

Town of **Ryegate** Vermont

2014 Annual Report



Ryegate Winter Carnival

Please bring this report to
Town Meeting
On Tuesday, March 3, 2015



Dedication

Albert Sponheimer

9/30/1924-

7/4/2014

Another member of "America's Greatest Generation" passed to join the ranks of his fellow soldiers on July 4, 2014. Albert Sponheimer Jr., 89, died at home with his daughters and his dog Midnight with him. He was born in Seymour, Connecticut to Albert and Edna (Daleen) Sponheimer on September 30, 1924. He attended schools in Seymour, leaving midway in his senior year to enlist in the Army in 1943. "Spoony" served as a combat medic attached to A Battery, 197th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion. He was among the first to land on D-Day at Omaha Beach. He was awarded the American Campaign Medal, the Eastern-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. Fifty-three years later after records surfaced, he was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on June 6, 1944, attending to the wounded on Omaha Beach. He told one story that the Germans were unable to shoot him because he was so thin, weighing only 120 pounds at six feet tall.

After the war he came home to Seymour to work as a Master Plumber and Electrician. He married Audrey W. Rowe Wilkinson on October 3, 1953. While in Connecticut he was active in the Seymour Fire Department and Post 10 American Legion (past Commander). They moved to Ryegate in 1965. The next winter their home burned to the ground. He and Audrey spent countless hours rebuilding their home on the hill.

Spoony enjoyed attending his annual Army reunions and going on many Stephen Ambrose Historical D-Day tours to share his war time stories. He enjoyed talking to school groups and others, wanting people to remember the sacrifices and importance of D-Day. A true Red Sox fan, it wasn't until 2012 that he went to Fenway with his grandsons, Jereme and Trevor. He was active in his community after he retired, serving as selectman for the town of Ryegate for 6 years and zoning administrator for 19 years. For many years he was member of the Woodsville/Wells River 4th of July Committee, Blue Mountain School Budget Committee, Republican National Committee, Vermont Republican Town Committee, Northeastern Vermont Development Association, The National WWII Museum, Veterans of the Battle of Bulge, Inc. and a member of VFW Post 5245 North Haverhill. He was proud to have been a member of Connecticut American Legion Post 10 for 69 continuous years. His father paid his first membership dues to the Post upon his arrival home from the war. Ryegate is appreciative of his many years of service to the town and we will miss him.

The Report of the Officers of the

Town
of
Ryegate
Vermont

In preparation for Town Meeting Day

On

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

2014

Annual Report
Of Town Officers
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2014

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Selectboard Narrative

As I write this the National Weather Service is trying to decide if we are facing a blizzard or just a snow storm, 3 inches of snow or 3 feet. Time will tell but one thing is for sure, Ryegate will take what comes and roll with the punch. Adapting to a changing world and planning for the future are signs of a healthy community and we know that we are ready for the challenge.

Our one FEMA Hazard Mitigation grant stemming from Tropical Storm Irene was successfully concluded this year. 68 Church St. in So. Ryegate was a flood prone home that was deemed by FEMA to be better removed than constantly rebuilt after flood damage. The dwelling has been removed, the property is now owned by the town and will be used as a riverside park for the enjoyment of all.

Ticklenaked Pond and its watershed reached a milestone this year and was found to be ready for the pond's alum treatment. Reaching this status was the result of a lot of dedicated effort on the part of the Pond People and the property owners and farmers in the watershed. The treatment removed excess phosphorus from the water and sealed it into the sediment at the bottom of the pond where it should harmlessly remain indefinitely.

We started two major road projects this year. On Church St. in So. Ryegate we have a granite block retaining wall that needs to be rebuilt and we have received a Class 2 Structures grant from VTrans that will pay for 90% of the estimated \$123,750.00 cost. Many of you know how broken up Witherspoon Rd is below "Hap's Corner". Working with a local consulting engineer the board has put the job of rebuilding apx. 4,000 ft of this road out to bid and the work will resume as soon as weather permits in the spring. For this project we applied for and received a Class 2 Roadway grant, again from VTrans, that will pay up to \$175,000.00 of the cost. We plan to apply to this grant program again this year and hope to receive another grant to help with the cost of finishing this project.

One change that none of us are happy with is the increase in drug abuse in our quiet little corner of Vermont. This scourge, along with its associated increase in break ins and burglary is affecting all of us, whether directly or not. The board will be asking Town Meeting for \$20,000.00 to enter into a contract with the Vermont State police for law enforcement and patrol. Having a contract with the VSP will greatly increase the police presence in town which will be an unwelcome change for anyone trying to conduct illegal activities here. While this contract will not produce an end to our problem it will be a strong step in the right direction.

The proposed 2015 Town budget, as it came out of our budget committee, would be a 1.01% increase over last year. The addition of the State Police contract would add .02% to the budget giving us an increase of 1.03% for a grand total of \$957,704.00.

As always, it a privilege to serve as your Selectboard and we look forward to sharing 2015 with you.

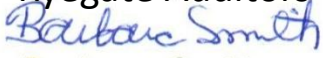
"Stay calm, have courage, and wait for signs."

Auditors' Narrative

In accordance with Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, Section 1681, the board of auditors has verified the existence of cash balances and examined the accounts and records of town officers. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements and reports of receipts and disbursements, assets and liabilities contained in this Annual Report present an accurate record of funds handled in the year ending December 31, 2014.

The Town Auditors completed the verification of the Grand List and found nothing but minor questions on a very small percentage of property listings. Generally, the appearance of a problem was the result of updating the computer file but not printing out a new property listing for the file. This verification will continue annually with the Auditor's doing a random check of 5%+/- of the property records and a verification of all properties that have changed ownership or have had changes made to the property, dwelling, or out buildings.

We thank the Town Clerk, the Town Treasurer, and the Town Listers for their assistance and providing clarification of us as we performed our duties.

Ryegate Auditors

Barbara Smith


Thomas Dole


Richard Fraser

Open Meeting Law

Vermont's Open Meeting Law was amended by the Vermont Legislature in 2014. The Select Board has been made aware of these changes and strives to hold their meetings and have other Commissions and Boards in Ryegate hold their meetings in an open and informative environment. A guide to this law will be on the Ryegate website soon. Copies of the "Open Meeting Law Frequently Asked Questions" are available at the Town Office.

Ryegate Winter Carnival

The Third Annual Winter Carnival was a smashing success on January 24, 2015. The weather provided a beautiful day with perfect skating conditions on Ticklenaked Pond and enough snow to keep the sleigh rides in constant motion. Lily Pond Horse-drawn Wagon and Sleighs of Piermont, NH, offered free rides thanks to a special memorial fund for Ryegate children established by John Weesner- original owner of the Ryegate Power Station- many years ago in honor of his daughter, Nicole Hayne. Hillsides around the pond were available for sledding, snow-shoeing, snow-mobile rides, and cross-country skiing. On the pond, there were two curling rinks and a hockey rink, not to mention ice fishing with instruction, gear, and bait provided. There were skates and snowshoes available for people to use, thanks to the generosity of the Wells River Library.

Non-stop hayrides took folks from the parking area to the beach, where they roasted marshmallows and hotdogs, sampled fourteen different chili dishes from the annual Chili Cook-off, and drank more than 14 gallons of free hot chocolate from area farmers. A mix and match snowman in the center of our new playground attracted kids big and little. The bon fire was tended on the beach for warm-ups and the Sing-A-Long.

Under the direction of Sally Wilson, Chairman, at least thirty volunteers provided the work and equipment, whether it was extension cords and a generator, tents, tables and chairs, or bales of hay, to make it all happen. More than 325 people enjoyed the day. We also thank the local businesses for their generosity in getting the word out. If you haven't checked out the great pictures on our town website, please do. www.ryegatevt.org



Towns Officers Appointed by the Selectboard

Road Foreman	Nelson Elder
Clerk for the Select Board	Marsha Nelson
Fence Viewers	The Select Board
Pound Keeper	Haverhill Dog Kennel
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber & Weigher of Coal	Bruce Beauvais
Tree Warden	Darcy Nelson
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Dean Rowden
Town Service Officer	J Paul Coates
Health Officer	Stephen Genereaux, MD
Animal Control Officer	Josephine Guertin
Energy Officer	Marsha Nelson
Green Up Chairmen	Darryl Perkins & Makayla Perkins
NEK Waste District	Gene Perkins, Supervisor Andrew Smith, Vice Super
Planning/Zoning Commission:	
Term expires 2015	Mary Dole
Term expires 2015	William Elder
Term expires 2015	Scott Ordway, Resigned
Term expires 2015	Fremont Nelson
Term expires 2016	Walter Bragg
Term Expires 2016	Richard Colby II
Term Expires 2016	Nancy Perkins
Term Expires 2017	Alice Allen
Term Expires 2017	Stephen Genereaux
Zoning Administrator	Donna Longmoore
Northeastern Vermont Develop Assoc.	Claudette Sortino
Connecticut River Joint Commissions	Vacant
APPOINTED BY THE TOWN CLERK	
Town Clerk's Assistant	
APPOINTED BY THE TREASURER	
Treasurer's Assistant	Patricia Crocker

Town Officers 2014

MODERATOR	Regina Hazel
TOWN CLERK	Marsha Nelson
TREASURER	Cheryl Slayton

SELECT BOARD

Term expires March 2015 Andrew Smith
Term expires March 2016 Claudette Sortino
Term expires March 2017 Paul Keenan

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	Dale Wright
FIRST CONSTABLE	Vacant
TOWN AGENT	John Zampieri
FIRST GRAND JUROR	Dean Rowden

LISTERS:

Term expires March 2015	Elizabeth Beauvais
Term expires March 2016	Sally Wilson
Term expires March 2017	Regina Hazel

AUDITORS :

Term expires March 2015	Richard Fraser
Term expires March 2016	Barbara Smith
Term expires March 2017	Thomas Dole

LIBRARY TRUSTEES:

Term expires March, 2015	Mary Dole
Term expires March, 2016	Deanna Arnosky
Term expires March, 2017	Richard Fraser
Term expires March, 2018	Marsha Nelson
Term expires March 2019	Jennifer Nelson

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER:

Term expires March, 2015	Vacant
Term expires March, 2016	Bruce Nelson
Term expires March, 2017	William Nelson
Term expires March, 2018	Judy Gandin
Term expires March 2019	Richard Colby II

UNION SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Term expires March, 2015	Ron Phillips
Term expires March, 2016	Bruce Stevens
Term expires March 2016	Paul Hazel
Term expires March 2017	Angeline Alley

Funds Administered by Selectboard and Treasurer 2014

	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
1) So. Ryegate Sewer					
#273086	\$1,584.57			\$0.80	\$1,585.37
2) Rural Development					
#306513	\$834.96			\$0.42	\$835.38
3) Act 200 Funds					
#310392	\$3,620.17		* \$2861.30	\$2.02	\$760.89
4) Fire Dept Building Fund					
#634466	\$527.53			\$0.48	\$528.01
5) Fire Dept Eq. Repl.					
#632300	\$13,597.42	\$1,207.31	** \$1292.51	\$12.50	\$13,524.72
6) Machine Fund-Hgwy					
#612080	\$264,740.31	\$75,000.00		\$265.47	\$340,005.78
7) Ryegate History Committee					
#524317	\$17,612.85			\$17.61	\$17,630.46
8) Nicole A. Hayne					
#528494	\$2,414.56	\$1,000.00		\$1.55	\$3,416.11
#905929	\$9,518.77			\$54.83	\$9,573.60
9) M. Hall Library					
#195892	\$1,780.51	\$539.77	*** \$400.00	\$0.94	\$1,921.22
#905933	\$6,251.07			\$36.00	\$6,287.07
1711 Shares MFS/MIT	\$49,205.07				\$54,170.90
933 Shares Putnam	\$14,446.92				\$15,753.49
10) W. Sutton Memorial					
#552067	\$106.10			\$0.04	\$106.14
* Zoning Bylaw Training					
** To Fire Dept Budget					
*** South Ryegate Library					

Funds Administered by Selectboard and Treasurer 2014

	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
11) E. Ryegate Library					
#9358817841	\$1,882.77			\$0.59	\$1,883.36
12) John F. McColl Cemetery					
#810875	\$3,390.31			\$19.22	\$3,409.53
#905930	\$2,304.91			\$13.28	\$2,318.19
#234630	\$106.13			\$0.04	\$106.17
13) McDonald Cemetery					
#290409	\$320.02			\$0.16	\$320.18
14) Byrne-Buchanan Cemetery					
#304502	\$490.95			\$0.24	\$491.19
15) C A Park Cemetery					
#506625	\$697.03			\$0.36	\$697.39
16) Cameron Cemetery					
#702507	\$2,935.16			\$21.30	\$2,956.46
17) Ryegate Cemetery Fund					
#601600	\$11,061.84		* \$5.00	\$11.07	\$11,067.91
18) E. Hall Cemetery					
#195915	\$1,985.64	\$297.00		\$1.06	\$2,283.70
#905932	\$7,319.69			\$42.17	\$7,361.86
451 Shares Bank of NYMellon	\$15,723.00				\$18,256.50
19) M. Hall Cemetery					
#195928	\$1,071.09	\$24.43		\$0.54	\$1,096.06
#905931	\$3,909.00			\$22.50	\$3,931.50
146 Shares Bank of America	\$2,008.96				\$2,181.73
29 Shares Bank of NYMellon	\$1,013.26				\$1,176.53
20) Ticklenaked Pond Checking					
#389315	\$4,689.63	\$1,572.00	\$1,827.00		\$4,434.63
21) BMU Little League					
#565393	\$662.57			\$0.32	\$662.89
22) Lind Homes Housing					
#565353	\$4,333.51			\$4.33	\$4,337.84
* Service Charge					

Capital Needs: Town Highway Machinery and Equipment

TOWN OF RYEGATE											
HIGHWAY MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT											
CAPITAL NEEDS ACTUALS AND ESTIMATES											
Capital Item	Year 2004	Year 2005	Year 2006	Year 2007	Year 2008	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2013	Year 2014
2011 Loader									55,500		
Trade 2001											
2004 Grader	131,104										
Trade 1993											
2006 Truck		37,440									
Trade 2001											
2005 Culvert Steamer		5,296									
2008 Truck/purchased '07				83,520							
Trade 2003											
2009 Truck/purchase '08					109,131						
2010 Truck/purchase '10							103,986				
Trade 2004											
Wood Chipper									3,500		
Other- Equip Fuel Tank						249.48					
Welder										2090	
Balance in Savings Jan 1	113,566	23,161	20,548	65,782	72,660	58,888	133,895	105,163	180,428	196,636	264,740
Annual Deposit	40,000	40,000	45,000	90,000	95,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	70,000	75,000
Annual Expense	(131,104)	(42,736)	-	(83,520)	(109,131)	(249)	(103,986)	-	(59,000)	(2,090)	0
Annual Interest Earned	699	123	234	398	359	256	254	265	208	194	265
Balance in Savings Dec 31	23,161	20,548	65,782	72,660	58,888	133,895	105,163	180,428	196,636	264,740	340,005

2014 Town Employee Compensation

Employee Name	2014 Pay Rate	Gross Wages	Retirement	Bonus	Health Insurance	FICA	Total Compensation
Nelson Elder	19.15 Hourly	46,502.12	3,175.83	100.00	6,840.61	3,548.71	60,167.27
Road Foreman							
Stan Kosakowski	16.19 Hourly	37,527.42	2,564.15	100.00	7,423.39	2,878.46	50,493.42
Road Crew							
Larry Welch	15.84 Hourly	37,322.25	2,550.28	100.00	6,840.61	2,846.45	49,659.59
Road Crew							
Bruce Boyce	15.00 Hourly	9,855.00	684.41	100.00		761.57	11,400.98
Road Crew							
Fred Lakin	18.97 Hourly	17,251.89	1,164.51		3,496.74	1,317.09	23,230.23
Road Crew							
Gordon Peterson	18.34 Hourly	1,370.75				104.87	1,475.62
Road Crew P.T.							
Joseph Breault	15.00 Hourly	2,411.25	165.89			184.46	2,761.60
Road Crew							
Marsha Nelson	398.90 Weekly	21,104.80	1,445.36	100.00	8,912.04	1,621.86	33,184.06
Town Clerk							
Cheryl Slayton	316.35 Weekly	16,450.20		100.00	8,912.04	1,266.05	26,728.29
Treasurer							
Patricia Crocker	10.00 Hourly	610.00		100.00		54.32	764.32
Asst. Treas.							
Khristine Elder	10.00 Hourly	160.00				12.24	172.24
Asst. Town Cl.							
Mary Dole	10.00 Hourly	240.00				18.36	258.36
Asst. Town Cl.							
Richard Fraser	11.49 Hourly	195.34				14.95	210.29
Auditor							
Barbara Smith	11.49 Hourly	103.41				7.91	111.32
Auditor							
Thomas Dole	11.49 Hourly	508.44				38.89	547.33
Auditor							
Dale Wright	8% Collection Fee	13,126.30				1,004.17	14,130.47
Tax Collector							
Regina Hazel	14.09 Hourly	3,952.25				302.36	4,254.61
Lister							
Elizabeth Beauvais	14.09 Hourly	3,991.02				305.30	4,296.32
Lister							
Sally Wilson	14.09 Hourly	3,983.98				304.78	4,288.76
Lister							
Gene Perkins **	10.00 Hourly	3,270.00				250.19	3,520.19
Recycling							
Andrew Smith	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Claudette Sortino	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Paul Keenan	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
		222,936.42	11,750.43	700.00	42,425.43	17,072.49	294,884.77
		Additional Employer Costs:		Worker's Compensation Ins.			9,757.00
				Road Crew Uniforms/Laundry Service			4,124.67
**Town of Groton Reimbursed \$1635.00 for their share.				Unemployment Ins.			426.00
				TOTAL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION			309,192.44

Balance Sheet Comparison

Current Assets:	12/31/2013	12/31/2014
Wells River - Checking	\$ 15,356.00	\$ 3,588.51
Petty Cash	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Wells River Savings- Debit Card Account	\$ 460.60	\$ 127.52
Wells River Savings - Money Market Account	\$ 438,787.85	\$ 552,316.79
Woodsville Savings- Money Market Account	\$ 160,930.14	\$ 161,413.64
Passumpsic Savings Bank- Money Market Acct	\$ 51,202.40	\$ 101,297.22
2011 Property Tax	\$ 2,617.07	
2012 Property Tax	\$ 35,664.75	\$ 997.44
2013 Property Tax	\$ 118,404.38	\$ 28,586.95
2014 PropertyTax		\$ 119,261.89
So. Ryegate Sewer Rec.	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
East Ryegate Sewer Rec	\$ 2,857.28	\$ 2,640.08
Town of Groton- Recycling Rec.	\$ 1,887.69	\$ 2,138.28
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 830,698.16	\$ 973,898.32
Current Liabilities:	12/31/2013	12/31/2014
Accounts Payable		
Fica Withheld	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.04)
State Withheld	\$ (0.93)	\$ (1.27)
Prepaid Property Tax 2014	\$ 1,335.00	
Prepaid Property Tax 2015		\$ 1,134.25
Due To Other Accounts	\$ (1,292.51)	\$ 1,173.91
Ticklenaked Pond Grant-Alum T	\$ 5,000.00	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 5,041.53	\$ 2,306.85
Fund Balances:	12/31/2013	12/31/2014
Fund Balance-Prior Year	\$ 548,848.01	\$ 547,879.88
Fund Balance- Reappraisal	\$ 51,348.85	\$ 58,568.85
Fund Balance- Town Highway	\$ 118,353.31	\$ 165,504.57
Fund Balance- So. Rye Sew	\$ 39,319.69	\$ 43,947.96
Fund Balance- Roads	\$ 3,230.91	\$ 91,995.51
Fund Balance- Creamery Road Bridge	\$ 50,729.75	\$ 42,633.77
Fund Balance- Br. 42&43	\$ 1,423.79	\$ -
Fund Balance- 68 Church Street		\$ 500.00
Fund Balance- External Audit		\$ 3,500.00
Fund Balance- Restoration	\$ 13,370.45	\$ 13,408.45
Current Year Earnings	\$ (968.13)	\$ 3,652.48
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 825,656.63	\$ 971,591.47
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 830,698.16	\$ 973,898.32

Comparative Budget REVENUES

Revenues	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Real Property Taxes	\$796,754.23	\$2,370,792.81	\$802,034.00
Pilot	\$1,500.00	\$1,545.42	\$1,500.00
Equil Ed Gr List Main	\$0.00	\$390.63	\$0.00
Property Tax ADJ from Prior Yr	\$0.00	\$20,595.25	\$0.00
Interest - Delinquent Tax	\$4,000.00	\$19,975.64	\$10,000.00
Tax Collectors 8%	\$0.00	\$13,126.30	\$0.00
Liquor Licenses	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
Permits/Zoning & Planning	\$200.00	\$30.00	\$200.00
Marriage Licenses	\$0.00	\$270.00	\$200.00
State Aid For Highways	\$110,000.00	\$123,253.86	\$110,000.00
Town Clerk Fees	\$10,000.00	\$7,470.39	\$8,000.00
Dog License Male	\$300.00	\$252.00	\$300.00
Dog License Female	\$300.00	\$128.00	\$300.00
Dog License Neuter/Spay	\$1,000.00	\$1,216.00	\$1,000.00
Dog Licenses-Kennel	\$0.00	\$31.00	\$0.00
Interest Income	\$2,500.00	\$2,484.36	\$2,500.00
Traffic Control	\$100.00	\$33.50	\$100.00
Dry Hydrant Grant-Ck Re-issue	\$0.00	\$1,562.00	\$0.00
VLCT PACIF – Refund	\$0.00	\$899.00	\$0.00
Fire Dpt – LED Lighting Rebate	\$0.00	\$1,450.00	\$0.00
68 Church Street Buy Out	\$0.00	\$93,755.31	\$0.00
N. Bayley-Hazen Rd Grant	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Ticklenaked Pond-Alum Treatment	\$0.00	\$85,990.00	\$0.00
Fire Dept W/C Refund	\$0.00	\$78.00	\$0.00
Town of Groton- Recycling Building	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Hold Harmless- State of Vermont	\$0.00	\$43,320.00	\$0.00
Revenues Total	\$928,204.23	\$2,800,219.47	\$937,704.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Expenses	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Elected and Appointed Officials			
Animal Care	500.00	\$480.00	500.00
Auditors Salaries	1,200.00	807.19	1,200.00
Auditors Supplies/TR Del	50.00	0.00	50.00
Ballot Clerk Salaries	750.00	1,429.99	750.00
Cemetery Appropriation	8,500.00	8,500.00	8,500.00
Cemetery Fencing & Repair	500.00	932.37	500.00
Dog Catcher Expense	3,000.00	226.00	1,500.00
Dog Catcher Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00
Health Officer Expense	50.00	0.00	50.00
Lister's Computer Support	2,000.00	2,014.65	2,100.00
Listers Salaries	15,000.00	11,927.25	15,000.00
Listers Supplies & Exp	500.00	529.69	500.00
Lister's Telephone	450.00	488.74	450.00
Recycling Coordinator	1,500.00	1,635.00	1,900.00
Selectmen's Salaries	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Tax Collector's 8%	0.00	13,126.30	0.00
Tax Collector's Expense	250.00	190.00	250.00
Town Officers - Conf/Mtgs	1,000.00	1,220.00	1,500.00
Town Patrol Sheriff Contract	3,000.00	2,607.75	3,000.00
Zoning/Planning Comm.	200.00	67.92	3,000.00
Total	41,450.00	49,182.85	43,750.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Town Offices	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Marriage License Fees	0.00	245.00	0.00
Medical Office	17,500.00	17,824.08	17,650.00
Retirement Town Office	1,400.00	1,445.36	1,450.00
State Dog License Fees	1,000.00	724.00	1,000.00
Town Officers- Mach & Repair	100.00	25.00	200.00
Town Officers- Mach & Equip.	1,000.00	1,307.67	1,000.00
Town Officers - Dog Fees	450.00	362.00	400.00
Town Officers - Fuel Oil	2,500.00	2,615.61	2,500.00
Town Officers - Groundwrk	1,200.00	1,090.00	1,800.00
Town Officers - Postage	1,000.00	1,058.37	1,000.00
Town Clerk Salaries	21,000.00	20,842.80	21,000.00
Assistant Town Clerk Salaries	400.00	400.00	1,000.00
Town Treasurer Salaries	17,000.00	16,550.20	17,000.00
Assistant Town Treasurer Salaries	750.00	710.00	750.00
Town Officers - Supplies	1,700.00	873.83	1,700.00
Town Officers - Telephone & Internet+	1,100.00	1,063.74	1,100.00
Town Officers - Utilities	900.00	874.19	900.00
Town Officer's Comp Sup	2,000.00	2,779.40	2,000.00
Website	100.00	164.85	150.00
Workers Comp office	292.00	292.71	414.00
Total	71,392.00	71,248.81	73,014.00
General	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Ambulance	14,612.00	14,612.00	16,791.00
Appraisal Consulting	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Beach - Repairs & Maint	2,200.00	1,790.64	2,000.00
Cemetery Flags	250.00	0.00	250.00
County Tax	15,755.00	15,755.00	15,236.00
Elections - Telephone	325.00	103.47	0.00
Elections - Advertising	150.00	0.00	0.00
Fast Squad- Groton/Ryegate	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
FICA - Employer	18,000.00	17,072.52	18,000.00
Fire Warden Expense	300.00	0.00	300.00
Legal Fees	2,000.00	348.58	2,000.00
External Audit	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Tax Sale Notice	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meeting/Bid Advertising	100.00	0.00	100.00
Recycling	2,000.00	1,576.72	2,000.00
Recycling Building- Maintenance	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Ryegate Green Up	100.00	141.14	100.00
Ryegate Green Up - Disposal	500.00	455.00	500.00
Ryegate Historical Society	200.00	200.00	200.00
Ticklenaked Pond – Alum Treatment	0.00	85,990.00	0.00
68 Church Street Buy Out	0.00	93,755.31	0.00
Tax Abatement/Reimbursement	0.00	375.39	0.00
Tax Maps	0.00	0.00	720.00
Town Building Rep & Maint	2,500.00	2,043.31	2,500.00
Town Report	2,000.00	1,529.96	2,000.00
Town Report- Mailing	200.00	199.75	200.00
VLCT Dues	2,170.00	2,170.00	2,231.00
VLCT PACIF	17,819.00	18,392.00	21,698.00
Total	95,181.00	268,010.79	100,826.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Fire Department	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Vol Fire Dept - 2005 Fire Truck	17,148.23	17,148.23	0.00
Vol Fire Dept - Bldg (SR)	1,000.00	941.67	1,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Buildings (RC)	2,800.00	1,144.57	2,800.00
Vol Fire Dept - Diesel	1,500.00	1,637.45	1,500.00
Vol Fire Dept - Dispatch	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Vol Fire Dept - Dry Hyd.	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Dues	750.00	693.07	750.00
Vol Fire Dept - Dumpster	200.00	163.91	200.00
Vol Fire Dept - Fire Truck Repl Fund	0.00	0.00	13,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Eq Repl F	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Fuel Oil (RC)	3,500.00	3,881.72	4,000.00
Vol Fire Dept- Fuel Oil (SR)	1,000.00	1,192.54	1,200.00
Vol Fire Dept - Gasoline	200.00	235.65	200.00
Vol Fire Dept Ins/Acc	2,000.00	1,974.00	2,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Mach & Eq (RC)	10,000.00	7,785.46	10,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Repairs	4,000.00	10,775.83	7,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Supplies	1,000.00	1,154.17	1,500.00
Vol Fire Dept - Telephone	1,000.00	1,014.87	1,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Training	3,000.00	1,100.00	3,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Utilities (RC)	1,200.00	904.31	1,100.00
Vol Fire Dept - Util (SR)	500.00	404.87	500.00
Vol Fire Dept- Admin	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Vol Fire Dept - Workers Comp	1,386.00	1,386.00	1,615.00
Vol Fire Dept – LED Lighting Refund		(1,450.00)	
Vol Fire Dept - Workers Comp Refund		(78.00)	
Total	61,684.23	60,510.32	61,865.00
Transfer to FD Eq Repl Fund		1,173.91	
	61,684.23	61,684.23	61,865.00
Fire Department Claim Paid		1,528.00	
Vol Fire Department Grand Total	61,684.23	63,212.23	61,865.00
Contributions	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Contribution - American Red Cross	200.00	200.00	200.00
Contribution - Little League	100.00	100.00	100.00
Contribution - Catamount Arts	400.00	400.00	400.00
Contribution - 4th of July Committee	200.00	200.00	200.00
Contribution - Groton Food Shelf	500.00	500.00	500.00
Contribution - Home Health Care	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Contribution - Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00	500.00	500.00
Contribution - Libraries	200.00	200.00	200.00
Contribution- Little Rivers Health	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Contribution - NEK Human Svcs.	500.00	500.00	500.00
Contribution - NEK Learning Services	200.00	200.00	200.00
Contribution - NEK Youth Services	250.00	250.00	250.00
Contribution - No VT Development A.	500.00	500.00	500.00
Contribution - Oxbow Sen Independence	300.00	300.00	300.00
Contribution - Rur Comm Transp.	850.00	850.00	850.00
Contribution - Umbrella	400.00	400.00	400.00
Contribution - VT Cent for Indep Living	265.00	265.00	265.00
Contribution - VT Green-Up	25.00	25.00	25.00
Contribution - VT Office of Aging	300.00	300.00	300.00
Contribution – VT Vet Mem	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total	8,690.00	8,690.00	8,790.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Highway Department	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
2011 Loader	4,000.00	1,346.06	4,000.00
2004 Grader	13,000.00	9,474.37	8,000.00
2006 Chevy Truck	6,000.00	2,837.90	6,000.00
2006 Chevy Plow & Sander	2,000.00	998.75	2,000.00
2008 Int'l Truck	6,000.00	6,703.86	6,000.00
2008 Int'l Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,997.93	2,000.00
2009 Int'l Truck	6,000.00	9,497.97	6,000.00
2009 Int'l Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,401.90	2,000.00
2011 Int'l Truck	6,000.00	7,485.11	6,000.00
2011 Int'l Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,464.32	2,000.00
2015 KEN Truck	0.00	104.78	0.00
2015 KEN Plow & Sander	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wood Chipper	500.00	0.00	500.00
Class IV Roads	1,000.00	978.40	5,000.00
Cold Patch	500.00	445.50	1,000.00
Culvert Steamer	250.00	1,595.95	250.00
Diesel	45,000.00	36,912.72	45,000.00
Equipment Rent	6,000.00	5,042.50	6,000.00
Fuel Oil	4,500.00	5,245.42	4,500.00
Gasoline	8,500.00	9,628.32	7,000.00
Gravel	60,000.00	51,077.49	56,000.00
Guard Rails	3,500.00	2,496.13	3,500.00
Machine Fund	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
Terry Hill Road Project	0.00	5,319.07	0.00
Highway Advertising	0.00	70.80	100.00
Medical Roads	37,315.00	24,601.35	30,150.00
Motor Oil	1,750.00	2,437.25	2,000.00
No. Bayley-Hazen Rd Grant		(10,000.00)	
Physicals- Road Crew	500.00	75.00	500.00
Repairs- Other	500.00	500.00	500.00
Retirement Road Crew	10,500.00	10,305.07	10,500.00
Road Repairs	2,500.00	7,125.00	5,000.00
Road Resurfacing	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Road Signs	500.00	585.75	500.00
Roadside Mowing	5,000.00	5,075.00	5,000.00
Summer Road Mg. Chloride	4,000.00	8,645.58	8,000.00
Summer Road Culverts	3,000.00	2,300.68	3,000.00
Summer Road- Labor	68,000.00	56,368.92	68,000.00
Supplies	5,000.00	3,571.24	5,000.00
Telephone	600.00	646.19	650.00
Tires	5,500.00	3,448.59	5,500.00
Tools	1,000.00	673.13	1,000.00
Town Garage Upkeep	1,500.00	600.20	2,500.00
Training	250.00	60.00	250.00
Tree Removal/Brush Cutting	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Uniforms	3,600.00	4,124.67	4,000.00
Utilities	1,650.00	1,639.20	1,650.00
VLCT Unemployment	427.00	426.00	474.00
Winter - Labor	100,000.00	96,271.76	100,000.00
Winter Road - Salt	17,000.00	17,922.89	18,000.00
Winter Road - Sand	15,000.00	18,662.73	18,000.00
Workers Comp Road Crew	9,465.00	9,464.29	9,935.00
	649,807.00	602,655.74	649,459.00
Transfer to Highway Fund Balance		47,151.26	
	649,807.00	649,807.00	649,459.00
Road Claim Paid-*****		10,000.00	
Highway Department Grand Total	649,807.00	659,807.00	649,459.00
Municipal Expenses Total	928,204.23	1,120,151.68	937,704.00
School Appropriation			
BMU School	0.00	1,676,415.31	0.00
School Appropriation Total	0.00	1,676,415.31	0.00
Grand Total Expenses	928,204.23	2,796,566.99	937,704.00

Fund Balance Changes

Fund	Entry	Start of Year	Increase	Decrease	End of Year
Reappraisal	Beginning Balance:	\$ 51,348.85			
	FY14 per parcel payment from State of VT:		\$ 7,220.00		
	Ending balance:				\$ 58,568.85
Town Highway	Beginning Balance:	\$ 118,353.31			
	"Budget to Actual" transfer to Highway Fund:		\$ 47,151.26		
	Ending balance:				\$ 165,504.57
S. Ryegate Sewer	Beginning Balance:	\$ 39,319.69			
	Sewer Charges:		\$ 9,000.00		
	Repairs and Maintenance:			\$ 4,031.25	
	Utilities:			\$ 340.48	
	Ending balance:				\$ 43,947.96
Roads	Beginning Balance:	\$ 3,230.91			
	From Road Resurfacing Budget		\$ 88,764.60		
	Ending balance:				\$ 91,995.51
Creamery Rd. Bridge	Beginning Balance:	\$ 50,729.75			
	Creamery Rd. Bridge Scoping:			\$ 8,095.98	
	Ending balance:				\$ 42,633.77
Bridges 42 & 43	Beginning Balance:	\$ 1,423.79			
	Terry Hill Road Project:			\$ 1,423.79	
	Ending balance:				-----0-----
68 Church Street	New Fund		\$ 500.00		
	Ending balance:				\$ 500.00
External Audit	New Fund		\$ 3,500.00		
	Ending balance:				\$ 3,500.00
Restoration	Beginning Balance:	\$ 13,370.45			
	Percentage of Town Clerk Fees Collected:		\$ 623.00		
	Town Land Books:			\$ 585.00	
	Ending balance:				\$ 13,408.45
General	Beginning Balance:	\$ 548,848.01			
	2013 Earnings/Loss:			\$ 968.13	
	Ending balance:				\$ 547,879.88

Allocation of 2014 Taxes

<u>Rate Name</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>X Grand List</u>	<u>Total Raised</u>
Non-Residential	1.5051	639,184.74	962,036.
Homestead Education	1.5854	641,577.18	1,017,156.
Local Agreement	0.0026	1,278,617.89	3324.
Highway Tax	0.4222	1,278,617.89	539,832.
Town Tax	0.1282	1,278,617.89	163,918.
Total Tax			2,686,266.

Listers' Report

The Listers determine all property values within the Town of Ryegate. Additionally, we maintain an accurate Grand List by reviewing and updating all property transfers, tax maps, permit work, deeds, surveys, and the Current Use Program.

As of January 2015, Ryegate's CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) has risen from 100.06% to 104.59%. This upward change in fair market value reflects a statewide trend this year due to economic factors. Our COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) of 6.67% continues to reflect a high level of equity across taxpayers' assessments.

September 2013 tax maps are on display at the Town Office along with orthophoto aerial maps. We strongly recommend that you check your property location and acreage on the tax map; let us know if you feel there is any incorrect information. Tax maps will be updated in 2015.

IMPORTANT: Taxpayers must again file yearly a **Vermont Homestead Declaration** due April 15, 2015. The state form is HS-122 and also contains the **Property Tax Adjustment Claim**. HS-122's can be obtained online (www.tax.vermont.gov), or from the Income Tax Return booklet or your tax preparer.

REMINDERS:

Please notify the Listers of any change of address, or any changes to your property—including new construction, or major renovations to basements, attics, or unfinished areas. In addition, let us know of any removal of property including tear downs and blow downs.

Please share any surveys you have for your property with the Town Office. Certified surveys are important in creating accurate tax maps and are considered the strongest determinant of parcel ownership, i.e., exact location, size, acreage, etc.

The Current Use Program has changed their application form. New applications are available in the Town Office or online at www.bit.ly/CurrentUse. Landowners currently enrolled must notify the State of any changes in ownership name and/or acreage (including excluded acreage). Applications due September 1st. Questions about the program can be directed to Property Valuation and Review at 802 828-5860. A Building Permit is required for any structure 64 sq. ft. or larger. (Permits available at Town Clerk's Office.) Please notify the Listers' office to obtain a 9-1-1 number for new construction.

Listers' Office hours are on Tuesdays. Please call the office for an appointment at 584-4247 or the Town Clerk at 584-3880.

Ryegate Listers

Betty Beauvais, Regina Hazel, Sally Wilson

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Your property tax bill is broken down to show education, highway and town taxes and their respective rates. Your total tax rate is the sum of these rates.

The tax rate is per \$100 of your assessment; therefore, to figure the tax you owe, first move the decimal point in your assessment two places to the left, then multiply that number by the total tax rate.

Sample Tax Bill:

<u>Your Assessment</u>	<u>Tax Rate (per \$100)</u>	<u>Tax Due</u>
\$200,000.00 (Homestead)	2.1384	\$4276.80
\$200,000.00 (Non-residential)	2.0581	\$4116.20

List of Vendors

Vendor	Amount	Vendor	Amount
646 Fairpoint Communications	2,742.64	Everett J. Prescott, Inc	414.62
656-FairPoint Communications	539.40	Carroll & Boe English	2,943.97
Action Towing Service	900.00	Robert Farquharson	7,125.00
Aflac	688.50	Fisher Auto Parts	1,841.08
Airgas East	216.77	Foggs Hardware	549.17
American Rock Salt Company LLC	11,184.21	Fremont Nelson Lawns	890.00
American Red Cross	200.00	G & B Electric	1,074.23
Apex Software	215.00	G & K Services	4,124.67
Aquatic Control Technology	90,990.00	Gateway	598.21
Auto Mall	688.61	Gene Perkins- Fire Dept.	554.37
B-B Chain, Inc	1,423.60	Gene Perkins-Fire Dept Supplies	939.24
B & B Septic	2,205.00	Gidding Manufacturing Co., Inc	3,679.38
Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT	33,897.23	Good-Way Document	585.00
Zac Bergh - Fire Dept	103.03	Grafton County Sheriff's Dept	1,500.00
Blue MedicareRx-VT	3,493.00	Green Mountain Kenworth	104.78
Blue Mtn Trucking & Exca	6,742.86	Green Mountain Power	4,090.72
Blue Mountain Little League	100.00	Greg Murray - Fire Dept	775.14
Blue Mountain Union School	1,676,415.31	Groton - Ryegate Fast Squad	8,000.00
Bond Auto Parts	1,461.26	Groton Food Shelf	500.00
Brandon Perkins-Fire Dept	382.67	Hammond Grinding & Recycling	34,700.00
Brendan Smith	200.00	Harold Scott	1,010.00
The Bridge Weekly	34.80	Howard P. Fairfield, LLC	5,824.03
CALCO, Inc	76.80	IDS	117.30
Caledonia County Sheriff's Department	2,607.75	Innovative Municipal Prod	7,735.70
Caledonia Home Health	1,000.00	Interstate Battery	172.65
Caledonian-Record	216.00	J D's Repair	577.64
Calkins Portable Toilets	525.00	Jared Field - The PC For Me	1,622.66
Cargill, Inc.	6,738.68	Law Office of Jeffrey Taylor	583.17
Catamount Arts	400.00	Jo Guertin	226.00
Vermont Center for Independent Living	265.00	Josh Walls – Fire Dept.	480.78
Charles Fisher- Fire Dept.	635.32	Journal Opinion, Inc.	396.90
Cheryl Slayton –Medicare Reimbursement	2,517.60	K&T Environmental Equipment, Inc.	981.00
Chief Crushing & Excavation	35,549.58	Kansas State Bank	17,148.23
Christine Johnson	10,329.72	K D Associates, Inc.	650.00
Christopher Chartier- Fire Dept.	554.37	Khristine Elder	466.52
Clark's Truck Center	13,435.26	Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00
Copies & More	671.70	Kofile Preservation, Inc	189.57
County Treasurer	15,755.00	Lauren Nelson	371.96
Curtis Colby	688.00	Levi Welch- Fire Dept.	63.78
Dads 4 By Tool and Supply	73.86	Lilian Colby – Fire Dept	181.52
Dale Wright	85.10	Little River's Health Care	2,000.00
Darlings Service Center of Ryegate,LLC	280.00	lowell Mcleods, Inc.	4,423.70
Darryl Perkins- Fire Dept.	394.93	Lyndon Truck Center	7,042.74
Daryl Hamlett	130.00	Maine Oxy	50.00
Mary Dole	331.50	Makayla Perkins- Fire Dept.	41.70
Donna Longmoore	250.00	Makayla Perkins-Reimbursement	141.14
Double D Garage Door	90.00	Manchester Brook Materials	8,015.00
Dufresne & Associates	891.25	Marsha Nelson-Supplies,Retire&MediReimb	4,058.67
E-Z Steel & Fabrication	1,200.00	Gary Mason	590.00
Elizabeth Beauvais-Lister Supplies	127.57	McCullough Crushing, Inc.	33,251.70
Endyne, Inc	160.00		

List of Vendors

Vendor Expense- continued	Amount	Vendor	Amount
Meyers Container Corp.	4,913.56	Suzanne Jamele	2,000.00
Napa Auto Parts/FMS Auto	2,928.09	Tenco New England, Inc.	5,541.31
Neil Emerson - Fire Dept	446.44	Thomas Cole - Fire Dept	434.18
Northeast Agricultural	513.27	Thomas Fadden - Fire Dept	63.78
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	200.00	Tiffany Fisher - Fire Dept.	367.95
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management	599.12	Terry Christy – Fire Dept	166.80
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services	250.00	Todd Colby – Fire Dept	78.50
NEMRC	3,318.72	town of Haverhill	480.00
Nelson Elder – Town Hgwy Supplies	87.96	Town of Ryegate	76,080.00
New England Truck Tire	2,198.84	Trend	49.94
Newton Technical Service	4,634.71	Twin State Mutual Aid Fire Assoc.	1,303.07
NEK Mental Health	500.00	U I Insurance Services Inc.	1,974.00
NVDA	3,361.30	Umbrella	400.00
Oakes Brothers, Inc.	835.70	United States Postmaster	1,417.75
Owen T. Dudley – Fire Dept	29.44	UVM Extension	140.00
Oxbow Senior Independence Program	300.00	Vermont Agency of Trans	600.69
Passumpsic Savings Bank	50,000.00	Vermont Area Office on Aging	300.00
Patricia Crocker	339.93	Vermont Assessors & Listers	50.00
Paul Clark	200.00	Vermont Department of Health	13.00
Penny L. Lezer - Fire Dept	245.30	Vt Dept of Corrections	247.04
Pete's Rubbish	946.88	Vermont Fire Extinguisher	384.45
Pike Industries, Inc	445.50	Vermont Green Up	25.00
Power Plan	9,337.36	Vt Recreational Surfacing	869.00
Power Washer Sales	1,562.96	Vermont State Treasurer	969.00
Ralph L. Osgood, Inc	4,700.00	Vermont Department of Taxes	6,130.81
Rural Community Transportation, Inc	850.00	VLCT	2,350.00
Regina Hazel-Lister Supplies	411.98	VLCT Prop & Casualty Intern. Fund, Inc.	30,035.00
Repro Digital/Champlain Valley	1,158.00	VLCT Unemployment Ins Trust Inc	426.00
Rick Colby	90.00	VMERS DB	24,770.10
Rinker Communication	5,491.69	VMHA	60.00
Ross Business Center	94.95	Vermont State Firefighters' Assoc.	330.00
Rowden Bros. Co., Inc.	1,426.00	Walter E. Jock Oil Co., Inc.	62,058.71
Ryegate Cemetery Commission	8,500.00	Wells River Savings	42,871.62
Ryegate Fire Dept	729.81	Wells River Chevrolet	393.76
Ryegate Historical Society	200.00	Winget's Ground Maintenance	440.00
Scott Stuart	95.00	Woodsville Area Fourth of July Com.	200.00
South Ryegate Library	600.00	Woodsville Fire District	14,612.00
Stan's J. Kosakowski, Jr	5,189.51	Work Safe	338.71
Stantec	8,095.98	wyBatap	419.14
State of New Hampshire	25.00	Zuccaro, Willis & Sipples	208.58
State of Vermont- Wastewater Testing	150.00	Various- Tax and Payable Overpayments	5,644.84
Steve Kimball Repair	3,323.60	TOTAL	2,520,538.85
Peter Stimson	1,260.00		

Town Clerk's Dog License Report

Rabies Vaccination: All dogs must be vaccinated

against rabies. The town Clerk is required to see evidence that all dogs are currently protected against rabies. The law requires that a dog of less than 2 years of age shall have been vaccinated within the past 12 months. After its second rabies shot, an adult dog should be vaccinated every 36 months (3 years). A dog must wear its tag.

Due date: License fees may be paid after Jan 1 and are due April 1 and subject to a 50% penalty after April 1.

Fee: Due to State regulations, licensing fees are \$12 for males, females or wolf hybrids: \$8 for each neutered dog or wolf hybrid. \$4 from each license is forwarded to the State Treasurer.

Remember: Ryegate enforces a Civil Dog

25 -Males-----\$ 252.00
12 Females----- 128.00
152 Spayed/Neutered \$1,216.00
1 Kennel----- \$ 44.00
Total Receipts-----\$1640.00

Less Fees Paid Town Clerk \$362
Less State Rabies Fees--- \$724.00
Net Revenue-----\$ 554.00

Ordinance

(leash law). Josephine Guertin is serving as Ryegate's Animal

Delinquent Taxes

South Ryegate Village Lighting District
South Ryegate, VT 05069

Delinquent Tax Report

Carolyn Adams	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
Karen & Donna Bickel	2014
Christopher Cartier	2014
Kathryn Cox	2014
Priscilla Darling	2014
Robert Davis	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
Michelle Dow	2014
Pat & Cindy Enger	2011 (partial), 2012, 2013, 2014
Michael & Marilyn Faris	2014
Dan & Mary Florentine	2013, 2014
William & Loren Hosmer	2014
Dennis Hurley	2014
Ryan Karpuska	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
Robert & Barbara Mace	2013, 2014
Timothy Menk	2014
Lester & Tammy Parker	2014
Angela Paye	2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
Doug & April Paye	
Hall Road Parcel	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
Creamery Road Parcel	2013, 2014
Tracy & Sheri Phelps	2012, 2013, 2014
Troy Sanborn	2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
Forrest Shangraw	2014
Shane & Heidi Temple	2014

Delinquent Taxes

2014 SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER TAXES			2014 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		
Chartier, Christoper			Hartson, Ray & Shirley		
Hurley, Dennis			Haskell, Elizabeth		
<i>Total Due by Report Printing</i>	\$	1,000.00	Hencler, Andrew		
<i>Total Paid Since 12/31/14</i>	\$	500.00	Hurley, Dennis		
<i>Total Due 12/31/14</i>	\$	1,500.00	J.A.A.B. Inc.		
PROPERTY TAXES DUE			Jackson, Mark & Brenda		
2012 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES			Johnson, Robert C. Jr.		
Davis, Robert L.			Kalnins, Peter & Michelle		
<i>Total Due by Report Printing</i>	\$	997.44	Karpuska, Ryan		
<i>Total Paid Since 12/31/14</i>	\$	-	Katsenes, William		
<i>Total Due 12/31/14</i>	\$	997.44	Langlois, Penny & John		
			Laundry, Marshall Life Lease		
			Lipp, Gary		
2013 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES			Longmeadow Inn		
Blood, Brian			Longmoore, Andrew		
Davis, Robert L.			Mace, Robert & Barbara		
Esposito, Jerry P. Jr.			Makris, Victor Trustee		
Farris, Michael & Marilyn			Marocchini, David A		
Hartson, Ray & Shirley			McLure, Jared & Katherine		
Haskell, Elizabeth			Menk, Timothy		
Jackson, Mark & Brenda			Minard, Susan		
Johnson, Robert C. Jr.			Murphy, Judy A		
Kalnins, Peter & Michelle			Patneaud, Steve		
Karpuska, Ryan			Paye, Douglas & April		
Laundry, Marshall Life Lease			Pelletier, Carlton		
Makris, Victor Trustee			Perkins, Darryl & Dottie		
Menk, Timothy			Peters, Christopher		
Patneaud, Steve			Phelps, Tracy & Sherri		
Phelps, Tracy & Sherri			Potter, Bradley M & Beth		
Potter, Bradley & Beth			Potter, Lana L.		
Potter, Lana L.			Ricker, Harvey		
Sulham, Jason Robert			Robertson, Walter J		
<i>Total Due by Report Printing</i>	\$	28,221.26	Roya, Shane & Betty		
<i>Total Paid Since 12/31/13</i>	\$	365.69	Ruppert, Jonathan/Hanaford, Robert		
<i>Total Due 12/31/13</i>	\$	28,586.95	Shangraw, Forrest		
2014 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES			Sheppard, Topaz		
Allen, Earl & Donna			Stewart, Kevin		
AT&T/Rur; AT&T/Rural Cellular			Sulham, Jason Robert		
Barata, Michael & Christina			Vaine, Wallace		
Bickel, Donna			Vaine, Wallace George		
Blood, Brian			Webster, Daniel & Mary		
Bushey, Steven			White, Randy & Barbara		
Caswell, Kathy			Wilson, Eugenia		
Coley, Frederick & Joyce			Wright, James & Patti-Jo		
Cox, Kathryn			Zwicker, Leon P.		
Darling, Barak					
Davis, Robert L.			<i>Total Due by Report Printing</i>	\$	115,743.45
Dinsmore, Conn Sr.			<i>Total Paid Since 12/31/14</i>	\$	3,518.44
Emerson, Brenda			<i>Total Due 12/31/14</i>	\$	119,261.89
Englert, George E.					
Esposito, Jerry P. Jr.		Due to the Vermont Supreme Court decision			
Farley, Daniel & Barbara		on the disclosure of confidential tax bill information,			
Farris, Michael & Marilyn		we have not included the amount of			
Fortunato, Michael		the delinquency for any individual property.			
Frost, Calvin					
Gilman Housing Trust					

Ryegate Fire Department Report

This year has been a rough one on our repairs' budget as we are approximately \$6785 over budget due to the loss of a turbo charger (\$5839) and a \$900 towing charge on the 2005 IH tanker. We have had an issue with this truck losing coolant soon after we took delivery of it and last December Clark's Truck Center replaced a head gasket at a cost of \$4089 and International agreed to participate in a portion of the goodwill repair of \$1000 for a cost of \$3089. The truck continued to lose coolant and over the summer they have redone the head gasket for liner stand out and finally an air compressor leaking coolant into the engine and we think they have conquered the coolant loss. To this date Clark's Truck Center has not sent an invoice on any work done after the turbo charger and even covered the second towing charge. Even though we were without the truck a lot of the time, Clark's made things right for us. The 1980 Pumper that the Mini Pumper replaced has been converted to a forestry truck to carry hand tools, hose, a forestry pump and Personnel Protective Equipment. It also serves us well in the fall chimney cleaning as it gets around well and is easy to work off of. We gained four new members this year, three in high school and one with many years of service from another department and we lost one good fire fighter and officer to moving to a warmer climate. We did install LED lighting in the South Station and an outside light at both stations and the LED lighting shows their efficiency in the utilities column in the budget. We were very disappointed in the turnout in our attempt to instruct adults in Fire Prevention as we had been requested to do by adult members of our community. Our children get fire prevention every year in school provided by the Groton, Ryegate and Wells River Fire Departments. We had purchased a large number of fire extinguishers, smoke and CO detectors to be given out to those in need. As we had a large number left over we set up at the BMU Christmas Concert and gave them to anyone wishing. We hope you have installed them in your homes, but if not and in doubt as to where to, please call your local department.

This year's responses are as follows:

5 structure fires	13 vehicle accidents	1 power lines down
4 smoke investigations	2 trash fires	0 chimney fires
1 vehicle fire	0 lightning strikes	16 dispatched & canceled
3 brush & forest	2 CO detectors	3 good intent
0 respond to alarm	19 mutual aid calls	Total Calls 69

We wish to thank the community for your continued support to the Ryegate Fire Department

Respectfully Submitted,
Gene A. Perkins, Chief

Ryegate Fire Warden Report

Ryegate had two Wildland Fires this year: Boltonville Road, which was a tree in the power lines and Ryegate Road, which was across from the Chip Plant and a burning tree stump. A burn permit is required for any outside burning when there is no snow coverage on the site. Even though a permit is not required, a call of your intent is appreciated. It saves having the Fire Departments chasing down fires that someone passing by calls in to 911.

DON'T BURN THAT TRASH

It is Dangerous and Poisonous to you and other's health and it's against the law. Burning trash makes it disappear until it turns up in your lungs or worse – a neighbor's. Today's trash contains polyvinyl chloride and polystyrene that produces dioxins and furans, two of the most toxic cancer causing substances known. Please if you don't care for your health, consider the health of your children and grandchildren.

To request a permit: Gene A Perkins Warden -- 584-3611
Fremont Nelson -- 584-3667

Town Property & Equipment Inventory

TOWN PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

REAL ESTATE

Town House & Contents	\$109,900.00
Town Clerk's Office	162,170.00
Storage Shed	19,300.00
Corner Fire Station	102,515.00
Concession Stand & Contents	14,000.00
So. Ryegate Fire Station	78,097.00
Town Garage & Contents	161,448.00
Historical Society Building	158,976.00
Recycling Building	<u>53,988.00</u>
Total Real Estate	\$860,394.00

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT

2011 John Deere Loader	95,500.00
2004 John Deere Grader	131,104.00
2010 Int'l Truck & Plow	103,986.00
2006 Chevrolet Truck & Sander	37,440.00
2008 International Truck & Plow	83,520.00
2009 International Truck & Plow	109,131.00
New plow	4,290.00
Wood Chipper	3,500.00
Culvert Thawer & Trailer	8,000.00
Miscellaneous equipment	<u>7,500.00</u>

TOTAL HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT \$507,985.00

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER'S OFFICE:

Desks, Tables, Chairs, Files	3500.00
Typewriter	200.00
2 Calculators	200.00
1 Copier	2,500.00
Computers	4,000.00
FAX Machine	<u>300.00</u>
	\$10,700.00

TOTAL ALL PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT

Town Report 2014 -----
\$1,379,079

Cemetery Commissioners Narrative

Cemetery Commission meetings this year centered around cemetery improvements, maintenance, and ongoing projects. Request was made to the Selectboard for direction in cutting and removing unwanted trees and brush in Blue Mountain Cemetery. Another section of Blue Mountain was cleaned by Gandin Bros., Inc. in Blue Mountain Cemetery. Cleaning, straightening and repairing is an ongoing project each year. It was reported last summer that several graves plots were sinking in Pinehurst. Harvey Ricker agreed to fill in and reseed. The town crew delivered a load of topsoil for his use. Only (1) lot was sold this year - Pinehurst Cemetery. Mowing for all four cemeteries was again contracted to Wingets Lawn Service, of Groton; contract was signed in April for same cost as 2013. We thank Jim and his crew for their timely and professional service to our cemeteries.

Our thanks to the Selectboard, property owners and residents for their continued support; the road crew for their help on our projects; Harvey Ricker and Tony Dennis (caretakers) for jobs well done. Prior to any burial in Ryegate Cemeteries, we want to remind everyone to contact the Town Clerk, or Cemetery Commissioners for rules and regulations. At this time, we are reviewing the by-laws and will be updating soon. Copies will be available upon request or at the Town Clerk's office.

We are always available to answer questions and concerns or discuss any suggestions you might have for improving our Ryegate Cemeteries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Colby, Chairman 584-3159

Bill Nelson, Treasurer 584-3296

Bruce Nelson, Vice Chairman 584-3487

Judy Gandin, Clerk 584-3832

Cemetery Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 12/31/13.....\$1,864.54

Income for 2014

Town of Ryegate..... 8,500.00

Sale of Lots..... 275.00

American Funds..... 263.95

Irene Miller..... 20.00

\$9,058.95

Total Income for 2014

\$10,923.49

Expenses for 2014

Jim Winget for Lawn Care..... 7,850.00

Cleaning Stones in Blue Mtn. Cemetery.. 1,000.00

Electricity..... 125.15

Gandin Bros. – Posts..... 79.00

Total Expenses for 2014

\$9054.15

Balance on Hand 12/31/2014 (Checkbook Balance)

\$1869.34

Savings/Investments 12/31/2014

CD#907623..... 51,112.55

CD#907624.....20,256.64

CD# 907625.....29,811.46

CD#811855.....10,656.38

Savings Acc't 566388..... 905.91

American Funds.....14,703.81

Total Investment Income:

Interest Earned in 2014

153.12

40.48

44.67

31.93

.44

263.95

\$534.59

Planning Commission/ Zoning Board Report

This year your Planning/Zoning Board has been working on a revision of the Zoning By-Laws. Alison Low, from NVDA, has been hired to help us with this task. We have spent a lot of time on flood regulations so when there is another flood we should be “FEMA ready”. Among other things, water quality is being addressed to maintain the quality of water in town. We also will have new zoning maps and overlays.

Upon recommendation of the Zoning Board, the Select Board raised the fee for Zoning/Building Applications from \$35 to \$50. This will go into effect February 1, 2015. The Zoning Administrator receives \$25 from the fees, the Town’s general fund receives \$10 for recording the permit and the Zoning Board receives \$15 to help defray the expenses of hiring advisory help.

Scott Ordway resigned this year due to health after many years on the Board. We will miss Scott and thank him for his input during his time serving.

Donna Longmoore was appointed last year as Zoning Administrator and continues to serve in that capacity. Her phone number is 522-1337 if you need to reach her.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fremont Nelson, Chair
Alice Allen, Walter Bragg, Richard Colby II
William Elder, Dr. Stephen Genereaux, Nancy Perkins

Mary Dole, Clerk

Kingdom Animal Shelter

Kingdom Animal Shelter is a non-profit organization located in St. Johnsbury, serving the Northeast Kingdom. We provide many services to the area, including accepting stray and unwanted cats to our shelter, rescues from abusive and hoarding situations, and trap/neuter/release, or TNR of feral and barn cats. We have successfully placed over 600 cats in forever homes since opening our present location in 2009, including almost 100 in 2014. We routinely field calls from residents of Ryegate who are looking both to place and adopt cats. We operate with no federal funding, which means we depend on the generosity of towns and individuals to meet our operating expenses. The town’s generous donation in November will provide care and services for some of the area’s most needy cats. We’re once again asking for a contribution of \$500 to assist us in our mission of reducing the area’s cat overpopulation and providing a safe, clean shelter for both the relinquishment and adoption of cats.

Thank you for your consideration,
Carol Davies

2014 Report of S Ryegate Public Library, Inc (to account for Revenue Sharing Funds only)

Revenue Sharing Funds in Treas. 1-1-14.....	\$00
Received Town of Ryegate Nov 2014.....	\$200.00
Expended toward operating expenses (2014)..	\$200.00
Revenue Sharing Funds in Treas. 12-31-14.....	\$00

2014 Report of Marion Hall Trust Fund S Ryegate Public Library, Inc

Balance in Treas. 1-1-14.....	\$899.51
Received Town of Ryegate 2014.....	\$400.00
Total Receipts.....	\$1,299.51
Books Purchased.....	\$689.11
Balance in Treas. 12-31-14.....	\$610.40

2014 Report of Ryegate Corner Library

Balance in Checkbook 1-1-13.....	\$121.99
Balance in Checkbook 12-31-13.....	\$121.99
Balance in Checkbook 1-1-14.....	\$121.99
Balance in Checkbook 12-31-14.....	\$121.99

(The Library Commission is considering closing out this account and turning the money over to the South Ryegate Library which is currently the only library in town.)

Justices of the Peace

Justices of the Peace, elected to office, who make up the Board of Civil Authority. The new term begins February 1, 2015 and continues for two years.

Catherine Davie	Darcy Nelson	Jennifer Nelson
Jamie O'Connor	Nancy Perkins	Robert Rowden
	Dwight White	

Ryegate Historical Society

The Ryegate Historical Society held three meetings in 2014. The first of these was on July 30th with Dr Kevin Gardner, State Archivist, as speaker. The Annual Meeting, following a potluck supper, was held on August 20 with Dr Kevin Gardner as speaker. The fall meeting was on October 5th at the Goodwillie House in Barnet Center. This meeting was an open House for members and others to see this house named for Thomas Goodwillie, a common benefactor of both towns.

Ryegate participated in the Vermont History Expo by having a Ryegate Booth displaying Ryegate historical memorabilia.

Officers for the year were: President- DoverFord; Vice President- Melvin Nelson; Secretary/ Treasurer- Dwight White. The Society appreciates the \$200.00 contribution as well as the dues and donations generously given.

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that is owned by its member municipalities and directed by a 13-member Board of Directors of municipal officials from across the state elected by the membership. VLCT's mission is to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, along with 134 other municipal entities, including villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions and fire districts.

To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including its audited financial statements, visit the VLCT website at www.VLCT.org.

Ticklenaked Pond Association Report

The year 2014 was a turning point in the effort to restore Ticklenaked Pond and its natural ecology to a healthy and balanced state. The Town of Ryegate, through the efforts of the Ticklenaked Pond Association, received a grant in the amount of \$95,990 for treatment of phosphorus deposits within the Pond. For generations, phosphorus has accumulated on the floor of the lake and provided an environment that encouraged the excessive growth of algae and other organisms, and led to reduced water clarity, excessive weed growth and beach closure due to poor water quality.

Treatment of the Pond began in May 2014 and lasted 5 days. Barges and tanker trucks were used to deliver roughly 12,000 gallons of aluminum sulfate (alum) and 6,000 gallons of sodium aluminate and inject it below the surface of the lake. These chemicals bonded with the phosphorus in the water, forming a precipitate that settled to the bottom, forming a cap to seal in the large phosphorus reservoir that had settled there over the years.

The effect of the treatment were dramatic. When the turquoise colored cloud of precipitate settled to the bottom it revealed a striking improvement in water clarity. Measured before treatment, visibility was about 5 feet. After treatment, visibility improved to more than 20 feet, to the delight of swimmers, boaters and all who use the lake for recreation.

The Association continues to battle the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), which chokes and clogs our waterway, crowding out native plants and entangling propellers, fishing lures and the arms and legs of swimmers. In 2014 a separate grant in the amount of \$13,300 was received from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to manage and remove EWM, which first appeared at Ticklenaked Pond in 2011. A&E Commercial Diving Co. was engaged for 14 days in the Fall to harvest EWM through hand pulling and suction harvesting. This was a matching grant, and members of the lake association matched 30% of this award by providing equivalent man-hours to search, hand pull and remove EWM from the lake and shore and administer the project.

All parties were unsure of the impact the alum treatment would have upon the EWM population. The fortunate result was that reducing phosphorus levels in the lake also appears to have starved the invasive species of a source of nutrients and the EWM was seen to recede in many parts of the lake. Additionally, the divers harvesting milfoil were able to gather more than ever before, owing to the greatly improved visibility.

We have applied for another matching grant in 2015 in order to continue to monitor and manage this invasive nuisance.

The Ryegate community can help the health and enjoyment of Ticklenaked Pond in several ways;

- 1. Wash off your boat before putting it in the lake and after taking it out.** This will ensure the plant is not being transported to or from another body of water.
- 2. Remove any floating pieces of EWM you see on the lake.** Fragments that are not attached to the stemmed plant will reestablish themselves as a new plant. A picture and information about EWM is at the State boat launch.
- 3. Pick up any EWM plants on the shoreline.** The plants need to be removed from the beach area, composted or bagged and thrown away.
- 4. Please do not take a motorboat or paddle through a dense patch of EWM.** The plants that have surfaced will fragment and drop to the bottom of the lake, root and become another plant.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services Inc.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services (NEKLS) is requesting town funds to help support the programs that NEKLS delivers to your area. Adult educational services, job skills, transitional support and family services are some of the many programs that are available to residents of the area. NEKLS also has Community Education Centers in Newport, Hardwick and Canaan, with part-time centers in Island Pond and Gilman.

For almost 50 years, NEKLS has been serving the residents of Orleans, Essex and Caledonia counties. Services are provided to people of all ages wanting to earn a high school diploma or GED, to learn basic computer skills, or to improve college and career readiness skills. Our Adult Education program provides a wide variety of free services.

In 2013, NEKLS introduced the NEKLS Mobile Lab to the Northeast Kingdom. In 2014, the lab consisting of 6 laptops and a printer provided connectivity and instruction to hundreds of community members at their work, career, and job fairs, training programs and for GED testing. This is just one more way that NEKLS brings services to the most rural areas of the Northeast Kingdom.

Partnering with local schools, the NEKLS Tutorial program provides academic support to students of all grade levels who may be struggling in school. In 2014, the tutorial program served 126 students in the tri-county region. Another supplemental education program provided by NEKLS is the Migrant Education Program. Our migrant workers live and work on our NEK farms and provide valuable support to our local agricultural economy.

State and Federal budget challenges continue to impact the funding of community non-profit organizations such as NEKLS. As a result, town funds are vital to our efforts to introduce new instructional options and maintain the same level of high program quality. We hope you will continue to support NEKLS as we look forward to another year of being a supportive partner in the community.

Groton Ryegate FAST Squad

The FAST Squad has had another busy year and calls were up over last year.

Groton- 71 Calls

Ryegate- 71 Calls

The FAST Squad is a small group and **we are always looking for new members.**

FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES DIAL 911.

HELP US FIND YOU WHEN YOU NEED US!!

INSTALL A 911 NUMBER SIGN AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY

IT WILL SAVE US TIME AND GET YOU THE HELP YOU NEED!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CONTACT CHIEF WAYNE KNOTT, GROTON FIRE DEPARTMENT 584-3243

Northeastern Vermont Development Association

The NVDA- the State's only regional planning commission and economic development corporation- has been serving Ryegate for more than 60 years. We continue to assist local officials with land use, transportation, and emergency planning, and we serve the businesses of the Kingdom, promoting sustainable economic growth.

How have we served Ryegate? In 2014, our staff wrote a FEMA- approved Hazard Mitigation plan as well as an update to the Local Emergency Operations Plan. We also assisted with an update of zoning bylaw and assisted in road foreman training.

Municipal appropriations are based on a per capita amount, with a cap set at \$3,500. Since 2005, that amount was \$.42, with a minimum of \$100. Our new rate of \$.75 with a minimum of \$500 is still the lowest of all the other 10 regional planning commissions in the state, which range from \$.96 to \$1.78 per person. We're the only regional entity that does "double-duty" as an economic development corporation, so this low rate is certainly a testament to our cost efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Ryegate has been confirmed as a planning community by the NVDA board, which allows your community to benefit from a number of planning initiatives. We look forward to pursuing these opportunities with you in the coming year.

Catamount Arts

The residents and voters of Ryegate played a very important role in the success of Catamount Arts during 2014. Through support at Town Meeting and by attending many of the films and performances offered throughout the year, the citizens of Ryegate helped to keep the Arts vital and available to all of the residents of the Northeast Kingdom.

In the past year, Catamount has invited and encouraged the residents of Ryegate to participate in many of its community offerings, including the Community Film Series, Independent Lens, the Children's Summer Film Festival and gallery exhibits and receptions. These free events were funded in large measure through appropriations from communities in our area. Catamount has also made its space available for use by organizations in Ryegate and other communities and is fulfilling its promise of becoming a cultural and artistic meeting place for all residents of the area. During 2014, Catamount was able to present more than 100 films and 30 live performances, in large measure due to the generosity of the voters of Ryegate.

Catamount is also very proud of the fact that a sizable portion of its almost 1,000 members are residents of Ryegate. These members form the core of Catamount's patrons and serve as cultural and artistic ambassadors to their own community.

With the continuing growth of its many cultural offerings and Arts Education program, Catamount and its patrons also directly and indirectly contribute more than \$1,300,000 each year to the local economy while also securing a meeting space for local Masons for generations to come. However, in these tough economic times, Catamount greatly needs and appreciates the financial support of all residents, including the residents of Ryegate. For this reason, Catamount respectfully requests your continued support and appropriation for the coming year.

Umbrella

Town Appropriation Request: \$800

Umbrella exists to ensure that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties offer safety, support and options for self-determination to women and families. To this end, we provide the following services:

The Advocacy Program is the essential safety net for people affected by intimate partner violence and sexual abuse. **In 2014 we:**

- **supported 485 individuals with direct advocacy**
- **housed 14 adults and 6 children in our shelter for a total of 846bed-nights**

Kingdom Child Care Connection is the community-based child care resource and referral center for Caledonia and Southern Essex counties. **In 2014 we:**

- **helped 30 families find high-quality child care at no cost**
- **connected over 540families with the State of Vermont's Child Care Financial Assistance Program.**
- **supported the creation of 10 new child care programs in our region's most underserved areas**
- **offered 230 hours of professional development to 90+ child care providers to ensure the people responsible for taking care of our youngest citizens have the tools and resources they need to do their best.**

The Family Room is a supervised visitation and monitored exchange center offering child-centered support for parents seeking to establish or rebuild relationships with their children. **Last year we offered 935 hours of visitation to help 91children develop safe, healthy relationships with their non-residential parent.**

Given that some of our services are provided anonymously, it can be difficult to provide precise usage figures for towns. At least 2 Ryegate households and 1 child care provider were served directly by Umbrella in 2014, and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs at schools as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals. Community support is critical to sustaining our programming and discovering innovative new approaches to the work we do. We are deeply grateful for Ryegate's support.

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. is a private not-for-profit organization serving Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties . It is organized and directed by local citizens who believe that human services should be cost effective and responsive to the needs of our local communities. The mission of NKHS is to enrich communities and enhance the ability of individuals and families to improve their lives.

NKHS serves residents through our programs for Children, Youth, and Family Services, Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Community Rehabilitation Treatment, Developmental/Intellectual Ability Services, and 24/7 Crisis Intervention. Fees are charged based on the person's ability to pay. No one is refused services for lack of ability to pay.

FY 2014 SUMMARY OF SERVICES FOR THE Town of Ryegate

2000 Census Count for your town: **1174**

We served **29** and employ **0** from your community.

Thank you for your support.

Our 2015 request for support is calculated on \$1.05 per person based on the last census, the same amount as requested last year. To see if the **Town of Ryegate** will vote to appropriate the sum of **\$500** to **Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.** (NKHS) to be directed toward supporting Psychiatry positions to meet community demands for services that are not funded elsewhere.

Green Up Vermont

Green Up Day celebrated 44 years in 2014. Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization responsible for continuing the success of Green Up Day. The success of Green Up for Vermont depends upon two essential ingredients: one is the combined efforts of individuals and civic groups volunteering to make it all possible; and two, the financial support given by the public and private sectors throughout Vermont. With your town's help, we can continue Vermont's unique annual tradition of taking care of our beautiful landscape and promoting civic pride so our children grow up with Green Up. Our coordinators tell us that many of their volunteer force is families with young children. Green Up Vermont focuses on education for grades K-12 with activities such as a curriculum for K-4, activity booklets, a story and drawing booklet, and the annual poster and writing contests for grades K-12. Please visit www.greenupvermont.org to learn more. Careful use of resources minimizes Green Up's costs. The State appropriates funds that cover about 14 percent of our budget. Last year, appropriations from cities and towns covered 18 percent of our budget. These funds pay for supplies including over 48,000 Green Up trash bags, promotion, education, and services of two part-time employees. We ask your community to contribute because when you support Green Up Vermont you are not just supporting a program but Vermont and the people who live – and visit – here.

Mark your calendars for the next Green Up Day, May 2, 2015, celebrating 45 years! Get together with family and friends and clean up for Green Up Day, always the first Saturday in May.

Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont

The Area Agency on Aging is a private, nonprofit organization serving the residents of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties. We support people age 60 and older in their efforts to remain active, healthy, financially secure and in control of their own lives. The agency connects older adults and their families with services they need to live with independence and dignity. During the past year, your support allowed us to provide assistance to 65 residents of Ryegate as well as more than 1000 seniors from across the Northeast Kingdom. Thank you for your support over the years and for your help in letting people know about the services we provide. To learn more, please call 802-748-5180 or email at info@nevaaa.org.

Vermont Center for Independent Living

Since 1979, VCIL has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. During FY'14, 7 residents of Ryegate received services from the following services- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program, Home Access Program, Sue Williams Freedom Fund, and the Information, Referral and Assistance Program.

To learn more about VCIL, please call the toll free I-line at 1-800-639-1522 or go online to www.vcil.org.

NEK Waste Management District Executive Report

The NEKWMD finished 2014 with 40 of 49 towns reporting increased recycling volumes. This resulted in a District-wide increase of 15% more recycling compared to 2013. Recycling markets were steady to declining through the end of the year. Unfortunately, the steep drop in global oil prices drove the cost of many commodities, including recyclables, down in 2014.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District in 2014. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The Vermont legislature passed Act 148, the Universal Recycling Law, early in 2012. This piece of legislation includes, among other things, mandatory pay-as-you-throw for trash disposal and phased-in landfill bans for certain recyclables, leaf and yard wastes, and source separated organics. The NEKWMD assisted 14 towns in implementing unit-based pricing, held two hauler meetings, and served on a state-wide committee relating to the Universal Recycling Law in 2014. 2015 will see more of the same in helping our member communities comply with the law.

The NEKWMD is entering 2015 with a proposed budget of \$743,598 - an increase of 7% percent. The increase is in response to the provisions of the Universal Recycling Law. We will be entering 2015 with a surcharge rate increase of 5.6%. The surcharge on non-recycled waste (trash) will increase \$1.25 per ton to \$23.25 per ton in 2015. Our surcharge on trash remains just below the State average of \$24.04.

The NEKWMD was staffed by ten full-time and one part-time employee in 2014. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy. The member Towns are also represented through their ability to vote on the NEKWMD budget at their Town Meeting in March.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The 50,500 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

NEKWMD Executive Committee

NEK Waste Management Supervisors Report

The Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District being the largest in the area and serving the most towns (49) is creating issue in ACT 148 with trash haulers as they are required to offer the service of recyclables pick up at no cost to the customer. As the closest facility to dispose of these recyclables is Williston, the hauling cost is prohibitive. The ANR has recognized that the north east with its population being so wide spread has this problem and are supposedly trying to find a solution. The Waste District has been active in trying to help the haulers solve these issues as well. The state has offered three means to handle the waste stream in Vermont and they are Single Stream, Dual Stream and Source Separated. Single Stream is that trash and Recyclables are picked up in one truck and hauled to Williston to be processed. This is the easiest way for you but the cost to haul it that distance is cost prohibitive. The second means is Dual Stream where a roll off container is divided down the center length wise and a roof added and the Newspapers, Magazines and Plastics are loaded in one side and Tin and Aluminum cans and Glass are loaded in the other side through openings in the roof and hauled to the facility in Lyndonville to be baled. The third means is Source Separate, the way we do it presently and the cost is nearly the same as dual stream and that is considerably less than the first.

This year's budget has a 7% increase due mostly to Workman's Compensation Insurance and Advertising and Education for the Vermont Legislature passed ACT 148 the Universal Recycling Law.

The Universal Recycling Time Line in brief is as follows:

- July 2014 -- Transfer Stations/Drop Off Facilities must accept residential recyclables at no charge
- July 2015 -- Recyclables are banned from the landfill. Public buildings must provide recycling containers.
- July 2016 -- Leaf and yard and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill.
- July 2017 -- Transfer Stations/Drop Off Facilities must accept food scraps
- July 2020 -- Food scraps are banned from the landfill

Groton/ Ryegate Recycling Attendants Report

In trying to improve the operations for your safety and convenience we have moved one of the Bulky Waste containers to the right side of the Scrap Metal container ramp to allow the customer an easier and safer means of disposing of larger items.

As we need electricity for lighting in the winter months, a generator is required. The generator created a distracting noise in the building even after several failed attempts to lessen the noise by insulating it in a box. This fall, the generator was placed in a small building and now we have lighting without the noise and fueling and servicing is easily accomplished.

Again this year we have seen an increase in the volume of recyclables coming through the facility in plastics, box and cardboard, electronics and scrap metal and a decrease in newspaper and magazines.

The number of residents recycling has also increased so much that several times during operating hours there are vehicles filling the parking area. To help alleviate this we plan to extend our operating hours an additional hour longer this spring.

NEK Waste Management District Budget Vote

WARNING

NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

The legal voters of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District are hereby notified and warned to vote, by Australian Ballot, at the polling place and between the hours specified by their municipality on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 to act on the following article.

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$743,598?

Ralph Vincent	Laurie Esman
Jim Dagen	Paul Ke
Kenneth Johnson	Paul Ke
Robert W. Sandberg	William D.
Tom Keen	Claude O. Phippen
Rebecca Bout	Joel Cyr
Jim Dastous	Jane W. Akeley
Ben Davis	Gene A. Perkins
Alma Daigle	Robert Rodier
Tracy W. Sherbrook	Portia Smith
Shirley R. Daily	Thea D. D.
Kiwan F. Landue	
Bob	
Nick Simons	
Jack Sumner	
David Jones	

BMU School District #21 Warning and Notice
WARNING & NOTICE
BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #21
ANNUAL MEETING
AND
PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

March 2 and March 3, 2015

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Blue Mountain Union School, Garvin Memorial Library in Wells River, Vermont on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to transact the following business from the floor:

Article 1: To elect the following officers as required by law, and to authorize the Board of School Directors to fix their compensation:

Moderator

Clerk

Treasurer

Article 2: To hear and act on the reports of the Blue Mountain Union School District officers for the past year.

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year.

Article 4: To transact any other business thought proper under this warning.

Said meeting shall be followed immediately by a public informational hearing regarding the proposed budget and other business, to be voted on by Australian Ballot, on Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District are further notified and warned to meet at the following locations:

Ryegate: Town Hall in Ryegate Corner

Groton: Groton Community Building in Groton

Wells River: Village Garage in Wells River

BMU School District #21 Warning and Notice

On Tuesday, March 3, 2015 between 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. there will be a vote by Australian Ballot on the following questions:

Article #1: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 appropriate \$8,051,713 necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016?

Article #2: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 authorize an amount of \$100,000 to be taken from the 2013-2014 school year fund balance and deposited into the capital reserve account, for the purpose of future building and maintenance upkeep?

Signed by the Board of School Directors this seventh day of January, 2015 at Wells River, Vermont.

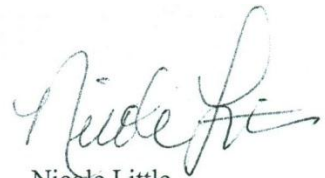
Blue Mountain Union School District #21



Bruce Stevens



Angeline Alley



Nicole Little



E. Paul Hazel



Julie Oliver



Thomas Page



Judy Murray

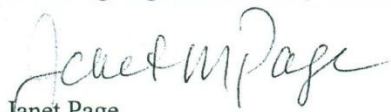


Ronald Phillips



Brenda Powers

The foregoing has been duly recorded before posting.



Janet Page
Clerk

Synopsis of March 4, 2014 Town Meeting

ARTICLE 1: Regina Hazel was elected Moderator, Marsha Nelson was elected Town Clerk.

ARTICLE 2: The reports of the Town Officers were accepted

ARTICLE 3: The Town voted to authorize a general and highway fund expenditure for 2014 operating expenses of \$928,204.23

ARTICLE 4: The Town voted to raise money by taxation to meet the 2014 General Fund and Road Budget, and to pay for installments due on equipment and to authorize the Select Board to set the tax rate

ARTICLE 5: The Town authorized payments of real property taxes in one installment, due September 10th and becoming delinquent October 10th.

ARTICLE 6: The Town voted to exempt the property owned by Blue Mountain Grange from road and general fund property taxes for a period of five years, pursuant to Title 32 V.S.A. 3840.

ARTICLE 7: The Town voted to elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes and take such action with respect to his/her fees and commissions as in the past.

ARTICLE 8: Angeline Alley was elected as School Director to serve on the Board of Union School District #21 for a term of three years.

ARTICLE 9: Cheryl Slayton was elected Treasurer. Paul Keenan was elected to the Select Board. John Zampieri was elected Town Agent, Dean Rowden was elected First Grand Juror, Regina Hazel was elected Lister. Tom Dole was elected Auditor, Jennifer Nelson was elected Library Trustee, Richard Colby II was elected Cemetery Commissioner.

ARTICLE 10: The Town voted to recommend setting up a Junkyard Ordinance

ARTICLE 11: By Petition: The Town voted to call on the Legislature to set up a Public Bank for Vermont in a non-binding vote.

ARTICLE 12: The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM

Vital Statistics

Civil Marriages

Date	Name
4-05	James Nelson & Heather Flannigan
8-02	Paul Keenan & Edna Bryant
9-13	Hoyt Darby & Jamie McKean
9-13	Dakota Phillips & Amber Layher
10-04	Kristi Yingling & Thomas Daniels
10-31	Jacqueline Vergason & Michael Fournier

Births

Date	Name	Parents
1-07	Averi Renee Johnson	Jamillynn Downer & Randy Johnson
2-14	Josselyn Snow Brown	Danielle Cousino & Andrew Brown
2-18	Jocelyn Annalie Burroughs	Dawn Carbee & Shawn Burroughs
7-04	Ellieauna Grace Logan	Carmen Phillips & Kyle Logan
8-19	Harlan Tompkins-Longmoore	Jamie Longmoore & Jeffery Tompkins
12-17	Owen Farhart	Jessica Paul & Christopher Farhart

Deaths

Name	Age	Date
Kim Cummings	53	1-16
Jonathan Ruppert Jr	78	2-22
Merton White	88	4-04
Cathrine Williams	57	4-09
Madine Hamlett	93	4-10
Violet DeRusha	80	4-28
Russell Hatch	64	5-10
Kenneth Gray	88	5-20
James Lefevre	69	6-14
Violet Paige	92	7-01
Albert Sponheimer Jr	89	7-04
Gary Murphy	65	7-11
Laura Lucille White	92	8-20
John Foley	83	10-22
Priscilla Darby	81	10-25
Joyce Frost	84	11-26
Carol Demers	82	12-20

Warning Annual Town Meeting- Tuesday, March 3, 2015

The citizens of the Town of Ryegate who are legal voters in the annual town meetings are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town House in Ryegate on Tuesday, the third of March 2015 at one o'clock in the afternoon to act on the following articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator and a Town Clerk.

ARTICLE 2: To review and act on the reports of the town officers.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town vote to raise \$20,000 to contract with the Vermont State Police for law enforcement and patrol services for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town authorize a total general and highway fund expenditure for 2015 operating expenses of \$937,704.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to raise money by taxation to meet the 2015 General Fund and Road Budget, including a sum of money (not less than \$50.00 per mile) for the maintenance of its highways and for the payment of installments due and to become due on equipment purchased by the Select board including such additional funds as may be appropriated under other articles at this meeting, and to authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?



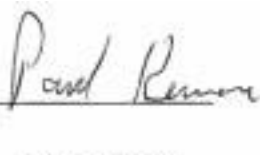
ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town authorize payment of real property taxes to the Town Treasurer in one installment, due September 10th and becoming delinquent on October 10th with interest assessed on unpaid taxes pursuant to 32 VSA 4873?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes and take such action with respect to his/her fees and commissions as judged to be advantageous to the town.

ARTICLE 8: To elect by ballot one School Director to serve on the Board of Union School District No. 21 for a term of three years.

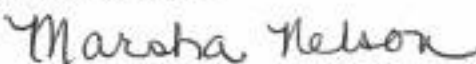
ARTICLE 9: To elect all other necessary Town Officers and direct the Select Board to fix their compensation.

ARTICLE 10: To transact any other nonbinding business that may properly come before this meeting.

Select Board:  ,  , 

Andrew Smith Claudette Sortino Paul Keenan

Recorded before posting:

Attest: 

Marsha Nelson, Clerk

Important Telephone Numbers and Information

Emergency or Fire 911

RYEGATE TOWN WEBSITE- WWW.RYEGATEVT.ORG

Building Permits	802-522-1337 Donna Longmoore 802-584-3880 Town Office
Cottage Hospital	603-747-9000
E Ryegate Fire District #2	802-757-3983 Vicky Darby
Fire Permits	802-584-3611 Gene Perkins 802-584-3667 Fremont Nelson
Historian	802-584-3520 Dwight White

Ryegate Selectboard

Paul Keenan	802-757-3801
Claudette Sortino	802- 584-4263
Andy Smith , Chair	802-633-2260

Town Clerk	802-584-3880 Phone and Fax
Town Garage/Road Crew	802-584-3002
United Ways Agencies for VT	211
VT Center for Independent Living	802-639-1522
NEK Waste Management	800-734-4602
NEK Youth Services	802-748-8732

State Legislators

Sen. Joseph Benning- R 802-626-3600 office

Sen. Jane Kitchel- D 802-684-3482 home

Sen. Marcia Martel- R 802-748-9134 home

US Legislators

Sen. Patrick Leahy- D 800-642-3193 Action Line

Sen. Bernie Sanders- I 202-224-5141 DC office

Rep. Peter Welch- D 888-605-7270 VT office 202-225-4115 DC office

Selectboard Meetings - 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7pm Town Office Building

Town Clerk- Mon 1-5, Tues 1-5, Weds 1-5, Fri 9-1

Recycling Center Friday 4-6 pm Saturday 8- noon

Photo Driver's License

Every Thursday (except holidays)

9-3:15 118 Western Ave, St Johnsbury

NOTES: