair	9.30.2024	Sarita Austin	9.30.2022
Lisa Halvorsen	9.30.2023	Prinsha Neupane	9.30.2021
Scott Wood	9.30.2022		
Timothy Moran	9.30.2022	Recreation Advisory Board	Terms expire:
Liz Hamlin-Volz	9.30.2023	Adriane Martin	9.30.2021
Fire Warden	Terms (5 yrs.) expire:	Ruth Blauwiekel	9.30.2021
Stephen Bourgeois	6.30.2021	Richard Pecor	9.30.2022
		Jim Neary	9.30.2022
Tree Warden	Term expires:	Glenn Cummings	9.30.2021
Bryan Osborne	3.31.2021	Scott Perren	9.30.2021
		Emma McDonald	9.30.2021

Directory: Civic Organizations

Age Well & Meals on Wheels | 800.642.5119
www.agewellvt.org/

BSA Troop 601 | www.troop601vt.org

BSA Troop 658 | winooski658.mytroop.us

Colchester Community Chorus | 497.3036
winchris65@comcast.net

Colchester Community Food Shelf | 879.2444
www.colchesterfoodshelf.org

Colchester Historical Society |
colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society

Colchester Lions Club | 881.8919
<https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/colchestervt/>

Colchester-Milton Rotary Club | www.cmrotary.org

Colchester Quilter's Club | Fran Allyn | 862.1595

Cub Scout Pack 655 | pack655.org

Fellowship of the Wheel Mountain Biking Club
www.fotwheel.org

Lake Champlain International, Inc. | 879.3466
www.mychamplain.net

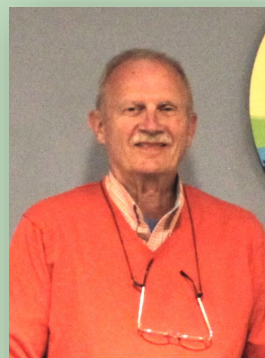
Local Motion | 861.2700
<https://www.localmotion.org>

Malletts Bay Lakers Snowmobile Club [www.vtvast.org/](http://www.vtvast.org/malletts-bay-lakers.html)
malletts-bay-lakers.html

Town of Colchester Selectboard



Pam Loranger, Chair



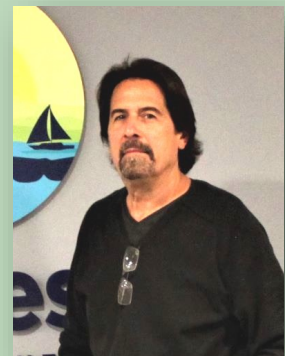
Tom Mulcahy,
V. Chair



Julie Hulburd



Jacki Murphy, Clerk



Charlie Papillo

Selectboard Annual Report

Pam Loranger, Chair

Tom Mulcahy, Vice-Chair; Jacki Murphy, Clerk; Charlie Papillo & Julie Hulburd; Members

Fiscal year 2019-20 presented significant changes for the Selectboard: Chair Jeff Bartley and his wife Ashley Bartley moved to another community. Consequently, Jeff resigned his seat on the Selectboard. Jeff's non-partisan leadership style informed by years of service on town boards and a private sector approach, served the town well during his tenure and especially this year with the fire service changes and COVID. We wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for his many years of service and leadership to the Town of Colchester, and we offer our best wishes for happiness in his new home.

I was honored to be elected to Chair the Selectboard. Tom Mulcahy continues as our Vice Chair, and Jacki Murphy accepted the position of Clerk. We welcomed two new members to the Selectboard this year; Julie Hulburd joined in March and Charlie Papillo in September.

Town Milestones

Pickleball Courts Pickleball is popular in Colchester—so popular that our active and socially-engaged seniors raised over \$29,000 in donations and grants to put toward building four new dedicated pickleball courts at Airport Park. The Selectboard approved a major amendment to the FY20 Capital Budget Plan to supply the rest of the needed funds for the courts, and to repair and repave the two tennis/pickleball courts already at Airport Park. The project was completed in summer 2020 and the courts have been well used.

Fire Department Changes Due to the lack of sufficient volunteer firefighters during weekday-daytime hours, the chiefs of the Malletts Bay Fire Department and the Colchester Center Fire Department appealed to the Selectboard to provide funding for full- time firefighters. The Selectboard supported an application for a grant to help with the cost of three full-time firefighters to provide coverage when volunteers could not. The Selectboard agreed to the grant match, which would gradually phase out over three years. The town did not receive the grant and the Selectboard provided options for the fire departments to continue receiving town funds, plus funding for paid firefighters. After consideration by the fire districts, Colchester Fire Districts #2 and #3 voted to move forward with the option for a single, town-wide municipal fire department.

Town Manager Aaron Frank was charged with planning the consolidation, working out fiscal, legal and logistical issues and implementing the service. The voters approved a budget which included an increase of \$207,428 to fund four career staff who will provide fire coverage during weekday-daytime hours when we do not have an adequate number of volunteers to protect life and property. Seth Lasker, our part time Emergency Management Coordinator worked with the fire departments to gain operational input and assisted in logistics, operations planning and implementation. The town hired its first town-wide fire Chief, Steven Bourgeois in January 2020 who joined the three separate organizations together and created a combined volunteer and career department. The town fire department began service on May 1, 2020, a month ahead of schedule! Our sincere thanks to the following groups who made this historical consolidation possible: Colchester Fire District 2 Prudential Committee; Colchester Fire District 3 Prudential Committee; Saint Michael's Fire and Rescue Board; and all past members of the Colchester Center and Malletts Bay Fire departments.

Selectboard Annual Report, Continued

Colchester Rescue Our mostly volunteer rescue department performed professionally and selflessly during COVID, serving our community during this difficult and scary time. We are so proud of and thankful for their work. We were pleased to improve the station where volunteers spend twelve hour shifts ready to serve the community including high efficiency lighting, moving bedrooms away from the work areas, new kitchen cabinets and countertops. Despite the challenge and dangers, Colchester Rescue has inspired a waiting list of volunteers to serve the community! Thank you Orangeville!

Website Update and Re-Launch The town's website was updated and simplified to focus on providing information concerning town services. In addition it simplified use on mobile devices as an important part of public information provision.

Emergency Management The role of emergency management in Colchester has always been a secondary duty, with the Town Manager serving as Emergency Management Director and a police or rescue assistant chief serving as Emergency Management Coordinator. In early 2019, the Town Manager elevated the position of Emergency Management Coordinator to a department head level, even though the position remained very part-time, as the duties of planning for emergencies took only a few hours per month.

COVID-19 Response The Town Manager and Emergency Management Coordinator began monitoring and preparing in January while all department heads developed continuity of operations plans for municipal services. The plans helped maintain the crucial services, keep the public safe, and help maintain the capacity of our first responding public safety services. In March, we declared a State of Emergency under the Colchester Code of Ordinances Chapter 16, Emergency Management, to allow the town to exercise emergency powers to help protect the public health and safety of our community.

Due to the difficulty of providing certain public services because of COVID, new State and Federal work rules related thereto, as well as concern about lost revenues from fee based services and delayed tax payments, the town reduced services and staffing through capital, operating and hiring freezes, as well as furloughs and layoffs of three fee-funded staff. At the height, 50% of the town positions outside of public safety were open. We are thankful that residents were understanding of the cut-backs although after feedback the Selectboard opened the park restrooms. Savings were used to help fund a new ambulance, \$62,500, provide storm water improvements, and to reduce the increase in taxes in FY 22 by \$200,000. The town management team was very aggressive in amassing over \$600,000 in grants to offset increased costs and lost revenues due to COVID.

The Town Manager provided significant public information and resources via expanded newsletters delivered in more forums including a special web page. Town departments adjusted services as often as weekly, providing modified services such as moving to curbside library lending; expanding the library's digital collection; operating a summer recreation/child care programs under special restrictions; providing a special daycare program for the children of teachers; successfully holding a presidential election primarily by early and absentee voting; and encouraging the broader use of online and drop off permitting, registrations, tax and fee payments developed for the community's convenience over the last several years.

Selectboard Annual Report, Continued

Responsive Zoning To keep our restaurants in business, town staff worked to put in place emergency zoning to create temporary outdoor seating for up to two years for all eighteen Colchester restaurants identified in the zoning code. This is a substantially expedited and simplified process moving changes from months to weeks.

Stormwater Improvements Colchester's stormwater management program includes two dedicated maintenance staff and a manager. Ongoing street sweeping, culvert cleaning, commercial & residential stormwater mitigation programs, and ditching, all of which help control flow and reduce the amount of phosphorus entering our waters. We replaced a large culvert on Hercules Drive that will provide adequate stormwater flow and reduce the risk of future failures. We worked on the design of the Shore Acres Drainage to reduce the amount of phosphorus reaching Malletts Bay. The town is planning for future state and federal permitting requirements with engineering studies as permit information is provided. We initiated the second phase of a town-wide stormwater system condition assessment that allows us to develop a capital plan to address stormwater improvements, system maintenance, and projects we anticipate will come from future permit requirements.

Laker Lane/Blakely Road Intersection This intersection was upgraded with no local funding, to include turn lanes to reduce traffic congestion, improving safety and emergency access.

Social Justice Chair Jeff Bartley was quickly responsive to flying a flag exclaiming that Black Lives Matter for 80 days at the community's largest flagpole at the Blakely/Lakeshore intersection. As a provider of local public and police services—it seemed important to us to share this belief at a prominent, memorable and defining public space in our community. Chief Allen was quick to condemn George Floyd's death by the actions and inactions of police officers as a murder. The town held training with all employees on equity, diversity, racial justice, privilege and inclusion; understanding that when we do serve people of color, some special considerations may be necessary to serve all equally.

Police Policy and Services Review As your elected civilian oversight body, the Selectboard reviewed police services with an eye towards social justice issues over the course of several meetings. The Selectboard considered the culture and processes of the department from recruitment, to promotions and policies focusing on use of force and impartial policing. Howard Community Outreach and Essex Community Justice with whom the town contracts to provide special services, also attended and discussed their services. The Selectboard edited and strengthened requirements for reporting and intervening in wrongdoing, and went over the 47 general orders of the department.

Fiscal Responsibility Your Selectboard is committed to using your resources wisely and ethically. Our outside independent audits are clean. Our tax rate for FY 21 is lower than it was in 2013, despite steady growth of our town and ever-increasing demands for services. The Town Manager's section of this report provides examples of how we stretch your resources.

Thank You Volunteers On behalf of the Selectboard, I would like to recognize the hundreds of volunteers who work in conjunction with town staff for the benefit of our community. From board and commission members, to volunteers at town events, to our fire and rescue volunteers, our town could not be as vibrant, inclusive or effective without you! Thanks to your efforts, Colchester is attractive, enjoyable and safe .

Town Manager Report

Aaron Frank

There are two aspects of town government: governance and service delivery. Governance comes in the form of direct democracy from individual voters and representative democracy from elected and appointed officials. The service delivery or business side of government is operated by your town staff and thankfully many volunteers. We try hard to operate town services efficiently as if they were a private business, while respecting that the town is owned by the community.

Colchester's town governance is both: 1) direct democracy with individual voters on the key issues such as the Town Charter which lays out how the town operates, the annual municipal services budget and capital expenses requiring multi-year authorizations or use of the local option taxes; and 2) representative democracy with 30 elected and 55 appointed officials that represent the community in the local governance of the Town of Colchester who develop policy and provide guidance to the town staff in providing services to the community.

The Town of Colchester's rights, responsibilities and authorities are granted to us by the State of Vermont. The Town Charter is developed and approved by the community, in the form of a vote by the voters. The Charter is not valid until it is voted into state law by the legislature. The State of Vermont reserves all rights not specifically designated to local communities to the state itself. So, there are significant limits to what the Town can do. The limits of our authority can be frustrating when people want a change quickly, but also help avoid duplication of services and duplication of taxation.

The business of your town government is to provide services to residents that the private sector, state and federal government do not--*and for which a majority of the voters is collectively willing to pay*. The town staff takes pride in offering the best service possible with available resources. Most town services require old-fashioned "boots on the ground" that require people who are trained, dedicated and available in adverse weather; on nights, weekends and holidays; and sometimes in the most challenging situations. Not surprisingly, people are our greatest asset in providing services. Ultimately, all town departments serve our residents, but direct public services are provided by the following departments:

- **Assessor** (assessment data, ownership records, property sales information, tax maps, and more)
- **Burnham Memorial Library** (books, E-books, periodicals, media, programs for all ages, Meeting House, and more)
- **Economic Development** (provides assistance to business in Colchester)
- **Parks and Recreation** (A.C.E. before-and-after school program, summer camps, parks maintenance, programs and events for residents of all ages, and more)
- **Planning and Zoning** (building, zoning, sign, and wastewater permits and inspections)
- **Public Works** (highway, stormwater, sewer, and vehicle/equipment/facilities maintenance)
- **Colchester Police** (community protection, emergency response, disaster response)
- **Colchester Rescue** (emergency medical and disaster response)
- **Colchester Fire** (fire prevention, firefighting, hazardous materials and disaster response)
- **Colchester Technical Rescue** (emergency response in extreme situations requiring specialized training: flood, swift water, rugged terrain, tight spaces, disaster, etc.)
- **Town Clerk** (vital records, licenses, passports, elections, and more)

Town Manager Report, Continued

A Town Manager serves multiple roles: policy support to the Selectboard (legislative and judicial branch of local government); general manager of the staff providing the services and polices funded and authorized by the voters and the Selectboard; and coordinator among staff and about 85 volunteers serving on 13 board and commissions who all provide policy input to or from the Town. Significant employee changes in FY 2019-20 include:

Retirement of Assistant Zoning Administrator Jane Dion after twenty-two years of service.

We welcome the following employees who joined the Town: Geoffrey Urbanik, Deputy Town Manager; Julie LaPlume, Finance Officer; Erin Hogan, Town Clerk/Treasurer; Officer Jordan Barriere, CPD; Officer Alyson Dengler, CPD; Dispatch Tierra Myers; Dispatch Jason Scott; Dispatch John Sirois; Officer Nicole Talcott, CPD; Fire Chief Stephen Bourgeois; Captain Dale Newton, Fire Department; Firefighter Tyler Cootware; Firefighter Adam Francis; Clayton Cameron, Colchester Rescue Squad; William Smith, Colchester Rescue Squad; Amanda Clayton, Town Engineer; Melaney Mackay, Public Works; Justin Pike, Public Works; and Officer Emily Fitzpatrick, who moved to a new role at CPD.

Employees who left the Town for other opportunities: Clayton Cameron, Colchester Rescue Squad; Sean Cannon, Planning & Zoning; Police Chief Jennifer Morrison; Robin Parry, Public Works; Warner Rackley, Public Works; Isaac Spivey, Recreation; and Jason Scott, Dispatch.

In Remembrance: Very sadly, we lost Garage Mechanic Michael Willette.

Improvements made in FY 2019-20 that will impact the future of Colchester included:

- Energy efficiency and energy sourcing improvements described in the accompanying energy report that will make the Town more cost effective and more self-reliant.
- Fire service consolidation and staffing improved efficiency and effectiveness.
 - Response to building fires during weekday daytime was dangerously inadequate due to a lack of available volunteers.
- Contracted services that were escalating at an average annual increase of 4.8% over the last ten years vs. 2.2% for town services on average.

Town Administrators maintain their commitment to fiscal responsibility. In addition to the examples above, and by your Selectboard other cost-saving measures taken were:

- Aggressive contract negotiations reduced a 14% increase in health insurance to a 4.1%.
- Repaired Colchester Causeway under budget with Town share at 2% or \$46,000 of \$1.9M after State and Federal funds.
- Vigorously defending Town development regulations resulting in a settlement of \$62,500 from Mongeon Bay properties that will be used for stormwater improvements.
- Secured \$312,959 in grants supporting 22% of FY 21 capital expenses.
- Working to secure \$2.6M in grants to support 27% of the Town's capital from FY 22-26.
- Applied for and received access to over \$600,000 in grants for COVID costs and lost revenue.

Finally, I'd like to thank you, our residents, for your patience and understanding during the COVID

Department of Public Works

Bryan Osborne, Director

"Planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of public infrastructure."

FY19-20 Year in Review

Pedestrian Improvements

- ◇ Completion West Lakeshore Dr. Bike Path

Roadway Projects

- ◇ Paving Church Rd. & West Lakeshore Dr.
- ◇ Reconstruction Blakely Rd./Laker Ln. Intersection

Safety Projects

- ◇ Spot sidewalk repairs throughout the community
- ◇ Spot roadway milling & paving repairs throughout the community
- ◇ Pedestrian crossing signals West Lakeshore Dr. & Blakely Rd.

Building Projects

- ◇ Library door replacements
- ◇ Rescue remodeling

Efficiency Projects

- ◇ Upgrade; cooling systems in Town Office server room
- ◇ Conversion of street lights to LED fixtures

Stormwater

- ◇ Improvements: Troy Ave. & Reynolds/Renkin Dr.
- ◇ Hercules Dr. culvert replacement

Grant Funds

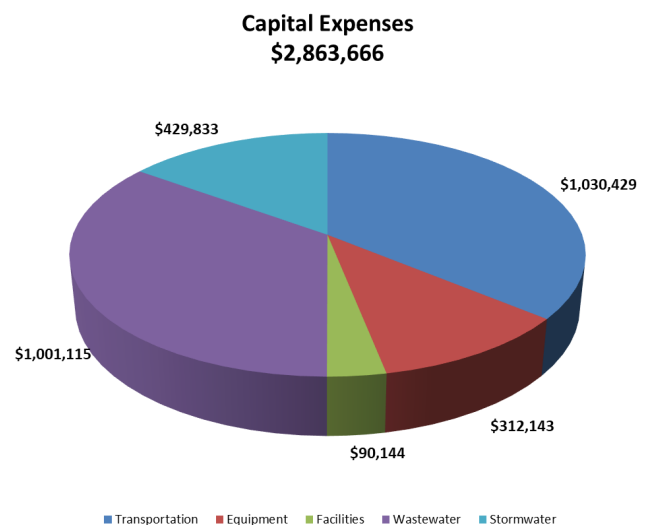
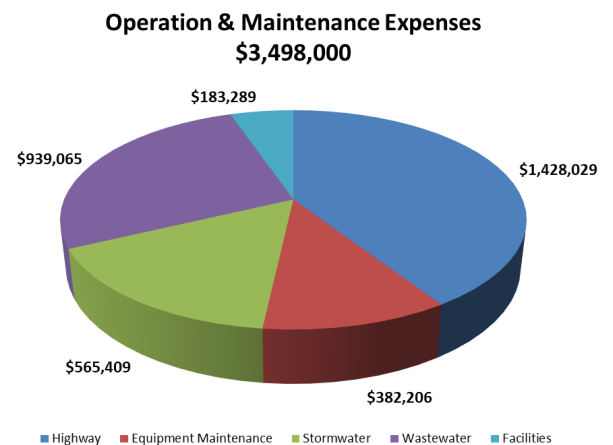
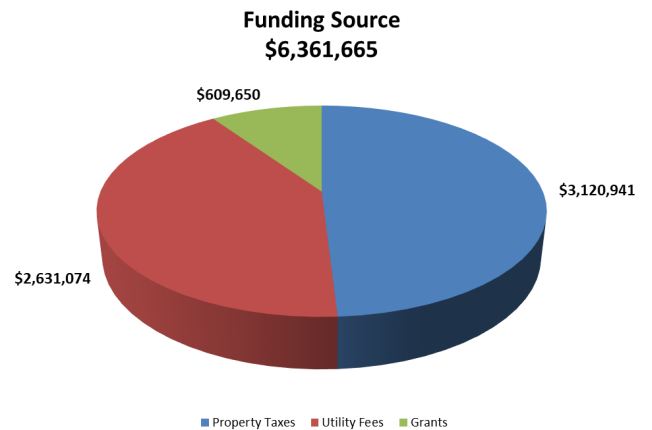
- ◇ \$609,650

Public Works maintains:

92 miles of roadways, 42 miles of sidewalks and bike paths, 900 street lights, 2,700 sewer and stormwater structures, 38 miles of sewer and stormwater piping, 13 pumping stations, 15 public buildings, and 117 pieces of equipment.



West Lakeshore Dr. Bike Path Grand Opening



Colchester Police Department

Doug Allen, Chief of Police

“Integrity. Service. Community.”

FY19-20 Year in Review: Like all law enforcement in Vermont and the nation, CPD faced two remarkable challenges.

Coronavirus: Officers were routinely met with cooperation and assistance in our efforts to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. Our thanks to those who supplied us with masks and other support. Our thoughts go to those who have been affected by this disease and their friends and families.

- In February, we prepared “Continuity of Operation” plan in cooperation with Town administration and Colchester Emergency Management Coordinator.
- We suspended services deemed non-essential that required in-person contact.
- A building/vehicle cleaning/disinfecting program was instituted.
- Personnel work schedules were adjusted.
- PPE and cleaning supply chains were established, quarantine protocols for “close contact” exposures.
- We accepted the role of “educators” in enforcing Governor’s Executive order.
- We assisted Dept. of Liquor Control with bi-weekly checks of licensed establishments to ensure compliance.

Social Justice: In May of this year, the murder of George Floyd by officers of the Minneapolis Police Department placed a laser focus on law enforcement and social justice issues in this country. Shortly after that tragic event, Chief Allen made this public statement:

“I watched in disgust and outrage this past week the images from Minneapolis. The murder of George Floyd due to the actions and inactions of officers sworn to protect and defend their community is as abhorrent to me as it is to the men and women who serve beside me at Colchester Police. We hold ourselves to a high standard as required by our oath, our policies and our training. We support and utilize the six pillars of the 21st Century Policing report from President Obama’s Policing Task Force of 2015 as a blueprint for our actions and policies. We recognize that race does play a role in our society and train our officers to mitigate those implicit biases that we all have to conduct ourselves in as fair and impartial manner as possible. In order to accomplish our mission of improving the quality of life for our residents and visitors, we have to have the support and trust of the community we serve. We are committed at Colchester Police Department to defend those who are marginalized, protect those who speak out about injustice, and serve the citizens of this community.”

The administration of CPD took an introspective look. We examined four areas that we believe define our culture as a police department.

Recruitment – Are we recruiting and hiring people that will meet our high standards and are representative of our community?

Promotions - Do we promote supervisors and administrators that will work to fulfill our mission and set the right examples for our personnel?

Policies – We currently have 45 different General Orders that set forth our policies and procedures that set standards of performance for our staff. These are considered “living” documents and open to change and revision as needed.

Training – It is essential that not only are our policies up to date and reflect best practices, but that we also train to our policies and standards.

Colchester Police Department, Continued

Chief Allen went before the Selectboard on four occasions to discuss our culture, standards, policies and practices. He reported to them as our elected civilian review board who are responsible for approving our General Order that provides the framework for all of our policies and procedures. He reported:

- The recruitment efforts have enabled a full staff for the first time in recent history. This staff is one of the best educated, many with ties to the Colchester community. Six women are now sworn CPD officers.
- The recent promotions bring more direct supervision to our staff, preparing our less experienced officers to become tomorrow's leaders.
- After a review of our policies, we made a change in our department rules that requires all staff to intervene and report unlawful or improper behavior by a fellow employee to the department or Town administration. This change was approved by the Selectboard.
- Although our usual training avenues were unavailable due to the pandemic, we pushed forward with internal training including implicit bias and fair and impartial policing training.

Subsequent appearances were made before the Selectboard where presentations were made on the following topics:

- General Orders – Chief Allen gave an overview of our General Orders and focused on those deemed “critical” such as: Use of Force (Both lethal and non-lethal); Emergency driving and pursuits; Impartial policing; and Criminal Investigations
- Use of Force – CPD Sergeant Mike Akerlind is a master instructor in Use of Force for the Vermont Police Academy made a presentation to the board on CPD's Use of Force policy and training. He highlighted that many current demands of police reform over the use of force have been in place at CPD for many years.
- Community Outreach – Howard Center Outreach Specialist supervisor Jeff Cook made a presentation with Chief Allen to the board on how their Outreach staff assists CPD to achieve better results with persons who have mental health or other social service needs. Their interventions may deter a crisis.

The men and women of Colchester Police Department would like to thank the community for the outpouring of support we have received through notes, food, and other thoughtful efforts. We cannot hope to meet our mission of keeping Colchester safe and secure for all persons without the support from the community. A special thanks to our partners in these efforts, Colchester Fire Department and Colchester Rescue.

Colchester Fire Department

Stephen Bourgeois, Chief

In 2020 the Colchester Center and Malletts Bay Fire Departments merged into one Town of Colchester Fire Department. The newly formed Town Department officially began on July 1, 2020. Included in the merger was the addition of a Full Time Fire Chief and 3 Full Time Firefighters that work Monday through Friday daytime when the volunteer staffing is at its lowest. The Department consists of 50 Volunteers, 4 Full Time Staff, and the support of St Michaels Fire Department. The Department could not function without its Volunteer Staff and their commitment to the Organization. The addition of the Full Time Staff has made a big impact on our daytime coverage, both with number of staff responding and response times.

The services that the Colchester Fire Department provides include, Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical First Response, Heavy Rescue, Hazmat, Water and Cold-Water Rescue, and Marine Response. In the first three months the Department responded to 235 incidents to include:

- ◇ Structure Fires
- ◇ Medical Assists
- ◇ Fire Alarms
- ◇ Car Fires
- ◇ Marine Incidents
- ◇ Motor Vehicle Accidents
- ◇ Mutual Aid to Burlington, Winooski, Milton, Williston, and Essex Jct.



The Members of the Department in the first three months have completed 1,684 hours of training in various subjects to remain certified and current with National Standards and best practices.

In closing I would like to thank the following for their support with this merger and formation of the new Town of Colchester Fire Department. Without their help and support this major task could not have been accomplished.

- ◇ Colchester Selectboard
- ◇ Colchester Town Manager
- ◇ Colchester Fire District 2 Prudential Committee
- ◇ Colchester Fire District 3 Prudential Committee
- ◇ Members of both Colchester Center and Malletts Bay Fire Departments
- ◇ Residents of Colchester



Career staff Adam Francis, Chief Stephen Bourgeois, former Selectboard Chair Jeff Bartley,

Dale Newton, and Tyler Cootware.

Colchester Fire Department, Continued



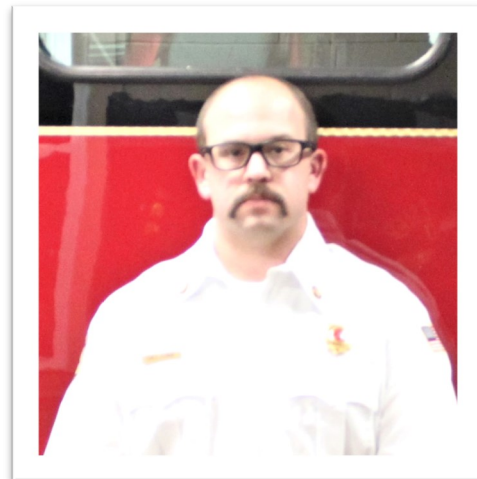
Stephen Bourgeois, Chief



David Weissenstien, Assistant Chief



Gary Francis Jr., Battalion Chief



Colby Delaire, Battalion Chief



Eric Haversang, Battalion Chief



Seth Lasker, Assistant Chief

Colchester Rescue

Scott Crady, Rescue Chief

FY19-20 Year in Review

- ◇ FY2020 1,607 incidents (average of 4.4 per day)
- ◇ Operations during COVID-19 has required EMS personnel to protect themselves and patients in ways we have never needed before for every patient contact.
- ◇ COVID-19 has required the need for personnel to run a miniature decontamination line after every EMS incident to ensure equipment is clean and personnel are safe from spreading this virus.
- ◇ Colchester Rescue did not go out of service or miss one EMS incident due to lack of commitment and dedication from our membership throughout this pandemic.



Abbie Longchamp



Kiley Baillargeon, Libby Connors, Merrill Pine



Mike Voity & Kat Shaw

"Colchester Rescue is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the community by providing the highest quality emergency medical services to our patients and preventing illness and injury through public education."

Colchester Technical Rescue

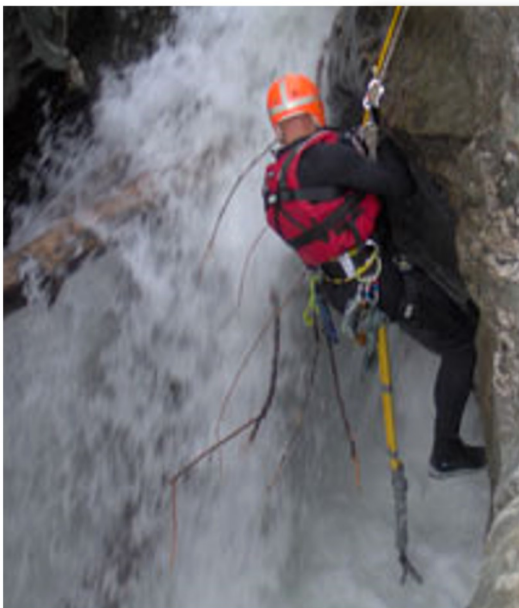
Michael Cannon, Technical Rescue Chief



Colchester Technical Rescue is separate from the Colchester Rescue. The Technical Rescue team is recognized throughout the state for its work in water and ice rescue emergencies, as well as other hazardous terrain rescues. In addition to providing better and faster emergency medical care in hard to reach locations, we have, by sharing our experiences, helped prove the usefulness of much of this equipment and many of these programs in the field.

With an entirely volunteer team of 26 members, the Technical Rescue responded to 28 calls during this last year. They are as follows:

Drownings	3
Rescues	7
Body Recovery	5
Standby	1
Lost/Missing Persons	3
Boating Incident	4
Flooding	2
Other	3



Parks and Recreation

Glen Cuttitta, Director

"Optimizing the Experience of Living!"

FY19-20 Department Accomplishments:

- ◇ Colchester Causeway reconstructed
- ◇ Four dedicated Pickleball Courts completed at Airport Park
- ◇ Two tennis courts at Airport Park resurfaced and painted
- ◇ Record numbers of attendees at Winter Carnival and Colchester Causeway 5/10/15K race
- ◇ Created online RecTV at the beginning of the pandemic to keep children and families entertained
- ◇ Grew partnerships with local businesses to offer new and unique experiences for our community
- ◇ Despite the challenges of the pandemic, our department was able to provide recreational opportunities at our Bayside Park waterfront and day camps for children



Colchester Causeway reconstructed



Tennis courts resurfaced and painted

Special Events that we organize:

- ◇ Touch a Truck
- ◇ Fourth of July Fun Run, Parade & Fireworks
- ◇ Causeway 5/10/15K Race
- ◇ Colchester Triathlon
- ◇ Bayside Park Summer Concert Series
- ◇ Sunset SUP and Sip
- ◇ Movies in the Park
- ◇ Dinner with Santa
- ◇ Colchester Winter Carnival
- ◇ Winter Concert

Did you know?

The Parks Department maintains: over 400 acres of Parks & Natural Areas | 11 miles of bike & pedestrian paths. **This includes:** 13 parks | 2 beaches | 6 bike & pedestrian paths | 4 pump stations | 1 seasonal ice rink | Nordic ski trails | the grounds of all municipal buildings (Library, Rescue, Police, and Town Hall)

Burnham Memorial Library

Kelly L. McCagg, Director

FY19-20 Year in Review:

- ◇ 60,349 Items circulated (books, movies, music, magazines, passes)
- ◇ 41,238 People visited the Library this year
- ◇ 4,417 Ebooks were downloaded
- ◇ 5,590 Audiobooks were downloaded
- ◇ 661 Programs were provided to patrons of all ages
- ◇ 9,870 People attended these programs
- ◇ 276 Children & Teens participated in the Summer Reading Program
- ◇ 129 Outreach sessions were provided
- ◇ 1,908 people were served by these sessions
- ◇ Regular partners include: the UVM Home, Health & Hospice, Niquette Bay State Park, McClure Miller Respite House, Colchester Historical Society, AARP, and the Colchester Food Shelf

On March 17th town and Library administration made the difficult decision to close our physical building to public access in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, staff remained available 43 hours per week to assist with reference and technical questions. New digital programming was offered. On May 16th we launched curbside services, with no-touch programming. These unique times are causing us to look beyond classic library services, and we appreciate your patience as we discover new ways to learn and grow together as one community.



Browse & Borrow Cart (at curbside service)



Curbside Service (photo by Colchester Sun)



Saturday Book Sales hosted by the Friends of the Library

"The Burnham Memorial Library is an integral part of Colchester that provides a trusted, essential public service; bringing together people of all ages to connect them to information, learning, and life-long enrichment. The goal of all library programs and services is the building and strengthening of community."

Economic Development

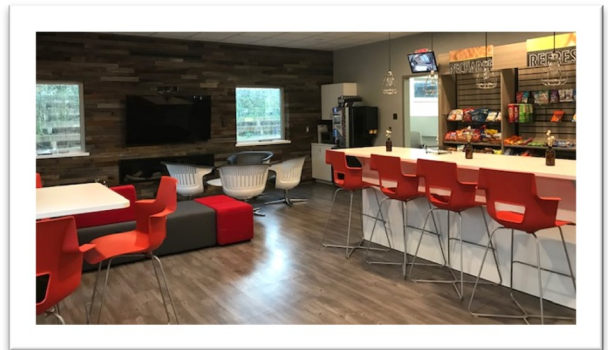
Kathi Walker O'Reilly, Director

"Management of growth and development balanced with the preservation of our natural assets and quality of life."

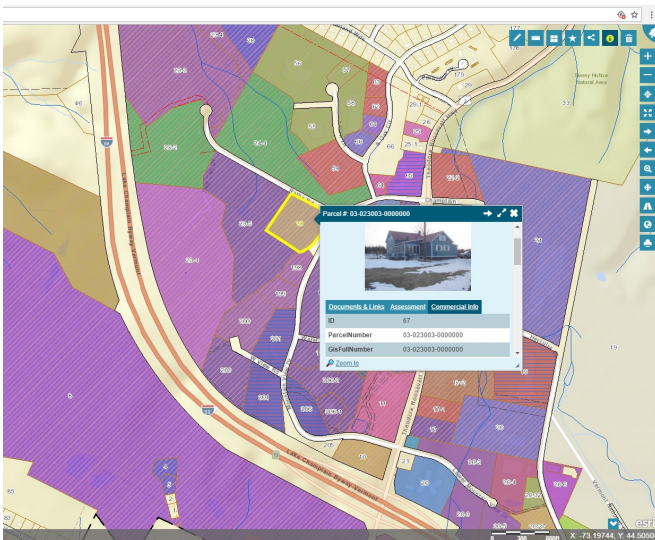
- ◇ It's not every day you get to attend a business's **100th birthday celebration!** Many people came out for this impressive milestone along with many state and local dignitaries, **Hazelett celebrated their 100th birthday** in style. We are proud to have them as a member of our business community and look forward to the next 100 years. Hazelett was honored by the Legislature.
- ◇ We welcomed NuHarbor Security to our business community in August. NuHarbor is a cyber security firm with over 45 employees in Vermont and additional locations in South Carolina, Boston, Atlanta and Washington DC. They were awarded the 2018 Best Places to Work in Vermont.
- ◇ We launched our GIS Mapping and Commercial Real Estate Database. This will allow users to find available space or land, assessment data and GIS information in one location. Thereby allowing us to assist both tenants and owners looking to locate or expand in Colchester.



Hazelett honored by the Legislature: Rick Hayden, V.P. Manufacturing, Dave Diederich - V.P. Finance, and David Hazelett - President.



Inside NuHarbor Security



From GIS Mapping and Commercial Real Estate Database

Other News:

- ◇ Town Website mobile friendly relaunch
- ◇ Working with Town Manager on town-wide COVID-19 communications and updates on website, FB, Instagram, and Colchester Sun.
- ◇ Working with State Commerce & Community Development and Colchester Community Development Corporation on the Restart Vermont program for businesses.
- ◇ Continue working with the business community and assessing impacts of COVID 19 while identifying available resources.

Town Clerk & Treasurer's Office

Julie Graeter, Town Clerk & Treasurer

"First in digital community records in Vermont"

Clerk Statistics 2019-20

◇ Dogs registered	513
◇ Land records books added	25
◇ Mylars (land surveys) added	58
◇ Passports processed	598
◇ Municipal Service & State Education Property Taxes Billed	\$47,257,007.68
◇ Municipal Service & State Education Taxes Collected	\$47,083,135.32
◇ Births	135
◇ Deaths	418
◇ Civil Marriages	83
◇ Registered Voters	11,713

New in 2019/2020

All permanent record surveys have been scanned and are available online to the public.

New this year, the Town Clerk's Office is able to provide Certified birth and death records for all Vermont residents with completed application and appropriate identification.



Assistant Clerk, Wanda Morin



Raeka, winner of Your Dog is #1 Contest



Town Clerk & Treasurer, Julie Graeter

Planning and Zoning Department

Sarah Hadd, Director

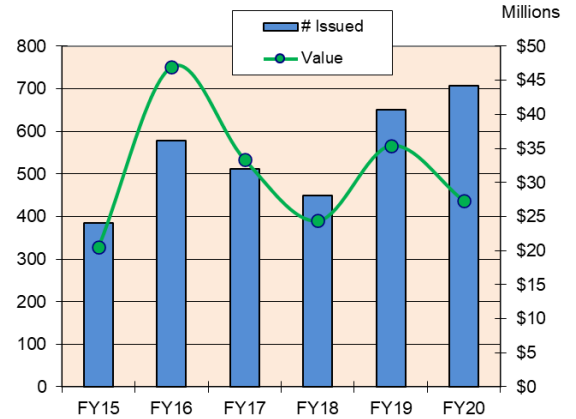
*"Seven sections in one department: Planning | Zoning Building Inspections | Health Officer | Investigations
Long-Term Planning | Permitting"*

FY19-20 Year in Review

- ◇ A total of 831 combined permits were issued including building, wastewater, and Development Review Board permits. Total number of permits was up significantly.
- ◇ Over \$27 million in construction occurred generating \$269,824 in building permit revenue despite COVID shut downs in the spring of 2020. The dollar values of permitted construction was lower than typical this year due to a lack of significant new commercial construction.
- ◇ Permits for 41 new homes were issued: 38 single family and 3 multi-family. This was also a year without a new Severance Corners multi-family building that decreased multi-family significantly. Building 12 at Severance Corners began construction in FY21.
- ◇ 33 of the 43 violations logged were resolved with the other 10 in progress. Over \$74,846 in fines were received from enforcement.
- ◇ 102 Canyon Estates was demolished following a condemnation proceeding to remove the fire damaged structure.
- ◇ The Planning Commission completed the Malletts Bay Initiative Wastewater Project in January 2020. This report provided the Selectboard with options for addressing longstanding wastewater issues in the Bay after seven months of work by the Commission, including public workshops and site visits within the community, and visits to onsite systems in other Vermont communities.
- ◇ The Development Review Board began Zoom meetings during COVID and navigated virtual meetings.
- ◇ The Department deployed the EGOV portal to allow for the application, processing, and issuance of building permits online. This allowed online services to the public during COVID.

Jane Dion retired from the Department in May after more than 20 years of service to the Town. Sean Cannon also left the Department in March to pursue a career with FEMA.

Building Permits Issued



New Development Vincenza Way



Development Review Board meeting virtually



Planning Commission MBI Septic Tour ,
Charlotte

Assessor's Office

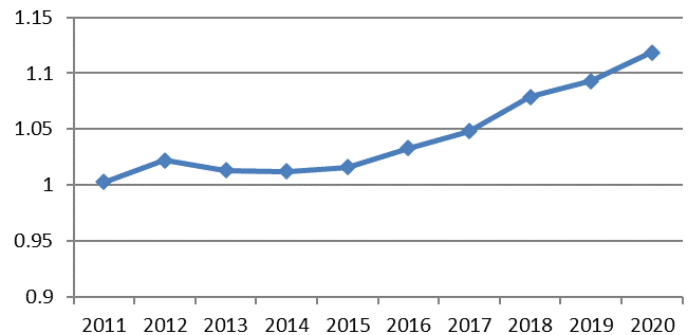
Robert Vickery, Assessor

"Ensuring no property owner pays more than his or her fair share."

FY19-20 Year in Review:

- ◇ Upgraded valuation software, resulting in more accurate assessments for 378 parcels
- ◇ 450 Site inspections
- ◇ 702 Change of Assessment Notices mailed (does not include Current Use Notices)
 - ◇ 465 increases in assessments
 - ◇ 238 decreases in assessments
- ◇ Largest changes
 - ◇ Severance Corners Village Center LLC completed a new 29 unit apartment complex adding \$1,806,525 assessed value
 - ◇ Champlain Valley Self Storage LLC has construction 80% complete as of 4/1/2020 adding \$2,039,500 assessed value

AVERAGE REAL ESTATE VALUE INCREASE



FUN FACTS



In this illustration we see 2 factors that are affecting the value of this single-family property.

First is the Zoning. What is legally permissible can have an effect on real estate values. Zoning can both increase and decrease value by allowing or restricting development. In this example the commercial zoning may have an increase in land values, but the dwelling's value may be decreased because the highest and best use may not be residential.

The second is External Obsolescence. The value of the dwelling is negatively affected by something outside the boundaries of the property. In this case the proximity of the driving range has affected the value of the dwelling.

Annual Energy Report

The Town of Colchester seeks to reduce energy use, produce energy locally, to save the residents and businesses money in the provision of municipal services, and set an example for the community. In the last year we have made the following energy efficiency improvements:

Rescue: Replaced washer and dryer with more efficient appliances; replaced inside lighting with efficient LED lighting; removed widow A/C units and replaced with mini-split heat pumps. We are planning on increasing insulation in the attic in FY 21.

Library: Replaced staff entry door with a more efficient model.

Street Lights: The majority of the street light conversions to LED occurred several years ago. However this did not include the CVPS service area in the northern part of Colchester. Now owned by GMP, we have begun converting the lights in this area as well. In FY20, we converted the street lights along North Harbor Road and Aikey Lane to LED.

Pedestrian Flashing Beacons: Installed solar powered flashing pedestrian beacons at: Blakely Road and Thomas Drive, Blakely Road and Williams Road, and West Lakeshore Drive by the boat access.

Solar Farm: The Town Manager's office, the Parks and Recreation Department and solar contractor AEGIS Renewable Energy spent significant time and effort trying to locate a third solar farm, with the goal to move from producing about 66% of the electric energy consumed in the provision of municipal services to 100%. We hope to have a proposal for a third 150 kilowatt solar farm in the next two years to substantially advance that goal.

Fuel Island: Converted the lighting at the fuel island at the garage to LED.

Parks and Recreation: Replaced two mowers with a single mower with a more efficient engine which saves labor and fuel. Planning a new park with low energy use fixtures.

Cooling System: Replaced the cooling system in the Town Hall Server Room with a high efficiency cooling system.

Colchester Police: Purchased semi-permanent speed signs that are charged by solar photovoltaics. Purchased an upgraded multi-function speed cart and traffic information sign that is solar powered.

Submitted to the Town of Colchester Planning Commission, acting in their role as the Town of Colchester Energy Committee by Town Manager, Aaron Frank

Town Municipal Services Budget Overview

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Proposed Budget FY22

The Municipal Services Budget maintains our current level of service and addresses needs in emergency management, fiscal recovery, cemetery capital, materials for road maintenance, and staffing for fire vehicle maintenance. These needs are related both to the COVID emergency and were caused by slow, steady growth over past decades. This memo discusses the operating budget, capital funding, estimated tax rate, and long-term fiscal constraint. *The Tax impact of the operating budget, along with previously approved capital items is a 2.0% increase to municipal service property taxes. Examples of the impact are noted below.*

Residential Assessed Value	FY 22 Tax Increase	Weekly Increase
\$200,000	\$22	\$0.43
\$250,000	\$28	\$0.54
\$300,000	\$34	\$0.65
\$350,000	\$39	\$0.75
\$400,000	\$45	\$0.86
\$450,000	\$50	\$0.97
\$500,000	\$56	\$1.08

The Municipal Services Budget is comprised of twenty-five service categories. The expenses of six of these service categories have been reduced and sixteen have increased. The operating budget increase is 2.7%. Changes are primarily comprised of:

- Emergency Management Coordinator was moved from a few hours a month to up to 20 hours per week.
- Town Manager's Office: a previously budgeted part time management position without benefits was made full time with benefits. This role is especially important during an emergency and the fiscal recovery therefrom as the state and federal grants and programs are extremely time consuming and complex.
- Cemetery Capital: \$35,000 in annual accumulating funding for capital improvements, which was transferred into the general fund from another cemetery fund.
- DPW Highway: more funding for gravel to maintain gravel roads and more winter sand.
- DPW Maintenance Garage: a part time position due to taking on the responsibility of the fire equipment; and an increase in services and utilities to address non capital repairs such as overhead doors, pressure washer reels, energy efficient lighting, adjustable dump body locks, flammables cabinet, pneumatic jack and jack stands, power and pneumatic tool replacements, large wrench set, metered lube guns and tools.

Capital Funding: The Tax rate is also impacted by previously authorized voter approved taxes to support capital projects, which are funded by fixed dollar amounts, fixed tax rates, or long-term financing. These total \$1,605,413. Local option taxes fund bond/lease purchase payments of \$485,105, leaving \$1,120,308 to be raised from property taxes. The certainty of capital funding through multi-year authorizations allows us to maximize grant revenues and minimize borrowing for planned replacements of vehicles, equipment, and capital repairs to parks, roads and buildings. The property tax funded capital is \$1,120,308 and increased by \$24,337.65 or 2.2% from last year.

Tax Rate: The Operating Budget and Capital Funding total \$12,429,334, net of non-property tax revenues. With an estimated 1.2% growth in the Grand List, the estimated municipal tax rate for FY 2022 is \$0.5592. The tax rate is estimated to increase by \$0.0112 (a little more than one cent) or a 2.0% increase over the prior year.

Tax Impact:

FY22 Estimated Municipal Property Tax Impact				Estimated Municipal Property Tax Impact (Compared to FY21)			
Assessed Value	200,000	300,000	400,000	Assessed Value	200,000	300,000	400,000
Annual	\$1,118	\$1,678	\$2,237	Annual	\$22	\$34	\$45
Monthly	\$93.20	\$139.80	\$186.40	Monthly	\$1.87	\$2.80	\$3.73

Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

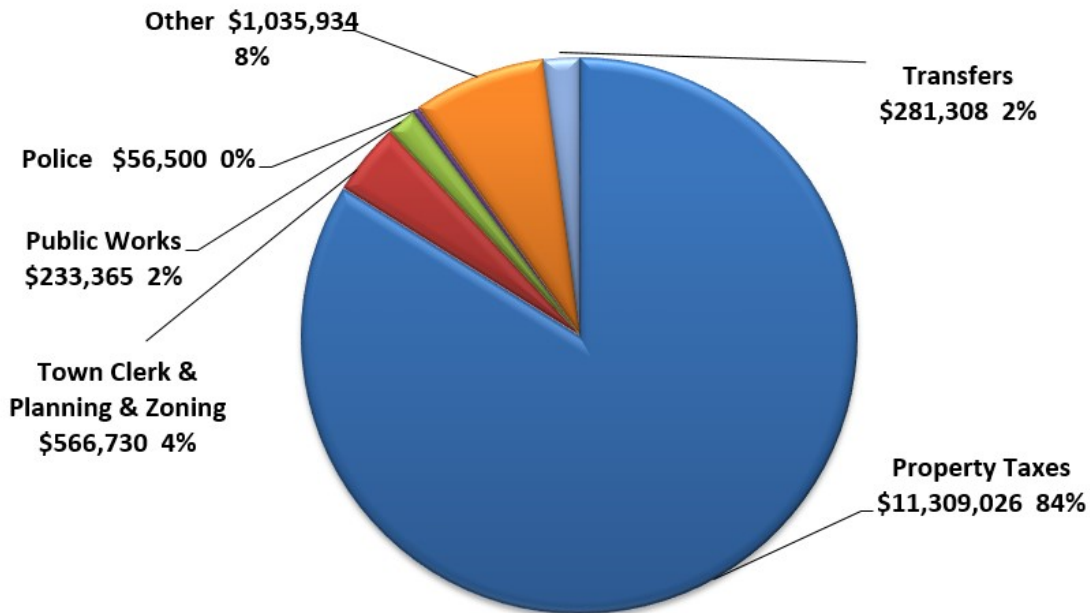
Revenues

Revenue Type	Proposed FY 22	FY 21	% Change From FY 21	\$ change from FY 21
Property Taxes	\$ 11,309,026	\$ 10,938,418	3.4%	\$ 370,609
Other Revenues	\$ 2,173,836	\$ 2,192,666	-0.9%	\$ (18,830)
Total Revenues	\$ 13,482,862	\$ 13,131,084	2.7%	\$ 351,779

Expenses

Department	Proposed FY 22	FY 21	% Change From FY 21	\$ change from FY 21
Selectboard	\$ 75,574	\$ 75,574	0.0%	\$ (0)
Transfers	\$ 85,000	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 85,000
Civil Board	\$ 39,223	\$ 41,808	-6.2%	\$ (2,585)
Manager	\$ 781,936	\$ 719,400	8.7%	\$ 62,536
Economic Development	\$ 135,402	\$ 135,090	0.2%	\$ 312
Finance	\$ 436,689	\$ 408,001	7.0%	\$ 28,687
Assessor	\$ 230,186	\$ 218,090	5.5%	\$ 12,096
Town Clerk	\$ 361,433	\$ 351,995	2.7%	\$ 9,438
Planning & Zoning & DRB	\$ 669,319	\$ 651,101	2.8%	\$ 18,218
Information Tech	\$ 185,774	\$ 73,433	7.1%	\$ 12,341
Police	\$ 3,996,688	\$ 3,884,413	2.9%	\$ 112,275
Dispatch	\$ 508,253	\$ 507,646	0.1%	\$ 607
Fire Departments	\$ 1,096,531	\$ 1,217,079	-9.9%	\$ (120,547)
Rescue	\$ 230,404	\$ 197,965	16.4%	\$ 32,438
Tech Rescue	\$ 36,348	\$ 36,607	-0.7%	\$ (258)
Public Works-Admin	\$ 602,109	\$ 626,355	-3.9%	\$ (24,246)
Highway	\$ 1,375,780	\$ 1,377,723	-0.1%	\$ (1,943)
Maintenance Facility	\$ 435,630	\$ 360,260	20.9%	\$ 75,370
Stormwater	\$ 137,500	\$ 133,000	3.4%	\$ 4,500
Buildings	\$ 180,187	\$ 167,853	7.3%	\$ 12,334
Health Services	\$ 64,310	\$ 63,777	0.8%	\$ 533
Parks	\$ 444,125	\$ 431,806	2.9%	\$ 12,319
Recreation	\$ 255,591	\$ 247,973	3.1%	\$ 7,619
Library	\$ 776,402	\$ 757,933	2.4%	\$ 18,469
Intergovernmental	\$ 342,469	\$ 346,203	-1.1%	\$ (3,734)
Total Expenses	\$ 13,482,862	\$ 13,131,084	2.7%	\$ 351,779

Town Municipal Services Budget FY 22 Revenues



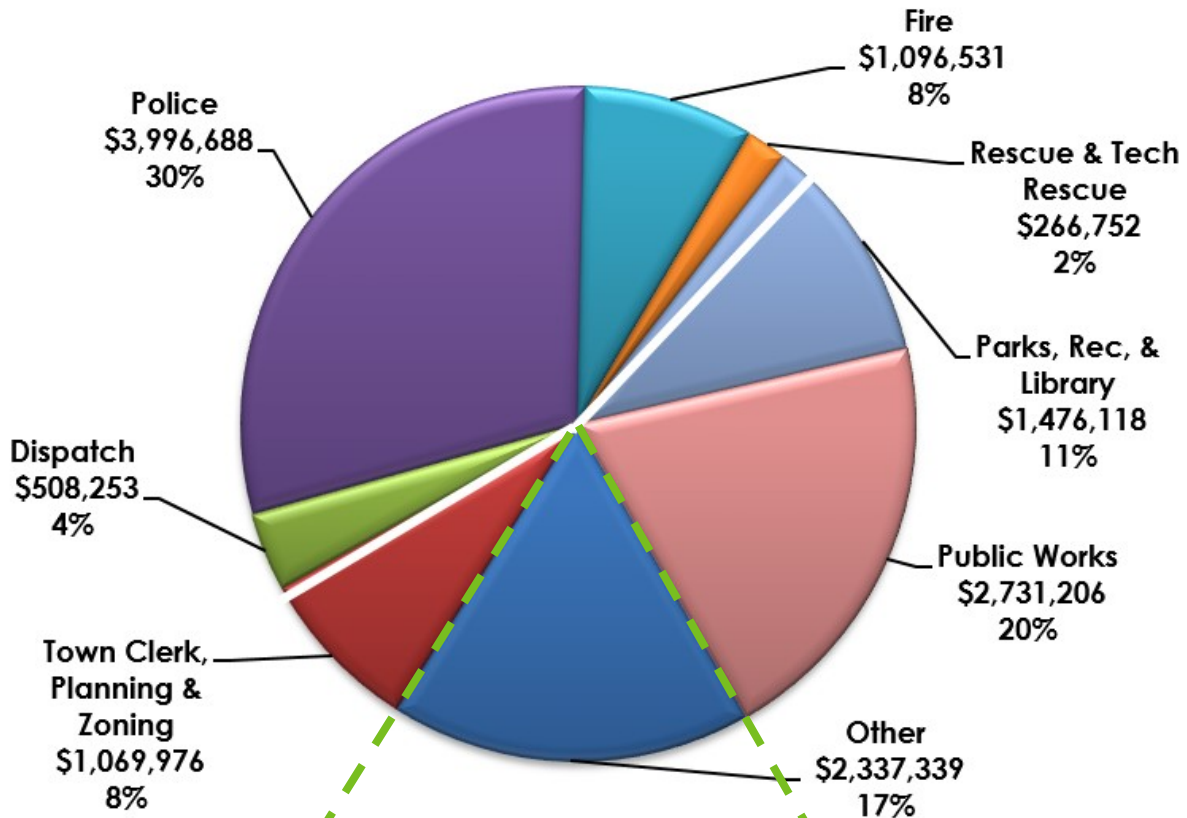
Comparison – Inner Chittenden County Town Tax Rates

Williston	.2750
So. Burlington	.5542
Essex Town	.5399
Colchester	.5480 (3 rd lowest)
Essex Jct.	.8677
Burlington	.9002
Winooski	1.1571
Average	.6917

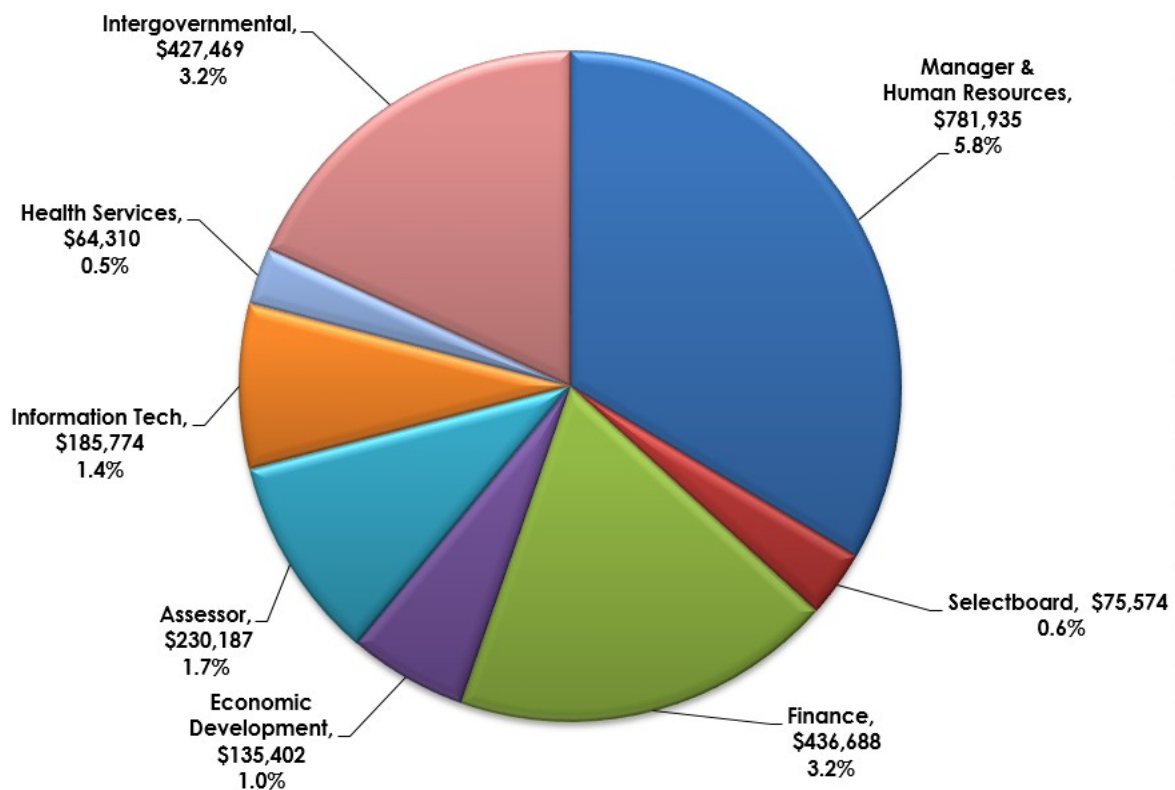


2019-20 MUNICIPAL TAX RATES FROM TOWN LISTER/ ASSESSOR'S DATA
Colchester is 8% **below average** for inner Chittenden County.

FY22 Budget for Your Town Services



FY 22 Budget: Breakdown of "Other" Expenses



Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

Account	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/ Dec from FY 21
REVENUES							
PROPERTY TAXES	9,998,930	10,433,016	10,685,309	10,938,418	11,309,026	370,609	3.4%
VETERAN EXEMPTION	0	(24,910)	(27,781)	(25,000)	(28,000)	(3,000)	12.0%
INTEREST DELINQ TAXES	33,920	59,466	56,427	35,000	35,000	0	0.0%
PENALTIES DELINQ TAXES	55,172	73,013	99,857	55,000	55,000	0	0.0%
RECORDING FEES	113,386	111,058	207,981	130,000	175,000	45,000	34.6%
CLERK FEES	77,398	82,977	66,713	83,355	50,155	(33,200)	-39.8%
STATE AID TO HIGHWAYS	196,354	196,705	202,572	197,668	206,965	9,297	4.7%
MISC PUBLIC WORKS REVENUE	29,062	28,881	26,830	29,000	26,400	(2,600)	-9.0%
BUILDING/ZONING PERMITS	231,849	320,272	269,824	250,000	250,000	0	0.0%
PLANNING & ZONING FEES	120,591	104,226	168,765	91,775	91,575	(200)	-0.2%
MISC POLICE REVENUE	99,061	65,969	68,555	71,500	56,500	(15,000)	-21.0%
MISC RECREATION REVENUE	20,844	18,662	11,261	18,500	3,000	(15,500)	-83.8%
AMBULANCE	515,008	535,710	541,191	0	0	0	0.0%
TRANSFER FROM SEWER FUND	130,189	130,300	134,275	135,944	135,520	(424)	-0.3%
TRANSFER FROM STORMWATER	107,710	110,402	112,826	113,533	110,787	(2,746)	-2.4%
TRANSFER FROM CEMETERY FUND	0	0	0	35,000	35,001	1	0.0%
GENERAL REVENUE	231,894	356,961	241,924	192,781	191,516	(1,265)	-0.7%
833 BLAKELY LEASE REVENUE	27,061	27,806	28,570	29,355	30,163	808	2.8%
PILOT & CURRENT USE	303,847	296,340	307,258	308,255	308,255	0	0.0%
REDUCTION IN FUND BALANCE	0	0	0	66,000	66,000	0	0.0%
ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	0	0	0	375,000	375,000	0	0.0%
TRANSFER FROM RESERVE FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Revenues	12,816,325	12,926,854	13,202,357	13,131,084	13,482,863	351,780	2.7%

EXPENSES	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/Dec from FY 21 Budget
SELECTBOARD							
SALARIES & WAGES	6,500	7,313	6,897	7,500	7,500	0	0.0%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	497	559	528	574	574	(0)	0.0%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	1,381	1,119	0	67,500	67,500	0	0.0%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Select Board	8,379	8,992	7,425	75,574	75,574	(0)	0.0%

Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

Account	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/ Dec from FY 21
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TRANSFERS

TRANSFER TO WELLNESS FUND	0	100					
TRANSFER TO DISPATCH	126,000	0	82,500				
TRANSFER TO DISPATCH	0	0					
TRANSFER TO FIRE CAPITAL	0	0	172,833		50,000	50,000	
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL EQUIPMENT			150,000				
TRANSFER TO CEMETERY FUND	0	0			35,000	35,000	
Total Transfers	126,000	100	405,333		85,000	85,000	

CIVIL BOARD

SALARIES & WAGES	14,682	18,529	16,036	24,962	21,880	(3,083)	-12.3%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	10,568	10,810	10,656	11,246	11,744	498	4.4%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	332	930	534	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
EQUIPMENT	100	2,868	4,802	600	600	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	1,035	3,311	662	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Total Civil Board	26,717	36,448	32,689	41,808	39,223	(2,585)	-6.2%

MANAGER

SALARIES & WAGES	342,736	315,419	358,495	443,502	484,126	40,623	9.2%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	115,915	111,976	120,838	150,798	191,810	41,013	27.2%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	94,285	69,592	129,905	95,000	78,000	(17,000)	-17.9%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	10,588	7,678	6,749	9,100	7,000	(2,100)	-23.1%
MISCELLANEOUS	18,627	23,355	32,253	21,000	21,000	0	0.0%
Total Manager	582,151	528,019	648,241	719,400	781,936	62,536	8.7%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SALARIES & WAGES	75,929	78,341	76,192	79,142	79,740	598	0.8%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	33,998	28,612	34,510	38,498	38,912	414	1.1%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	13,230	17,979	7,668	17,250	16,750	(500)	-2.9%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	699	0	0	200	0	(200)	-100.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	95	11	0	0	0	0	0.0%
TRANSFERS	3,600	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Economic Development	127,551	124,943	118,370	135,090	135,402	312	0.2%

FINANCE

SALARIES & WAGES	220,765	235,791	236,327	235,606	257,121	21,515	9.1%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	90,853	94,468	88,065	99,545	102,168	2,623	2.6%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	62,207	58,759	71,412	69,850	74,200	4,350	6.2%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	3,882	2,823	3,347	3,000	3,200	200	6.7%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Finance	377,707	391,840	399,151	408,001	436,689	28,688	7.0%

Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

Account	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/ Dec from FY 21 Budget
ASSESSOR							
SALARIES & WAGES	92,791	102,916	111,513	108,524	113,097	4,573	4.2%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	46,755	47,394	45,644	53,566	54,089	523	1.0%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	51,467	22,383	35,780	55,500	62,500	7,000	12.6%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	962	195	181	500	500	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Assessor	191,975	172,887	193,118	218,090	230,186	12,096	5.5%
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER							
SALARIES & WAGES	234,438	200,753	204,042	217,064	223,059	5,995	2.8%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	109,419	89,767	89,176	100,881	107,524	6,643	6.6%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	16,932	15,799	13,417	19,950	18,250	(1,700)	-8.5%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	10,436	12,443	11,371	13,500	12,000	(1,500)	-11.1%
MISCELLANEOUS	545	728	873	600	600	0	0.0%
Total Town Clerk/Treasurer	371,770	319,490	318,878	351,995	361,433	9,438	2.7%
PLANNING/ZONING							
SALARIES & WAGES	357,880	372,059	378,342	388,581	399,071	10,490	2.7%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	156,554	150,702	151,119	166,385	176,613	10,228	6.1%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	73,568	113,112	185,275	92,635	90,135	(2,500)	-2.7%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	3,223	3,002	2,151	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Planning/Zoning	591,225	638,874	716,888	651,101	669,319	18,218	2.8%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY							
SALARIES & WAGES	105,012	102,667	114,231	109,253	118,547	9,294	8.5%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	27,403	23,897	37,272	41,530	43,877	2,348	5.7%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	11,793	13,891	21,270	17,650	18,350	700	4.0%
EQUIPMENT	4,466	3,902	7,351	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Information Technology	148,674	144,358	180,123	173,433	185,774	12,341	7.1%
POLICE ENFORCEMENT							
SALARIES & WAGES	2,104,381	2,270,659	2,223,685	2,343,593	2,427,080	83,487	3.6%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	997,065	1,049,563	1,007,398	1,128,421	1,165,209	36,788	3.3%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	296,822	275,491	246,670	280,400	267,400	(13,000)	-4.6%
EQUIPMENT	51,282	61,722	93,663	50,000	55,000	5,000	10.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	9,738	9,962	8,310	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	22,296	32,110	75,310	72,000	72,000	0	0.0%
Total Police	3,481,584	3,699,506	3,655,035	3,884,413	3,996,688	112,275	2.9%
PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH							
TRANS TO DISPATCH FUND	396,800	409,000	418,582	507,646	508,253	607	0.1%
Total Public Safety Dispatch	396,800	409,000	418,582	507,646	508,253	607	0.1%

Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

Account	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/Dec from FY 21 Budget
FIRE							
FIRE RADIO TOWER LEASE	0	6,888	0	0	0	0	0.0%
DAYTIME COVERAGE PILOT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
FIRE PREVENTION & SUPPRESSION	878,600	928,425	763,780	0	0	0	0.0%
SALARIES & WAGES	0	0	51,323	346,912	355,505	8,593	2.5%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	0	0	14,414	198,134	158,994	(39,140)	-19.8%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	0	0	40,337	132,300	127,300	(5,000)	-3.8%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	14,222.16	105,000	105,000	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	0	0	259	130,400	95,400	(35,000)	-26.8%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	10,486	78,300	78,300	0	0.0%
CAPITAL AND TRANSFERS	0	0	0	226,033	176,033	(50,000)	-22.1%
Total Fire	878,600	935,313	894,821	1,217,079	1,096,531	(120,547)	-9.9%
RESCUE							
EXPENSES/TRANSFER TO RESCUE FUND	587,837	766,175	789,958	197,965	230,404	32,439	16.4%
Total Rescue	587,837	766,175	789,958	197,965	230,404	32,439	16.4%
TECHNICAL RESCUE							
SALARIES & WAGES	7,350	2,380	9,000	9,000	9,000	0	0.0%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	2,848	1,908	1,959	2,107	1,848	(259)	-12.3%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	15,292	31,178	15,940	21,200	21,200	0	0.0%
EQUIPMENT	1,873	4,185	4,255	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	313	13	1,238	300	300	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Technical Rescue	27,676	39,664	32,392	36,607	36,348	(259)	-0.7%
PUBLIC WORKS - ADMIN							
SALARIES & WAGES	402,369	342,985	399,690	422,735	412,919	(9,816)	-2.3%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	171,770	111,337	119,558	150,070	135,990	(14,080)	-9.4%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	41,411	28,831	35,315	52,100	51,750	(350)	-0.7%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	2,018	1,105	901	1,450	1,450	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Public Works-Admin	617,568	484,258	555,464	626,355	602,109	(24,246)	-3.9%
HIGHWAY DEPT							
SALARIES & WAGES	436,994	540,712	485,831	551,718	550,650	(1,068)	-0.2%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	243,792	282,926	276,226	332,592	315,548	(17,045)	-5.1%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	128,358	124,023	179,306	150,898	158,798	7,900	5.2%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	295,835	368,747	324,520	342,515	350,785	8,270	2.4%
MISCELLANEOUS	17,495	2,981	1,752	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Highway Dept	1,122,474	1,319,389	1,267,634	1,377,223	1,375,780	(1,943)	-0.1%

Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

Account	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/ Dec from FY 21 Budget
MAINTENANCE FACILITY							
SALARIES & WAGES	184,417	177,738	181,159	186,039	225,978	39,938	21.5%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	93,198	96,352	97,575	111,446	115,407	3,962	3.6%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	33,091	72,474	42,915	36,125	60,595	24,470	67.7%
EQUIPMENT	6,677	3,007	2,897	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	19,731	22,239	23,628	23,650	30,650	7,000	29.6%
MISCELLANEOUS	20	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Maintenance Facility	337,134	371,810	348,174	360,260	435,630	75,370	20.9%
STORMWATER							
SALARIES & WAGES	94,692	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	45,486	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	56,099	132,012	132,012	133,000	137,500	4,500	3.4%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	2,824	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Stormwater	199,101	132,012	132,012	133,000	137,500	4,500	3.4%
BUILDINGS							
SALARIES & WAGES	51,938	45,630	48,393	45,249	49,597	4,348	9.6%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	22,301	12,534	17,371	22,004	22,629	625	2.8%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	94,684	94,043	111,967	94,900	102,261	7,361	7.8%
EQUIPMENT	12,195	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	5,261	3,775	2,116	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	402	17	0	700	700	0	0.0%
Total Buildings	186,781	155,999	179,847	167,853	180,187	12,334	7.3%
HEALTH SERVICES							
VISITING NURSE ASSOC	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	0	0.0%
HOWARD MENTAL HEALTH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
CHAMPL VALLEY AG ON AGING	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
STEPS TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	0	0	0	550	550	0	0.0%
TURNING POINT	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT	16,334	18,569	18,983	19,727	20,260	533	2.7%
ANIMAL CONTROL FEES	3,532	250	4,112	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
VT CARES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Health Services	55,866	54,819	59,095	63,777	64,310	533	0.8%
PARKS							
SALARIES & WAGES	168,855	195,660	181,544	221,787	219,854	(1,932)	-0.9%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	54,986	64,779	60,311	68,369	65,639	(2,730)	-4.0%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	112,164	195,291	119,581	114,650	131,631	16,981	14.8%
EQUIPMENT	15,536	15,987	7,565	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	15,593	20,282	12,193	17,000	17,000	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	71	6,986	9,625	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Parks	367,205	498,986	390,820	431,806	444,125	12,319	2.9%

Town of Colchester Proposed FY 2022 Municipal Services Budget

Account	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Inc/ Dec from FY 21	% Inc/ Dec from FY 21 Budget
RECREATION							
SALARIES & WAGES	132,831	126,904	130,915	144,344	149,033	4,689	3.2%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	50,879	50,112	50,866	49,748	51,258	1,510	3.0%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	41,062	47,516	46,596	50,380	51,800	1,420	2.8%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	3,439	3,780	2,796	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Recreation	228,211	228,311	231,173	247,973	255,591	7,619	3.1%
LIBRARY							
SALARIES & WAGES	374,324	399,519	367,446	420,211	430,975	10,764	2.6%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	161,552	171,771	162,654	199,722	207,027	7,304	3.7%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	96,793	119,913	100,164	132,800	133,200	400	0.3%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	3,923	5,606	5,622	5,200	5,200	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	979	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Library	636,592	696,808	636,866	757,933	776,402	18,469	2.4%
CEMETERY							
SALARIES & WAGES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
EMPLOYER TAXES & BENEFITS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SERVICES & UTILITIES	10,573	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SUPPLIES & PARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	2,332	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Cemetery	12,905	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
INTERGOVTL EXPENDITURES							
LCR CHAMBER	1,300	1,380	1,420	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
VT COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%
GBIC	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	3,000	(3,000)	-50.0%
CHITT CO REGIONAL PLANNING	25,083	25,482	26,202	27,250	25,994	(1,256)	-4.6%
WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DISTRICT	43,543	45,401	47,672	48,808	49,725	917	1.9%
VLCT	19,724	20,883	21,500	22,413	23,250	837	3.7%
GMT ADA	23,520	30,255	21,013	48,000	48,000	0	0.0%
CCTA Routes (Rt 15 & Rt 7)	43,799	46,375	60,962	50,732	51,000	268	0.5%
SSTA (E&D)	16,837	28,332	28,500	29,000	29,000	0	0.0%
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LOCAL MOTION	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	(2,500)	-100.0%
COUNTY TAX	99,098	103,080	102,810	107,000	108,000	1,000	0.9%
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
Total Intergov Expenditures	284,404	310,188	321,579	346,203	342,469	(3,734)	-1.1%
Total Expenditures	12,190,870	12,468,189	12,933,669	13,131,084	13,482,862	351,779	2.7%

Town of Colchester Public Safety Capital Plan Reauthorization

OUTLINE OF PROGRAM:

The Five-Year Capital Budget Program is a multi-year planning tool used to identify, plan, and budget for the Town's capital needs. Voters approve multi-year renewals of six capital plans (Technology, Communications, Facilities and Equipment, Parks, Public Safety and Transportation) in rotation. The capital plans provides consistent funding for capital needs, allows deliberate equipment replacement planning, increase opportunities to obtain grant funding, avoids spikes in taxes, and allow us to pay as we go vs. using debt to fund this equipment.

March 2021, Colchester voters are being asked to approve the five-year renewal of the Public Safety Capital Plan. This plan is designed to fund the specialized equipment needs for the Rescue, Technical Rescue and Police Departments.

Related Emergency Services Information

- Rescue: 6 career staff with 35+ volunteers
- Technical Rescue: 40 volunteers
- Marine Patrol: 1 seasonal officer
- Specialized equipment (between three units): over \$670,000

Public Safety Capital Plan:

- \$30,750 annually, increased from \$18,750 to include savings for police boat and motors. The last plan did not have to include these as we secured a grant for half the cost of the last boat replacement
- Authorized first in 2016, prior to this funding was authorized annually.
- Planned expenditures for FY22-FY27 total \$287,500 (which includes grants and funding from past years)

Five Years of Funding Supports:

Rescue Department:

- Power Cots
- Cardiac Monitors/Defibrillators
- Stair Chairs
- Radios & Communication Equipment

Technical Rescue Department:

- Radios & Communication Equipment
- Inflatable boat
- Air Packs
- Air Tanks
- Harnesses
- Swift Water Suits
- Search Camera

Police:

- 2 Police Boats
- Replacement motors

ARTICLE TO BE VOTED UPON:

"Shall the Town of Colchester reauthorize the Selectboard to maintain a reserve fund accumulating annually in the amount of Thirty Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$30,750) for a period of five years, for the purpose of financing public safety equipment replacements and upgrades?"

Town of Colchester Report of Delinquent Taxes

Julie Graeter, Treasurer

Status Report as of June 30, 2020

Taxes, Interest and Penalties billed, collected and balances due for fiscal 2019/2020:

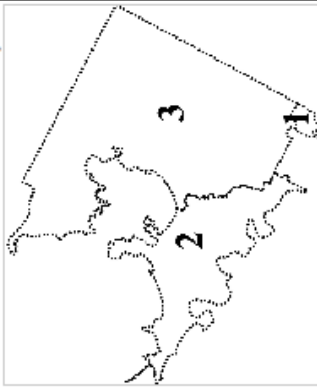
	Taxes	Interest	Penalty	Total
Billed	\$47,257,008	\$40,523	\$100,574	\$47,398,105
Collected	\$47,083,135	\$27,173	\$87,662	\$47,197,970
Net Due	\$173,872	\$13,350	\$12,912	\$200,134

Current and Prior Year Taxes, Penalty and Interest Due:

Tax Year	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
07-08	\$1,950.59					
08-09	\$3,211.83	\$438.24				
09-10	\$2,871.72	\$1,641.09				
10-11	\$5,845.40	\$2,116.52	\$1,355.97	\$1,463.97	\$1,571.97	\$1,679.97
11-12	\$8,733.81	\$5,835.38	\$3,928.32	\$3,508.84	\$3,756.01	\$4,078.45
12-13	\$16,240.65	\$8,237.33	\$4,313.12	\$4,668.09	\$5,073.21	\$5,071.95
13-14	\$77,279.04	\$12,558.11	\$9,032.09	\$6,941.98	\$5,430.23	\$5,313.99
14-15	\$271,474	\$47,081.97	\$17,380.13	\$14,792.49	\$6,926.90	\$6,182.34
15-16		\$156,855.20	\$34,762.91	\$27,933.83	\$11,345.32	\$7,622.84
16-17			\$212,575.00	\$72,660.98	\$34,537.29	\$15,825.06
17-18				\$146,697.78	\$47,877.13	\$21,763.50
18-19					\$176,701.26	\$47,935.63
19-20						\$200,134.23
Totals	\$387,607	\$234,764	\$283,348	\$278,668	\$293,219	\$315,608
% Uncollected						0.42%

Water Service Providers in Colchester, Vermont

Fire District Territory



Current Water Service Areas

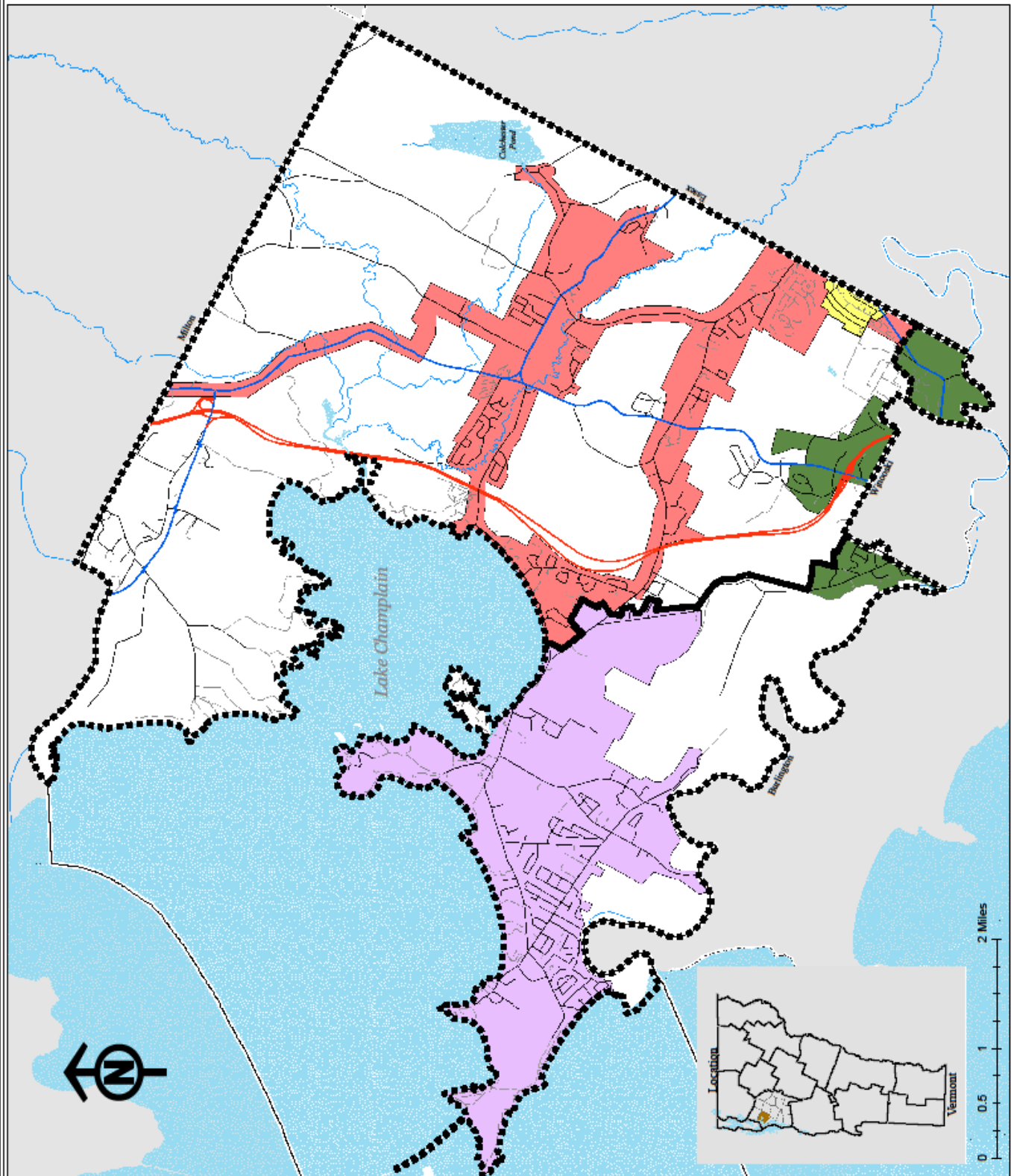
- Champlain Water District
- Fire District #2
- Fire District #3
- Town of Essex

Sources:
Fire District Boundary - CCRPC, 2012
Water District - CCRPC, 2012
Surface Water - TWMP, 2011
Road Centerline - 2012, CCRPC

Date: 12/16/2020



Colchester
Vermont



Water Supply Services in Colchester

The water in the Town of Colchester is provided by four entities. As of January 1, 2021 there will be two independent fire districts providing water service in addition to the Town of Essex and the Champlain Water District. **The Town does not provide water. Colchester residents who have questions about their water quality, billing, or service should contact their water provider directly.**

Fire District #1 provided water service to Winooski Park, along Route 15, Red Pines Condos, and Windemere Park until December 31, 2020 after which the assets and liabilities were transferred to Champlain Water District, which now owns and operates the water service in this area.

The annual meeting is held on the 4th Monday in January. Monthly meetings are held irregularly at the Pomerleau Center at Saint Michael's College.

Prudential Committee

One-year terms expire upon vote at Annual Meeting

Thomas Van Dzura

Treasurer

802.654.2314

Joseph McLaughlin

Clerk

For more information about Colchester Water District #1 visit <http://cfd1.org/colchester>

Fire District #2 provides water service and fire protection to the Malletts Bay area from Burlington to Bayside Park and to a portion of Blakely Road onto Malletts Bay Avenue. Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Water District #2 Office, 838 Church Road. The annual meeting is held on the 4th Monday in January.

Water and Hydrant Maintenance

802.862.4621

Prudential Committee

One and three-year terms expire upon vote at Annual Meeting

Michael Whalen, Chair

3 years (exp. 2020)

802.862.7784

Angela MacDonald

3 years (exp. 2021)

802.863.0584

Joe Hart

1 year

802.658.0997

Steve Chagnon

3 years (2022)

802.863.9003

Ed Losier

1 year

802.660.9076

Colchester Water Supply Services, Continued

Fire District #3 provides water and fire service for the Village area: Severance Road south to Rathe Road; to Hercules Drive and north to the Milton line; Westbury Park; Winchester Place to Bayside Park; East Lakeshore Drive to the Village area; and east to the Essex line.

The annual meeting is held on the 3rd Monday in January; monthly meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of the month; all meetings are held at the Fire District #3 office at 428 Main St.

Main Phone (Water) 802.878.4337

District Administrator: Marianne Terrien 802.503.2116

Prudential Committee One-year and three-year terms expire upon vote at Annual Meeting

Jay Riedinger, Chair 1 year (exp. 2021) 802.503.2116

Mike Chemielewski 1 year (exp. 2023) 802.503.2116

William Uzzel 1 year (exp. 2021) 802.503.2116

Stephen Roy 3 years (exp. 2021) 802.503.2116

Learn more about CCVFC at <http://www.colchesterfire.org>

Champlain Water District (CWD) Retail Division: Colchester Town Water System provides water to the Exit 16 Water Tower Hill area. Malletts Bay Water Company provides water to the Young Street | Valleyfield | Morehouse Drive neighborhoods on the Winooski | Malletts Bay Avenue line

Main Phone (**including** emergencies) 802.864.7454

Superintendent Jay Nadeau 802.864.7454 x4817

CWD Commissioner 3 year term Karen Richard, Expires 2021 497.2160

Alternate, 3 year term Bryan Osborne, Expires 2021 264.5509

For more information about CWD visit <http://www.champlainwater.org>

The Town of Essex provides water to Fort Ethan Allen.

Main Phone: 802.878.1344

For more information about the Town of Essex visit <http://www.essex.org>

CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT

MANAGEMENT LETTER - FY 2019-2020

Dedicated to Quality Water & Service
First In The Nation ~ Excellence In Water Treatment,
Partnership For Safe Water

Bob Shand, Chair
CWD Board of Water Commissioners
Joe Duncan,
CWD General Manager

Champlain Water District (CWD) is a regional municipal organization supplying drinking water and fire protection to the following (12) municipal water systems since 1973: South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, Essex, Essex Junction, Village of Jericho, Winooski, Milton, Colchester Fire District #1, Colchester Fire District #3, Colchester Town, and the Mallets Bay Water Company. This past year CWD celebrated our 21st anniversary of continuing to maintain the Partnership for Safe Water Program's Excellence in Water Treatment Award criteria. CWD was the first water supplier in North America to receive the Excellence in Water Treatment Award in 1999, and is presently one of 16 water utilities that have attained this level of water treatment optimization, which signifies continuous performance protective of public health. CWD has maintained this level of excellence through successful submission of a comprehensive annual report that is reviewed for water quality test results, as well as demonstration and documentation of the operational tenacity toward continued quality improvement as required by the Partnership for Safe Water Program. The Partnership for Safe Water program utility membership collectively serves a total population of over 100 million people, or two-thirds of the U.S. population using surface water as their source of drinking water. In June of 2015, CWD was chosen as the People's Choice Award winner as the best tasting drinking water in North America at the American Water Works Annual Conference and Exhibition.

Over the past year CWD has steadily continued its efforts toward completion of its Ten-Year Master Plan (2016-2026). CWD's accomplishments over this past fiscal year are as follows:

- Continued Phase II of a water transmission pipe condition assessment plan, titled Pipe Integrity Program (PIP), toward potential replacement of aging underground infrastructure using a GIS based risk prioritization scoring matrix
- Continued to manage a long-term asset management contract with Utility Services Company Inc. for on-going inspection, maintenance, and rehabilitation of (15) of CWD's welded steel water storage tanks and (2) of CWD's non-welded steel water storage tanks
- Continued to manage a long-term asset management contract with Utility Services Company Inc. for on-going inspection, maintenance, and rehabilitation of (3) Adsorption Clarifiers and (8) Multimedia Filters at CWD's Water Treatment Facility
- Continued our annual transmission system valve replacement program
- Continued investment with Efficiency Vermont to optimize daily energy usage and reduce overall annual electrical costs
- Continued implementation of a long-term asset management database system for all CWD property, plant, and equipment
- Completed the rehabilitation and recoating of a water storage tank in Milton
- Passed a \$3.5M bond article for the Colchester South Tank Loop and Essex West Pump Station projects. Construction for both projects is planned for FY20-21
- Constructed building improvements at the Well #7 meter vault
- Upgraded the Allen Road meter vault
- Began planning for future improvements: Powder Activated Carbon (PAC) Pretreatment System, Chemical Feed and Storage Addition, Lake Water Pump Station Improvements, and South Filtered Water Tank

Towards the end of FY19-20 we experienced the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. As an essential service, we developed a COVID-19 plan that focused on the well-being of our employees while providing for continued 24/7 operations of our treatment and transmission systems. As of the end of June 2020, we were moving ahead with our annual programs and asset management efforts. Heading into FY20-21, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve. As a result, we continually evaluate our work plans and remain nimble in our approach to meeting the needs of the District.

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

Cemetery Advisory Committee

Doug McSweeney, Chair

The Cemetery Advisory Committee advises the staff and Selectboard on the proper operation of the Town's Cemeteries, activities and properties.

2019 – 2020 Year in Review

- ◇ 14 burials
- ◇ 5 lots sold

Memorial Day was celebrated by the annual placing of flags for our Veterans buried in the six Town Cemeteries.

The Champlain Cemetery received much needed repair & maintenance from the Vermont Old Cemetery Association.

The required survey and recording of new burial lots at the Munson Cemetery is complete and the Town Clerk's Office is able to sell lots.



Lots are available to be sold in Munson, Champlain and Old Methodist Cemeteries.



Colchester Conservation Commission

Theresa Carroll, Chair

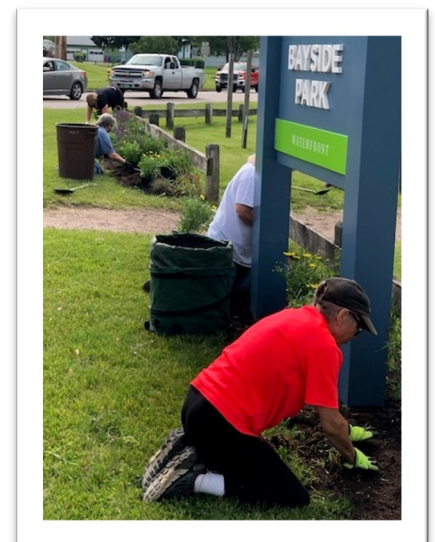
"Dedicated to protecting water quality and natural communities."

In FY 2019-20, the Conservation Commission:

- ◇ Organized Green Up Day for the town for the 24th consecutive year. A total of 202 volunteers picked up trash along roadsides, the bike path and parks.
- ◇ Planted flowers at Bayside Park, the flagpole bed by The Pickled Perch, Airport Park and the traffic islands across from Malletts Bay School for Colchester Blooms! for a total of 37 volunteer hours
- ◇ Conducted an annual site visit to Law Island to determine usage and condition of trails, campsites and the composting toilet to prepare a monitoring report for the Lake Champlain Land Trust
- ◇ Participated in a discussion in January led by Town Manager Aaron Frank and Parks and Recreation Director Glen Cuttitta about the proposed plans for the Bayside-Hazlett Property, followed by a site visit in June to the 14-acre property
- ◇ Visited the Wolcott Family Natural Area on East Road, accompanied by Winooski Valley Park District's Tim Larned, parks superintendent, and Nick Warner, executive director, to observe progress made on trail construction and the parking area and for an update on the park district's other new acquisitions in Chittenden County
- ◇ Continued discussion on the town's emerald ash borer preparedness management plan, including exploring options to increase public awareness of this invasive pest
- ◇ Liz Hamlin-Volz was appointed as Colchester's representative to the Chittenden Solid Waste District Board of Commissioners, taking over the position from Tim Moran, another long-time member of the Conservation Commission.



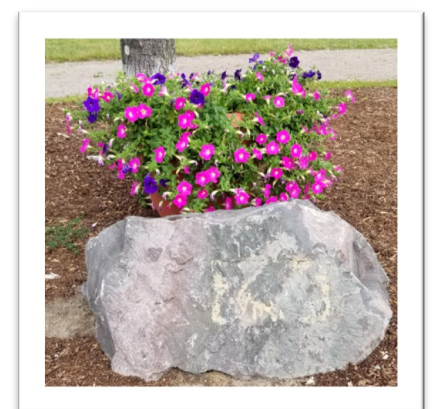
Green Up Day trash



Planting at Bayside Park



CCC
members on
a site visit to
Wolcott
Family
Natural Area



Flowers at Airport Park

Colchester Historical Society

Nancy Burke, President



Located at: 828 Main Street

We offered a variety of interesting historical events and programs over the past year, at least until the COVID-19 health pandemic forced the closure of nearly everything, everywhere.

- ◇ September 2019: Carlton Young, Ph.D., author of *Voices From the Attic*, brought spellbinding stories.
- ◇ October 2019: Members visited the Vermont Granite Museum and Hope Cemetery in Barre.
- ◇ November 2019: We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the American Legion and the 20th anniversary of Local Post 91, the second-largest post in Vermont.
- ◇ December 2019: Our annual Christmas concert featuring Colchester High School choral groups was held at the lovely and historic United Church of Colchester.
- ◇ January 2020: Businessman Dick Mazza treated us to a tour of his private transportation collection.
- ◇ February 2020: Vermont Nut Free Chocolates President/CEO Mark T. Elvidge presented information about the history of chocolate-making and the history behind this family-owned Colchester business.
- ◇ March 2020: Our plan was to celebrate the 50th anniversary of St. Michael's College Fire and Rescue but the event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ◇ April 2020: Colchester Rep. Curt Taylor had planned to talk about the history of how laws are made in Vermont and the laws enacted during the most recent legislative session.
- ◇ May 2020: Members had planned a spring field trip to the Birds of Vermont Museum.
- ◇ May 2020: Volunteers gathered safely at the historical society's home on Main Street to prepare and plant the flower gardens for summer.
- ◇ June 2020: Annual meeting cancelled.
- ◇ August 2020: Officers met via Zoom videoconferencing to plan events for 2021. Stay tuned.

Other:

- ◇ Summer 2020: The Colchester Log Schoolhouse, a museum and tourist center at Airport Park, is normally open and hosted each summer by the Historical Society on weekends. Sadly, we were unable to open this summer due to the health pandemic but hope to re-open in the spring of 2021.
- ◇ The Vermont Natural Resources Council undertook the removal of the circa 1800 Mill Pond Dam during the summer of 2019. The final report is located on our website.
- ◇ For the first time ever, Colchester had a winner at Vermont History Day, hosted by the Vermont Historical Society. Colchester teen Thomas Buckley was awarded second place in the category of Senior Historical Paper. Thomas presented his paper on Margaret Chase Smith. Two Colchester Historical Society members – Inge Schaefer and Bonnie Potter – served as volunteer judges in separate categories for the competition. Colchester Historical Society is hopeful that more local students will participate in Vermont History Day in 2021.



Left: Local teen Thomas Buckley was a winner at Vermont History Day



Above: The former mill and dam located on Mill Pond Road

To learn more about the Colchester Vermont Historical Society, visit our website at www.colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ColchesterVermontHistoricalSociety.

New members are always welcome, and there are several interesting volunteer opportunities available.

2020 Annual Report

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is a political subdivision of the State created by the municipalities of Chittenden County in 1966 for the development of policies, plans and programs that address regional issues and opportunities in Chittenden County. Its vision is to be a preeminent, integrated regional organization that plans for healthy, vibrant communities, economic development, and efficient transportation of people and goods while improving the region's livability. The CCRPC serves as the region's federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and is responsible for comprehensive and collaborative transportation planning involving municipalities, state and federal agencies and other key stakeholders in Chittenden County. The CCRPC works to ensure implementation of the regional transportation plan and provides technical and planning assistance to its member municipalities and the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans).

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

The CCRPC appreciates the continued opportunity to work with its municipal members to plan appropriately for the region's future to protect and improve the special quality of life that is shared throughout Chittenden County. In FY20, the CCRPC invested just under \$4.5 million in regional land use, transportation, emergency management, energy, natural resources, public engagement, training, and technical assistance. The program leverages more than \$4.1 million in Federal and State investment with \$245,000 in municipal dues and another \$146,000 in local match for specific projects—an estimated 11:1 return on local investment.

- Colchester representatives to the CCRPC Board and other committees in FY20 were:
- CCRPC Representative: Jacki Murphy | CCRPC Alternate: Pam Loranger
- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC): Bryan Osborne
- Planning Advisory Committee (PAC): Sarah Hadd
- Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC): Karen Adams / Amanda Clayton
- MS4 Subcommittee: Karen Adams / Amanda Clayton

For further information about the CCRPC, please visit <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/> or contact CCRPC Executive Director, Charlie Baker: cbaker@ccrpcvt.org.



Winooski Valley Park District
Ethan Allen Homestead
Burlington, Vermont 05408
Tel: (802) 863-5744 | Email: info@wvpd.org | www.WVPD.org
Nick Warner, Executive Director



The Winooski Valley Park District's mission is to plan, acquire, and manage lands and waters within the boundaries of its member municipalities for purposes of conservation, preservation of natural areas, establishment of parks, and resource-based education and recreation. WVPD's growing 1,753-acre portfolio features over 13 miles of shoreline and offers 25 miles of trails in 19 parks throughout the Winooski River Valley. In Colchester, this includes Colchester Pond Natural Area, Delta Park, Macrae Farm Park, and the Wolcott Family Natural Area. Susan Gilfillan is Colchester's representative on the Board of Trustees. Please visit www.wvpd.org for trail maps and to learn more, or stop by WVPD's headquarters at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington.

COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts and Response: The COVID-19 Pandemic shifted WVPD's operations while placing additional burdens to operations. In March, WVPD's office closed, employees shifted to working remotely, education programs were cancelled, and the evaluation around how best to maintain public safety while keeping parks open began. Utilizing the Governors guidance's, CDC, and VT Department of Health advisories, and through a collaboration of statewide park agencies and non-profits, WVPD was able to keep all 19 parks open. WVPD immediately saw a huge spike in park usage after the Governor's Stay Home order was implemented. This overall increase in park usage has held strong, even as WVPD made the difficult decision to not hire seasonal maintenance staff due to financial uncertainties facing our member towns. WVPD's year-round staff has since prioritized core functions of operations with attention being focused on maintenance and upkeep of structures in our park system, while managing the impacts of the uptick in park usage, significant upgrades in our facilities, and the development of our newest park, Derway Cove.

The Burlington Forest Preschool (BFPS) and Ethan Allen Homestead Museum (EAHM), our tenants and partners at the Ethan Allen Homestead, closed for six weeks in response to the pandemic. WVPD, with the support of a small VHCB grant and consulting assistance, facilitated the acquisition of state and federal grants - and both organizations received funding to maintain operations until state guidelines allowed for partial reopening. The BFPS has since expanded to meet the rising need for childcare, and the EAHM is now able to operate several days a week providing limited in-person tours, along with virtual content and lectures. Their continued solvency provides important income to WVPD's operations, as well as important services to the community.

FY20 Park Improvements and Activities in Colchester:

- A new 16' bridge was installed on the Colchester Pond Trail
- Park entrance upgrades are in progress at Wolcott Family Natural. Area: turning radius has been expanded; currently working to get paved for anticipated opening in 2021.
- Colchester Pond House Improvements: electrical repairs, new range outlet and range.

FY 20 Environmental Education Activities:

Highlights this year included Bird Monitoring walks at Delta Park and Macrae Farm Park, continuation of afterschool program partnerships, and the creation of a Virtual Conservation Field Day. Due to COVID19 Conservation Field Day could not be held in person, however many partner organizations that provide workshops for the event created virtual content that WVPD was able to share with schools and educators in our member communities.

During the summer of 2019 WVPD operated eight weeks of 'S.O.L.E. Camp', which offers a rich natural resource curriculum to children 6-10 years of age. The program operated at capacity with a waiting list each week. Additionally, WVPD parks and facilities are utilized for:

- Afterschool programs with multiple schools from WVPD member towns.
- School and Senior Program field trips.
- Bird and wildlife walks lead by other conservation and environmentally focused organizations. Academic research, internships, and service-learning projects.



Financial Sustainability: In a continuing effort to keep costs as low as possible for member towns while accommodating a growing park portfolio, WVPD provided fee-for-service project services for the City of South Burlington, Town of Williston, and City of Winooski. This model will continue in future years as a means to enhance operating revenues. Volunteers from local schools and community organizations also contribute hundreds of hours of labor annually to WVPD parks removing invasive plant species, picking up trash, assisting with programs and events, and repairing trails. WVPD received a grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program to upgrade computer and technology systems; expanded a lease and added a new classroom for the Burlington Forest Pre-School at the Ethan Allen Homestead; ran the S.O.L.E Camp at capacity; and led fee-based afterschool offerings. WVPD proactively seeks new grants and sponsorships for future programs, projects, and acquisitions.

Activities for Residents, and Tourists: WVPD's 19 regional parks offer nature trails, scenic overlooks and wildlife viewing, hiking trails, picnic facilities, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails, canoe/kayak launches, fishing accesses, and public garden plots. The Ethan Allen Homestead Museum (a tenant and partner organization) provides tours of Ethan and Fanny Allen's 1787 restored farmhouse, historic lectures, programs, and special events such as Citizenship Ceremonies, fundraisers, and historic re-enactments. This past year, the Museum continues to expand its mission to include Native American culture and history, through a partnership with the Alnobiawi, an intertribal Indigenous Cultural organization. This effort has generated a huge amount of interest, support, and activity.

Activities with WVPD's Partner Organizations in FY20:

- *Burlington Wildways:* Partnership between the City of Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, Burlington Conservation Board, Intervale Center, Rock Point, and WVPD to create a connected network of trails for improved access and stewardship within the City of Burlington. The first section of the Wildways Trail from Salmon Hole to Ethan Allen Park was connected in September 2019.
- *Intervale Center:* Workday with volunteers from Mascoma Bank to remove invasive knotweed along the riverbank on the Riverwalk Trail.
- *Lake Champlain Committee:* Partnering on a VT Department of Environment Conservation Grant-In-Aid, that involved monitoring Lake Champlain for the presence of invasive Asian Clam for second year.
- *Lake Champlain Land Trust:* Continued work to renaturalize WVPD's newest park acquisition, Derway Cove, by planting native plants and trees on the site.
- *VT Department of Forest Parks & Recreation:* Service-learning workday with 94 Williston Central School students to remove invasive plants at the Ethan Allen Homestead.
- *VT Fish and Wildlife:* Partnering on a riparian re-vegetation project where several test plots are being set up at the Ethan Allen Homestead to research which method is the most efficient.
- *VYCC:* Conversations with VYCC leadership began to establish a regional community crew to better address trail needs on a project specific basis within Chittenden County.

Programs Offered by Others at WVPD Parks: Many school groups, local Colleges and Universities, summer camps – including Colchester Parks and Recreation camps – scout groups, and other conservation focused organizations, such as Green Mountain Audubon, utilize WVPD's parks regularly. WVPD parks are also the subject and location of numerous collegiate and post-graduate studies. The Burlington Area Community Gardens, the Vermont Community Garden Network, The Janet S. Munt Family Room, and New Farms for New Americans lead educational gardening and sustainable agriculture programs at WVPD's Ethan Allen Homestead. People need natural areas to stay in touch with the local landscapes that sustain them. In turn, natural areas need protection and management to assure people and wildlife can peacefully coexist. In an era of forest decline and water quality challenges, WVPD will continue to prioritize high value conservation properties for acquisition and management. WVPD has and will continue to provide services in park planning and park maintenance. WVPD's presence in Colchester greatly enhances education, conservation, and recreation. Colchester's annual support makes it possible for thousands of Vermonters and tourists to explore our ecologically diverse system of natural areas embedded within the most developed county in Vermont. Thank You!

Home Health & Hospice

(Formerly VNA)

HH&H cared for 642 people in Colchester during our past fiscal year (July 2019-June 2020) with the following services:

HH&H	Visits
Nursing	6025
Physical Therapy	1996
Speech Therapy	347
Occupational Therapy	600
Social Work	1894
Total	10,862

HH&H	Hours
Licensed Nursing Assistant	1701
Homemaker	552
Waiver Attendant	5268
Total	7,521

Cost of Care	Amount
Total cost of HHH Care	\$3,066,042
Amount reimbursed to HHH*	\$2,676,258
Unreimbursed Care	\$389,784

*reimbursed through Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, contracts and patient fees

HH&H requests annual contributions from each town and city in our two-county service area. Your contribution is critical to supporting the **\$3.3 million** in unreimbursed care that we provided this year.

Last year, HH&H cared for over **4,325** people of all ages, regardless of their ability to pay. Your contribution helps ensure Colchester residents can access innovative, high-value, compassionate care wherever they call home to keep them healthy, independent and active members of your community.

Our goal is to have each town and city help alleviate some of the debt Home Health & Hospice incurs.



THE
University of Vermont
 HEALTH NETWORK
Home Health & Hospice

Who we are

We are a municipality governed by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the 18 towns and cities of Chittenden County.

Our mission is to reduce and manage the solid waste generated by our members.

Our vision is for our community to fully participate in minimizing disposal and maximizing reuse and recycling.

FY20 Financial and Operations Summary

General Fund FY20 expenditures totaled \$11.7 million and revenues \$12.6 million, representing a slight increase overall from FY19 (figures are unaudited).

The COVID-19 global pandemic impacted all aspects of CSWD operations during the fourth quarter.

When the pandemic hit, CSWD immediately assessed the best ways to continue serving the public during the State of Emergency and beyond. After a brief shutdown to deep-clean and assess operations, the District reopened its Environmental Depot hazardous waste facility in South Burlington as well as Drop-Off Centers in Williston, Essex, Milton, and South Burlington to quickly serve the most concentrated population areas. We instituted new configurations and policies at all public-facing facilities to ensure the safety of our staff and customers and to enhance the efficiency of operations during and beyond COVID-19 conditions.

The CSWD Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Williston continued receiving, sorting, and marketing mandated “blue-bin” recyclables uninterrupted. The Organics Diversion Facility in Williston likewise continued processing leaves and food scraps into Green Mountain Compost soil amendment products.

CSWD Outreach & Communications efforts emphasized the July 1, 2020 statewide ban on disposing of food scraps in the trash leading up to the State of Emergency and helped the public navigate CSWD operational changes via the District Hotline, website, social media, and virtual presentations.

Board of Commissioners As of July 1, 2019:

BOLTON Duncan Galbraith

BURLINGTON Lee Perry, Alt: Jennifer Green

CHARLOTTE Abby Foulk, Alt: Rachel Stein

COLCHESTER Tim Moran, Alt: Liz Hamilton-Volz

ESSEX Alan Nye, Alt: Max Levy

ESSEX JUNCTION Alan Nye, Alt: George Tyler

HINESBURG Lynn Gardner, Alt: Doug Taff

HUNTINGTON Roman Livak, Alt: Landel Cochran

JERICHO Leslie Nulty, Alt: Bert Lindholm

MILTON Ken Nolan

RICHMOND Logan Hegg, Alt: Caleb Manna

ST. GEORGE Harry Bowen, Alt: Sarah Tischler

SHELBURNE Timothy Loucks, Alt: Lee Krohn

SOUTH BURLINGTON Paul Stabler

UNDERHILL Paul Ruess, Alt: Dan Steinbauer

WESTFORD Michelle DaVia

WILLISTON Jeremy Hulsey, Alt: Caylin McCamp

WINOOSKI Bryn Oakleaf, Alt: Candice Holbrook

CSWD does not receive tax or “per capita” funding from the State or member municipalities.

Part B



**SCHOOL BOARD WARNING
2021 ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
COLCHESTER, VERMONT**

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester, Vermont are notified and warned to meet at the Colchester High School Gymnasium, Laker Lane, in said Town on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to act on the following articles by Australian ballot.

ARTICLE 3

Shall the voters of the school district set compensation to be paid to the School Board Directors at its current level of \$1,700 annually?

ARTICLE 4

Shall the voters of the school district authorize the School Board Directors to borrow money for current and necessary expenses by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for this school year? Annually, the district is required to request voter approval for short-term borrowing to cover expenses occurred until the school district receives its general education payment from the state in September.

ARTICLE 5

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Forty-six million six hundred seventy-nine thousand nine hundred eleven dollars (\$46,679,911), which is the amount the Colchester School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that the proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,613.96 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 0.52% higher than spending for the current year.

DATED AT COLCHESTER THIS 19th DAY OF JANUARY 2021.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

s/ 
s/ 
s/ 
s/ 

**Colchester School District
Annual Meeting Minutes
Colchester High School Performing Arts Center
Monday, March 2, 2020**



Moderator Scott Barrett called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. He welcomed the audience, thanked them for attending. He then read the warning.

Mr. Barrett introduced Craig Kieny to introduce the Colchester School Board.

Mr. Barrett introduced Superintendent Amy Minor.

Ms. Minor then turned the microphone over School District staff in attendance.

Roll Call

School Board: Craig Kieny, Lindsey Cox, Curt Taylor, Lincoln White, and Mike Rogers (absent),

School Faculty: Amy Minor, Superintendent; George Trieb, Business/Operations Manager; Carrie Lutz, Director of Special Education; Gwen Carmolli, Director of Curriculum; Carolyn Millham, Principal Porters Point School; Chris Antonicci, Principal Union Memorial School; Jordan Burke, Principal Malletts Bay School; Michele Cote, Principal Colchester Middle School; Heather Baron, Principal Colchester High School

Mr. Barrett read the **School Board Warning for the Annual District Meeting:**

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester, Vermont are notified and warned to meet at the Colchester High School Auditorium, Laker Lane, in said Town on Monday, March 2, 2020, at 7:00 PM to act on the following articles not involving voting by Australian ballot (Articles 1-6)

Article 1:

To choose a moderator, if the elected moderator is not present.

The moderator was present and no action was necessary.

Article 2:

To act upon the reports of the School District Officers.

MOTION was made by Dirk Reith and SECONDED by Mike Whalen that the reports of the school district officers be adopted.

There was no discussion.

The MOTION carried.

**Colchester School District
Annual Meeting Minutes
Colchester High School Performing Arts Center
Monday, March 2, 2020**



Article 3:

To set compensation, if any, to be paid to the School Board Directors.

MOTION was made by Richard Pecor and SECONDED by Dirk Reith to set compensation at \$1700.00 per year.

There was no discussion.

The MOTION carried.

Article 4:

To determine whether the District will vote to authorize the School Directors to borrow money for current and necessary expenses by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for this school year. MOTION was made by Dirk Reith and SECONDED by Carol Anderson to so authorize the School Directors. There was no discussion.

The MOTION carried.

Article 5:

To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Mr. Barrett introduced Amy Minor, School District Superintendent, to present the proposed FY 2020 school budget.

Ms. Minor took a moment to honor School Board Member Lincoln White for his eight years on the school board by presenting him with the Colchester Laker Boat. His time on the board has been greatly appreciated.

Ms. Minor opened her presentation by describing the new programs that have been added to prepare students to be successful. Essential Expectations (Think, Learn, Communicate, Act) is a program that encourages students to develop transferable skills that will help them be successful in their careers.

Another successful component, the school district started gaining energy credits through a solar field project in Newbury, Vermont. The school district is continuing to invest in the buildings (MBS and CHS parking lot, updated food service line at CHS). She also pointed out that CHS has added another language (Arabic) to the Program of Studies at CHS. This makes CHS more in line with other Chittenden County Schools. She reported that student enrollment in Colchester is rising and the projections show it will continue to rise. She spoke about staff to student ratios and class sizes, with the additions that we have added for the last few years, which makes us more in line with Vermont Quality Standards. Ms Minor described the future challenges of our current facilities and stated this coming year will be focused on working on a future facilities plan, Personalized Learning Plans for middle and high school, literacy needs, and our achievement gap. The proposed FY 2020 school budget was reviewed pointing out the new additions of Special Educators at CMS (1), Literacy teachers at PPS (1) and UMS (1) and increasing the current halftime to a full time ELL teacher at CMS (.5)

**Colchester School District
Annual Meeting Minutes
Colchester High School Performing Arts Center
Monday, March 2, 2020**



Moderator Barrett asked if there were any questions related to the budget; there were no questions about the budget.

Moderator Barrett asked if there was any other business related to the school district.

Q: Carrie Neuschel stated that she notices the traffic issues. She also noticed that many busses seem to transport very few students and asked if there is a way we can go to smaller busses, and is there a way to change the bussing schedule.

A: Ms. Minor stated that the district asks Mountain Transit to check ridership four times a year, and two years ago they were able to eliminate one bus. Currently the ridership does not warrant elimination of any busses or moving to smaller busses. Ms. Minor went on to say that the district has had feedback about start times for elementary versus middle and high school. There is potential to revisit the idea of switching the elementary and middle and high school runs so that elementary starts earlier and middle and high school students start later. One of the challenges is Colchester has a large geographical area to cover, so in order to have schools for all students start at 8:30 and end at 3:30 the district would have to add 15 more busses. It was decided that it is more fiscally conservative to stay with two bus runs. The school district will continue to monitor the bussing situation.

There was no further discussion.

Moderator Barrett continued the Warning:

Article 6: To adjourn said School District meeting and to reconvene at the Colchester High School, Laker Lane, in said Town on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, for voters in District 9-1 and 9-2 to vote for School Directors and to transact any other business involving voting by Australian Ballot with voting to begin at 7:00 a.m. and to close at 7:00 p.m.

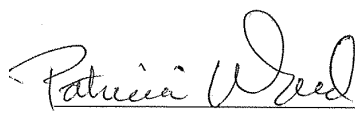
MOTION was made by Mike Whalen and SECONDED by Carol Anderson to adjourn the meeting.

There was no discussion.

The MOTION carried.

Moderator Barrett adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm

Respectfully submitted by:


Patricia Ward, Recording Secretary


Julie Graeter, Town Clerk

Scott Barrett, Moderator

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF REVENUE AND EXPENDI-
TURES BUDGET (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS) AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenue:			
Regular Instructional:			
General State Support Grants	\$ 33,924,781	\$ 33,924,781	\$ 0
Other State Revenue	854,492	926,155	71,663
Tuition	675,000	1,014,612	339,612
Other Local Revenue	177,500	162,880	(14,620)
Special Education Support:			
State Revenue	4,497,291	4,958,099	460,808
Federal Grants	658,704	589,955	(68,749)
Tuition	0	50,365	50,365
Interest	125,000	137,212	12,212
 Total Revenue	 40,912,768	 41,764,059	 851,291
Expenditures:			
Regular Instructional:			
Direct Instructional	17,344,014	17,101,587	242,427
Vocational Tuition	962,519	835,222	127,297
Student Support Services	1,845,297	1,943,094	(97,797)
Staff Support Services	1,219,900	1,098,384	121,516
General Administration	771,864	723,819	48,045
School Administration	1,964,380	1,949,820	14,560
Fiscal Services	1,752,054	1,629,651	122,403
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	3,564,248	3,466,536	97,712
Transportation Services	1,312,100	1,087,957	224,143
Special Education Support:			
Direct Instructional	8,091,357	7,700,944	390,413
Student Support Services	1,269,221	1,241,703	27,518
Staff Support Services	78,353	32,608	45,745
School Administration	463,305	448,201	15,104
Transportation Services	338,038	338,503	(465)
Debt Service	486,118	460,335	25,783
Transfer to Food Service Fund	0	60,000	(60,000)
Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund	0	232,839	(232,839)
 Total Expenditures	 41,462,768	 40,351,203	 1,111,565
 Excess/(Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditures	 \$ (550,000)	 \$ 1,412,856	 \$ 1,962,856

Notes

Notes

