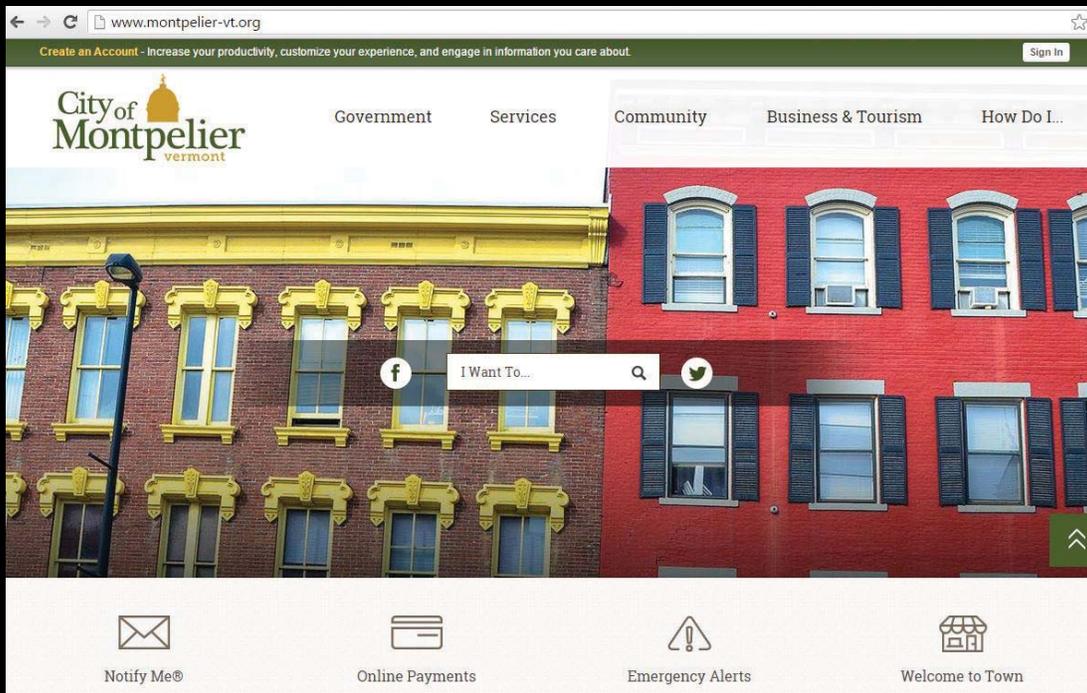


# City of Montpelier vermont



## *Annual Report*

A review of fiscal year 2014-2015 including proposed budgets and articles to be voted on at Montpelier City Meeting March 1, 2016.

Photographs provided by the Vermont Historical Society



Sliding down East State Street, early 1900s.



Snowroller, late 1800s. Sitting on snowroller is C. Roberts, right, Superintendent of Streets & Edward Witham, left. Witham worked for the city from 1917-1930 and succeeded Roberts as Superintendent. "C. Roberts" appears on the horse's collar.



Langdon St Bridge, ca. 1929. This photo was taken after the new Langdon Street



Looking down Main St, late 1920s. The old EW Bailey grain elevator can be seen in the background to the right.

## *About the Cover*

In 2015 the City of Montpelier launched a new website. Still found at [www.montpelier-vt.org](http://www.montpelier-vt.org), the site provides improved information to residents, businesses, and visitors in Montpelier. The site offers many new amenities including improved search capabilities, the ability to sign up for targeted notifications through the Notify Me section, and a clear organizational structure that allows users to better access information. Additionally, through a partnership with Montpelier Alive, the two organizations' sites are mutually linked and searchable.

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## CITY MEETING WARNING MARCH 1, 2016

The legal voters of the City of Montpelier, in City Meeting in Montpelier, in the County of Washington and the State of Vermont, are hereby warned to meet in the City Hall Auditorium, in said Montpelier, on the first Tuesday in March, March 1, 2016, at seven o'clock in the forenoon, and there and then to cast their ballot for the election of officers, matters that by law must be determined by ballot, and other matters as directed by the Council. The polls will be opened at 7:00 A.M. and shall be closed and the voting machine sealed at 7:00 P.M.

ARTICLE 1. To elect one Mayor for a term of three years; one Commissioner for the Green Mount Cemetery for a term of five years; one Park Commissioner for a term of five years; one Park Commissioner to fill out the remainder of a term of five years, to expire in two years; three School Commissioners, each for a term of three years; one School Commissioner to fill out the remainder of a term of five years, to expire in one year; one Council Member from each district, for a term of two years.

ARTICLE 2. To elect one at-large Board Member to serve on the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority Board for a three-year term commencing March, 2016.

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$8,434,702 for the payment of debts and current expenses of the City for carrying out any of the purposes of the Charter, plus payment of all state and county taxes and obligations imposed upon the City by law to finance the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017? (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 4. Shall the voters of the school system approve the school board to expend \$18,578,965 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,023 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 1.08% higher than spending for the current year. (Local budget of \$17,941,983 plus grant budget of \$636,982, for a total school budget of \$18,578,965.) (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters of the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority (CVPSA) appropriate the sum of \$100,000 (\$53,000 from Barre City and \$47,000 from the City of Montpelier) for the operating budget of the CVPSA for fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017? (Requested by CVPSA)

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,000 as compensation to the Mayor for services for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017? (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,200 (\$1,200 each) as compensation to the Council Members for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017? (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,300 (Chair \$1,300; others \$1,000 each) as compensation to the School Commissioners for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017? (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 9. Shall the voters authorize the Board of School Commissioners to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2016 in a reserve (restricted) fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Commissioners for the purpose of operating the school? (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 10. Shall the voters authorize the City Council to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$710,000 for the construction of improvements for the One Taylor Street project from Taylor Street to Main Street, a shared use path from Granite Street to Gallison Hill Road and retaining walls? If approved bonds for these capital items would be issued for a term of 20 years. With a 20 year bond, approximately \$13,921 would be required for the first year interest payment and approximately \$52,779 for the second year principal and interest payment and future payments declining each year as the principal is repaid. (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 11. Shall the voters authorize the City Council to borrow a sum of money not to exceed

\$180,000 for design and development costs for pollution control improvements to the Water Resource Recovery Facility (Wastewater Treatment Plant)? If approved bonds for these capital items would be issued for a term of 20 years. With a 20 year bond, approximately \$3,728 would be required for the first year interest payment and approximately \$13,629 for the second year principal and interest payment and future payments declining each year as the principal is repaid. (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 12. Shall the voters authorize the City to levy a special assessment of \$0.0515 per \$100 of appraisal value on properties within Montpelier's Designated Downtown not used entirely for residential purposes? The assessment shall be apportioned according to the listed value of such properties except that the assessment for any property also used for residential purposes shall be reduced by the proportion that heated residential floor space bears to heated floor space for such property. Funds raised by the assessment shall be used to improve the downtown streetscape and to market the downtown. (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 13. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$316,698 to be used by the Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017? (This amount is in addition to the \$37,541 for the library bond payment included in the City General Fund Budget, ARTICLE 3)

ARTICLE 14. Shall the City amend the Charter of the City of Montpelier by adding a new Section 708 to read as follows? (Requested by the City Council)

#### §708 REGULATION OF WATER SUPPLY

The City shall have the authority to regulate its public water supply and public water sources in order to protect the water supply and sources from corruption. The City's water supply sources include Berlin Pond in the town of Berlin.

ARTICLE 15. Shall the voters amend the Charter of the City of Montpelier by adding a new Section 1204 to allow a 1% local rooms, meals and alcohol tax? The proceeds from this tax will be authorized for use for

roads, bridges, other infrastructure and economic development. (Requested by the City Council)

#### §1204 LOCAL OPTION TAXES

- (a) Local option taxes are authorized under this section for the purpose of affording the City an alternative method of raising municipal revenues. Accordingly:
- (b) The City Council may assess rooms, meals and alcohol taxes of one percent;
- (c) Any tax imposed under the authority of this section shall be collected and administered by the Vermont department of taxes, in accordance with state law governing such state tax or taxes.
- (d) Of the taxes reported under this section, 70 percent shall be paid to the City of Montpelier for calendar years thereafter. Such revenues may be expended by the City of Montpelier for municipal services only and not for educational expenditures. The remaining amount of the taxes reported shall be remitted monthly to the state treasurer for deposit in the PILOT special fund established in Sec. 89 of No. 60 of the Acts of 1997. Taxes due to the City of Montpelier under this section shall be paid by the State on a quarterly basis.

ARTICLE 16. Shall the Voters of Montpelier appropriate a one-time sum of \$75,000 to be used by the North Branch Nature Center's capital campaign for the fiscal year July 1, 2016-June 20, 2017? Appropriated funds will be directed solely towards the construction of a new community nature center facility located at the North Branch Nature Center in Montpelier. (By Petition)

## Message from the Mayor

This is a great time to be a part of Montpelier. Our downtown is thriving. Our cultural life is flourishing. And our community is filled with creative, engaged and committed residents who love our capital city.

The city has made major strides in addressing some of the core challenges we face. We have held property tax increases below the rate of inflation over the last four years, while at the same time significantly increasing our investment in roads and sidewalks: \$500,000 more this year than four years ago, and a plan to reach \$850,000 more per year by 2019, the amount needed to maintain our infrastructure in good condition.

We successfully completed the first full season of our renewable district heat system. That project has made our city a national leader in renewable energy and is an important step towards reaching Net Zero Montpelier.

The city launched a great new web site that makes it far easier for residents to access information about city services and events.

A great city requires good planning. While the results of recent planning efforts are not immediately apparent, they will begin to show results next year:

We are in the midst of an economic development planning process that will focus and expand our efforts to increase economic activity.

We completed a downtown plan that will guide future investments.

We are completing a parking plan to help resolve our ongoing parking challenges.

We completed a bike master plan – Montpelier in Motion – that will guide the city’s investments to our community more bike- and pedestrian-friendly.

We are undertaking a storm water master plan to ensure that we comply with new state requirements.

We engaged the community last fall to help us solve our long-term budget challenges. Those community sessions demonstrated support for our long-term infrastructure plan. They also showed strong community support for the adoption of a local option tax to help pay for it. The local option rooms, meals and alcohol tax will appear on the March Town Meeting Day ballot.

Two major city projects – the Taylor Street housing and transit center and the bike path extension – are not proceeding as quickly as planned. In both cases progress has been slowed through difficulties in obtaining necessary rights of way. We are confident that these acquisitions will occur in the months ahead.

The city’s progress is the result of devoted staff, a talented city council, and an amazing roster of volunteers. I am fortunate to work with so many dedicated individuals. It is an honor to serve as mayor of our capital city.

John Hollar, *Mayor*

## Message from the City Manager:

It is an honor to present my 21st annual report to you, the citizens of Montpelier.

### **FY 17 Budget:**

#### **The following guidelines were used in preparing this budget proposal:**

- Budget must reflect the City Council’s adopted goals and priorities and enable those goals to be advanced.
- Property tax rate increase target of 2%.
- Must continue increased funding for infrastructure and capital needs based on the “Steady State” plan adopted by the City Council.
- Must fully integrate the Recreation Department into the city budget and operations.
- Must deliver responsible levels of service to the residents of Montpelier.

### **Property Tax Impact:**

- The net result of revenues and expenses is that \$8,434,702 in property tax revenues are required for the city’s portion (non school, non ballot item) of the budget. This is an increase of \$233,385 or 2.8% over FY16.
- Requires a 2.2 cent increase in the property tax rate. The capital/equipment plan is increased by 1.8 cents while the remainder of the budget again requires just 0.6 cents. A 2.2 cent increase represents a 2.2% municipal property tax rate increase. For the average residential property, this tax rate represents an additional \$49 on the tax bill.
- Independent ballot items for the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Central Vermont Public Safety Authority and North Branch Nature Center would add \$87,275 in new tax dollars. This is equivalent to 1.0 cent on the tax rate or \$22.80 for the average residence.

### **Budget Numbers:**

- FY17 General Fund Budget totals \$12,427,606 which is an increase of \$156,973 (1.3%) from the comparable FY16 spending plan. This number does not include the three ballot items.

- FY17 General Fund non-tax revenues total \$3,992,904 which is a decrease of \$76,412 (-1.9%) from FY16 non-tax revenues.
- Consistent with the council's fund balance policy, no general fund balance is used to offset the budget and reduce taxes.
- Revenues from the State of Vermont such as Highway Aid, Grand List Maintenance funding and the Justice Center basic grant have been assumed to remain at their present funding levels. Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) was adjusted downward to reflect actual collection in FY16.
- Grand list value is calculated at 0.5% increase from the FY16 level. With the projected grand list, \$85,751 represents one cent on the tax rate.

**Infrastructure:**

- The Capital Projects, Equipment and Debt Service Program is funded at \$2,037,604. Of this \$867,250 is in annual funding, \$705,354 is in existing debt service and \$465,000 is for equipment. This is an increase of \$16,300 in annual project funding and a decrease of \$50,000 in equipment funding. The annual planned increases of \$166,300 in this program are scheduled to resume in FY18.
- The budget includes \$43,200 for the annual payment for the purchase of One Taylor Street. This expense is offset by lease revenue.
- Two bonds are proposed for FY17. One planned \$710,000 infrastructure bond is for bike path matching funds, and matching funds for the One Taylor Street project, funding for Taylor Street upgrades and retaining walls. The other \$180,000 wastewater fund bond is for design of upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant in order to comply with the state's new clean water requirements. This financing is expected to come from the state's revolving loan fund.
- The Capital/Equipment Plan anticipates additional increases of \$166,300 in each of the next two budget years – FY18 and FY19 – and \$50,000 in FY20 in order to bring funding levels to the projected steady state of maintenance and improvements.

**Personnel:**

- Total number of Full Time Equivalent Employees (FTE) is 111.86 which is 1.23 FTE less than FY16.
- Cost of living allowances and step increases are built into all employee wage and salary accounts consistent with collective bargaining agreements and personnel policies. For this budget that represents a 1.5% to 2.5% contracted adjustment for Public Works union employees, a 1.25% adjustment for Fire union employees, and a 2.0% adjustment

for Police union employees. A 1.0% or lower adjustment for all other employees is budgeted. Overall wage costs are up 4.8% in this budget.

- The budget continues the high deductible health insurance plan which was implemented four years ago. Overall benefit costs are up by 5.9% in this budget.

**Operating:**

- Reductions of \$143,859 (-4.8%) to operating costs are proposed. As with prior years, many lines have been cut to stay within fiscal guidelines. Some proposed initiatives and service expansion proposals have not been included.
- The Community Justice Center budget includes all funding for all programs with commensurate revenue offsets. There is no net property tax funding projected.

**Other Funds:**

- The Water and Wastewater budgets have both been balanced. The Wastewater fund is now in a small surplus position and the water fund is steadily reducing its deficit. The budget assumes no Water rate change, no Sewer rate increase and no Sewer or CSO benefit charge changes. The rate structure for these funds is under review now. Funding from the CSO benefit charge is being used to address new stormwater requirements.
- Tax funding for the Senior Center is reduced by \$15,368 (-10.7%) below FY16 levels. The center continues to adjust to its new activity level. Center expenses are offset by program revenues including larger contributions from neighboring towns. This will result in slight service adjustments.
- Tax funding for the Recreation Department has been reduced by \$40,453 (7.0%).
- The Parking fund is balanced while including a 5% set aside for alternate transportation funding.
- The District Heat Fund budget will cover the third full year of complete operation.

**Community Services:**

- Funding for the Housing Trust Fund remains at \$21,000.
- The Montpelier Community & Arts Fund is funded at \$119,550 which is increased by \$9,375 from FY16 funding.
- The budget assumes a \$5 increase per dog license to fund the waste stations.
- The budget assumes increases in permit fees, events fees and recreation fees.

- The budget includes \$40,000 in funding for the GMTA circulator bus route.
- The budget includes funding for the monthly Montpelier Bridge article.

**Direct Services:**

- *Police:* The Police budget continues the contractual relationship with Capital Fire Mutual Aid System for dispatching services. This provides additional revenue and improved services for Montpelier. The department remains at the same staffing level as FY16. School Resource Officer shared 50% with school is included.
- *Fire & Emergency Services:* The Fire and Police departments will now be sharing administrative support which allows the city to bring back ambulance billing in house and save \$50,000 in contract fees. Call response and training is unchanged.
- *Planning, Zoning & Community/Economic Development:* The Planning & Development department budget has been left largely unchanged. The part time zoning administrator position is being increase from 20 hours per week to 24 hours per week. One VISTA position is funded.
- *Public Works:* This department has cut operating costs drastically but staffing levels remain the same as FY16.

**Unmet Needs:**

- Both city staff and Matrix had identified previously existing capacity shortcomings in the areas of human resources management, facilities management and communications. We have made some progress in the communications area but nothing in this budget specifically addresses the other concerns.
- No funding is included for implementing the Economic Development Strategic Plan, housing initiatives, community survey and Net Zero initiatives.

**Ballot Items:**

**Articles 1-9** are the annual election and regular budget items. Note that Article 2 and Article 5 are for election and budget approval for the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority.

**Article 10** is for a \$710,000 infrastructure bond for the One Taylor Street project, Taylor Street itself, the bike path from Granite Street to Gallison Hill and retaining walls.

**Article 11** is for a \$180,000 sewer fund loan from the State Revolving Loan fund for water pollution control. These funds will be used to design upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Article 12** is for the continuation of the Downtown Improvement District approved two years ago where commercial properties within the designated zone pay an additional tax increment with the funds raised going directly for promotions and improvements within that district. The article establishes the tax rate for the district.

**Article 13** is for \$316,698 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library which is the same as last year.

**Article 14** is for a proposed amendment to the City Charter which would authorize the City to regulate the uses of Berlin Pond.

**Article 15** is for a proposed amendment to the City Charter which would authorize the City to assess a 1% rooms, meals and alcohol tax.

City staff used a new approach to budget preparation which required full management team participation in all decisions. I appreciate their thoughtfulness and hard work. I would like to particularly recognize the efforts of Finance Director Sandy Gallup.

**Appreciation:**

Many dedicated individuals deliver local government services to Montpelier residents 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year and they deserve our collective appreciation and thanks. We all need to remember that City employees work under difficult, stressful circumstances and sometimes dangerous conditions so that residents may have clean water, effective sewage disposal, safe and clear roads, quick and effective fire and ambulance response, responsive and preventive police work, comprehensive planning and review of local development, wonderful parks/facilities and proper administration of citizen's needs. They are highly trained and certified professionals in specialized fields. The 2009 Citizen Survey showed that residents have very positive impressions of city employees. Montpelier's staff are hard working, dedicated and incredibly capable individuals. I am very proud of all of them.

Montpelier is fortunate to have a strong team of Department Heads working for the city's interests. These individuals' experience, education, talent and dedication keep our operations among the very best in the state and in line with the high expectations of our residents. This past year long time Public Works employee Tom McArdle was promoted to DPW Director joining the excellent team of Parks Director Geoff Beyer, Community Justice Center Director Yvonne Byrd, Senior Center Director Janna Clar, Police Chief Anthony Facos, Finance Director Sandra Gallup, Fire Chief Robert Gowans, Cemetery Superintendent Patrick Healy, Planning & Development Director Michael Miller, City Clerk John Odum and Assessor Steve Twombly.

As it is with every year, some city employees choose to retire or move on to other endeavors. This year we thank 7 people for their service and contributions to the community. Those who left the city in 2015 include long time employees Sharon Blatchford, Dean Utton, Mike Papineau and Nathan "Putt" Cowens who retired after distinguished careers. We also lost the services of Peter Potvin, David Brunell and Sandra Savard. We wish them all the best of success on the next paths of their lives and careers.

As we say goodbye to our former colleagues, we welcome the newest members of our team who bring new ideas, new energy and new approaches. In 2015, the following new employees were hired: DPW Mechanic Nichlous Haskins, DPW Equipment Operator Anthony Carpenter, DPW Wastewater Plant operators Sidney Cushing and Adam Willis, DPW Project Manager Corey Line and the transfer to full time of parks caretaker/assistant Alec Ellsworth.

We greatly appreciated the efforts of Americorps participant Hannah Reckhow and have welcomed Laura Biren to that role.

Montpelier has benefitted greatly from having many experienced employees who have spent distinguished careers with the city. I'd like to recognize and thank individuals with 25 or more years of experience with the City of Montpelier. These people represent about 16% of our total workforce!

Charlotte Hoyt, Treasurer .....	43 years
Sandra Pitonyak, City Manager's Office.....	42 years
Jane Aldrighetti, Assessor/City Manager's Office .....	36 years
Robert Gowans, Fire/EMS Department .....	36 years
Thomas McArdle, Public Works Department.....	33 years
Scott Powers, Public Works Department.....	31 years
Loretta Bresette, City Clerk/Treasurer Department ..	30 years
Dana Huoppi, Fire Department.....	30 years
Beverlee Pembroke Hill, Tax Collector .....	28 years
Richard Cleveland, Police Department.....	28 years
Neil Martel, Police Department.....	28 years
Anthony Facos, Police Department .....	28 years
Stephen Nolan, Police Department.....	27 years
Sharon Olson, Police Department.....	26 years

I thank the Mayor and City Council Members for the huge amount of time they commit to the community. Most people have no idea of the amount of time council members devote to an often thankless and stressful task.

During 2015 City Council Member Thierry Guerlain resigned from his District 2 seat and Jean Olson was appointed to replace him. We welcome Council Member Olson.

I thank the many citizen volunteers on our boards, commissions and committees for the long hours they give for the honorable purpose of serving their fellow residents. They face controversy, tough decisions, pressure and public criticism yet continue to offer their time, energy and expertise. Our democratic form of government relies on citizen participation for success and these individuals deserve the utmost in respect and appreciation for their dedication. I encourage more citizens to run for office, apply for appointments and volunteer for committees.

The City is very fortunate to have Jessie Baker as our Assistant City Manager. She has made a huge positive impact on the organization and in the community. She will contribute to the well being of Montpelier for many years to come.

For twenty one years I have had the privilege of working daily with Sandy Pitonyak and Jane Aldrighetti in the City Manager's office. Their professionalism, abilities, customer service, trustworthiness and dedication are unmatched. They are truly the "face of the city" for many people. I cannot say enough about each of them and am grateful for the chance to share office space with them.

It has been my great fortune to be both City Manager and a resident of this wonderful city. I've been delighted to raise four children in the community, watch them journey through our fine school system and grow into wonderful young people. I thank Olivia, Patrick, Claire and Angus for their own many contributions to Montpelier and for keeping a good sense of humor about their father's public job. My final thanks, as always, are for Anne Fraser who has steadfastly supported me unconditionally while carving out her own role in Montpelier. I love her and could not have done this work without her.

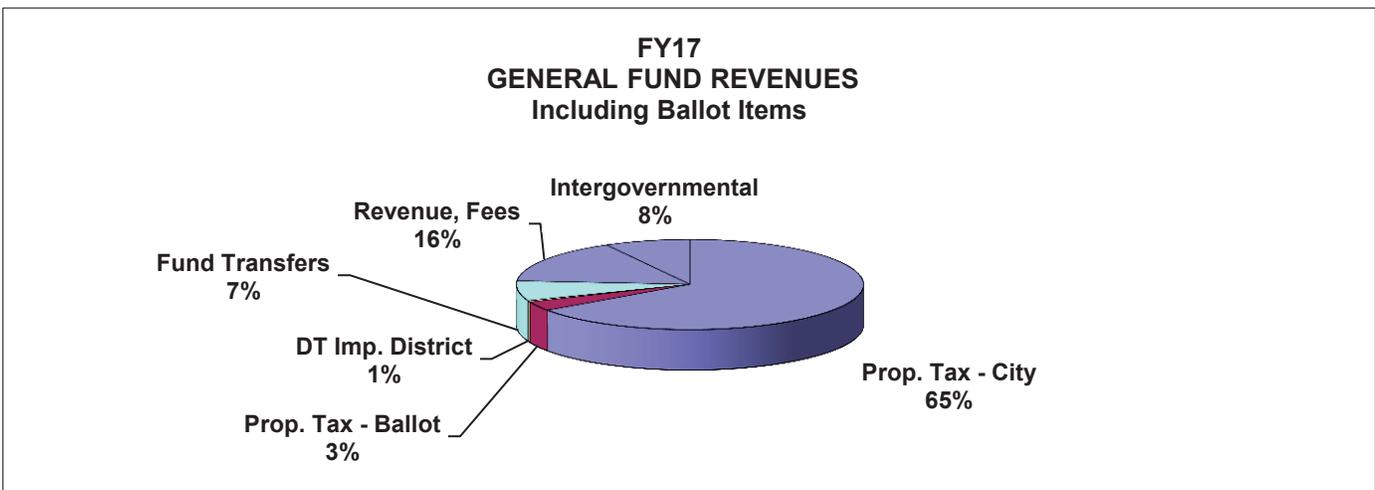
Respectfully Submitted,  
William J. Fraser, *City Manager*



(Photo courtesy of Linda Hogan)

## BUDGET COMPARISON - General Fund Revenue

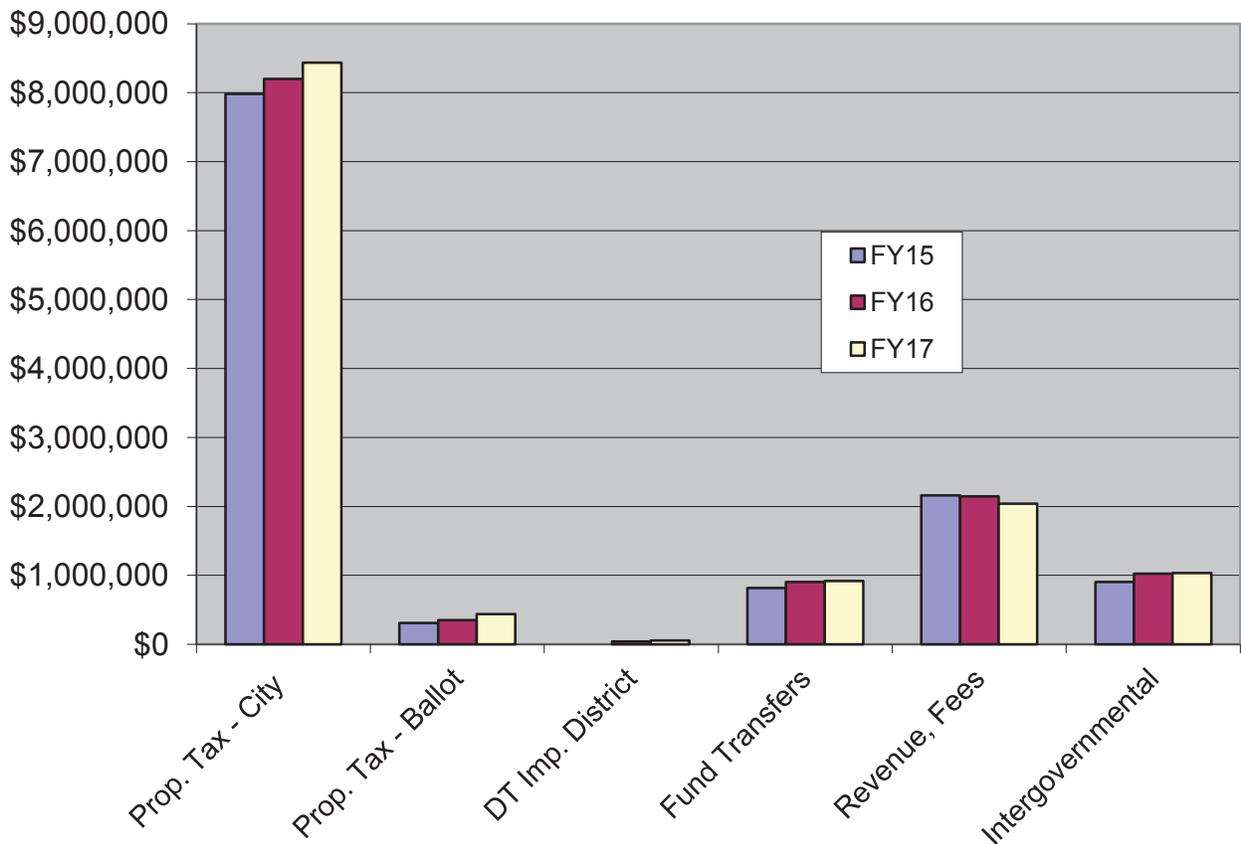
Item	FY15	FY16	FY17	\$ Change	% Change
<i>Property Taxes - City Budget</i>	<b>\$7,982,017</b>	<b>\$8,201,317</b>	<b>\$8,434,702</b>	<b>\$233,385</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
<i>Property Taxes - Ballot Items</i>	<b>\$308,673</b>	<b>\$351,423</b>	<b>\$438,698</b>	<b>\$87,275</b>	<b>24.8%</b>
<b><i>Property Taxes - Total</i></b>	<b>\$8,290,690</b>	<b>\$8,552,740</b>	<b>\$8,873,400</b>	<b>\$320,660</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
<i>Other Tax Related Income</i>	\$891,195	\$855,165	\$839,500	-\$15,665	-1.8%
<i>Permits &amp; Licenses</i>	\$81,600	\$86,163	\$81,500	-\$4,663	-5.4%
<i>Intergovernmental</i>	\$905,849	\$1,022,031	\$1,035,297	\$13,266	1.3%
<i>Fees &amp; Charges for Service</i>	\$671,739	\$676,595	\$662,302	-\$14,293	-2.1%
<i>Rents &amp; Commissions</i>	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.0%
<i>Fines &amp; Forfeitures</i>	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$25,000	-\$10,000	-28.6%
<i>Equipment Revenues</i>	\$414,158	\$407,539	\$372,542	-\$34,997	-8.6%
<i>Interest Income</i>	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$20,000	100.0%
<i>Miscellaneous Revenue</i>	\$53,372	\$64,505	\$17,000	-\$47,505	-73.6%
<i>Fund Balance</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
<i>Operating Transfers</i>	\$817,353	\$901,818	\$919,263	\$17,445	1.9%
<b><i>TOTAL - Non Tax Revenues</i></b>	<b>\$3,880,766</b>	<b>\$4,069,316</b>	<b>\$3,992,904</b>	<b>-\$76,412</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>
<i>Downtown Imp. District</i>	\$0	\$40,000	\$57,000	\$17,000	42.5%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$12,171,456</b>	<b>\$12,662,056</b>	<b>\$12,923,304</b>	<b>\$261,248</b>	<b>2.1%</b>



## BUDGET COMPARISON - Revenue Categories

REVENUE CATEGORIES	FY15	FY16	FY17	\$ Change	% Change
Prop. Tax - City	\$7,982,017	\$8,201,317	\$8,434,702	\$233,385	2.8%
Prop. Tax - Ballot	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$438,698	\$87,275	24.8%
DT Imp. District	\$0	\$40,000	\$57,000	\$17,000	42.5%
Fund Transfers	\$817,353	\$901,818	\$919,263	\$17,445	1.9%
Revenue, Fees	\$2,157,564	\$2,145,467	\$2,038,344	-\$107,123	-5.0%
Intergovernmental	\$905,849	\$1,022,031	\$1,035,297	\$13,266	1.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,171,456</b>	<b>\$12,662,056</b>	<b>\$12,923,304</b>	<b>\$261,248</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
<i>Grand List</i>	<i>\$850,101,290</i>	<i>\$853,243,275</i>	<i>\$857,509,491</i>	<i>\$4,266,216</i>	<i>0.50%</i>
<b>Total Property Tax Dollars</b>	<b>\$8,290,690</b>	<b>\$8,552,740</b>	<b>\$8,873,400</b>	<b>\$320,660</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
<b>Property Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$0.98</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.03</b>	<b>\$0.032</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
Avg Municipal Tax Bill	\$2,180.19	\$2,240.82	\$2,313.27	\$72.45	3.2%

### General Fund Revenue Comparison

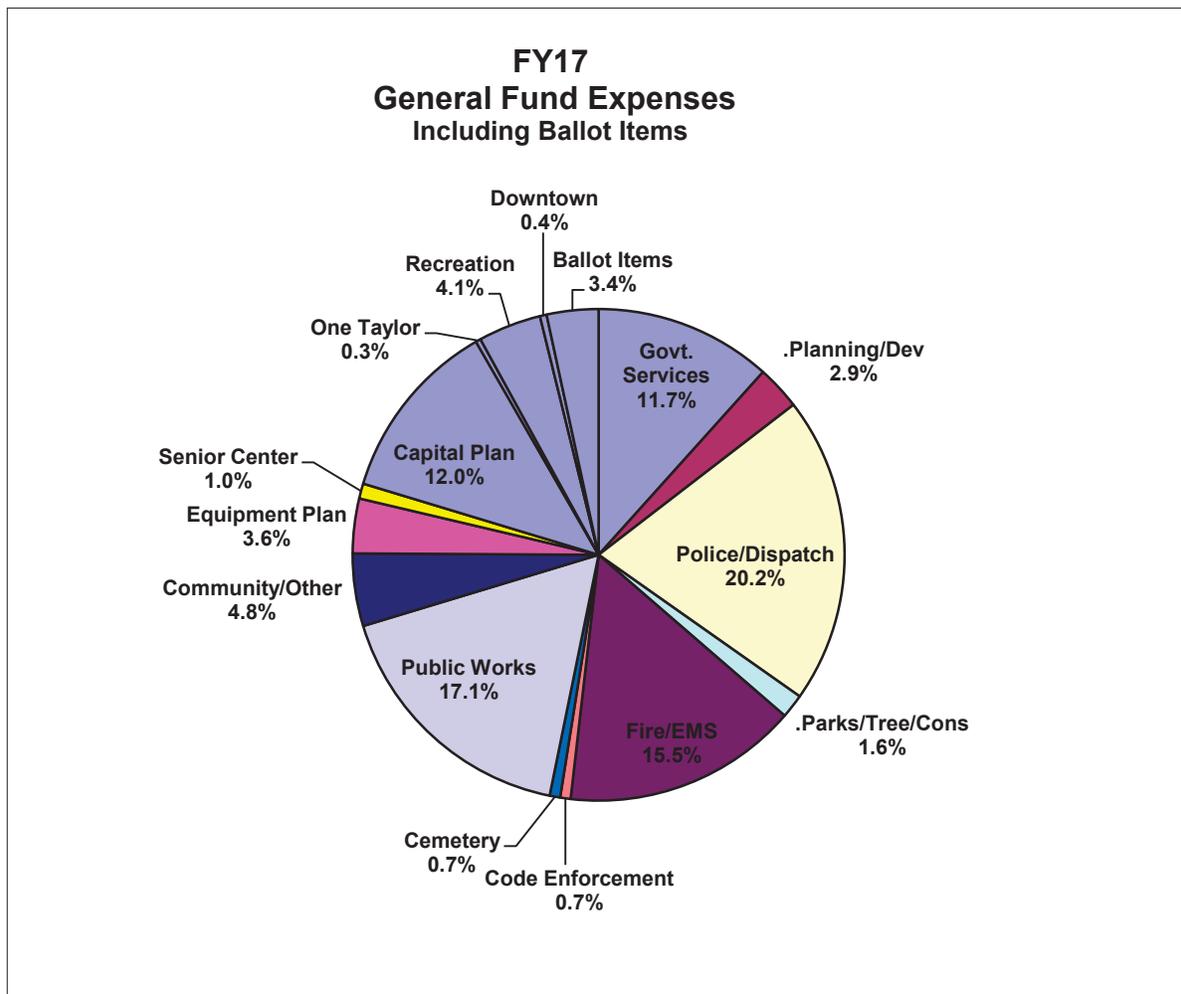


## BUDGET COMPARISON - General Fund Expenditures

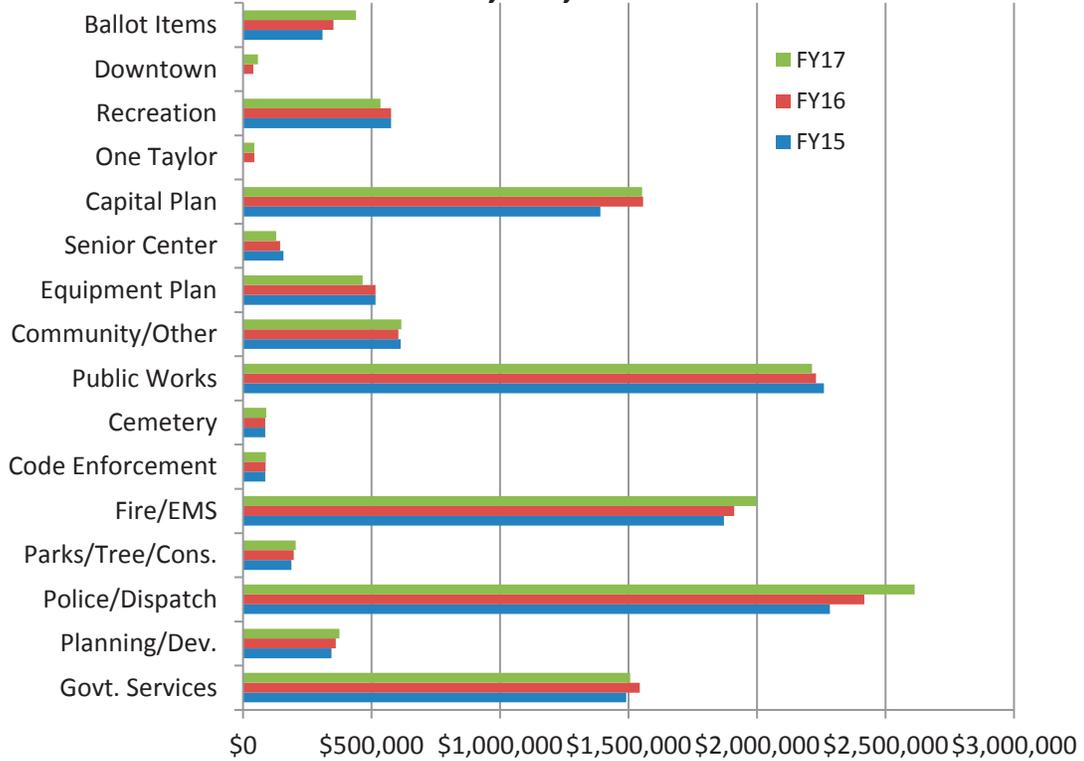
Item	FY15	FY16	FY17	\$ Change	% Change
City Council Operations	\$35,399	\$35,644	\$31,502	-\$4,142	-11.6%
City Manager's Office	\$400,561	\$420,148	\$434,189	\$14,041	3.3%
Clerk/Elections	\$182,750	\$179,874	\$151,004	-\$28,870	-16.1%
Finance/Treasurer	\$464,248	\$476,180	\$444,613	-\$31,567	-6.6%
Technology Services	\$228,030	\$245,452	\$257,997	\$12,545	5.1%
Property Assessment	\$180,576	\$186,368	\$186,779	\$411	0.2%
Planning & Development	\$344,215	\$360,434	\$374,110	\$13,676	3.8%
City Hall Maintenance	\$200,115	\$212,970	\$233,354	\$20,384	9.6%
Police - Operations	\$1,659,973	\$1,730,372	\$1,857,506	\$127,134	7.3%
Police - Communications	\$528,961	\$590,187	\$652,540	\$62,353	10.6%
Police- School Resource Off.	\$95,388	\$97,694	\$103,127	\$5,433	5.6%
Community Justice Center	\$261,415	\$273,355	\$270,458	-\$2,897	-1.1%
Fire & Emergency Services	\$1,802,141	\$1,840,860	\$1,926,041	\$85,181	4.6%
Code/Health Enforcement	\$86,215	\$87,871	\$88,609	\$738	0.8%
Emergency Management	\$6,929	\$6,929	\$6,500	-\$429	-6.2%
DPW - Streets	\$1,400,961	\$1,370,961	\$1,368,140	-\$2,821	-0.2%
DPW - Fleet Operations	\$593,778	\$581,154	\$551,258	-\$29,896	-5.1%
DPW - Building Operations	\$65,850	\$64,100	\$60,774	-\$3,326	-5.2%
Wrightsville Beach	\$4,007	\$4,007	\$7,207	\$3,200	79.9%
Community Fund	\$118,175	\$110,175	\$119,550	\$9,375	8.5%
Community Enhancements	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$33,600	\$2,600	8.4%
Tree Management & Board	\$37,426	\$39,775	\$41,208	\$1,433	3.6%
Conservation Commission	\$5,750	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.0%
Capital Plan Debt Service	\$712,434	\$680,326	\$661,280	-\$19,046	-2.8%
Capital Plan Annual Funding	\$677,570	\$875,978	\$891,317	\$15,339	1.8%
Other Governmental Services	\$161,396	\$168,761	\$171,742	\$2,981	1.8%
Equipment Plan	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$464,399	-\$50,601	-9.8%
Sprinkler Tax Credit	\$62,000	\$64,000	\$66,000	\$2,000	3.1%
Cemetery	\$85,726	\$85,726	\$89,303	\$3,577	4.2%
Parks	\$141,089	\$148,927	\$152,915	\$3,988	2.7%
One Taylor	\$0	\$43,200	\$43,200	\$0	
Housing Trust Fund.	\$41,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$0	0.0%
Recreation	\$575,230	\$575,230	\$534,777	-\$40,453	-7.0%
Senior Center	\$157,475	\$143,475	\$128,107	-\$15,368	-10.7%
<b>Sub TOTAL CITY BUDGET</b>	<b>\$11,862,783</b>	<b>\$12,270,633</b>	<b>\$12,427,606</b>	<b>\$156,973</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<i>Library Ballot Item</i>	<i>\$308,673</i>	<i>\$316,698</i>	<i>\$316,698</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
<i>Other Ballot Items</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$34,725</i>	<i>\$122,000</i>	<i>\$87,275</i>	<i>251.3%</i>
<b>Sub TOTAL BALLOT ITEMS</b>	<b>\$308,673</b>	<b>\$351,423</b>	<b>\$438,698</b>	<b>\$87,275</b>	<b>24.8%</b>
<i>Downtown Improvement</i>		<i>\$40,000</i>	<i>\$57,000</i>	<i>\$17,000</i>	<i>42.5%</i>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$12,171,456</b>	<b>\$12,662,056</b>	<b>\$12,923,304</b>	<b>\$261,248</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

## BUDGET COMPARISON - Expense Categories

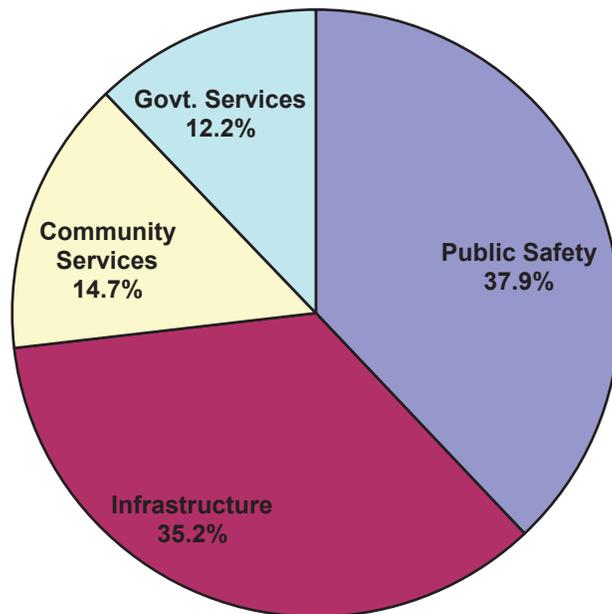
<b>Govt. Services</b>	\$1,491,564	\$1,543,666	\$1,506,084	-\$37,582	-2.4%
<b>Planning/Dev.</b>	\$344,215	\$360,434	\$374,110	\$13,676	3.8%
<b>Police/Dispatch</b>	\$2,284,322	\$2,418,253	\$2,613,173	\$194,920	8.1%
<b>Parks/Tree/Cons.</b>	\$188,272	\$196,209	\$204,830	\$8,621	4.4%
<b>Fire/EMS</b>	\$1,871,070	\$1,911,789	\$1,998,541	\$86,752	4.5%
<b>Code Enforcement</b>	\$86,215	\$87,871	\$88,609	\$738	0.8%
<b>Cemetery</b>	\$85,726	\$85,726	\$89,303	\$3,577	4.2%
<b>Public Works</b>	\$2,260,704	\$2,229,185	\$2,213,526	-\$15,659	-0.7%
<b>Community/Other</b>	\$612,986	\$604,291	\$616,350	\$12,059	2.0%
<b>Equipment Plan</b>	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$464,399	-\$50,601	-9.8%
<b>Senior Center</b>	\$157,475	\$143,475	\$128,107	-\$15,368	-10.7%
<b>Capital Plan</b>	\$1,390,004	\$1,556,304	\$1,552,597	-\$3,707	-0.2%
<b>One Taylor</b>	\$0	\$43,200	\$43,200	\$0	0.0%
<b>Recreation</b>	\$575,230	\$575,230	\$534,777	-\$40,453	-7.0%
<b>Downtown</b>	\$0	\$40,000	\$57,000	\$17,000	42.5%
<b>Ballot Items</b>	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$438,698	\$87,275	24.8%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$12,171,456</b>	<b>\$12,662,056</b>	<b>\$12,923,304</b>	<b>\$261,248</b>	<b>2.1%</b>



### General Fund Comparison by Department FY 15, 16, 17

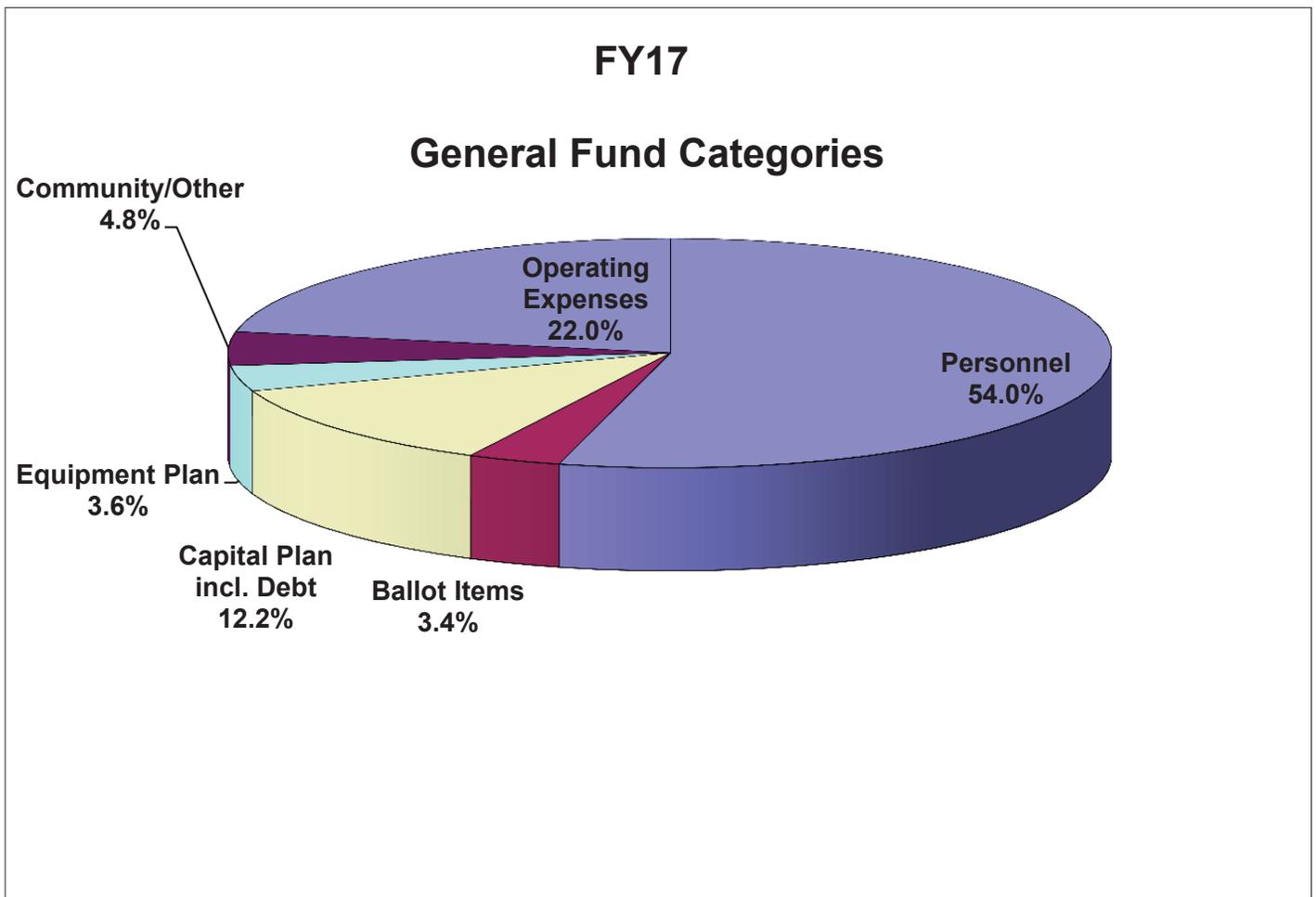


### General Fund Expenses by Broad Category FY17

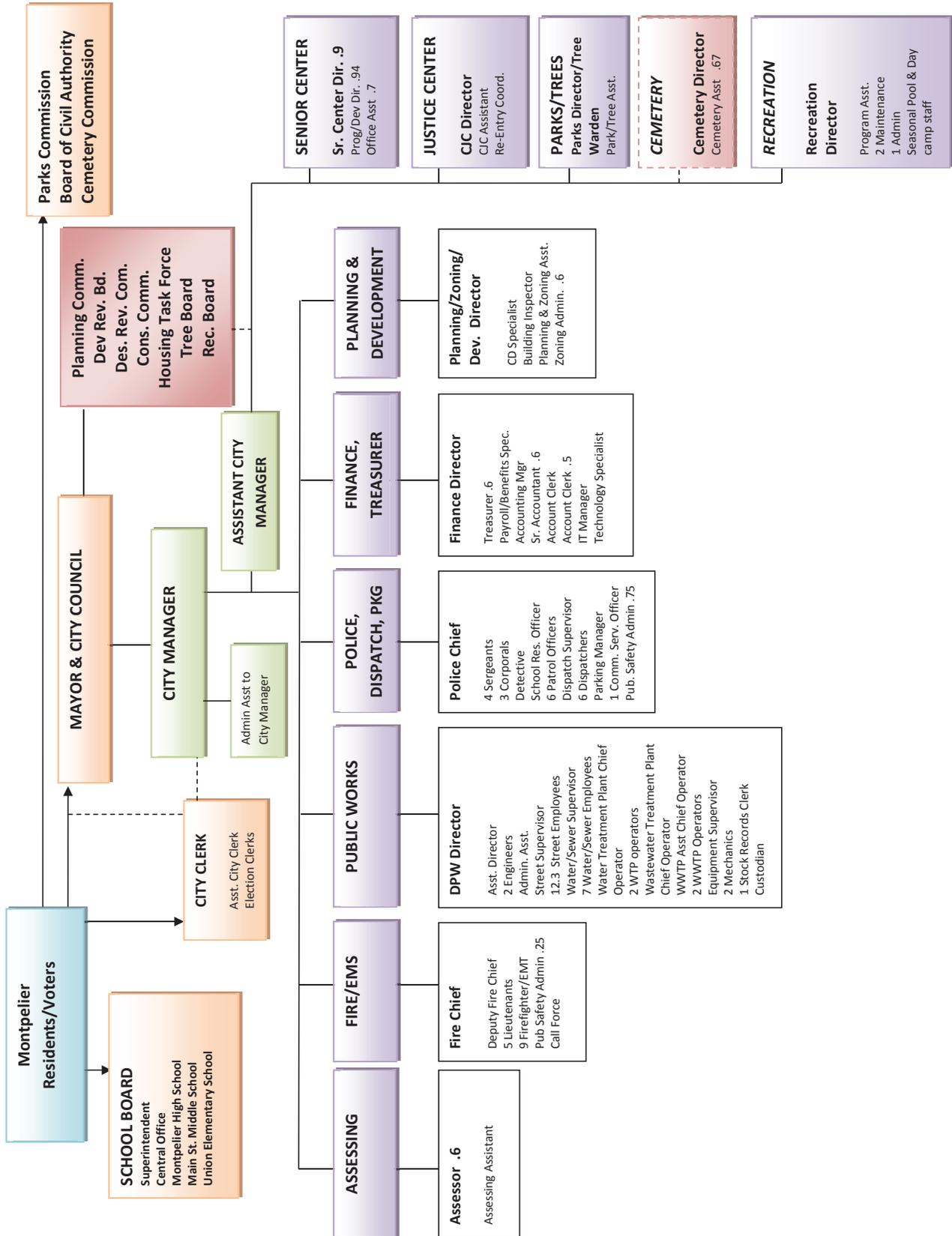


## GENERAL FUND - Allocation by Category

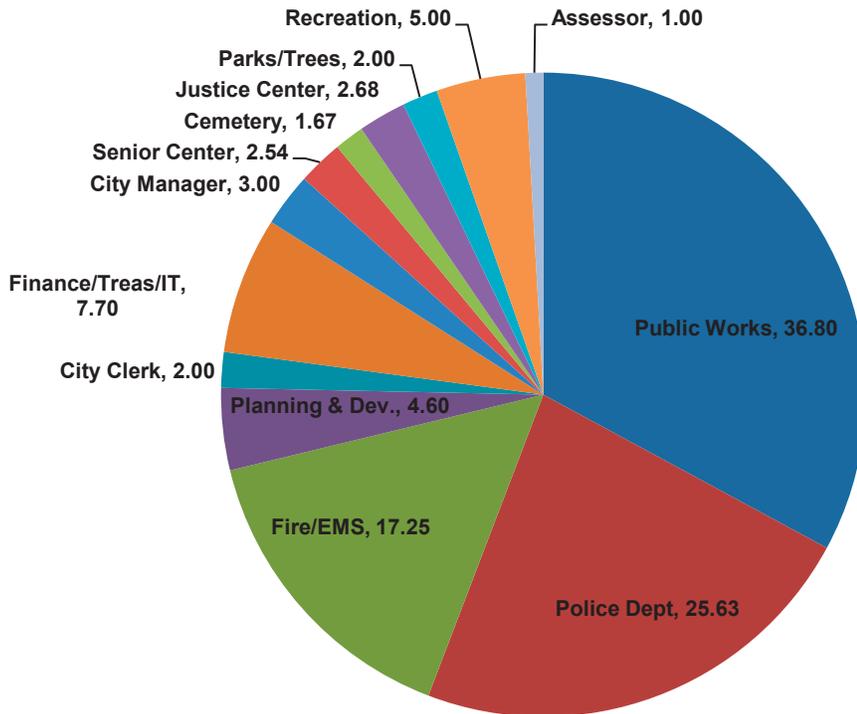
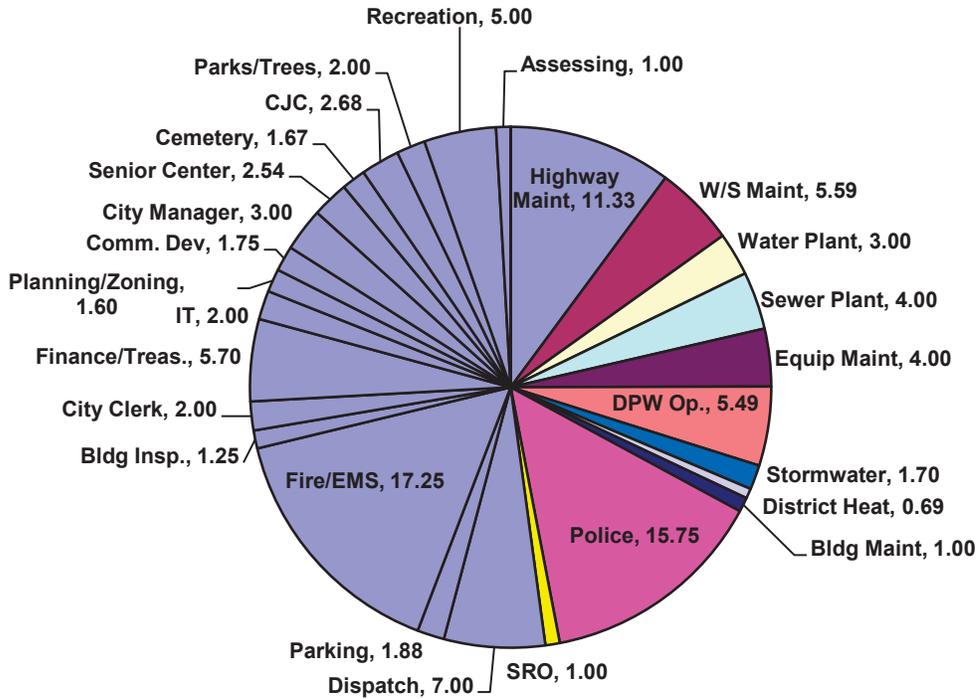
Category	FY15	FY16	FY17	\$ Change	% Change
<i>Salaries &amp; Wages incl. OT</i>	\$4,520,423	\$4,606,311	\$4,826,001	\$219,690	4.8%
<i>Employee Benefits incl. FICA</i>	\$1,912,664	\$2,038,170	\$2,157,953	\$119,783	5.9%
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>\$6,433,087</b>	<b>\$6,644,481</b>	<b>\$6,983,954</b>	<b>\$339,473</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>Ballot Items</b>	<b>\$308,673</b>	<b>\$351,423</b>	<b>\$438,698</b>	<b>\$87,275</b>	<b>24.8%</b>
<b>Capital Plan incl. Debt</b>	<b>\$1,390,004</b>	<b>\$1,556,304</b>	<b>\$1,572,604</b>	<b>\$16,300</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Equipment Plan</b>	<b>\$515,000</b>	<b>\$515,000</b>	<b>\$465,000</b>	<b>-\$50,000</b>	<b>-9.7%</b>
<b>Community/Other</b>	<b>\$612,986</b>	<b>\$604,291</b>	<b>\$616,350</b>	<b>\$12,059</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,911,706</b>	<b>\$2,990,557</b>	<b>\$2,846,698</b>	<b>-\$143,859</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>
<b>General Fund Budget</b>	<b>\$12,171,456</b>	<b>\$12,662,056</b>	<b>\$12,923,304</b>	<b>\$261,248</b>	<b>2.1%</b>



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



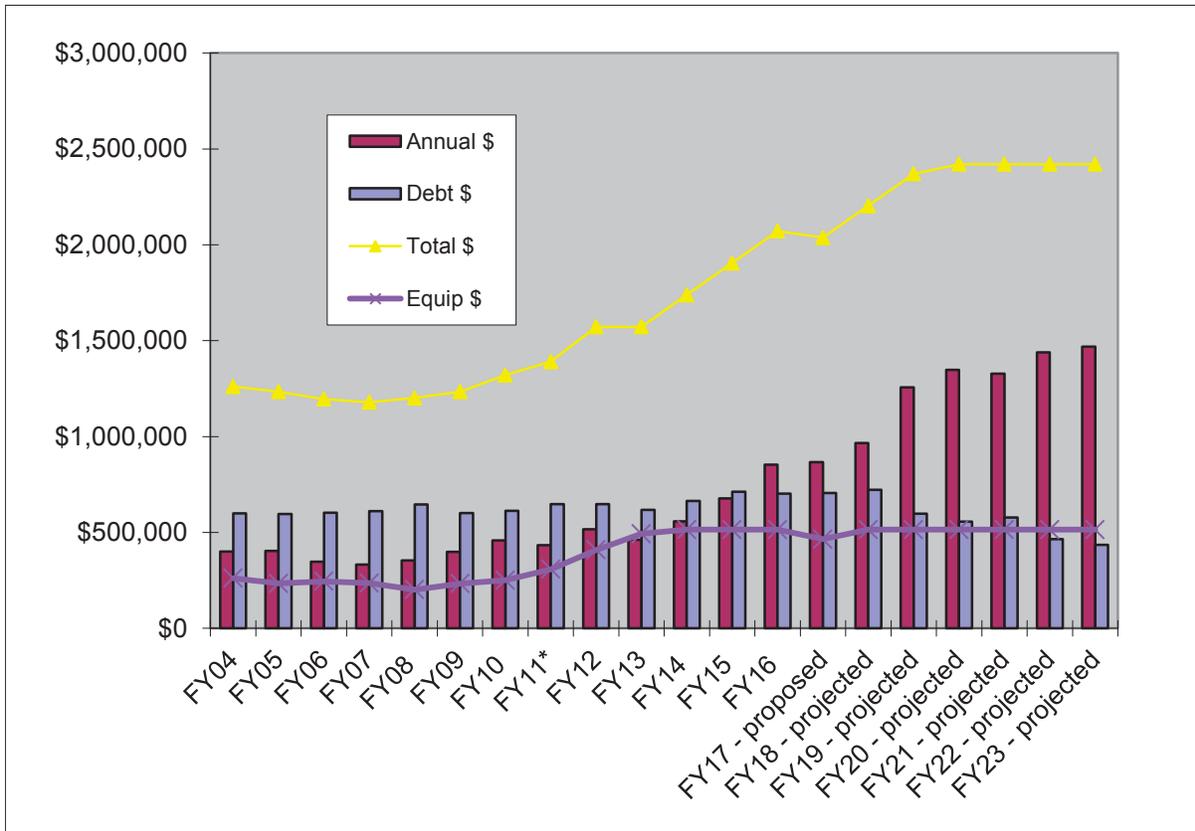
### Employees by Function 111.86



### Employees by Department 111.86

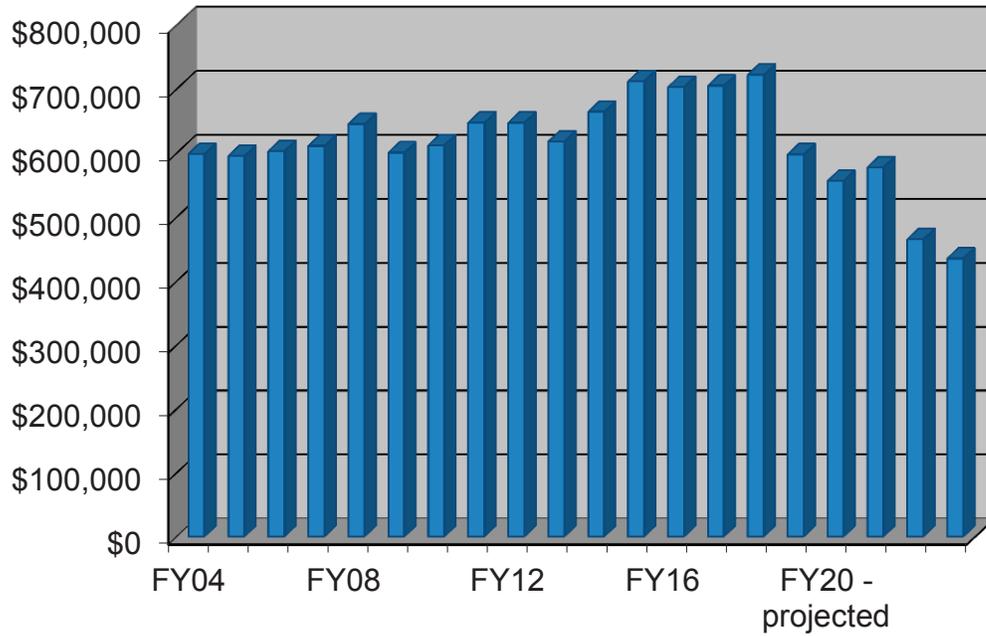
20 YEAR SUMMARY of ANNUAL and DEBT FUNDING for CAPITAL PROJECTS & EQUIPMENT

Fiscal Year	General Fund				\$ Change	% Change
	Annual \$	Debt \$	Equip \$	Total \$		
FY04	\$401,100	\$598,900	\$261,565	\$1,261,565		
FY05	\$404,183	\$595,817	\$234,025	\$1,234,025	-\$27,540	-2.2%
FY06	\$346,699	\$603,301	\$245,250	\$1,195,250	-\$38,775	-3.1%
FY07	\$332,196	\$611,304	\$235,854	\$1,179,354	-\$15,896	-1.3%
FY08	\$354,510	\$645,490	\$201,581	\$1,201,581	\$22,227	1.9%
FY09	\$399,251	\$600,749	\$233,735	\$1,233,735	\$32,154	2.7%
FY10	\$457,811	\$612,389	\$250,847	\$1,321,047	\$87,312	7.1%
FY11*	\$434,509	\$647,691	\$308,275	\$1,390,475	\$69,428	5.3%
FY12	\$515,849	\$647,651	\$408,904	\$1,572,404	\$181,929	13.1%
FY13	\$461,693	\$618,061	\$492,650	\$1,572,404	\$0	0.0%
FY14	\$558,974	\$664,730	\$515,000	\$1,738,704	\$166,300	10.6%
FY15	\$677,570	\$712,434	\$515,000	\$1,905,004	\$166,300	9.6%
FY16	\$853,109	\$703,195	\$515,000	\$2,071,304	\$166,300	8.7%
<b>FY17 - proposed</b>	<b>\$867,250</b>	<b>\$705,354</b>	<b>\$465,000</b>	<b>\$2,037,604</b>	<b>-\$33,700</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
FY18 - projected	\$966,429	\$722,475	\$515,000	\$2,203,904	\$166,300	8.2%
FY19 - projected	\$1,256,965	\$598,239	\$515,000	\$2,370,204	\$166,300	7.5%
FY20 - projected	\$1,348,527	\$556,677	\$515,000	\$2,420,204	\$50,000	2.1%
FY21 - projected	\$1,327,164	\$578,040	\$515,000	\$2,420,204	\$0	0.0%
FY22 - projected	\$1,439,675	\$465,529	\$515,000	\$2,420,204	\$0	0.0%
FY23 - projected	\$1,469,725	\$435,479	\$515,000	\$2,420,204	\$0	0.0%

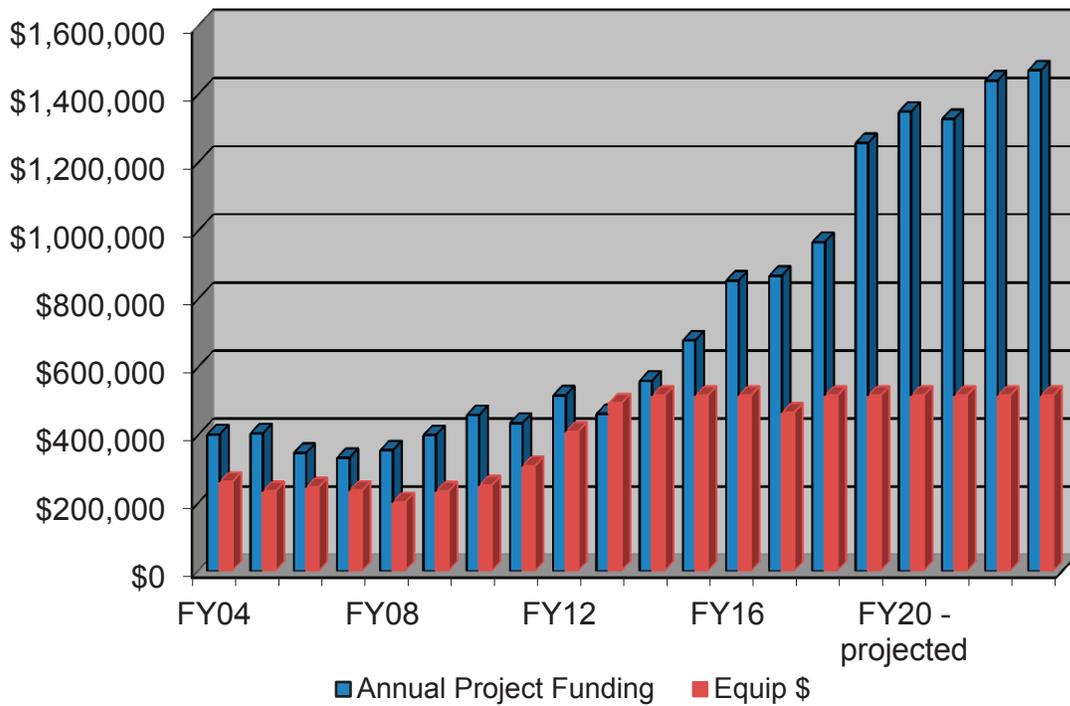


\* equipment funds for parks/cemetery & lease payments included in department budgets before FY11

**Scheduled Debt Payments FY04-FY23**



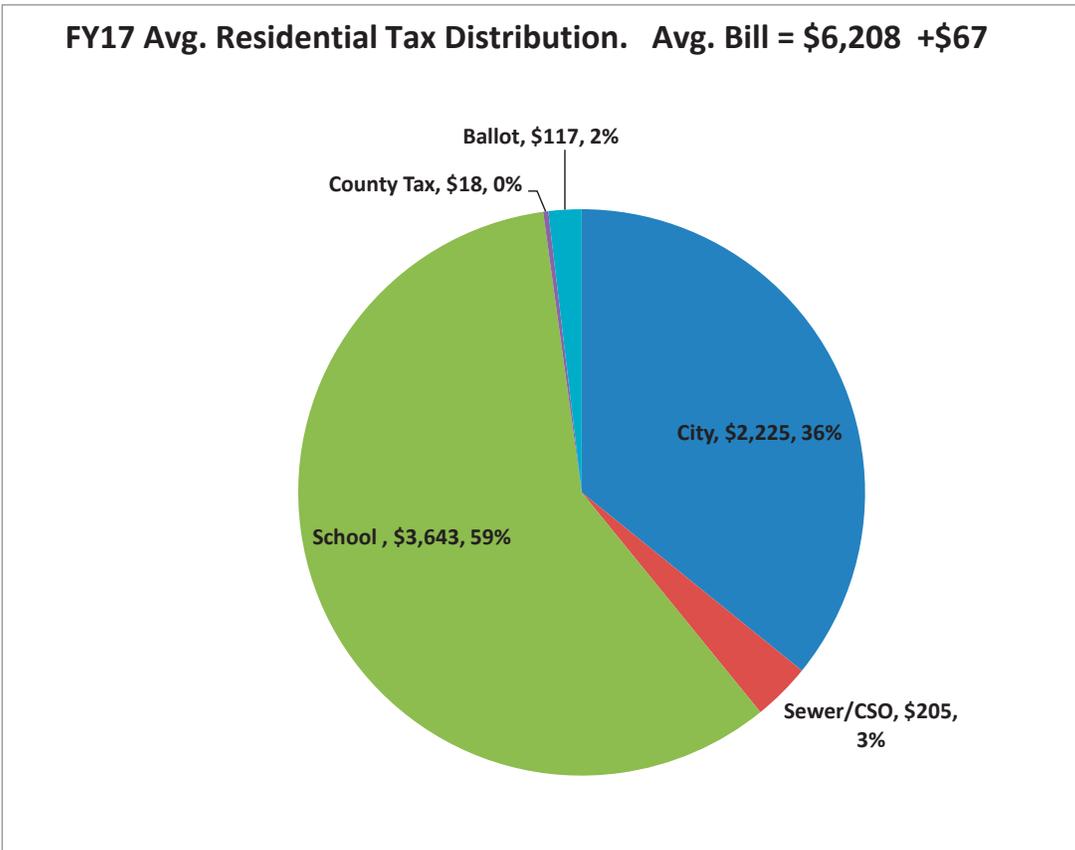
**Annual Project and Equipment Funding FY04-FY23**



**Montpelier 2016 / Annual Report / 18**

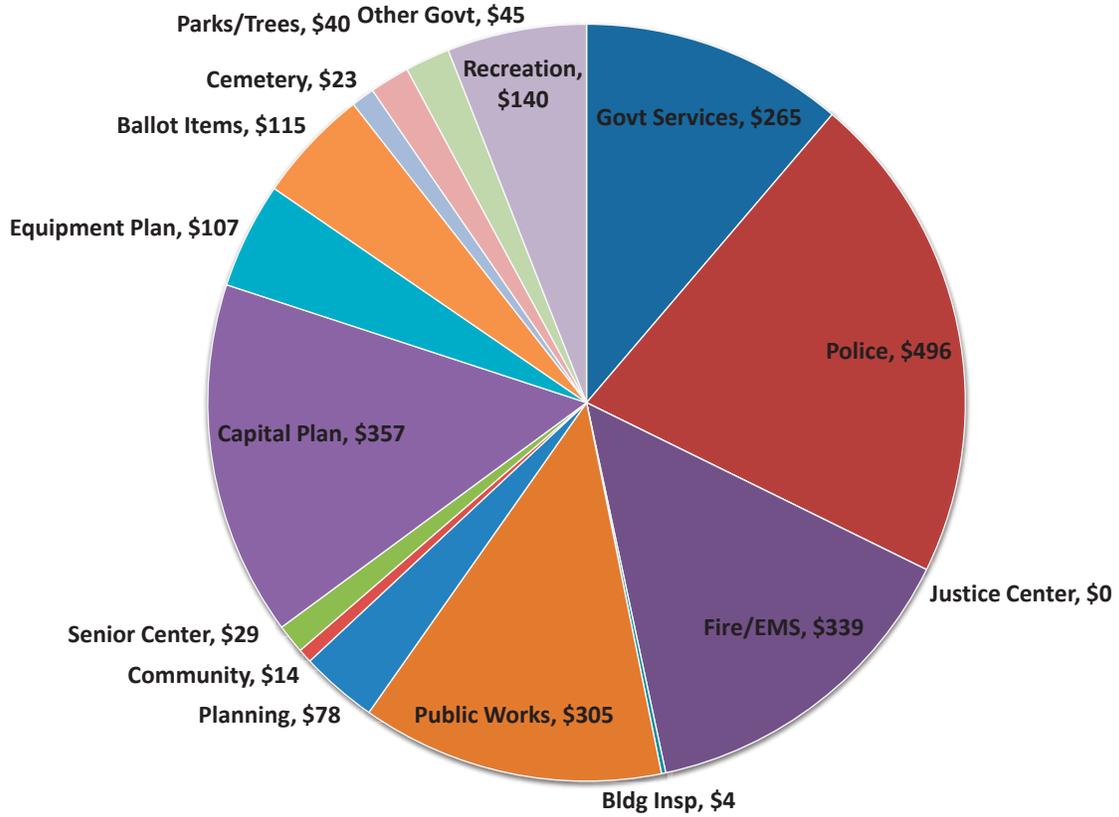
**PROJECTED TAX RATES**

	FY15 Taxes	FY15 Rate	FY16 Taxes	FY16 Rate	FY17 Taxes	FY17 Rate	Tax \$ Change	Rate Change	Pct. Change
<b>MUNICIPAL</b>									
City Budget	\$7,922,729	\$0.93	\$8,141,604	\$0.95	\$8,366,702	\$0.98	\$225,098	\$0.022	2.3%
County Tax	\$59,288	\$0.01	\$67,374	\$0.01	\$68,000	\$0.01	\$626	\$0.000	0.4%
<b>Sub Total CITY</b>	<b>\$7,982,017</b>	<b>\$0.94</b>	<b>\$8,208,978</b>	<b>\$0.96</b>	<b>\$8,434,702</b>	<b>\$0.9836</b>	<b>\$225,724</b>	<b>\$0.022</b>	<b>2.24%</b>
Ballot Items	\$308,673	\$0.04	\$351,423	\$0.04	\$438,698	\$0.051	\$87,275	\$0.010	24.2%
<b>TOTAL MUNICIPAL</b>	<b>\$8,290,690</b>	<b>\$0.9753</b>	<b>\$8,560,401</b>	<b>\$1.0033</b>	<b>\$8,873,400</b>	<b>\$1.0348</b>	<b>\$312,999</b>	<b>\$0.0315</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
<b>Avg Res Tax Bill</b>	<b>\$2,224</b>		<b>\$2,287</b>	<b>\$63.88</b>	<b>\$2,359</b>	<b>\$71.84</b>			
<b>SCHOOL</b>									
Residential	\$7,081,709	\$1.57	\$7,206,013	\$1.60	\$7,197,005	\$1.60	-\$9,008	-\$0.002	-0.1%
Non-residential	\$5,330,894	\$1.55	\$5,447,352	\$1.58	\$5,564,499	\$1.62	\$117,147	\$0.034	2.2%
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL</b>	<b>\$12,412,603</b>		<b>\$12,653,365</b>		<b>\$12,761,505</b>		<b>\$108,140</b>		<b>0.9%</b>
<b>Avg Res Tax Bill</b>	<b>\$3,585</b>		<b>\$3,648</b>	<b>\$62.93</b>	<b>\$3,643</b>	<b>-\$4.56</b>			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,703,293</b>		<b>\$21,213,766</b>	<b>\$2.60</b>	<b>\$21,634,905</b>	<b>\$2.63</b>	<b>\$421,139</b>	<b>\$0.030</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
Water/Sewer Benefit	\$170,020	\$0.02	\$170,649	\$0.02	\$171,502	\$0.02	\$853	\$0.000	0.0%
CSO Benefit	\$595,071	\$0.07	\$597,270	\$0.07	\$600,257	\$0.07	\$2,986	\$0.000	0.0%
<b>TOTAL - Res.</b>	<b>\$21,468,384</b>	<b>\$2.64</b>	<b>\$21,981,685</b>	<b>\$2.69</b>	<b>\$22,406,663</b>	<b>\$2.723</b>	<b>\$424,978</b>	<b>\$0.030</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>Non -Res.</b>		<b>\$2.61</b>		<b>\$2.67</b>		<b>\$2.74</b>		<b>\$0.066</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>Avg. Res. Value</b>	<b>\$228,000</b>								
<b>Avg Res Total Tax Bill</b>	<b>\$6,014</b>		<b>\$6,141</b>	<b>\$127</b>	<b>\$6,208</b>	<b>\$67</b>			
							<b>One Year Change</b>	<b>Two Year Change</b>	
							<b>1.1%</b>	<b>\$194</b>	<b>3.2%</b>



**Municipal Tax Dollars: FY17 Budget + Ballot Items**

**Avg. Residence \$228,000 = Tax Bill \$2,359**



Municipality	School Res.	School Non-Res.	Municipal	Total Res.	Avg. Res Eq. Value	Avg Eq Tax Bill	Avg Eq Mun. Bill	Avg Eq Sch. Bill
Barre City	\$1.22	\$1.51	\$1.79	\$3.01	134,120	\$4,031	\$2,396	\$1,635
Brattleboro	\$1.73	\$1.55	\$1.20	\$2.93	198,869	\$5,825	\$2,380	\$3,445
Hartford	\$1.54	\$1.52	\$0.93	\$2.47	231,515	\$5,725	\$2,162	\$3,562
Middlebury	\$1.70	\$1.55	\$0.90	\$2.60	229,962	\$5,982	\$2,079	\$3,903
Newport City	\$1.40	\$1.56	\$1.14	\$2.54	128,059	\$3,255	\$1,462	\$1,793
Rockingham	\$1.64	\$1.52	\$0.99	\$2.63	133,479	\$3,509	\$1,316	\$2,194
Rutland City	\$1.48	\$1.53	\$1.45	\$2.93	143,638	\$4,215	\$2,086	\$2,129
Springfield	\$1.71	\$1.54	\$1.56	\$3.27	127,376	\$4,163	\$1,982	\$2,180
St. Albans City	\$1.36	\$1.43	\$0.84	\$2.20	173,583	\$3,811	\$1,459	\$2,352
St. Johnsbury	\$1.24	\$1.50	\$1.21	\$2.45	133,944	\$3,283	\$1,617	\$1,666
Windsor	\$1.46	\$1.56	\$1.39	\$2.85	148,787	\$4,245	\$2,067	\$2,178
<b>AVG. OF SIMILAR TOWNS</b>	<b>\$1.50</b>	<b>\$1.53</b>	<b>\$1.22</b>	<b>\$2.72</b>	<b>\$162,121</b>	<b>\$4,368</b>	<b>\$1,910</b>	<b>\$2,458</b>
Montpelier	\$1.53	\$1.51	\$0.96	\$2.48	235,915	\$5,861	\$2,260	\$3,601
Montpelier vs. Average	\$0.03 1.85%	-\$0.02 -1.25%	-\$0.26 -21.35%	-\$0.23 -8.55%	73,794 45.52%	\$1,493 34.19%	\$350 18.31%	\$1,143 46.52%

**2015 Effective Property Tax Rates & Tax Bills**

2016 Annual Report - Division of Property Valuation and Review, VT Tax Dept.

Municipality	School		Municipal	Total Res.	Avg. Res Eq. Value	Avg Eq Tax Bill	Avg Eq Mun. Bill	Avg Eq Sch. Bill
	Res.	Non-Res.						
Barre City	\$1.22	\$1.51	\$1.79	\$3.01	134,120	\$4,031	\$2,396	\$1,635
Barre Town	\$1.26	\$1.55	\$0.82	\$2.07	179,515	\$3,718	\$1,464	\$2,255
Berlin	\$1.66	\$1.53	\$0.48	\$2.15	209,526	\$4,495	\$1,008	\$3,487
Calais	\$1.73	\$1.64	\$0.58	\$2.31	219,416	\$5,066	\$1,267	\$3,799
East Montpelier	\$1.87	\$1.54	\$0.55	\$2.42	241,884	\$5,852	\$1,332	\$4,520
Middlesex	\$1.66	\$1.49	\$0.42	\$2.08	177,570	\$3,686	\$739	\$2,947
Moretown	\$1.79	\$1.53	\$0.39	\$2.18	224,628	\$4,893	\$882	\$4,011
Northfield	\$1.46	\$1.54	\$0.85	\$2.31	167,974	\$3,885	\$1,433	\$2,451
Plainfield	\$1.55	\$1.53	\$0.66	\$2.21	166,306	\$3,675	\$1,096	\$2,579
Waterbury	\$1.65	\$1.53	\$0.40	\$2.06	279,727	\$5,753	\$1,129	\$4,623
Worcester	\$1.61	\$1.55	\$0.60	\$2.21	177,454	\$3,923	\$1,061	\$2,863
<b>CENTRAL VERMONT AVG.</b>	<b>\$1.59</b>	<b>\$1.54</b>	<b>\$0.68</b>	<b>\$2.27</b>	<b>\$198,011</b>	<b>\$4,452</b>	<b>\$1,255</b>	<b>\$3,197</b>
Montpelier	\$1.53	\$1.51	\$0.96	\$2.48	235,915	\$5,861	\$2,260	\$3,601
Montpelier vs. Average	-\$0.06	-\$0.03	\$0.27	\$0.21	\$37,904	\$1,408	\$1,004	\$404
	-3.83%	-2.20%	39.85%	9.33%	19.14%	31.63%	80.02%	12.63%

# Montpelier Community Fund Recommendation FY17 Budget

Organization	Approved
<b>Arts Grants</b>	
Capital City Band	1,000
Capital City Concerts	1,500
Center for Arts and Learning	1,000
Coburn Hutcheson, Glen	1,000
Green Mountain Film Festival	1,000
Kids Fest	750
Montpelier Chamber Orchestra	2,000
Montpelier Community Gospel	750
Pfeiffer, Bryan	1,000
Hannah Saterlee	750
<b>Total Arts Grants</b>	<b>10,750</b>
<b>Outside Agencies Grants</b>	
Capstone Community Action	2,000
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	6,000
Central Vermont Council on Aging & RSVP	7,000
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	13,500
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	500
Circle	3,000
Community Connections	5,000
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	3,000
Downstreet Housing	5,000
Everybody Wins! Vermont	1,500
Family Center of Washington County	3,500
Friends of the Winooski River	500
Girlz/Boyz First Mentoring	2,000
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	800
Green Mountain Youth Symphony	1,000
Green Up Vermont	300
Home Share Now	1,000
Just Basics (Montpelier Home Delivery Program)	10,000
Lost Nation Theater	6,000
Onion River Exchange	500
People's Health and Wellness Clinic	1,500
Prevent Child Abuse	1,200
Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington County	2,000
Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	500
Vermont Center for Independent Living	4,000
Vermont Historical Society	2,000
Washington County Diversion Program	1,500
Washington County Youth Service Bureau-Basement Teen Center	19,000
T. Wood Art Gallery	5,000
<b>Total Outside Agencies</b>	<b>108,800</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY FUND - RECOMMENDED FUNDING FY17</b>	<b>119,550</b>

# City Department Reports

## Public Safety & Protection

### Montpelier Police Department



*L to R: MPD participating in bicycle safety training at Union Elementary School, MPD supporting National Life's Do Good Fest*

#### Personnel:

2015 was a challenging year for law enforcement and communities across the country. The Montpelier Police Department has worked closely and openly with various organizations and members of the community to discuss contemporary policing issues here in Montpelier. In the fall of 2015, the department embarked on a strategic planning process that will continue well into 2016. Through this multi-phase, and collaborative process, the department will re-examine its mission statement, adopt its vision, and define the agency's core values. As a result, relevant performance measures will be established based on this collaborative process. (An important document that has been embraced by the MPD in its strategic planning is The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing--May 2015. [www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce\\_finalreport.pdf](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf).)

In order to meet the public safety needs of Montpelier, the department continues to strengthen its existing partnerships and collaborations with outside agencies, and build upon the department's increased reliance on evidence and intelligence based policing. Although the department has found itself spread thin from time to time, working hard to meet operational goals, the men and women of MPD have been creative and resourceful in order to carry out their public safety mission.

The department's authorized staff levels for 2015 consisted of

the following: 16 full-time police officers (chief, one captain, three sergeants, one detective, one school resource officer, and nine patrol officers --three of whom are corporals), one Public Safety Support Services Administrator, seven full-time Emergency Services Dispatchers (this is a .5 FTE addition for FY 16 due to the hiring of a new dispatch supervisor), and one full-time and three part-time Community Service Officers (Parking Division). The men and women of the MPD are focused on the core mission of providing police and public safety services to the citizens and visitors of Montpelier. In order to meet today's law enforcement challenges, the department will continue to seek and retain the right personnel--those who are qualified and motivated to be here at MPD. The MPD is committed to providing its officers and dispatchers with the necessary training and tools required to meet the present and future public safety needs of the City.

#### Patrol:

The department provides 24 hour police and communications services seven days a week. For safety reasons, there is a minimum of two police officers on duty during any given shift. Most officers work four-ten hour shifts per week. This schedule enables the department to have critical shift overlaps during peak times and reduce the amount of overtime used when officers are on leave.

The department has still been able to maintain one full-time bike patrol officer given the current staffing level. It is important to note that all uniformed officers handle a full spectrum of law enforcement services ranging from traffic safety to crisis response.

The MPD K-9 team continues to serve as an integral tool for supporting both patrol duties as well as criminal investigations. In 2015, CPL Kevin Moulton and his K-9 “Jake” recovered thousands of dollars-worth of illegal narcotics (specifically crack cocaine, and heroin), and cash associated with drug trafficking. The MPD K-9 team had been involved with several cases that were prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney’s Office. The MPD K-9 team works closely with its Vermont State Police counterparts supporting the Vermont Drug Task Force and its federal partners. CPL Moulton and his K-9 also aided in the rescue of a suicidal individual who had overdosed, after following a track for approximately one mile.

School safety remains one of MPD’s top priorities. The Chief continues to serve as the Vermont Chiefs of Police representative on the Vermont School Crisis Planning Team (part of the Vermont Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security). MPD and the Montpelier Public School System share in the funding of the department’s School Resource Officer (SRO)--furthering the joint partnership and commitment to keep the children and faculty of Montpelier’s schools safe.

**Investigations:**

The majority of criminal investigations are handled by patrol personnel, depending on the type of investigation and the training and experience of the case officer. For example, many of our officers have specialized training in areas such as death investigation, financial crime, child sexual abuse, and narcotics investigations. Officers and agents from MPD, Barre City PD (BCPD), Vermont State Police (VSP), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), the U.S. Marshal’s Service, the Vermont Drug Task Force, and other area departments continue to work collectively to counter the rising crime trends--intensified by the drug addiction problem in Vermont. The prevalence of illegal firearms associated with the drug trade in this region is of paramount concern to our officers, and ultimately the community.

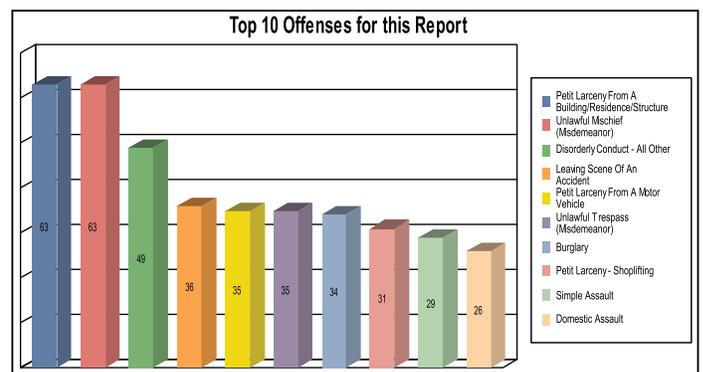
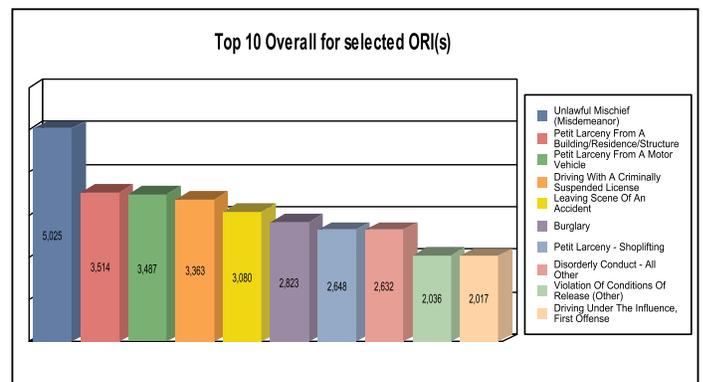
Another important function of police investigations is criminal intelligence and analysis. The department has come a long way with improving the robustness of our intelligence and analysis thanks to the cooperation of our colleagues at the local, state, and federal levels. Public/private cooperative ventures with vetted partners further serves as a force multiplier for the department--especially during fiscally challenging times such as these.

The department has been actively involved with the organization and support of the Washington County Special Investigative Unit (SIU). Per state statute (Brook Bennett legislation), each county needed to have an SIU, coordinated by the Washington County State’s Attorney’s Office (WCSA). Central to Washington County’s SIU is OUR House, an advocacy and support organization for the protection of children and the investigation of child sexual and other serious abuse. MPD, BCPD, VSP, WCSA, Vermont Department of Children and Families (DCF), and OUR House have taken lead roles in the SIU. The SIU is one part of a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) that also includes advocates from the WCA’s office, medical community, mental health community, Circle (formerly Battered Women’s Services), the sexual assault crisis team (SACT), and OUR House.

**Offense Summary Report:**

**Here is the Valcour Offense Summary Report for Montpelier from January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015:**

**(Note: the MPD’s statistics are on the second graph, the top graph represents the top 10 offenses for all the Valcour agencies in Vermont.)**



**Offense Summary Report**

**From: 01/01/2015 To: 12/31/2015**

ORI: VT0120200	Montpelier Police Dept	Count	% of Total Offenses
Petit Larceny From A Building/Residence/Structure	64	9.17%	
Unlawful Mischief (Misdemeanor)	63	9.03%	
Disorderly Conduct - All Other	49	7.02%	
Leaving Scene Of An Accident	36	5.16%	
Petit Larceny From A Motor Vehicle	35	5.01%	
Burglary	34	4.87%	
Unlawful Trespass (Misdemeanor)		4.73%	
Petit Larceny - Shoplifting	31	4.44%	
Simple Assault	29	4.15%	
Domestic Assault	25	3.58%	
Driving With A Criminally Suspended License	21	3.01%	
Violation Of Conditions Of Release (Other)	20	2.87%	
False Pretenses	18	2.58%	
Bad Checks	16	2.29%	
Petit Larceny From Other Location	16	2.29%	
Disorderly Conduct By Phone Or Electronic Communication	15	2.15%	
Petit Larceny Other	15	2.15%	
Identity Theft	14	2.01%	
Driving Under The Influence, First Offense	10	1.43%	
Stolen Property Receiving (Possession Of)			
Stolen Property (Misdemeanor)	9	1.29%	
Negligent Operation	8	1.15%	
Theft Of Services (Misdemeanor)	8	1.15%	
Grand Larceny	7	1.00%	
Forgery/Counterfeit	6	0.86%	
Assault And Robbery	5	0.72%	
Driving Under The Influence; Second And Subsequent Offense	5	0.72%	
Drugs - Depressant, Stimulant, And Narcotic Possession Misdemeanor	5	0.72%	
Interference With Access To Emergency Services	5	0.72%	

Lewd And Lascivious Conduct	5	0.72%
Stalking	5	0.72%
Unlawful Trespass (Felony)	5	0.72%
Wire Fraud	5	0.72%
Credit Card/ATM Fraud	4	0.57%
Eluding A Police Officer - Misdemeanor	4	0.57%
False Information To A Police Officer	4	0.57%
Minors Misrepresenting Age Or Procuring/Possession Liquor 2nd Offense Only	4	0.57%
Sexual Assault	4	0.57%
Uttering A Forged Instrument	4	0.57%
Domestic Assault - 1st Degree Aggravated	3	0.43%
Embezzlement	3	0.43%
Reckless Endangerment	3	0.43%
Violation Of An Abuse Prevention Order	3	0.43%
Violation Of Conditions Of Release (Travel, Curfew, Or Contact)	3	0.43%
Assault On A Law Enforcement Officer (Misdemeanor)	2	0.29%
Cruelty To Animals (Misdemeanor)	2	0.29%
Driving Under The Influence; Criminal Refusal	2	0.29%
Liquor Sale Or Furnishing To Minors, Enabling Consumption By Minors - Misdemeanor	2	0.29%
Operation Without Consent	2	0.29%
Operation Without Consent - Aggravated	2	0.29%
Resisting Arrest	2	0.29%
Unlawful Mischief (Felony)	2	0.29%
Accessory After The Fact	1	0.14%
Aggravated Assault	1	0.14%
Aiding In Commission Of Felony	1	0.14%
Arson Setting Fires	1	0.14%
Child In Need Of Supervision	1	0.14%
Cruelty To Children Under 10 By One Over 16	1	0.14%
Custodial Interference	1	0.14%
Domestic Assault - 2nd Degree Aggravated	1	0.14%
Drugs - Cocaine, Possession Misdemeanor	1	0.14%
Drugs - Heroin, Possession (Misdemeanor)	1	0.14%
Drugs - Heroin, Possession 1+ Grams	1	0.14%

Drugs - Heroin, Sale 1 + Grams	1	0.14%
Drugs - Marijuana, Possession Or Cultivation -Misdemeanor	1	0.14%
False Personation	1	0.14%
Fugitive From Justice (Arrest Prior To Requisition)	1	0.14%
Home Improvement Fraud	1	0.14%
Larceny From A Person	1	0.14%
Possessing/Making Burglar'S Tools	1	0.14%
Stolen Property Receiving (Possession Of) Stolen Property (Felony)	1	0.14%
Telecommunications Fraud (Misdemeanor)	1	0.14%
Vulnerable Adults Abuse Of Vulnerable Adult	1	0.14%
<b>Total Offenses:</b>	<b>698</b>	

Facebook and “Coffee with a Cop:”

Maintenance of the department’s Facebook page is carried out by a small team of officers, overseen by a sergeant in order to keep the page fresh without relying on one individual. This is also just one more way the department can keep the public informed with emergency and public safety information.

“Coffee with a Cop” events have provided members of the department a way to meet with citizens in a relaxed setting and engage in general conversations on a variety of topics ranging from quality of life to crime. These meetings provide great opportunities for understanding neighborhood and city-wide concerns and exploring possible solutions in a collaborative manner.

Training:

Training is a critical aspect of modern policing. It is imperative that officers stay current in criminal law, juvenile law, liability issues related to policing, evidence (collection and maintenance), technology, weapons and tactics, interacting with vulnerable populations, first aid/CPR, emergency vehicle operation, critical incident management, ethics, and training on departmental policies. For the last six years, the department has instituted rigorous training requirements for all officers in high-risk areas such as use of force, mental health/crisis intervention training, legal training, and vehicle operation. This is part of the department’s risk management approach to training which focuses on high-risk –low frequency incidents. The goal here is to train our officers better which helps to maintain our culture of excellence, improve our policing capacity, keeps both the officers and citizens safer, while minimizing the City’s

liability risks. These efforts have gained the positive attention of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT), our federal partners, and our local law enforcement peers with whom we have shared some of this training. The department does as much training internally as it can, utilizing “in house” academy-certified instructors when possible. However, it is common for our officers to travel around the state or even out of state to attend certain trainings, all of which add to the cost. Therefore, we are careful in our selection of classes and assessing officer and departmental needs.

Communications (Dispatch):

The MPD Dispatch is a regional dispatch center that has two contracts, one with the Capitol Police (State House), and the other with Capital Fire Mutual Aid (Capital West) which is an organization representing fire and emergency medical services covering 18 communities. The two contracts for FY 15 totaled \$283,500 in revenue. The following Vermont communities are served by the MPD Dispatch:

Montpelier, E. Montpelier, Berlin, Northfield, Roxbury, Plainfield, Cabot, Marshfield, Worcester, Middlesex, Walden, Waterbury, Duxbury, Moretown, Waitsfield, Fayston, Calais, and Woodbury.

The department’s dispatch handles approximately 15,000 incidents per year. The dispatchers are quite frequently a citizen’s first point of contact with public safety services, but they also field general questions as well, including after-hours calls for department of public works or simple questions such as “what time does the parade start?” Because anything can happen, either in the lobby of the station or on the other end of the phone, MPD dispatchers receive training in interacting with individuals experiencing a mental health crisis (MPD was the first PD in the state to require this police level training for dispatchers), critical incident dispatching, and all maintain CPR/first aid certifications. The dispatchers and officers must go through annual National Crime Information Center (NCIC) trainings and certifications, which are required by both the state (VCIC) and the FBI. Additionally, there are environmental standards for the dispatch center itself, which must be in compliance with federal regulations (computer use security policies, computer encryption, security screens on monitors, approved network diagrams and firewalls, etc.).

In addition to the community support and public safety mission of dispatch, they also provide clerical support to both police and parking division functions of the department. They also monitor the security cameras located in City Hall and the police station.

Dispatchers are the lifeline for our citizens and for our police officers.

## Parking Division:

Parking enforcement is primarily accomplished using one full-time and three part-time Community Service Officers (CSOs). One of the CSO's duties is parking meter maintenance (we have over 400 meters around town) and the maintenance of five permit vending machines. Police officers also issue parking tickets and they are the ones tasked with winter ban parking enforcement and applying the "boot" on vehicles when owners have past due parking violations. Dispatch has parking duties as well which include updating late notices, and data entry using parking specific computer applications. Certain sergeants are assigned duties related to supervision and direction of parking enforcement personnel. Because both police and dispatchers are so involved with both enforcement and the administration of the parking division, a percentage of general fund expenditures for police and communications are offset by the parking fund.

In 2013, the Montpelier City Council had established a new Parking Committee. This committee has played a critical role in guiding city staff by looking at the parking issues through the lenses of residents, businesses, state employees, public transportation, and public safety. Thanks to the hard work and focus of this committee, tangible solutions have been achieved.

### MISSION STATEMENT

*The ultimate responsibility for peace, good order, and law enforcement rests with the community of citizens in a democratic society. The complexity of modern society dictates that police efforts must be coordinated and directed by the services of law enforcement professionals.*

*Therefore, the Montpelier Police Department will be devoted to providing professional and quality police services, and will strive to remain effective, efficient, and responsive to the changing needs of our community while providing a safe environment that enhances the quality of life in Montpelier.*

Anthony J. Facos, Chief of Police

## Fire and Emergency Services

### **Committed to Professional Excellence**

The members of the Fire and Emergency Services Department work to make a difference in your life. We strive for the safest city by insuring building safety; continuing community fire prevention education; and responding effectively to problems as they occur.

When fire prevention fails, an immediate response by well trained and well equipped Firefighters/EMTs limits harm and damage. In Montpelier, our department's direct response has been decisive in keeping a number of small fires from extending into much larger incidents.

The mission of the Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department is to save lives, protect property and preserve the tax base in Montpelier at a reasonable and acceptable cost to the taxpayer. We achieve our mission by managing the following departments: Fire and EMS, Building and Health, and Emergency Management.

### **Fire**

Our fire safety message is simple: we accomplish a safe city through a joint effort of residents and the department. Fires can occur at any time through human error or mechanical breakdown.

We avoid death, injuries and catastrophic structure fires through alarm systems, good building code compliance, and properly installed and maintained sprinkler systems which provide the most effective protection.

### **Emergency Medical Service**

The department also provides ambulance service to the community. While there are always some acute emergencies, emergency medical care largely involves dealing with the ongoing health issues. This service allows people to live a better quality of life.

## Emergency Management

When a crisis occurs like flooding, severe weather events, safety incidents, the Fire Chief coordinates the citywide Emergency Management. This function helps the City of Montpelier prepare for major incidents and reduces potential risks as well as coordinating the response efforts when an incident occurs.

### **Our Mission Statement**

*The Mission of the Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department is the preservation of the Life, Health, Property, and the Environment for its residents and businesses at a reasonable and acceptable cost. We value the faith and trust of the Community and will continually work to deserve that confidence through our Conduct and Accomplishments.*

*The Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department shall develop expertise through innovation and progressive thinking to address change effectively and efficiently while providing fire suppression, fire prevention, building inspections, hazardous materials response, natural disaster response, multi-environmental rescues, public safety awareness programs, emergency medical care, transportation of the sick and injured, and emergency medical public education.*

*Commanded by the Fire Chief, this department shall be comprised of sufficient personnel and properly equipped to safely accomplish this mission. The Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department*

ment shall be augmented by a Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement with surrounding communities with the common goal of saving lives and protection of property. The Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department members shall be physically, mentally, and technologically prepared to meet the Mission requirements and shall maintain this level of readiness through a standardized training program while continually encouraging themselves to improve personally, and professionally.

## 2015 DEPARTMENT SUMMARY

### Fire and emergency operations

The department provides the city with both Fire and Ambulance service. Personnel are dual-trained as Firefighters and as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). Our highly trained professionals maintain the department equipment, ensure personal capability through ongoing training, perform inspections, provide services to the public, present public education programs and respond to emergency incidents.

Montpelier collects additional ambulance service revenue through three contracts with surrounding towns. Ambulance service revenues and contracts provide over 25% of the department budget.

The department operates the Fire Station on Main Street, a training area located at the City Stump Dump, two pumper trucks, one tower truck, two ambulances, and two utility vehicles. Maintenance of the facilities and vehicles is a top priority of the department.

The department is active in the mutual aid systems in our region. Participating in mutual aid system allows us to operate without the expense of maintaining reserve equipment and personnel. All major fire or rescue incidents require assistance from our neighbors. In 2015 we received fire or ambulance mutual aid 33 times and provided it 46 times.

### Number of Responses in 2015

#### FIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSES

##### Type of Alarm Responded to:

Structure Fires/Alarms .....	177
Vehicle Fires .....	5
Other Fires.....	20
Power Lines .....	11
Vehicle Accidents (Initial Fire Response).....	61
Other Rescues.....	36
Ice / Water Rescue.....	2
Flooding, Water Problem .....	8
Collapse, Structural Problem.....	3

CO Alarm Activation .....	39
Electrical Problems.....	11
Odor/Smoke Investigation.....	33
Leak/Hazmat .....	28
Elevator Problems.....	10
Fire Alarm Problems.....	117
Other Emergency / Personal Assist .....	118
<b>EMS Emergency Response .....</b>	<b>1076</b>

#### NON EMERGENCY RESPONSES FOR SERVICE

##### Type of Service Requested

Burn Permits .....	79
Service Calls/Other Non Emergency.....	90
<b>Ambulance Non Emergency Transfer .....</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2072</b>

## Health Officer

The Fire Chief serves as the Health Officer. The assistant building inspector serves as the Deputy Health Officer. As Health Officer, there is the need to respond to complaints and proactively act to protect the community from public health threats. Areas of regular activities are rental housing, rabies and animal bites, garbage control and rats, mold complaints, lead abatement issues, carbon monoxide and smoke complaints, water supplies, septic tanks, and restaurant inspections. The Health Officer works under the authority of the Vermont Department of Health.

## Emergency Management

The Fire Chief, Police Chief and Public Works Director are Montpelier's Emergency Management Team. The City Manager provides direction to the team while the Fire Chief coordinates the emergency management. The Emergency Management Team ensures that the City prepares for serious incidents. The primary areas of concern are:

1. Evaluating the risks to the City and ensuring that City plans are kept updated;
2. Maintaining the Emergency Operations Center (EOC);
3. Verifying that personnel have necessary training and certifications;
4. Monitoring conditions in the City as needed;
5. Drills to practice plans; and
6. Reviewing mitigation efforts in the City.

In 2015, monitoring river and weather conditions remained a high priority. The monitoring of river gauges has provided much needed information; especially concerning possible ice jam flooding situations. Major weather events forced the Emergency Management team to declare an emergency and opened an Emergency Operations Center once in 2015.

**Contact Information**

**Emergencies:** ..... **Dial 9-1-1**  
Health Officer: .....229-4913  
Other Fire/Ambulance Business: .....229-4913

Robert A Gowans, *Fire Chief*  
Department: 229-4913  
Cell: 371-9633  
rgowans@montpelier-vt.org

**Central Vermont Public Safety Authority**

Both Barre and Montpelier had the foresight to plan for improving the safety of their citizens by working together to create the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority (CVPSA). It was created as a separate municipality by the Vermont General Assembly on May 20, 2014 to give the voters of the Twin Cities the ability to integrate their fire, police, dispatching and emergency services into one system to provide an affordable, integrated, efficient system.

After the two cities agreed on a cost sharing formula a budget for the Authority of \$75,000 (\$40,275 from Barre City, and \$34,725 from the City of Montpelier) was approved for fiscal year 2015-2016.

In July, 2015 the Authority hired Francis (Paco) X. Aumand III, the former second in command of the Vermont Department of Public Safety as its Executive Director. His task was to convert a bold idea into a practical reality. In early discussions the Authority Board resolved that the first step would be to regionalize dispatching services. After consulting the chiefs of the two cities, the unionized people who do the work, and interested community members Mr. Aumand analyzed four alternative possibilities: do nothing, construct a new facility to house all dispatchers, operate all dispatching out of either the Barre or Montpelier facilities, or have one service with two locations.

The Board determined that creating a single dispatching system operating out of two locations is the best way to provide an integrated, efficient communication service. Training and technology enhancements will allow for the current dispatching staff (7 in Montpelier and 6 in Barre City) to work as one unit out of both locations. The ability to have dispatchers work out of both Montpelier and Barre City with the same equipment

and common training and operating protocols will not only provide both cities with the services they now have but it will also be able to provide for continuity of operations and disaster recovery in the event of disaster in one of the communities, as well as efficient use of personnel. The implementation of this plan is to be done in a phased approach over the course of the next 16 - 18 months beginning in January of 2016.

This plan evolved through the Board educating itself concerning the diverse interests of the unions, and management of all the public safety entities in the two cities and then working to understand the complexity of the public safety needs of the Central Vermont region. The Board's work has focused its efforts to bridge differences, find common needs and developing a strategy for future initiatives. The CVPSA web page is expected to be implemented by the middle of January 2016 to enable voters and City leaders to learn and understand the Board's efforts and direction.

Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, exploration of regionalizing the public safety services between Barre City and Montpelier will be the focus of the board's planning initiatives in fiscal year 2017. Continued research and review of the Fire/EMS and police services between the two cities will be conducted. This is intended to determine what administrative and functional consolidation of services could take place in the near future. The board will also continue to review the cost formula used to assess the fees for the operation of the CVPSA. The development of an equitable cost sharing formula is important to ensure costs are distributed appropriately. This, along with implementing the new Central Vermont Public Safety Communications Center will mean a large and ambitious agenda for the CVPSA in the next fiscal year.

**The Board of Directors and staff of the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority include the following.**

**Tom Golonka, Chair**

Tom is a Montpelier City Council Member appointed to the CVPSA board. In his professional career, Tom is a partner with Silverlake Wealth Management in Williston and Montpelier, VT. In addition to his membership on the Montpelier City Council, Mr. Golonka is on the board of the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System (VMERS), a member of the board of the Central Vermont Medical Center, and a member of the Vermont Pension Investment Committee (VPIC).

**Alexandra Pastor, Vice Chair**

Alexandra is from Barre and is an "at large" member whose term expires in 2017. She uses her BA in international affairs, and MPA in public works while working for the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. She is currently a member of three Barre City committees. Alexandra views regionalization of public

safety as a natural response to the complex challenges facing today's central Vermont communities. By joining forces, neighboring towns can share expertise, streamline communication, and experience the efficiencies of collaboration.

**Michael Smith, Secretary**

Michael is a Barre City Council member appointed to the CVPSA board in August of 2014. He is active in the Barre community and has served on both the Greater Barre Public Safety Advisory Committee and the Greater Barre Community Justice Center board. Michael works as a driver for the Ready To Go Program of Good News Garage based in Burlington. His two year term on the board expires in March of 2016.

**Robert Sager, Treasurer**

Bob has been a long standing member of the efforts to bring about public safety regionalization to Central Vermont. He served on previous study committees leading up to the creation of the Authority. He was President, Vice President and Treasurer of the Barre Partnership, President of the Barre Merchants Bureau. He has also served on various city committees and is currently on the Barre Partnership's Economic Development Committee, Retail Committee and on the board of the Barre Lions Club. He is a retired business owner.

**Dona Bate**

Dona is a Montpelier City Council Member who was appointed to the CVPSA board. Dona operates her own business, dbate Speaking; where she is a speaker, trainer and facilitator. Dona brings five years of service to the public safety committee which studied the feasibility of this regional public safety authority, and which successfully advocated for its being chartered. Dona says, "regional services will benefit both residents and employees."

**Kimberly Cheney**

Kim is an attorney living in Montpelier who was elected in August 2014 as an at large member of the Board for a term expiring in March, 2016. His service as Washington County State's Attorney and Vermont Attorney General brings practical public safety experience to the board. His community service as Chairman of the Board of Vermont State Employees Credit Union and Chairman of the Montpelier Planning Commission provides familiarity with the community needs and attitudes. He joined the Board saying: "Regionally managed public safety can bring communities to work together for the benefit of those who serve and those who are served."

**Douglas Hoyt**

Douglas Hoyt was raised in Montpelier and graduated from St Michael's High School. He has since attained an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Vermont College and a Bach-

elor's Degree in Government from Norwich University. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Doug has retired from active law enforcement serving as Montpelier's Chief of Police for 26 years.

**Martin Prevost**

Martin has lived in Barre City since 1978 when he moved here from Montreal. He is currently employed by the Vermont Department of Liquor Control and was previously a Barre City Police Officer. He has been active in the Barre community including serving as school board member and city councilor as well as other civic boards and committees.

**Francis (Paco) X. Aumand III, Executive Director**

Mr. Francis (Paco) X. Aumand III has 39 years of law enforcement experience including service at the municipal and State levels in Vermont. Before his appointment as Executive Director for the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority he served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Vermont Department of Public Safety. Mr. Aumand also was employed as Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, and he served with the Bellows Falls Vermont Police Department for 14 years, the last 7 of those years as Chief of Police. He holds a Master of Science in Administration from St. Michael's College, Colchester, VT.

## **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

The Building Inspector's office is located in the Planning and Development office. Chris Lumbra has been the Assistant Building Inspector since December of 2012. The Building Inspector has two primary tasks: 1) reviewing plans and providing support for construction projects in the City, and 2) inspecting current buildings. Reviewing and inspecting construction projects in the City ensures that work is performed in compliance with the building and life safety codes adopted by the City and the State of Vermont. Since 2007 the department has been responsible for virtually all construction in the City. Significant permit and inspection fees which had been paid to the State are now collected by Montpelier. The Building Permit system allows us to deliver this service. Most construction, except for minor repairs or routine maintenance, requires a Building Permit. In 2015, 222 building permits were processed and inspections were performed as needed to support those efforts. Building permits are valid for one year from the issue date. If construction is ongoing, permits can be renewed. If permits are renewed before the expiration date there is no additional fee. Existing buildings, especially residential rental units, are inspected to ensure proper maintenance and operation. Buildings are inspected primarily on receipt of a complaint, although there are limited inspections on a scheduled basis. Complaints are given a higher priority while

scheduled inspections are conducted as resources are available. The intent of the existing building inspections is to ensure safe and healthy conditions.

## Transportation & Public Utilities

### Public Works Department

A total of 37 dedicated and skilled employees work for Montpelier's Public Works Department, providing essential services that: sustain infrastructure, establish safe living and working conditions, and contribute to a high quality of life for our citizens. As such, it is the largest of the City's Departments and includes eight divisions; Streets, Water & Sewer, Water Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, Equipment/Fleet Operations, Building Maintenance, District Heat and Administrative.

If you think of the City's infrastructure as providing the community's skeletal framework, you will understand that almost every project undertaken in the City touches Public Works in some way. And, the technical expertise of the department's staff is wide-ranging and a critical asset to the community.

- The DPW administrative & engineering offices are located in the basement level of City Hall. The various division facilities consist of the Water Resource Recovery Facility, Water Treatment Facility, and the Public Works garage located on Dog River Road which houses the street, water/wastewater and equipment divisions as well as material storage.
- The administration and engineering staff designs, plans and manages the various infrastructure projects, provides technical support to the operations divisions, the City Manager's office, boards & committees, and also maintains all city owned traffic signals, street lights and facilities including buildings and grounds of municipal buildings (except schools). State mandated performance requirements such as a potable water system operator and storm water permits and other reporting processes are either managed directly or are supported by this staff. Permits for private construction related activities taking place within a public right-of-way and utility connection permits are also processed by the engineering staff.
- The Streets and Water/Waste Water Divisions maintain 55.8 miles of paved streets, approximately 25 miles of sidewalk as well as 1.7 miles of shared use paths within the City limits. Responsibilities extend beyond the physical streets and sidewalks to: 16 bridges (including 2 for pedestrian use), guardrails, retaining walls, storm water management, several miles of water and sewer mains, numerous water and wastewater pump stations, potable water storage

tanks, street lights, traffic signals, street sweeping, markings and signage, maintenance of trash and recycling containers, and the care of multiple benches and flower barrels to enhance our downtown.

The Streets Division was challenged with a second consecutive severe winter during 2014 / 2015 consisting of prolonged and extreme freeze cycles with heavy snowfall amounts persisting late into the season. As a result, roads and sidewalks suffered thermal cracking & other damage. The winter also brought record ground frost penetration of 6' and greater in some areas. Consequently, the water supply system was subjected to freezing conditions causing some of the City's shallow transmission mains and dozens of service lines to homes & businesses to become obstructed by ice. The Water & Sewer Division with the assistance of private contractors spent several weeks thawing water lines and many customers were advised to run the tap water to prevent freeze-up.

The Streets Division is continually tasked with ensuring that the roads and sidewalks are safe and passable while balancing overtime and salt usage. The use of computerized spreader controllers on our large trucks to monitor salt application provides the operators with the tool necessary to better control the quantity of de-icing materials. A balanced approach to salting is important for public safety, environmental impacts, and budgetary considerations. Liquid deicing materials combined with organics is being implemented during the 2015/ 2016 winter season to further advance these departmental goals. During the construction season, crews perform normal maintenance functions such as pavement markings, street sweeping, storm system repairs, etc. Storm water management with added emphasis on water quality initiatives are being implemented including catch basin inspections and cleaning coupled with an aggressive street sweeping program to reduce the amount of contaminants reaching our water ways.

The Water & Sewer Division annually undertakes routine and on-going maintenance tasks such as sanitary and storm sewer cleaning, inspecting and maintaining sewer pump stations, repair of water meters, and flushing of the water system. The harsh 2014 / 2015 winter season and deep frost together with an aging water system were contributing causes of several water main failures. The crew is also tasked with water distribution and sewer collection customer service, inspecting & repairing fire hydrants as well as the removal of snow to keep them accessible.

With IT & management support from the Equipment Division Supervisor and City Engineer, the Water & Sewer Division also performs maintenance and operations of the District Heat system. The District Heat system operational requirements include spring and fall conversion from the State of Vermont Central Heat Plant to the City Hall boilers to provide domestic

hot water to all customers, and we also take care of annual valve operations, flushing of the system and other routine maintenance.

The Equipment Division repairs and maintains the City's fleet, including vehicles owned by Public Works, Police, Fire, Green Mount Cemetery, Parks, Recreation and School Departments. The high level of reliability and excellent condition of the fleet are a testament to the dedication of the division employees and their technical expertise. They utilize the services of a stock records clerk for computerized preventative maintenance scheduling including regular repair & parts replacement. The division also operates and maintains a fueling station on premises which also provides fuel by agreement to regional agencies such as the Sheriff's Department. This division also manages and provides maintenance support for communication systems such as the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition network (SCADA) monitoring controls and alarms related to critical pumps & systems which now includes District Heat. Mechanics also provide much needed assistance to the Water Resource Recovery Facility staff such as welding, pump and motor repair and other tasks, satisfying needs that otherwise could not be met internally. The Division is also responsible for the buildings and grounds at the Dog River Road DPW facility. The Manager Plus program is used by this division to expand facilities management and for work order tracking to the Streets, Water/ Sewer divisions, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Water Treatment Plant is also integrating the program to provide scheduled maintenance task notification, work order implementation and inventory tracking.

An average of 1 million gallons of high-quality drinking water per day is distributed to Montpelier and Berlin customers via the Water Treatment Facility. Employees continuously monitor water quality through laboratory analysis, consumption (usage) trends, and source protection inspections. Staff regularly performs preventative maintenance to the processing equipment to extend the life of all of the systems. This Division also fulfills State reporting requirements, prepares the Consumer Confidence Report every spring, and takes care of facility and grounds maintenance. Water Quality Reports are archived in the "document library" with a direct link on the Public Works Department's page of the City's web site for easy reference (<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/DocumentCenter>). With the Use of Public Waters rules permitting recreational use of Berlin Pond, our crews continue to update and follow our source protection plan to safeguard our water against potential pollutants that could affect the quality of the drinking water.

Almost 2 million gallons of wastewater is received at the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) for processing daily. As a water pollution control facility, the processed effluent qual-

ity frequently exceeds state required minimum standards ensuring our river systems and the Lake Champlain basin remain as clean as possible. The WRRF staff manages the seepage and leachate receiving facility, operates an on-site laboratory, and the waste water processing systems such as sludge pressing and de-watering, infrared disinfection, phosphorus control and de-chlorination prior to release to the river. Accurate and timely reporting to the State of the proper functioning of all systems is required by our discharge permit. As previously reported, a consultant was retained to conduct an operational review of the entire facility and to develop cost estimates to implement recommended upgrades entitled "Modernization & Phosphorus Removal Study". Some of these upgrades will be needed to meet the next amendment of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements for phosphorous releases from the facility. When the revised TMDL rules are adopted by the regulatory agency, the report will be used to identify the various system changes required to achieve the phosphorus discharge limits. A commitment was secured for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund and Pollution Control Grants and planning is now underway to move forward on these important upgrades & improvements that will take place in the near future. Funds for professional design services are proposed for FY17 (bond).

The DPW's responsibilities shift throughout the year to accommodate and respond to New England's changing seasons and challenges. Snow removal is an obvious example, but other examples include: collaboration with Police & Fire Departments to provide flood monitoring through DPW's River Watch/Ice Jam Prevention program; fall leaf collection; infrastructure repair and heavy construction such as the many summer/fall paving and utility projects, support for parades and other civic events.

With the increased funding for the Capital Improvement Maintenance Plan, we continue to make progress to improve overall conditions of the City's streets and sidewalks. We are often able to use our own crews to prepare streets for rehabilitation, including subsurface drainage, sidewalk reconstruction, and utility structure rehabilitation. This helps to contain project costs while improving controls of the quality of work undertaken; an important consideration in the effort to achieve a "steady state" system while working within tight budget constraints. During the 2015 construction season (April – November), noteworthy projects completed were:

- ✓ 2.2 Miles of street paving, rehabilitation/reconstruction projects consisting of 5046 Tons of hot mix asphalt applied to: National Life Drive, Prospect St, Grandview Terrace, Spring Hollow Lane, Towne Hill Road and Hackamore Road.

- ✓ About a ½ mile of asphalt and a ¼ mile of concrete sidewalk rehabilitation/reconstruction projects
- ✓ Installation of new Bus Shelter with rebuilt sidewalk @ City Hall
- ✓ 1.4 Miles of Bike Lanes/Shared Lanes, .7 Miles of Pedestrian Path, and 20 parking spaces were added on National Life Drive.
- ✓ About 6 miles of preventative road maintenance projects consisting of crack sealing, infrared patching, and spot overlays
- ✓ Storm Water Culverts and Drainage Improvements completed on: North St, Mechanic St, Main St, Sibley Ave, Bailey Ave and Prospect Street & at the Water Resource Recovery Facility
- ✓ Reconstruction of the 300' long, 6' high metal arch culvert on Terrace St @ the Walker Terrace intersection
- ✓ Assisted with the Recreation Field Re-grading Project
- ✓ Maintenance repairs of the historic East State St Retaining Wall
- ✓ Replacement of 500 Feet of failing sewer main on North St
- ✓ Replaced a section of Water Main on Blackwell St
- ✓ Speed limit radar feedback signs were installed on: Elm St (2), National Life Dr (1)
- ✓ Guardrail / handrail improvements on Prospect St, North St, and Hubbard St
- ✓ To reduce the frequency of combined sewer overflow (CSO) occurrences, surveys of the sewer system were conducted and 4 of 6 overflow control weirs were adjusted.
- ✓ WRRF: Continued with energy efficiency improvements including methane metering, and power capacitor installation and replaced a failing storm water collection system.

Over the winter months, the administrative & engineering staff assists with budget planning and prepares for the construction and paving projects for the upcoming construction season which will include additional slope stability/ retaining wall work, & utility reconstruction design projects such as Gaylord Dr. , Cummings St, Main St & Northfield St.

The Building Maintenance staff person has overseen various upgrades occurring at City Hall in addition to more routine responsibilities such as the railing restoration project. Maintaining clean and sanitary conditions for both staff and the public represents an ongoing challenge, particularly due to the seven-day-a-week plus evening use that often occurs. City staff plus contractual labor is needed in order to maintain the facilities, which include the Police Station, City offices, the Teen Center,

the auditorium, and meetings rooms used by staff, community groups, and a resident theatre.

We would like to thank and wish well the following employees in their retirement after many years of quality service to the City:

- ✓ Nathan "Putt" Cowans: 29 years in the Water / Sewer Division;
- ✓ Michael Papineau: 36 years in Streets & Water / Sewer Divisions; currently working part time in the Engineering Division;
- ✓ Michael Dean Utton: 37 years in the Streets Division.

Of notable mention is the departure of Robert Fischer who accepted a position in another town after a 14 year career at the Water Resource Recovery Facility. Bob was a dedicated and highly skilled technician responsible for many efficiencies & improvements at the facility under his tenure as chief operator. We thank him for his service & wish him the very best.

We are fortunate to have knowledgeable, dedicated employees supporting the Public Works Department's mission and goals who also provide exemplary service to the public. The personnel of this department respond to snow storms, water and sewer breaks, operating system alarms, natural disasters; they provide mapping and engineering guidance, oversee consultant and contractor projects, collaborate with State and Federal officials and other City departments and assist citizen committees, external organizations, private property owners, and developers. All of this - and more - is done for the residents and customers of the City of Montpelier. I am proud, pleased and honored to work with all of our employees and to serve with them to provide the very best possible services.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call the Public Works Office at 223-9508.

Thomas J. McArdle, *Director*

## Water Fund

It is the responsibility of the Department of Public Works – Water Division to maintain a consistent and adequate flow of water to the City from the City's water source at Berlin Pond. Raw water is transmitted via pipeline to the Water Filtration Facility for reduction or elimination of possible contaminants. The Water Treatment Plant was completed in fiscal year 2001.

A combination of user fees and water benefit charges fund the Water Division. Water Division staff maintain hydrants for fire protection, construct water lines, maintain control valves and gates, flush hydrants annually, keep daily records on water quality and consumption, repair leaks and mains, operate the water

treatment facility, oversee land management of the City's property in Berlin and support all systems associated with providing potable water to our customers. There are more than 3,000 water meters in the City of Montpelier (includes some Town of Berlin users) and each meter is read quarterly.

The Montpelier City Council, sitting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners, determines water rates. Water rates are reviewed annually in the spring. **The current quarterly rates are as follows: \$7.73 per 1,000 for the first 50,000 gallons, \$8.21 per 1,000 for the next 200,000 gallons, \$13.32 per 1,000 for over 250,000 gallons and a fixed charge for all accounts for meter reading, billing and other administrative service costs of \$42.50. A water benefit charge of \$.01 per \$100 of property value** is dedicated to the repayment of bonded indebtedness.

Annual water usage decreased more than 9 percent over the last ten years. This conservation of water use by the city residents and businesses produces financial challenges for the Water Fund.

From 2005-2010 the Water Fund accumulated a deficit due to high fixed costs (debt) and a reduction in billable usage. In the 2011-2015 fiscal years, the Water Fund reduced the prior years' deficit by a total of \$289,000. Recent improvements to equipment have been made to reduce the number of water line breaks which should allow the fund to make significant progress on retiring the previous years' deficit.

The Water Fund's proposed fiscal year 2017 budget and other financial information can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/192/Periodically-Released-Financial-Data>, please contact the Finance Department at 223-9520. If you have a concerns or questions about your quarterly water bill, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 223-9500 Option 2.

SANDRA J. GALLUP, *Finance Director*

## Sewer Fund

The primary responsibility of the Department of Public Works – Sewer Division is to collect and treat sewage from the City of Montpelier and part of the Town of Berlin. A combination of user fees and sewer benefit charges fund the Sewer Division.

The Sewer Division maintains sanitary sewer collection mains and pumping stations, installs new service connections and repairs clogged or broken sewer lines in Montpelier. This division is also responsible for the maintenance and operation of the Water Resource Recovery Facility, which has undergone major upgrades to become a regional treatment facility for septage and leachate treatment. Future upgrades will also be required in response to the state and federal environmental standards which improve the quality of life in Montpelier and

the State of Vermont. In the coming years, the Department of Public Works will focus on additional operations and maintenance of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) to include the storm water maintenance component of the wastewater discharge permit.

The Montpelier City Council, sitting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners, determines sewer rates. Sewer rates are reviewed annually in the spring. **Quarterly sewer rates are as follows: \$8.89 per 1,000 gallons of water used and a fixed charge for all accounts for meter reading, billing and other administrative service costs of \$42.50.** Utility rates may be adjusted annually due to increases in maintenance, chemical, fuel, electricity costs and debt payment. New stormwater management requirements also add operating costs in the Sewer Fund.

A **sewer benefit charge** of \$.01 per \$100 of property value is dedicated to the repayment of bonded indebtedness. A **sewer separation benefit charge** of \$.07 per \$100 of property value is dedicated to pay off debt and project costs associated with the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) separations. The objective of these projects is to divert storm water from going into sanitary sewer lines reducing a major source of potential pollution for our City's waterways. These sewer benefit charges are expected to remain the same for FY17 which begins July 1, 2016.

Information about the proposed FY16 Sewer Fund Budget can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/192/Periodically-Released-Financial-Data>. For Budget questions, please contact the Finance Department at 223-9520. If you have a concern or question about your quarterly sewer bill, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 223-9500, Option 2.

SANDRA J. GALLUP, *Finance Director*

## District Heat Fund

District Heat Montpelier (DHM) is the thermal utility operated by the City of Montpelier. DHM distributes thermal energy through a system of underground pipes to downtown Montpelier. The City has contracted with the State of Vermont to receive wholesale energy from the rebuilt central heat plant located at 120 State Street in Montpelier. 21 downtown buildings (or 421,052 square feet) have elected to receive heat from DHM.

The 2014-2015 Heating Season represented the first full season of operation of DHM. During the 212 days of the Heating Season, the system provided 100% availability; at no time was heat not delivered to customers of the system. While the Heating Season was off to a mild start, with the month of October being 14% milder than the average of the previous fifteen Octobers, the season as a whole turned out to be one of the cold-

est of the previous fifteen heating seasons, with numerous new record lows being set. During the 59 day period from January 1, 2015 through February 28, 2015 the outdoor air temperature rose above freezing for only two brief periods, with a minimum temperature of -23F. In spite of the severity of the winter, all connected buildings maintained their desired level of heat at all times.

DHM delivered 14,625 million British Thermal Units (MMBTUs) of energy to its customers between October 1, 2014 and April 30, 2015. The delivered heat was comprised by 88.6% renewable, locally sourced biomass, and 11.4% conventional fuel oil. If this heat was supplied by individual building furnaces it would require the consumption of an estimated 137,700 gallons of fuel oil.

In July 2015, the City Council established the District Heat Montpelier capacity rate at \$4.91 per MBTUH and the energy rate at \$9.20 per MMBTU for the 2015-2016 heating season. The District Heat Montpelier rate is made up of the capacity charge and the energy charge. The capacity charge includes the City operating, maintenance, and repair costs related to District Heat Montpelier including the City's debt service attributable to the distribution system. The capacity charge is contractually established in the customer agreements. The energy charge includes costs related to the State of Vermont's consumption of fuels, electricity, and other products required to produce the energy distributed through the system as well as the costs associated with running the State's Heat Plant. The energy charges are established by the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services (BGS.)

District Heat Montpelier is supported by existing City Staff. The Department of Public Works provides direct customer service for operations, engineering and technical support, and operation and maintenance planning and implementation. The Finance Department provides budget support, billing and auditing functions, and information technology support. The City Manager's office is ultimately responsible for the heat utility, provides policy development and system planning.

## Municipal Development

### Planning and Community Development Department

As I wrap up my first complete year as your Director of Planning & Community Development I see momentum on a number of projects and initiatives. As you will see below we have almost completed some of the bigger projects like the zoning update and we are starting work on many new initiatives like the EDSP and the Master Plan rewrite. 2016 will be full of new

challenges and big changes as we start to implement the plans we have developed over the past year. Please feel free to contact me with questions and comments as we move forward on these and other initiatives.

Mike Miller, Director of Planning & Community Development (mmiller@montpelier-vt.org)

**Mission:** To serve the community by facilitating the creation and preservation of a healthy, safe, sustainable, and high quality living environment through the management of an effective, on-going planning and implementation process.

This broad mission is carried out through several areas of responsibility:

- To protect and enhance Montpelier's natural and built environment;
- To strengthen the local economy and tax base;
- To meet housing needs of low and moderate income residents;
- To engage the whole community in planning for growth and change;
- To provide information and service to the public; and
- To be accountable to our citizens.

The Department is staffed by 3 full time employees (Director, Community Development Specialist, and the Planning & Zoning Assistant) and one part time employee (Zoning Administrator). The Department shares the Building Inspector position with the Fire Department. The Department is also fortunate to have the assistance of one VISTA volunteer who is invaluable in terms of community engagement and providing information and service to the public and many of our committees.

Planning and Community Development activities can generally be broken into four groups:

- Planning (developing broad master plans or making specific plans on topics like parking, stormwater, or economic development; proposing revisions to zoning bylaws, coordinating committee and subcommittee meetings, and facilitating public input);
- Regulatory programs (such as zoning administration, flood hazard regulations, and building permits);
- Community development programs (managing the housing trust fund, housing preservation grant program, and business loan fund; grant writing and administration; economic development assistance, E-911 road naming coordination, community rating system for floodplains, certified local government for historic preservation); and
- Special projects (one time projects like the Log Road solar

energy project, assisting on One Taylor Street, and Taylor Street reconstruction.)

The Department works closely with the City Manager and Assistant City Manager to advance Council goals including alleviating parking pressures, creating a hospitable environment for de-velopment, becoming a nationally known bicycle and pedestrian friendly city, Net Zero Montpelier implementation, stormwater management, and supporting and promoting a vibrant downtown. The Department also provides assistance and staffing to many of our committees including Bicycle Advisory Committee, Design Review Committee, Development Review Board, Historic Preservation Committee, Montpelier Business Loan Fund, Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee, Montpelier Housing Task Force, Montpelier Housing Trust Fund, Montpelier Loan Fund Committee, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Planning Commission.

This department could not do all that it does without the thoughtful and hard work by its staff and the individuals who volunteer on commissions and committees, the support from local officials, and the participation of citizens and other people and departments within and outside of City Hall. Montpelier is especially fortunate to have so many highly motivated, skilled, and interested citizens willing to give of themselves, their time, and their energies to make so many things happen.

## Planning

**Planning Commission:** The full Planning Commission is as follows (all seats are for 2-year appointments):

<b>Members</b>	<b>Expires</b>
Kim Cheney, Chair	8/13/16
Jon Anderson, Vice Chair	10/09/17
Leslie Welts	8/13/16
Eileen Simpson	8/13/16
John Adams	8/13/16
Barbara Conrey	3/25/17
Tina Ruth	10/09/17

**Zoning Revision:** Since the Master Plan was adopted in 2010, the next major task was to revise the zoning so that it conformed to the new plan. Three years of work failed to find enough common ground to put forth a proposal so the City hired a consultant in January 2014 to help guide the process. As 2015 comes to a close the Planning Commission is proud to say that it is warning a public hearing for January 2016 to begin the adoption process. It is hoped that this will be concluded by the end of March.

**Montpelier City Solar Project:** An initiative of MEAC, the Montpelier City Solar Project originally proposed using the old City dump as a location for a group-net solar project to

offset City energy use. Unfortunately the site turned out to be marginal for that use so new sites were located in an old gravel pit off Log Road and a second site in the Town of Sharon. Agreements were signed with Novus Energy Development to construct the projects which will generate \$1.3M in savings to Montpelier over the 20 year life of the project. They will come on line in 2016.

**Montpelier in Motion Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan:** In 2014 the City followed through on its grant award in 2013 to hire a consultant to develop a Master Plan to guide investment in infrastructure over the next several years. The City contracted with Broadreach Planning and Design who completed the final report in July 2015. The very thorough plan is being integrated into the DPW capital plan for buildout over the next 20 years.

**Greening Americas Capitals:** Following an application in 2013, the City was awarded assistance through the EPA Greening Americas Capitals project. Greening America's Capitals is a project of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities between U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to help state capitals develop an innovative and implementable vision of distinctive, environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green building and green infrastructure systems. Montpelier used this opportunity to look boldly at five areas in our downtown where innovation could provide new solutions. A weeklong charrette was held in November 2014 with a final report received in February 2015. The report can be found at: [http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-06/documents/gac\\_montpelier.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-06/documents/gac_montpelier.pdf)

**Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP):** Since 2012, one of the primary goals of City Council has been the development of an Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP). In the spring of 2015 the Montpelier City Council recognized that to move forward on economic development the City must first establish a common plan of what we want to accomplish and how we would like to achieve those goals.

The EDSP will accomplish the following:

1. A fact based assessment of Montpelier's economic health
2. Identify trends
3. Identification of industry sectors of strategic economic importance
4. Establishment of an economic baseline and development of draft policies to support these growing economic sectors
5. Identify the location, type and scale of desired economic development

6. Identify the “next steps” to be undertaken by relevant stakeholders

In August, after a thorough selection process involving city staff and community members, City Council selected Fairweather Consulting of New Paltz, New York to undertake the development of an EDSP. The EDSP will be complete in the summer of 2016.

Stormwater Master Plan: The Planning Department, working in conjunction with DPW, has contracted with Stone Environmental to develop a stormwater master plan for the City. This Plan will present a strategic approach for stormwater related regulatory requirements while addressing pressing water resource concerns.

## Development Review – Land Use Regulation

The Planning & Zoning Administrator provides staff support to the Development Review Board and Design Review Committee. During 2015, to date approximately 153 zoning permits applications were received. Specifically, DRB approval was required for 75 of the permits of which 41 also required DRC approval. Approximately 5 variances were granted by the DRB (2 others were denied).

### Development Review Board (DRB):

- Phil Zalinger, Chair – reappointed, term expires 7/18/18.
- Kevin O’Connell, Vice Chair – term expires 7/23/17.
- James LaMonda – term expires 8/10/17.
- Roger Cranse – term expires 7/18/18.
- John Lindley – term expires 7/23/17.
- Dan Richardson – term expires 7/14/16.
- Michael Sherman – term expires 7/14/16.
- Kate McCarthy and William Schebaum serve as alternates to the DRB; their terms expire, collectively, 9/11/16.

### Design Review Committee (DRC):

- Steve Everett, Chair – term expires 9/14/17.
- Hannah Smith – term expires 4/11/18.
- Eric Gilbertson – term expires 9/14/17.
- Seth Mitchell – term expires 9/16/17.
- Theodore Fetter – term expires 10/28/18.
- Liz Pritchett – Alternate – 9/26/18.
- Benjamin Cheney - Alternate – 9/16/17.

Development Review Board and Design Review Committee information is available online: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/489/Development-Review-Board>

<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/411/Design-Review-Committee>

You can view upcoming meeting agendas and watch past meetings at; <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/416/Media-Archive>

## Planning Programs

Floodplain Management – Community Rating System (CRS): The Planning & Zoning Assistant serves as the Floodplain Manager and CRS Coordinator.

The City of Montpelier participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and as a participating community, the City is committed to the following minimum NFIP activities:

- Issuing or denying floodplain development permits.
- Inspecting all development to assure compliance with the local floodplain ordinance.
- Maintaining records of floodplain development.
- Assisting in the preparation and revision of floodplain maps.
- Helping and assisting residents obtain information on flood hazards, floodplain map data, and flood insurance and proper construction measures.

Additionally, the City of Montpelier participates in, the NFIP’s Community Rating System (CRS). CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community flood-plain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses; (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating; and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance.

For CRS participating communities, flood insurance premium rates are discounted in increments of 5% - i.e., a Class 1 community would receive a 45% discount, while a Class 9 community would receive a 5% discount. The City of Montpelier is one of three communities in Vermont – including Bennington and Brattleboro – that participate in the CRS program. The City of Montpelier is currently a Class 9 community and therefore we receive an insurance premium discount of 5%. The CRS classes for local communities are based on 18 creditable activities, organized under four categories:

1. Public information,

2. Mapping and Regulations,
3. Flood Damage Reduction, and
4. Flood Preparedness.

Our continued participation in the Community Rating System reflects our commitment to a sound floodplain management program for the benefit of the City of Montpelier and its citizens. Higher regulatory standards, open space protection, a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and a Storm Water Master Plan including green storm water infrastructure are examples of CRS activities that could qualify the City of Montpelier as a Class 8 community (with a 10% reduction on flood insurance policies).

Floodplain information is available online: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/603/Flood-Information> or by calling or visiting the Planning Department.

Certified Local Government (CLG) – Montpelier Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC): The Zoning Administrator use to serve as the CLG Coordinator until the position was cut to half time. Today, the city lacks a Coordinator and provides only limited staff support to the MHPC. In 2015 the City of Montpelier received a grant from the State of Vermont Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to complete the update of its Historic Preservation District. The Department will work with the Historic Preservation Consultant and the selected consultant to complete the update in 2016.

The Montpelier Historic District is the largest in the state of Vermont – 563 properties. It is worth noting that in 1978 approximately 87% of the buildings and structures were contributing (i.e. historic) to the National Register of Historic Places in the Montpelier Historic District, and approximately 89% are contributing according to the most recent amendment.

All of the information regarding the MHD is available online: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/426/Historic-Preservation-Commission>

The MHPC is comprised of 5 community members:

- Anthony Otis, Chair – term expires 9/10/17.
- James Duggan – term expires 9/22/16.
- Eric Gilbertson – term expires 9/22/16.
- Gregory Tisher – term expires 9/22/16.
- Vacant – term expired 9/22/15.

E911: The Planning and Zoning Assistant is the E911 coordinator, she works with landowners, the E911 board, phone and cable companies and the US Postal Service to determine correct E911 numbering for new building sites, as well as existing sites. The process of updating address information is on-

going. Each year the E911 Board does an audit of telephone numbers compared to address', when a 911 call is placed an address shows upon a map for emergency responders to locate the call. If the address that is displayed doesn't match a location on the map that location is flagged and the E911 coordinator is responsible for researching and correcting this information. The City had approximately 359 of these mismatches in 2013.

Many streets in Montpelier were never renumbered to the accepted numbering system but were instead "grandfathered" with the older numbering system. There are circumstances where this older style can no longer be used because of the addition of structures or changes of use that require a previously unnumbered structure to need a number, for example. In these cases the "grandfathered" numbers have to change. The older system was just sequential numbering; odd numbers on one side and even on the other. The newer system uses distance to calculate the address number so future additions and changes do not affect the entire street.

## Community Development

The Community Development Office is staffed by the Community Development Specialist and addresses a wide range of economic and community development issues. The Community Development Specialist works to further the development goals established annually by the City Council. Additionally he works closely with Montpelier Alive and local business and community leaders on projects as needed. Priority projects during 2015 are outlined below.

39, 39 ½ and 40 Barre Street: The City in partnership with Downstreet Housing and Community Development (formerly Central Vermont Community Land Trust) saw the completed renovation of 39 and 40 Barre Street. The City sponsored Downstreet's successful application to the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development for \$560,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in 2013, which provided the funding for the redevelopment of the properties. The project, completed in 2015, renovated 19 affordable rental units, the Children's House Day Care Center, and addressed health and safety issues in the building, specifically lead and asbestos remediation, as well as ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance issues.

125 Barre Street – Another Way: The Department in partnership with Another Way was awarded \$22,500 in CDBG funding from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development to evaluate the building housing Another Way at 125 Barre Street. The funding has allowed Another Way to complete a capital needs assessment, archaeological and historic assessment and energy audits. Another Way provides peer support for the homeless and mentally ill and this plan-

ning work will help the organization evaluate and plan for their future on Barre Street.

**French Block:** In the fall of 2015, Downstreet Housing and Community Development announced that they had secured an option to purchase the upper floors of the French Block to redevelop for housing. The City will continue to work with Downstreet in 2016 to assist as necessary to help facilitate the redevelopment of this critical piece of downtown real estate.

**Housing Trust Fund:** In 2015 the Housing Task Force continued to work on implementing the 2011 Barriers to Housing Report. The Task Force worked with the Downstreet Housing and Community Development to revise the program that helps first time homebuyers with down payment assistance. The First Time Homebuyers and Equity Building Program provides up to \$15,000 in matching funds for first time homebuyers with incomes up to 120% of Area Median Income (AMI). The funds are secured with a second mortgage and are forgiven after 15 years of homeownership. In the first 6 months of the program, 4 of the 6 available have been approved. The Community Development Specialist will work with Downstreet in 2016 to actively promote this program. Funds are still available. For more information, contact Community Development Specialist, Kevin Casey, at (802) 223-9507.

**Housing Preservation Grant Program (HPG):** The HPG loan program provides renovation loans to low and moderate income homeowners to help address code, health and safety issues, accessibility needs, weatherization needs, and overcrowding. Loans are typically provided with a 0% interest rate and with repayment deferred until the property is sold. In 2015 three HPG loans were granted, to address immediate structural, health, and safety issues. Funds are still available for qualified homeowners. For more information, contact Community Development Specialist, Kevin Casey, at (802) 223-9507.

**Montpelier Business Loan Fund (MBLF):** This fund seeks to foster a strong and vital downtown in Montpelier by making capital available to new enterprise developments that are unable to obtain sufficient financing through existing commercial lending institutions. The city is in the process of evaluating options to best leverage this loan fund to maximize its effectiveness. We anticipate that the Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) will provide guidance on how to best align the loan policies of the MBLF with the goals outlined in the EDSP.

**Parking Committee:** The Community Development Specialist assists the Police Chief in providing support to the Parking Committee. The Parking Committee was formed by City Council in April of 2013 to evaluate the parking needs, challenges and opportunities facing residents, commuters, and merchants in Downtown Montpelier. In the summer of 2015 the City conducted a trial of two smart meter models from IPS and Duncan Solutions to evaluate the effectiveness of differ-

ent smart meter/credit card technologies. In addition, City staff conducted parking counts to identify whether or not the downtown parking problem is real or perceived. City staff reported its findings to council in November of 2015. A more complete parking strategy will be developed during 2016.

## Special Projects

**One Taylor Street.** Planning & Community Development was asked in 2015 to help with grant writing to close the funding gap in the One Taylor Street Project. The Department was successful in securing an Ecosystem Restoration Grant for \$230k and a brownfield grant for \$20k. The staff also identified and applied for a \$1M grant to cover a portion of the riverwall repairs and soil management on the One Taylor Site. We will know if that grant application will be funded in 2016.

**Taylor Street:** Related to the One Taylor Street project are the necessary improvements needed for Taylor Street. The Department spearheaded efforts to identify funding to implement the plans developed in the Greening Americas Capitals Planning Process. Successful grant applications were made to the Ecosystem Restoration Program for \$250k and applications are being developed for another \$100k from the Vermont Downtown Transportation Fund due in 2016.

## Management & Support

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

#### Financial Management & Administrative Services

The mission of the Finance Department is to ensure that all resources of the City of Montpelier are managed and accounted for in an effective and efficient manner, that all financial records are presented in a timely, accurate and meaningful format and that all staff members work toward continuous improvement and professional service.

The Finance Department oversees all of the City's financial matters. It is responsible for maintaining the daily accounting records and providing payroll, payables and billing services for the City's governmental and business activities. The Finance Department provides regular financial information to Department Heads, the City Manager, the City Council and residents. Our department prepares the annual City budget, manages human resources, prepares year-end financial statements and coordinates the annual audit. Financial records are maintained to

insure compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations. The department also oversees all grant financial activities to assure proper use and reporting of grant funds.

Many reports are available on the City's web site.

Budget, Financial and Annual Audit information can be found online at:

<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/192/Periodically-Released-Financial-Data>

Employment Agreements can be found online at:

<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/586/Personnel-Documents>

The City of Montpelier has 22 active funds, 10 departments and 4 labor contracts/employee plans. Montpelier has \$69 million dollars invested in capital assets financed by 41 loans that total \$24.5 million dollars. The annual operating budgets for the City's governmental and business-type activities total \$18 million dollars. Our Chart of Accounts has over 2200 accounts which is an indication of the complexity of our financial structure. As directed by the City Council, the Recreation Department will be moving from school management to city management effective July 1, 2016.

In addition to processing the City's financial transactions, the Finance Department is responsible for the deposits and cash management for the Montpelier School System. \$50 million passes through our City bank account annually.

After many years of staff stability, the Finance Office is experiencing employee transfers and retirements.

While we will miss our finance team members, this provides the opportunity to reassign departmental responsibilities and make some reductions in staff. Todd Provencher joined our team mid-year as our Payroll & Human Resource Specialist. The department also relies on Senior Staff Accountant, Ruth Dockter and Charlotte Hoyt, City Treasurer. Our Accounting Manager position is currently vacant. Loretta Bresette provides support in the Clerk's office and processes our Water and Sewer utility billing. Peggy Buldoc also works in the Clerk's office. She provides customer service along with processing our daily cash receipt transactions. The City Clerk will take on some delinquent tax collection responsibilities which makes it possible to eliminate that half-time position.

The Finance Department's Technology Division provides technology support services to all city departments. Seth Wood, Technology Support Technician, works with Fred Skeels, Information Technology & Communication Manager to maintain and safeguard the citywide computers, networks and telephone technology systems. Seth also developed our employee timesheet system and produces our annual budget report.

After 10 years as the Finance Director, I find that the City continually faces financial challenges that come with ever-increas-

ing operating and infrastructure costs, unfunded state and federal regulations, and the extremes of Vermont's weather. The combination of limited economic/grand list growth and our relatively high property tax rates provide significant pressure to minimize increases in municipal spending. The budget for the 2017 fiscal year continues to reflect our constant efforts to limit increases in the municipal tax rate and at the same time follow the multi-year plan to fund infrastructure and capital needs based on the "Steady State" plan adopted by the City Council.

I appreciate the support that the Finance Department receives from the City Councilors, William Fraser, City Manager, Jessie Baker, Assistant City Manager and other members of the City's management team. Our office is located in City Hall and is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. We welcome city residents' questions, comments and concerns. If I can be of service, do not hesitate to call me at the office (262-6253) or e-mail: [sgallup@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:sgallup@montpelier-vt.org)

SANDRA J. GALLUP, *Finance Director*

## Technology Services Division

This division is a part of the Finance Department and provides support for all municipal departments with information systems, telephone and technology services. This support starts with the service and maintenance of our existing technology and continues with forecasting and implementation of upgrades to our existing technology and new applications.

This fiscal year, July 2015 through June of 2016, provides several upgrades to existing technology over several departments. The most significant was an upgrade to the Waste Water Pump Station reporting technology and the consolidation of the wireless phone and data technology.

The Technology Services implemented:

- Consolidation of all wireless devices for billing and control.
- Implemented an upgrade in hardware and software for our telecommunications.

The City's Wide Area Network is routed through fiber, cable and telecom providers T1 connections. This communication network between City Hall and the outlying facilities of the Senior Center, Public Works Garage, Waste Water Treatment Plant and Water Filtration Facility in Berlin is configured to enhance the secure management of the potable water and waste water transmission control systems and VPN radio communications between the garage and various remote units.

The City continues to maintain its communication link with the local and world wide community via the internet. This communication, information and research tool also provides increasing levels of risk for the City's hardware, software and

data. Our goal is to provide the City a knowledgeable, effective and adequate level of security. The City continues to maintain a sophisticated firewall, virus protection standards and a redundant daily full system backup to insure the integrity and continued performance of the network and its applications.

Fred Skeels, *Technology Services Manager*

## Tax Collector

### New Late Fee Rates Set By City Council

The Montpelier City Council amended the penalty rates assessed for late payment of quarterly taxes, water and sewer. What was a flat 8% late fee, whether 1 day or 30 days late in paying your quarterly installments of taxes, water and sewer, has now been amended by City Council and became effective July 1, 2014. The new assessments are 5% if paid within five business days of the due date. After that the additional 3% is added for a total of 8%.

**Reminder:** Once again, be sure to file your Vermont Homestead Declaration form HS-122 and the Vermont Property Adjustment form HI-144 by April 15, 2016 in order to receive the full prebate if you are qualified. Filing after April 15, 2016 will result in penalty assessments that will reduce the value of the prebate. Both forms must be filed by April 15, 2016 even if you delay filing the rest of your income tax forms. You can file HS-122 and HI-144 up until October, but penalties will be assessed that may reduce the value of your Property Tax Adjustment or PREBATE as many know it by. Approximately 50% of Montpelier's residential owners get help with their taxes, but each year we become aware of additional people who could have qualified but didn't file on time or didn't think they would qualify so didn't file.

Delinquent tax balances at the time of writing this report in January 2016 are as follows:

2010-2011 - \$206.56

2011-2012 - \$182.58

2012-2013 - \$515.64

2013-2014 - \$9,092.56

2014-2015 - \$27,161.70

2015-2016 - \$91,396.97

(current year reflecting August and November taxes)

We presently bill approximately \$8.5 million annually in taxes. We keep our delinquencies low by billing delinquencies monthly and working with taxpayers and their financial institutions to get the delinquency paid off.

2010-2011 through 2012-2013 reflect two properties which have probate issues – these continue into the current year.

Eventually we will be able to collect all these, but it may take years to resolve issues. We have just notified multiple residents that if they don't set up a payment plan for their excessively delinquent water and sewer bills, we will start a tax sale process. Unpaid water and sewer bills create the same automatic lien against a property as unpaid taxes do.

Please feel free to contact me either at work (802-223-9512) or at home (802-223-5310). I work part time, usually Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons during the winter. Please feel free to call me at home in the evenings or on the weekends. If I am not available at either number, leave a phone number and a suggested time to return your call. On July 1, 2016, John Odum, City Clerk will be taking over the collection duties. I have enjoyed my nearly 30 years of part time/full time/part time employment with the City and wish to thank you all for letting me serve the City.

Beverlee Pembroke Hill, *Tax Collector*

## City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk's Office is responsible for the administration of all elections, city business licenses and dog licenses. The City Clerk manages the city's voter checklist, and coordinates the Boards of Civil Authority and Abatement. The office's responsibilities in regards to recording and indexing of land records and vital statistics (births, deaths & marriages), and generating and archiving the official records of the City Council (the Clerk serves as Secretary to the City Council), make the Clerk the caretaker of much of the recorded history of the state's Capital.

As of the 2012 Annual City Meeting, the City Clerk and Treasurer are separate entities. While the Clerk's Office shares space with city Finance Department staff, responsibilities for tax collection and utility billing are no longer under the purview of the City Clerk, although clerk staff still assists in the customer service work associated with these duties. Currently, the City Clerk staffing structure consists solely of the Clerk and one Assistant Clerk, as well as temporary poll workers as needed.

During the 2015 calendar year, the Clerk's office completed the process of digitizing the card catalog which indexes all land records prior to 1993, as well as all historical cards that index the city vital records (birth, death, marriage, civil union). This provides for the first ever off-site backup for the historical indexing system, and over the next year the digital cards will be transitioned in to replace the physical index cards. The digitized index cards, along with the land records dating back to 1993, are available for view online. The digitizing process will be completed in 2016 with the scanning of city vital records, which will free significant enough vault space to put off any need to expand the city's vault capacity at least ten years.

Also in 2015, the city has switched over to the state’s new online voter registration system through the Secretary of State’s office. Going into the transition, the Clerk’s office completed an initial comprehensive review of the voter checklist to bring it more up to date. After the busy 2016 election season, the Board of Civil Authority will again take a close look at the checklist to identify obsolete records. The 2016 elections will certainly be unprecedented in terms of voter turnout, and we will take full advantage of the additional voting machines, weekend voting hours, and other efficiencies instituted since the last Presidential election season to minimize lines and wait times for voters as much as possible.

2016 will also be the final year when voters will be prevented from registering to vote on Election Day, as Vermont joins eleven other states in allowing for Election Day voter registration starting in 2017. The Montpelier Clerks office was active in working to remove impediments to citizens exercising this most fundamental democratic right, and in recognition of this work, the final bill was signed into law by the Governor at Montpelier City Hall.

Also on the horizon are some changes in the Clerk/Treasurer’s office. Efficiency increases associated with the electronic land records system and increased remote payments (and culminating in the last year) have created opportunities to re-allocate staff time and “do more with less.” Over the coming months, Montpelier citizens coming into the office will likely notice some of the changes underway. As always, feedback from our neighbors we serve is both welcome and encouraged. Please let us know how we are doing, and how you feel we can do better.

Finally, the Clerk’s office is experimenting with the new flexibility offered by recent charter changes to partner with local businesses to license dogs. At present, dog licenses may be purchased, not only at the Clerks office, but at The Quirky Pet on State Street, with other businesses potentially to follow. The goal is to achieve a higher rate of compliance with the license ordinance, and in the process capture more revenue that can be used to support the maintenance of the dog waste stations across town.

In 2015, the Clerk’s office recorded 77 births, 68 marriages, 75 deaths, and licensed 417 dogs.

John Odum, *City Clerk*

## Assessor’s Office

The Assessor’s Office is responsible for maintaining current ownership information and the listing and valuation of all real property (taxable and exempt) and all taxable personal property in the City. The Grand List is prepared as of April 1 each year and filed with the City Clerk in mid-June. Building and zoning permits, property transfer tax returns, listings, surveys and field

inspections are used to update assessments.

According to the latest equalization study conducted by the Property Valuation and Review Division of the Vermont Department of Taxes, Montpelier’s CLA (Common Level of Appraisal), effective January 1, 2016, is 95.26 %. This means that, on average, Montpelier properties are assessed at approximately 95 % of current market value according to the State’s analysis. This is about 1.8 % percent below last year’s CLA and indicates that property values, in general, increased during the past year.

There were 90 residential real estate sales (homes and condominiums) in Montpelier in the past year; about the same as in 2014.

Work on our Parcel (Tax) Maps is ongoing. The maps are updated on an annual basis reflecting new surveys, deed research, subdivisions and changes in ownership. I encourage property owners to check the maps for accuracy. Two versions of the parcel maps are available on the Assessor’s page of the City website.

Property “Record Cards” for each property in the City, as well as property sales, Grand Lists and other information, are also available on the Assessor’s page of the website.

The 2015 Grand List includes 2,911 taxable real properties and 507 personal property accounts, plus cable and exempt properties. The final figures in the 2015 Municipal Grand List for taxable properties are as follows:

<u>Property type</u>	<u>Number of parcels</u>	<u>% of Grand List Value</u>
Residential	2,114	57.5%
Commercial	254	24.1%
Commercial Apartments	72	4.6%
Industrial	8	0.3%
Utilities- Electric	4	1.3%
Condominiums	396	7.5%
Misc- Land	61	0.6%
Cable	2	0.2%
Personal Property	499	3.9%

### Total taxable property value by category:

Residential	\$493,430,100
Commercial	206,854,100
Commercial Apartments	39,773,400
Condominiums	64,212,700
Industrial	2,705,000
Utilities	11,832,400

Miscellaneous	4,689,300
TOTAL Real Property	\$823,497,000
Cable	1,263,795
Personal Property	<u>32,976,065</u>
TOTAL TAXABLE PROPERTY	\$857,736,860

The 2015 Grand List grew by \$2.8 million over the 2014 Grand List (about 1/3 of 1%), of which \$2.5 million was Real Property and \$330,000 was Personal Property

From the above, just under \$4.6 million in exemptions for Veterans, Tax Stabilization Agreements and Current Use are deducted, resulting in a Total Municipal Grand List of \$8,531,550.10 (1% of total value). Exemptions were about the same as in 2014.

The Assessor’s Office also provided numerous easement valuations for the Montpelier-Berlin Multi-Use (Bike) Path project during the past year.

Jane Aldrighetti, my assistant, is in the office Monday through Friday. My position continues to be a 60% contracted service. I am usually in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you have questions or concerns regarding the valuation of real or personal property in the City, please feel free to contact our office. Jane’s telephone number is 223-9504; my number is 223-9505.

I will continue to make my best effort to maintain accuracy and fairness in property assessments in the City.

Stephen Twombly, *City Assessor*

## Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Everyone 50+ is welcome at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC), a place where vibrant, diverse programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, enhanced nutrition and access to aging resources. Nearly 900 Central Vermont seniors, including one in five seniors in Montpelier, thrive on regular participation, and hundreds more benefit from the many MSAC and community events and services that are free and open to the public in this vital gathering space.



According to the National Council on Aging, older adults who participate in senior center programs can learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease and experience measurable improvements in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional, mental, and economic well-being. Additionally, compared with their peers, senior center participants have higher levels of

health, social interaction, and life satisfaction.

The mission of the Montpelier Senior Activity Center is to enhance the quality of life for the older adults in the Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being at a welcoming, flexible environment. MSAC programming has grown to meet the increasing demand from a diverse group of seniors. Participation has grown by approximately 100 people per year in the past three years. MSAC offers a wide range of health, education, recreation, volunteer, and socialization opportunities that enhance dignity, support independence, and encourage community involvement.

Our core program is our diverse set of over fifty weekly classes, including movement classes, humanities classes, arts classes, and technology classes that encourage mental and physical well-being, and there are many available for working seniors’ schedules. We also offer countless hours of free programming, such as games, support groups, music groups, and more, plus affordable day and overnight trips to cultural venues, walks, and more in Vermont and beyond. Our new partnership with the Barre Area Senior Center allows us to offer a broader array of trips.

Additionally, MSAC serves to connect older adults to vital community services that can help them stay healthy and independent. MSAC hosts a free tax clinic, inexpensive foot care and massage clinics, and serves as a gateway to community agencies. Our Resource Room provides a library of information about senior services and options. Special event programming serves to be educational and entertaining.

The monthly Montpelier Memory Café, free and open to the public, is a social gathering where people experiencing memory loss and their care partners come together to connect and support one another in a relaxed atmosphere. Participants enjoy social time, refreshments, entertainment and other fun activities. For more information contact Liz at 229-9630 or visit [sympavt.wix.com/montpeliermemorycafe](http://sympavt.wix.com/montpeliermemorycafe).

MSAC’s senior nutrition program, FEAST, is produced in partnership with Just Basics Inc., Good Taste Catering and Central Vermont Council on Aging. “FEAST at Home” is delivered to eligible seniors, Monday-Friday. “FEAST Together” is served on-site Tuesdays and Fridays at noon. “FEAST to Go” is open to the public, and available Tuesdays and Fridays noon-1pm, and offers meals sold as a fundraiser for the other two program components. Call 262-6288 to make a meal reservation or talk with the FEAST coordinator, Jessica Sanderson, about volunteer opportunities. FEAST thrives thanks to a loyal, multi-generational and ever-growing volunteer force and senior trainees of the VT Associates for Training and Development program, all supervised by Chef Justin Turcotte.

Food insecurity acutely affects many people served by the FEAST program. Seniors experience greater difficulty reconciling food needs with transportation challenges, costs of medical care, and problems of rural isolation. Findings from the Community Nutrition Program Survey show that 18% of seniors served by the FEAST program are considered at high nutritional risk, and an additional 44% are at moderate risk. FEAST provides nutritious meals, at no charge, to serve those at nutritional risk, while also offering all recipients the opportunity to contribute toward the cost of meals. Additionally, 33% of FEAST meal recipients report that they eat most meals alone. FEAST meals help to combat the mental health implications of frequent isolation. FEAST served over 18,000 meals in FY 2015.

In addition to increasing tax appropriations from our supporting towns, from a total of \$1049 in FY 2012 to \$16,000 in FY 2015, a 15x increase in four years, MSAC has achieved substantial increases in fundraising from foundations, local businesses, and individual donors. In FY 2015, we received \$48,073 in fundraising revenue, an increase of 37% over FY 2014 and 97% over FY 2013. This has allowed us to maintain class prices across the board for the second consecutive year and to continue offering affordable programming to area seniors despite decreases in our City tax appropriation. We also received a substantial and unexpected bequest from the estate of Christina Jackman, spouse of former MSAC Program Director Bob Jackman. In FY2016 plans are underway to invest that fund.

Current Advisory Council: Whitney Dall, Chair, Sue Stukey, Vice Chair, Susan Torchia, Secretary, Bob Barrett, Lisbeth Dodd, Bill Doelger, Fran Krushenick, Ron Merkin, Janet Ressler, and Jessica Sanderson. Note: Nominations for the FY17 MSAC Advisory Board will be accepted through March 11, 2016, and new member/candidates are welcomed. There are five Advisory Council seats up for election in June 2016.

MSAC operations are maintained by the equivalent of 2.48 full-time staff members (Lise Markus, Dan Groberg and Janna Clar) and over 150 volunteers. Volunteers are vital and contributed over 10,000 hours in 2015, leading classes and activities, working with the FEAST program, doing office work and data entry, planning and helping with events, preparing the mailing of the monthly newsletter, assisting with fundraising activities, serving on the Advisory Council, and more. We are extremely grateful to all of our volunteers for their generous commitments of time and energy that keep MSAC a vibrant community center.

We are also grateful to the members, families of members, businesses, foundations, and community members who support and remember MSAC through contributions, bequests and gifts. Our staff can talk with anyone about planned giving options. We thank the entire Montpelier community for their strong support over the years. A group of community mem-

bers is discussing the possibility of establishing a “Friends of MSAC” 501c3 non-profit in 2016.

Information about MSAC is available through the monthly printed newsletter, Active Times, weekly e-letters, and online at [www.montpelier-vt.org/msac](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/msac). MSAC office hours are 9 am-4 pm Monday through Friday, and the main phone number is 223-2518. All are welcome at this center that plays a vital role in making Montpelier a great place to live and to age!

## Montpelier Community Justice Center



Montpelier’s Community Justice Center (MCJC) provides a structure for the resolution of conflict and crime at a community level and in a context of shared problem solving – an approach that is backed by research as being an effective way to settle such matters. All of the MCJC services and programs have emerged from a solid foundation of restorative justice principles, which invoke community as a necessary and involved party in the resolution of conflict. Through the MCJC, the City of Montpelier offers readily available assistance for mediating conflict between neighbors and facilitating dialogue around divisive community issues. While the restorative justice interventions vary according to the offense and individual circumstances, in all cases they are focused on the harm to victims and their safety and on accountability and amends-making by those who offend. The MCJC also takes prevention seriously and offers classes and organizes forums about issues related to justice and conflict management.

Community members are involved in various ways with the MCJC, including serving on Restorative Justice Panels; providing a group mentoring/coaching relationship with people reentering community from incarceration through participating in Circles of Support and Accountability (COSAs); guiding MCJC direction through membership on the Citizen Advisory Boards; reaching out to crime victims; and co-facilitating classes. Overall, 61 people volunteered with the MCJC in 2015<sup>1</sup> giving 2,114.75 hours of their time, valued at \$47,687.62.

Local and State police, the State’s Attorney’s office, Washington County Sheriff’s Department, Vermont Department of Corrections, the Court, City departments and officials, and others refer matters to the MCJC. Individuals also self-refer. The MCJC is funded mostly by grants from the State.

<sup>1</sup> Data in this report represents fiscal year 2015, July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

During the past year the MCJC has begun to offer an important new service in conjunction with the Montpelier Police Department – the Victim Outreach Program. This program, based on the vision of Parallel Justice<sup>2</sup>, provides a critical means for the MCJC to honor its commitment to provide restorative responses to conflict and crime, responses that are by definition focused on the harm to victims and their attendant needs. Now people who have been victims of crime in Montpelier are contacted and offered assistance independent of the criminal justice system's actions with the person who offended. Since April 2015, the MCJC has been reaching out to crime victims to offer emotional support and information about where to find needed help. In the first six months of operating this program, the MCJC called and/or sent letters to 168 people and had phone or email conversations with 68 people. The responses were overwhelmingly positive. A sampling of typical responses is included below:

*"Thanks for your letter about my recent ID theft. I think I have it contained now, with some more safeguards put in place. But thanks for reaching out. I appreciate it!"*

*"Thank you so much. It's so helpful to know somebody cares. I really, really appreciate it. It's great that you're doing this."*

*"The police were very generous with their time and very cooperative with my concerns."*

*"I was surprised and amazed to get a call and a letter... I'm reconciled to the fact that this was probably kids, but if it had happened again, I would have felt 'marked' and not as safe... I think the police do a good job and I want to help and thought it was important to report... Most importantly, I was very touched to get the call and letter. It helps to put the matter to rest. I really appreciate a response that's 'human' and not just official."*

**Below are descriptions of some of the other services offered by the MCJC.**

The MCJC has a Conflict Assistance Program. Three experienced mediators are on staff and the MCJC contracts with others, when needed. Thirteen groups or individuals asked us to assist them or had others ask us to assist them in resolving conflict in 2015.

The MCJC's Restorative Justice Panels, made up of trained volunteers, hold meetings for resolving offenses that focus on identifying what the person who offended can do to deepen understanding of the harm, make amends to those who need it, connect in positive ways with their community and develop strategies for not re-offending. The people who are affected by the offense are always invited to participate and supported in talking about what happened while asking for what they need.

Of 83 cases resolved in 2015, 90% were successfully completed.

The MCJC organizes Circles of Support and Accountability (COSAs) for people reentering community from prison. Three volunteers meet regularly over the course of a year with a single core member to offer fellowship while coaching and supporting him or her to succeed in living in ways that do not cause harm to others or themselves. In 2015, the MCJC provided a COSA for each of 21 Restorative Reintegration Program participants.

In 2015 the MCJC increased conflict management skills for 23 people through delivery of three sessions of its Insights into Conflict class.

With the assistance of eight volunteer facilitators, the MCJC delivered two rounds of its 10-class Parenting with Respect class, a class for fathers who have been incarcerated or abusive to their children. They are helped to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes to become more responsive to their children's needs

The MCJC would love to hear from you if you:

- are interested in learning more about what it takes to volunteer with one of the MCJC programs;
- want to know more about restorative justice;
- think that one of our programs can be helpful to you or someone you know; or
- just want to meet us and see what cool things happen here.

You can find our office in the basement of City Hall wedged between the restrooms and the elevator door. You can reach us by phone at 223-9606 or email at [mcjc@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:mcjc@montpelier-vt.org).

Yvonne Byrd, *Director*

Judy Gibson, *Programs Coordinator*

Alfred Mills, *Re-entry Specialist*

## Montpelier Housing Authority

### *A Valuable Community Resource*

The Montpelier Housing Authority is a local, independent government agency that has served our community for well over forty-five years. Our five member Board of commissioners is appointed by the City Council with commissioners serving staggered five-year terms. The Board employs an Executive Director and staff to oversee its operations. As a local independent agency, we are not a City department. We are funded entirely by federal funds and management fees paid by the properties



2 See <http://www.victimsofcrime.org/library/publications/other-topics/parallel-justice>

that we manage. No local or state funds are received to operate our programs.

The Authority operates a wide variety of programs in its continuing effort to meet the need for affordable housing in our community. We own and manage Pioneer and Gould Apartments. We also serve as full managing agent for 58 Barre Street Apartments, Lane Shops Apartments, Cummings Street Apartments, and Prospect Place. We provide management services for two projects for Washington County Mental Health: a group home on St. Paul Street and a small apartment house on Prospect Street. In addition, we administer the Section 8 Existing Program which totals 122 vouchers. We also administer a home ownership option to our Section 8 participants. Working with the Central Vermont Homeownership Center, this option allows Section 8 tenants to use their vouchers to help pay their mortgage and other pertinent housing expenses. To date, we have had five closings under this option. A total of 324 units of affordable housing are provided through these programs.

This past year saw a continuation of reduced federal funding for the Section 8 Voucher Program, although not as severe as the year before. We were able to issue some vouchers, and as of the end of this year we have 111 of the 122 vouchers allotted, an increase of 9 from last year.

Our 501(c)3 nonprofit, Capital City Housing Foundation (CCHF) renovated Heaton Woods, an affordable residential care facility. Heaton Woods is a tremendous asset to the community. Several years ago, a generous gift from the Roselli family enabled us to add five more rooms when we renovated the third floor bringing the total number of rooms to 46. The public is welcome any time to tour the facility or visit with the residents. Please call 223-1157 if you have questions.

CCHF also owns Prospect Place and is the general partner for Cummings Street Family Housing Limited Partnership and 58 Barre Street Housing Limited Partnership.

CCHF continues sponsorship of the meals site at Pioneer Apartments. This program has operated continuously since 1973. The Senior Meals Program serves weekday noon meals to the elderly and persons with disabilities, along with weekend frozen meals on Fridays for those who need them. They also provide home deliveries to our elderly/disabled buildings and those living near the meals site. Please call 223-6357 for more information.

The Montpelier Housing Authority is committed to paying our fair share toward City expenses. All projects owned or managed by MHA and CCHF pay full water and sewer charges, including the sewer benefit. 58 Barre Street Apartments, Cummings Street Apartments, Prospect Place, Lane Shops Apartments, 7 St. Paul Street group home and the Washington County Men-

tal Health Prospect Street property paid a total of \$124,012.80 in property taxes to the City for the 2014-15 tax year.

Pioneer Apartments paid \$2,465.91 in sewer benefit and \$11,959.54 in PILOT. Gould paid \$481.59 in sewer benefit and \$2,750 in PILOT.

The Authority works cooperatively with city departments and other non profits, especially the Planning and Development Office and Downstreet Housing and Community Development (formerly CVCLT). We continue to work closely with the Assistant City Manager on issues that arise in connection with the 58 Barre Street property. The Authority not only serves as managing agent for the housing at 58 Barre Street, but also manages the commercial condominium comprised of the fourteen unit housing complex and the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. This includes ensuring that the bills are paid and that all the building systems are maintained, serviced and inspected as required.

The Executive Director also serves on the Montpelier Housing Task Force and the Washington County Continuum of Care.

The Authority strives to maintain a high level of service to our tenants and the Montpelier community. Please feel free to call our office at 229-9232 if we can be of service to you. You can also visit us on the City web site for more information including meeting agendas and minutes.

Jo Ann Troiano, *Executive Director*

## Green Mount Cemetery

### Highlights of 2015

**This Past Year's Work** – We continued to maintain and operate Green Mount Cemetery, Elm Street Cemetery and the various green spaces and traffic circles for the City. The granite facade on our old storage vault was reset and we are allowing the Gleaning Project use of this area for the storage of fruits and vegetables. This structure has not stored any caskets for over 100 years.

**Next Year's Goals** – We are presently working on updating our website and hopefully by July we will have an inviting and educational website that everyone can access from wherever they may be. Continuation of monument cleaning an entire section of the cemetery will also occur.

**Burial and Memorial Lots Available** – Our lot prices will be increased on July 1, 2016. There is a wide selection of lots available including family estate lots, mausoleum lots, and cremation lots nestled within a woodland section. Let us know your needs and we will strive toward developing your personalized burial lot.



**Rules and Regulations** – Before planning any work on your family’s lot including the installation of a monument or landscaping, please contact me for a copy of the Rules and Regulations.

**Tours** – Walking tours and even vehicle tours (if you provide the vehicle) can be given for individuals or for groups of up to 50 participants. These tours may be scheduled for any time with enough notice. Please call the office at 223- 5352 or email your request to [cemetery@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:cemetery@montpelier-vt.org). We also have a walking tour guide that can be used at your own discretion.

**Thank you** – to the citizens of Montpelier for your continued financial support and all of those who provide us feedback throughout the year.

**Questions or Comments?** Please feel free to ask any cemetery/death related question even if it does not directly pertain to Green Mount. You can always feel free to call me at work 223 – 5352 or at home in the evening/weekends at 279-6957. My email is [cemetery@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:cemetery@montpelier-vt.org)

**This year’s Director’s advice** – What is the definition of Perpetual Care or sometimes called Endowment Care?

*A cemetery investment fund in which only the annual earnings are used in the financing of a cemetery budget including maintenance, equipment purchase, capital projects and future land acquisition.*

With that definition, keep in mind that Vermont State Statues mandate that our investments stay quite conservative which keeps our rate of earnings low but safe. Presently our fund assets are at \$800,000 and we believe in order be self sufficient in funding, our assets should be closer to \$6 million in value. Tax deductible contributions are always gladly accepted for contributions into the endowment care fund of Green Mount Cemetery.

**Financial Gift Giving** – Please consider a monetary gift to our cemetery. Giving to Green Mount is truly a community gift. Gifts can be specified toward a certain project or for general use. Present project needs include: Endowment Care funding, plant materials (trees, shrubs, perennials) entrance enhancements, visitor benches and monument repair. Please contact us to discuss your preferred method of presenting a financial gift to Green Mount. Our Commissioners have retained a professional advisor for this free private consultation. For a confidential discussion and or a copy of our investment policy, please contact us at 802 - 223 - 5352 or email at [cemetery@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:cemetery@montpelier-vt.org).

Patrick Healy, *Director*

On behalf of our Commissioners: Jake Brown, Meri Nielsen, Darragh Ellerson, Charlie Wiley and Linda Berger

## Statistics 2015

Burials – 38, (22 Cremations, 16 Casket, 9 Winter burials, 1 infant)

Lots Sold – 14 full burial graves, 4 Cremation Lots

Removals – none

New Monuments installed - 14

Markers installed - 8

Monuments washed – 20 plus

Monuments repaired – 12

Flower/wreath Placement - 12

Mausoleum cleaned –0

Winter Vault entombments - 11

## Parks, Conservation & Recreation

### Parks Commission

The Parks Commission and the city’s rugged, hardworking Parks staff continue to manage and improve Montpelier parks on a tight budget. Montpelier residents can help support our greenspaces by volunteering in a park or contributing to policy by attending Parks Commission meetings. Below are some snapshots from Montpelier’s parks in 2015:

### Staffing, Volunteers and Community Heroes

This year we said goodbye to long-time Parks employee David Brunell. Dave had been working half time to maintain and improve our parks for the past nine years. He did a great job working with a huge variety of volunteers and groups to improve trails, repair equipment in the field, and add some humor and levity to challenging situations. We will miss Dave’s able assistance.

Alec Ellsworth, the Parks caretaker, who has been a wonderful addition to the Parks staff over the last couple of years, has taken on Dave’s role, and is now working full-time for Montpelier Parks. His fresh energy, skills and enthusiasm are much appreciated.

This past summer we received a grant from Vermont Department of Labor, which provided us with six job trainees who helped with a variety of projects listed below, along with the usual maintenance of lawns and roads. The 21st International Volunteer group, which helped us out with a variety tasks for three weeks this summer, is one of many groups, classes, and individuals too numerous to list that helped to care for and improve our parks. Thanks to these selfless superheroes, Montpelier Parks can be enjoyed by many residents and visitors. Thank you all!

### **Blanchard Park and Its Playground**

Park staff, Department of Labor trainees, a volunteer from the Community Justice Center, and international volunteers helped on more improvements to Blanchard Park, including additional selective thinning, plantings near the entrance, trail tune-up, and the adding of more elements to the playground, including a small rock climbing wall, balance elements, and a xylophone.

### **Union School Playground**

Park staff, Billi Quittner, Gampo Wickenheiser, and a Community Justice Center volunteer helped make and place a number of elements for the Union Elementary School yard, including a large balance beam, a xylophone, balance and sitting stumps, wooden benches and a log racing car.

### **New Entrance Gates**

This year we replaced the Winter Street entrance gate and the Hubbard Park Drive entrance gates, improving the function of the gates and the entrance appearance.

### **New Shelter Parking Barrier**

The barrier posts at the new shelter parking area, which were over 40 years old and leaning, were replaced by boulders. The placement of the boulders adds to the aesthetics, in addition to providing effective barriers and inviting people to sit or climb on them.

### **Statehouse Path Wall**

A leaning section of the Statehouse path wall was replaced, and a new drainage system was installed that should help the wall be more resistant to the effects of freezing and thawing.

### **Watershed Improvements**

Zack Simpson, an Eco Americorp member, whose time is shared with the Montpelier Conservation Commission, is helping to improve Montpelier's watershed. Among other things, he will be working to keep sediment in place on roads and trails. By preventing sediments from washing into our streams and rivers, we can decrease the maintenance needed on our road and trail systems and avoid the problems created when sediment washes into rivers and streams. Additionally Zack will be working on improving riverside (riparian) habitat through the control of invasive plants and the planting of helpful native plants. Invasives like Japanese knotweed destabilize river banks and magnify the sedimentation problems, unlike native plants their root systems do not capture and filter sediment in run-off.

### **Canine Conduct in Hubbard Park**

Many Montpelier residents are passionate in their opinions about dogs in Hubbard Park and other city parkland. We con-

tinue to receive occasional incident reports that the Park Commission is concerned about. Dog related discussions on the Front Porch Forum email service have at times been heated. The Parks Commission, working with the Friends of Dogs of Hubbard Park, is now taking new measures to prevent conflicts in city parks. These include bigger signs about the city's Canine Code of Conduct and leaflets for parks visitors about sharing parks trails with dogs.

Montpelier Parks are everyone's parks, and everyone has the right to enjoy the parks. As we look ahead to the coming season please consider the role you can play in ensuring that your enjoyment of the park does not negatively impact another's park experience, and take every opportunity you can to educate fellow park users about how to share this community treasure. You can report any incidents or problems on the Parks Department and the Parks Commission web page on Montpelier's website. When warranted, a police report can also help us improve the parks experience for everyone.

Commissioners can be reached by email at [parks-commission@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:parks-commission@montpelier-vt.org)

### **Park Commissioners (*Elected*)**

Emily Boedecker, *Chair*  
Carolyn Grodinsky  
Bryan Pfeiffer  
Kip Roberts  
Bill Johnson

## **Conservation Commission**

The Montpelier Conservation Commission (MCC) seeks to strengthen the relationship between people and nature in order to involve residents in the protection and enhancement of the City's natural environment. The Commission is charged with advising the Planning Commission, City Council, and other city officials on issues concerning Montpelier's natural resources. Highlights of our work during 2015 follow.

### **Conservation Survey**

The Conservation Commission partnered with the Advanced Placement Statistics Class at Montpelier High School to conduct a Conservation Survey in the City in 2013. The survey results came in during 2014, data analysis was conducted, and a pamphlet containing the results was prepared and released in 2015. The survey results illustrate that City residents value open space, access to parks and trails, and protection of natural resources. The pamphlet summarizing the findings will be available in the near future on the Commission website at [www.montpelier-vt.org/398/Conservation-Commission](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/398/Conservation-Commission).

## Zoning Revisions

The Conservation Commission has continued to play a role in the on-going update of the Montpelier Land Development Regulations by collaborating with the Planning Commission on issues related to natural resource protection and open space conservation. The Conservation Commission is working to help maintain the combination of a vibrant city and easy local access to the natural environment and recreation that our work shows is one of the primary reasons people are drawn to living in Montpelier. To support the zoning process, we created a Natural Resources Inventory Map and a Conservation Priority Map. The Natural Resources Inventory Map delineates key local natural resources needing protection that are not already protected under existing state and federal regulations. The Conservation Priority Map, which builds on the Parks Greenprint prepared by the Montpelier Parks Commission, shows potential future parklands and trail corridors throughout the City. The Conservation Commission presented these maps to the Planning Commission.

## Berlin Pond Water Quality Protection

The Commission continued to support the efforts of citizens, the City, several advocacy groups, and state representatives to return Berlin Pond to full protection to reduce risks to our only source of drinking water, a vital natural resource. Berlin Pond is vulnerable to disturbance that would reduce water quality due to: 1. The shallow water depth; 2. Soft bottom sediments; and 3. The likelihood that pond visitors, particularly those boating in the pond, would increase the population of existing invasive plants growing in the pond. The introduction of zebra mussels, an invasive aquatic organism that does not exist in the pond now is a great concern. The introduction of pathogenic microbes from human waste could be introduced by direct contact recreation and could reduce the quality of our drinking water. A reduction in water quality would lead to more expensive water treatment and the potential need for costly treatment plant upgrades. The wonderful co-benefit of protecting Berlin Pond from direct recreational access is the unique intact habitat that has been preserved due to lack of human disturbance. Despite the close proximity to the State Capitol, the pond has a diversity of aquatic and wetland habitats including a cedar swamp that is a natural community of statewide significance.

## High School Students Continue Service on the Conservation Commission

Asa Richardson-Skinder joined the Commission, along with Isaac Mears, to serve as Official Youth Members during the 2015 term. Past student members include Mahima Poredy, Megan-Hoyne Wingate, Liam McSweeney, Caitlin Pateron, and Joshua Klavens. Anyone interested is encouraged to

contact Matt McLane, Community Based Learning faculty, at Montpelier High School at 225-8052.

## Stormwater Management

This year the Commission has played a role in the on-going Stormwater Master Planning Project. We assisted with the consultant selection process and will be participating in the plan development. The Commission continues to be active in improving the way we handle stormwater to protect water quality and work to minimize future permit requirements with stormwater discharges.

## One Taylor Street (former Carr Lot)

Commission members continued to provide input to the One Taylor Street development. We have a long history of work at this site and are eager to see green space, a connection to the rivers, and stormwater treatment as part of this project. Several years ago the Commission held a design charrette for this site and the majority of Montpelier residents voted to keep at least half of the site as green space and create a park with river access. We plan to maintain our pursuit of these design objectives with this development moving forward.

## Americorp Member takes on Conservation work

We lost the assistance and support of the VISTA program during 2015 but gained help of an Americorp program. The Conservation Commission partially funded an EcoAmericorp position that is held by Zack Simpson who is helping us protect our watershed by implementing local sediment control practices (i.e., lessening erosion on trails and gravel roads), and improving riverside habitat. Zack is working with Parks, the City, and landowners providing guidance on how to manage invasive plants and displace them with natives more likely to stabilize the river banks.

## Other Topics

The Commission fields concerns about the City's natural resources from residents and brings up topics of concern to the Planning Commission, the Development Review Board, and City Council. Please feel free to contact us with any questions. This year we discussed a wide range of topics that include:

- Potential conservation projects;
- Riparian buffers;
- Invasive species;
- Sabin's Pasture;
- Emerald Ash Borer;
- Flood Hazard Regulations;
- City wetland and natural community mapping;

- Association of VT Conservation Commissions;
- MCC strategic planning.

**Members**

Commission members, alternates, and liaisons during all or part of the year included the following people (listed alphabetically).

- Geoff Beyer, Parks Liaison
- James Brady
- Emily Byrne
- Ben Eastwood
- John Fox
- Christopher Hilke
- Charles Hohn
- John Jose
- Issac Mears, Official Youth Member
- Jim Murphy
- Asa Richardson-Skinder, Official Youth Member
- Roy Schiff, Chair

The Conservation Commission is a group of Montpelier residents who are eager to assist the City in protecting its natural resources. The Commission meets at 7:00 pm at City Hall on the second Thursday of every month. All meetings are open to the public. For more information contact Roy Schiff at 223-7214 or roy.schiff@aya.yale.edu.

Roy Schiff, *Chair*



(Photo courtesy of Linda Hogan)

**Montpelier Tree Board**

**Purpose of the Tree Board:**

The purpose of the Tree Board is to protect the public health and welfare by improving and preserving the beauty of the city as it relates to the “urban forest,” including street and park trees, the City forest and trees on private property. The Board administers and updates a plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, removal, or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets, and in other public areas.



The old Ginkgo tree (left) on Barre Street, by far the largest of its kind in the area, is just one example of the many fine trees we can enjoy in Montpelier especially in the fall when the foliage is golden.

The Board meets monthly (1st Thursday) at City Hall and schedules two regular workdays each month (1st Saturday, 10-noon and 3rd Thursday, noon-2) around the city. All are welcome to attend any of our meetings or workdays. We also have room on the Board for more members if you want to play a larger role in the City’s urban forest.

**Current Board Membership:**

- |                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| John Snell, Chair        | Sarah Hoffmeier |
| John Akielaszek          | Abby Colihan    |
| Jeff Schumann            | Lynn Wild       |
| Geoff Beyer, Tree Warden |                 |

The board and a strong group of volunteers once again logged more than a thousand hours of service in 2015, from planting to weeding and watering, from meetings to completing grant applications.

We did all our work in 2015 with an \$1800 budget from the taxpayers. In addition, we raised funds through grants and donations and met the bulk of our non-cash needs with volunteer labor.

We could not do our work without the very active support of the Parks Department, in particular Geoff Beyer and their crews.

**Summary of our work for 2015**

- **Tree planting:** We continue to plant trees in various locations around town using both trees purchased with our budget and grant funds as well as trees grown in our nursery. This year we replaced four trees in the downtown area that were in decline and added another dozen trees to the urban forest.

- **GreenUp Day celebration:** The Tree Board provided maintenance on all the downtown trees by adding compost and gypsum (to counter effects of salt) to the planting areas.
- **Arbor Day celebration:** The Tree Board helped plant a tree for Arbor Day at Union Elementary School.
- **Tree maintenance:** We continue to expand our work maintaining our existing trees. We maintained our focus on the downtown trees, by adding compost and gypsum to the planting areas and pruning the trees as needed. Additionally, weeding the planting areas was done throughout the summer.

Several trees downtown were damaged by a late frost, after the leaves had emerged. While we hoped all of these might recover, several appear to be permanently damaged and will be replaced in the spring.

- **Tree nursery:** We maintain a small nursery, The Norm Hudson Nursery, at North Branch Nature Center, which donates the land for our use.

We are working hard to improve the quality of the trees raised as well as refine the species to better suit our needs. We particularly appreciate the work done by the Parks Department to mow the nursery, remove damaged and older trees, clean up and recycle old plastic tubing and assist in transplanting.



- **Pruning workshops:** The Board and the Tree Warden hosted a hands-on workshop to teach people the basics of small tree pruning. This was attended by over a dozen people some of whom have continued to volunteer with us.
- **Tree walks:** Board member John Snell led four educational tree walks around town during 2015 which were attended by more than two dozen people total.
- **Watering downtown trees:** Due to limited quantity of soil in the small downtown tree pits, weekly hand-watering is required. Several volunteers did the bulk of the work during the summer; as a result, and because of fairly good rainfall, most of the trees came through in excellent condition.
- **Sidewalk and street clearance pruning:** With assistance from the staff of the Parks Department, we have responded to more than a half-dozen situations, including several referrals from DPW, where trees overhanging sidewalks

were causing problems. We are pleased to be able to provide these services to the city while also assuring the work will be done acceptably to relevant arboreal standards.

- **Tree City USA:** Montpelier once again qualified as a Tree City USA and was honored for the 13th year as such by the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program. A Tree City USA must have: (1) a tree board or tree warden; (2) a tree ordinance; (3) a tree program with an annual budget of at least \$2/person; and (4) an annual Arbor Day celebration proclaiming the importance of trees in our lives.

- **Protecting riverbank trees:** Predation by beavers of riverbank trees continues to be a problem, especially noticeable late last spring on the North Branch. The Board has held two workdays during which we fenced a number of trees (left) to protect them from further damage. More work remains to be done, as this is an ongoing issue.



- **Focusing on Planting a Neighborhood:** Board member Lynn Wild is leading an effort to focus planting in a neighborhood in order to both expand the urban forest as well as encourage tree stewardship. The focus for 2016 will be St. Paul Street, beginning with educational efforts in January and February that will lead to planting in the spring and fall.
- **Consulting:** We provide informal, free consulting to citizens, businesses and community organizations with questions about their trees. This work ranges from advice on pruning and planting to questions about tree health or possible removal. In 2015 we provided these services in more than two dozen instances.
- **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Educational Project:** Unfortunately this invasive pest now surrounds Vermont on all sides and is expected to infest the city itself within a year or two. A group of volunteers, led by Board member John Akielaszek, has continued to inventory Ash trees on a random selection of 100 private properties in the city. A projection of this data suggests more than 2700 Ash trees grow on private property in the city. John has continued to update a response plan and lead the implementation of the steps included in it. Along with Board Chair John Snell, he made a presentation to the City Manager and the City Council about the issues involved.
- **Grants:** The City, mainly through the efforts of the Geoff Beyer, Tree Warden, received a grants from Vermont Ur-

ban and Community Forestry Program to continue with the citywide inventory of all species as well as a smaller grant to plant a tree. In addition we received another American Forests' Global ReLeaf grant to plant trees along the river and streets.

- **Inventory of all trees:** Led by Geoff Beyer, Tree Warden, work continues to complete and update an inventory of all street trees. In addition, volunteer Bob Troester created an online inventory tool for downtown trees that may be expanded to all city trees. This can be seen on the city's website.

### Planning for the future:

- We will continue maintaining existing trees and planting



new ones throughout the city using both purchased trees as well as those we grow in our nursery.

- We will continue efforts to focus planting in specific areas of the city, as we have done in the past along Barre Street. This year we will work on St. Paul Street.
- We will continue to implement the preparedness plan for the Emerald Ash Borer.
- We will continue to educate community members of all ages as to the importance of Montpelier's trees and how they can better care for those on their property. We appreciate the continued support we have from the citizens of Montpelier as well as the City Council and City government. We could not do our work without the very generous support of the staff of the Parks Department and the cooperation of DPW.
- **City Budget:** We were pleased the City Council restored much of our budget which now stands at \$2000/year. While we certainly have needs in excess of that amount (a single tree, purchased and planted by a professional typically costs 1/3 of that!), we are confident we can raise additional funds and find grants to supplement the tax payers' investment in the urban forest. Of course, we also hope

the Council will further prioritize funding the work we are doing so that it can be expanded.

As has been the case with our streets and bridges and other infrastructure, we have failed to adequately address the real needs of our urban forest for too many years now and the cumulative effects are showing all too clearly. Located as we are in the middle of the Green Mountain forest, it is easy to take our trees for granted. *The City's trees need our increased support for in the years ahead.*

John Snell, Chair

## Montpelier Recreation Department

The Montpelier Recreation Department is proud of its service to the City of Montpelier and its citizens. Free time is so important, yet limited in everyone's daily lives. The citizens of Montpelier have recognized the need for a strong recreation program. These programs are not only for children, but for all ages and ability levels in the community.

In 2015, the Recreation Department ran its yearly programs: Youth Soccer, Youth Basketball, Youth Baseball, Capital Kids Summer Day Camp and Capital Kids Vacation Day Camps, Swimming and Tennis Lessons, Baby Sitting Classes, Hunter Safety, Yoga, Sugarbush Sunday Ski Program, Scottish Country Dancing, Ballroom Dancing and more. We also ran our special events including: Skating with Frosty, Family Fun Day at the pool during the July 3rd celebration, Father/Daughter Valentines Dance, Mother/Son Bowling, Touch a Truck, Ski & Skate Sale, Halloween Party, Easter Egg Hunt and more.

The Recreation Department is always looking for new ways to provide "constructive use of leisure time". New programs this past year consisted of CPR and First Aid Classes, two week programs for Soccer Camps and Lego League. Zumba, drawing classes, Adult Sunday Basketball, Girls on the Run and Fitness Hooping just to name a few continue to be popular with the community.

The Montpelier Swimming Pool once again had a successful summer despite the weather in the early part of the season. Special events at the pool were well attended. We had a Bar-b-que night, a Pizza Night, Moonlight Swim and our Ice Cream Social. Other activities at the pool were swimming lessons, tiny tot lessons, lifeguard classes and swim team. Thanks to all of our very qualified pool staff for a terrific and accident free summer.

Once again, our outdoor facilities saw a lot of participant use. The Picnic Shelter, Tennis Courts, Outdoor Basketball Court, and our Skate Park were very popular. Our athletic fields were very busy this year. With many sports seasons getting longer, it puts additional demands on our fields and staff. Weather

conditions for ice-skating at the pool were better this year than they have been in past years. When conditions cooperate, there is free skating from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

The Vermont Mountaineers had another successful season this year earning another League Championship to their credit. The baseball camps also continue to be very popular. The Montpelier Recreation Department is proud to be able to play a role in providing the field and maintenance support that is needed to make this program successful. Our maintenance staff does a great job keeping this field and all our facilities looking their best. This truly is a great opportunity for summer time activity in our great city.

Many of our programs rely on volunteers in order to make them run smoother. We at the Recreation Department would like to express our gratitude to these many, committed people. Without dedicated people and organizations like the VFW, many of our programs would be impossible to run with the staff alone. Along with the volunteers, the cooperation among school and city departments helps us to run many of our programs. The sharing of equipment and facilities help keep costs down.

We hope that you will take advantage of your Recreation Department in 2016. We are here to help you find “constructive use for your leisure time”.

If you know of a program you would like to see offered, know of an instructor to teach a class for us, or if you have any questions, please call us at 225-8699 or stop by our office at of 55 Barre Street.

Don't forget to check us out at [www.montpelierrec.org](http://www.montpelierrec.org). We are truly one of Montpelier's best keep secrets. “Serving our community since 1945”.

Arne McMullen, *Director of Recreation*  
Jenny Bartlett, *Program Coordinator/Pool Manager*  
Kaitlin Nelson, *Administrative Assistant, ½ time*  
Norma Maurice, *Administrative Assistant*  
Rick Lachapelle, *Maintenance Forman*  
Carl Nunn, *Maintenance*  
Rick Thompson, *Maintenance, ½ year – July 1, 2015*

#### RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

James Surwilo, *Chair*  
Karlynn Koenemann  
Andrea Talentino  
Aubrey Boyles  
Vacant  
Sue Aldrich – *School Board Representative*  
Tom Golonka – *City Council Representative*

## North Branch Nature Center

For 20 years North Branch Nature Center (NBNC) has been connecting people of all ages with the natural world in Montpelier and beyond. We offer natural history programming for children and adults alike, as well as special events and free and open access to our property and trails for recreation and reflection. Each year more than 5,000 people attend our programs and/or use our property, just two miles from the center of town (at 713 Elm Street). Our programs include:



- ECO (Educating Children Outdoors), offered in partnership with public schools. All 504 Montpelier students in Kindergarten through 5th grade are involved, as well as students in eight other area public elementary schools;
- ECO teacher training (graduate level, for-credit courses);
- Summer nature camps (scholarships available);
- Forest Preschool (scholarships available);
- A weekly nature playgroup (free to the public);
- On and off-site bird and nature walks, lectures and workshops;
- The mid-winter Naturalist Journeys slide show & lecture series;
- Citizen science programs, including owl banding and Monarch butterfly tagging;
- A seasonal after-school program (Trekks) and much more.

NBNC also serves as a convenient trail head for a walk on our property or a more extended hike in North Branch River Park and Hubbard Park. We welcome all trail-walkers, runners, bikers, birders, snowshoers, and skiers to our trails. We also host the Ice on Fire midwinter celebration, the Community Garden, where 40 families grow their food, and the City of Montpelier's tree nursery, where trees are tended until they are the right size to move into town to beautify our city streets.

However, as our programs have grown over the last two decades, we have outgrown the small farmhouse and former sheep barn from which we work. Now, thanks to many generous donors, a \$1.5 million campaign is underway to construct a new, energy-efficient building which will provide:

- Indoor and outdoor teaching and exhibit spaces, including a nature preschool classroom;
- A welcoming place for skiers to warm up from the cold, and walkers to take shelter from the rain;

- Expanded programming for the community and visitors to Montpelier;
- Meeting and presentation spaces, with catering kitchen and public restrooms;
- Natural playground, pollinator gardens, covered picnic area and more!

We have already raised more than half of the funding (\$810,000 as of Jan. 1, 2016) in gifts and pledges from foundations, businesses and individuals. We now invite the broader community to partner with us for the second phase of the campaign. On Town Meeting Day, 2016, please join your friends and neighbors and support our \$75,000 request from the City of Montpelier to help build a new Community Nature Center.

The NBNC board and staff appreciate the continued support of the City of Montpelier and its residents. We look forward to serving as your local resource for outdoor recreation, natural history and science education for many years to come.

For more information call us at 229-6206 or visit [www.NorthBranchNatureCenter.org](http://www.NorthBranchNatureCenter.org).

Chip Darmstadt, *Executive Director*

## Cross Vermont Trail Association

Imagine a multi-use, four-season off-road trail across the width of Vermont following the Winooski River & Wells River valleys, a 90 mile greenway for cyclists, skiers and walkers connecting communities, their schools, and the natural areas between. This vision has steadily moved toward reality through the quiet work of the Cross Vermont Trail Association.

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private non-profit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. We are funded by winning competitive grants and through individual donations from trail users. With part-time staff and donated office space, we are large enough to get things done, but small enough to be cost efficient. We work in partnership with community organizations across the state to develop and expand local trails. Already 30 miles of Cross Vermont Trail are signed and open to the public. These 30 miles are complemented by our 60 miles of “on-road” route signs that identify the best roads people can use to link together existing trail sections. Meanwhile, we continue to work towards the ultimate goal of connecting all local trails into a continuous, statewide, off-road network.

Maps and guidebook to the trail route are available free at [www.crossvermont.org](http://www.crossvermont.org), or call us at 802-498-0079.

Thanks to all the people who volunteered their time this year swinging picks and shovels to improve and expand their local

trails! We are working together with interested land owners to establish right of way for many miles of new trail at locations across the state, including what will be a watershed project in the history of the Cross Vermont Trail, a new 200 foot bridge over the Winooski River in East Montpelier.

Residents of all towns through which the trail route passes are invited to get involved in the CVTA. Get better trails near where you live. Contact us at 802-498-0079 or online at [www.crossvermont.org](http://www.crossvermont.org).

Greg Western, *Executive Director*

P.S. We also host numerous recreational outings throughout the year. Check our website for further info on June’s Central Vermont Cycling Tour in East Montpelier, the Fall Foliage Ride in Groton, Ryegate and Newbury, and more!

## Wrightsville Beach Recreation District



The summer of 2015 was a great summer for everyone who came out to enjoy the beach and other recreational facilities.

This was our fourth year with the full 18 hole disc golf course that brought people from around VT to play. The season started off rainy in June and July, but nice weather prevailed in August and continued all the way into October. Even with the rainy start, attendance at the beach was consistent allowing for another high grossing year.

The District expanded on its popular canoeing and kayaking program by adding more boats, along with the two paddle boats. Improvements were made to the wet sections of the hiking trails and 18 hole disc golf course. We were also host to a weekly disc golf league, a variety of day camps and community programs, the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Wrightsville Beach Disc Golf Tournament and the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Green Mountain Water Skiers Tournament. We also made more improvements to the paths to the ticket booth and beach by adding a third bench.

The Board of Directors is committed to maintaining and improving the overall recreational experience for all users. This requires continuing investment in the facility for maintenance, operations and capital improvements. The following figures summarize the District’s financial operations from January 1, 2015 through year’s end:

### Revenue

Washington Electric	\$ 9,500
Municipal Assessments	\$ 6,683
Season’s User Fees	\$47,425
Prior year’s carryover	\$ 1,804

Grants	\$1,875
Total Revenue	\$67,288
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Personnel	\$36,149
Maintenance	\$9,046
Operating	\$6,779
Total Expenditures	\$51,974

Any carryover from operating revenue and expenditures that is realized in any year is used to fund the next year's operating expenses. Since a successful beach season is contingent on the weather, it is difficult to predict what the user fees will be and whether there will be a carryover from one year to the next.

The Board thanks the member communities for their continued support of Wrightsville Beach.

Carl Witke, *Worcester, Chair*  
 Bill Merrylees, *East Montpelier*  
 Daniel Currier, *Montpelier*  
 Jane Dudley, *Middlesex*  
 Jessica Chaves, *Montpelier*  
 Collin O'Neil, *Beach Manager*

## Montpelier Community Connections



In 2016, Community Connections begins its fifteenth year serving the children and families of Montpelier, Calais, Berlin, East Montpelier, Middlesex and Worcester. Underlying all programming is the mission to make a positive difference in the lives of the area's youth, encourage healthy behaviors, and decrease substance abuse. With prevention strategies central to this mission, Community Connections continues to deliver engaging, enriching programs during all out-of-school-time periods – when youth are most vulnerable to risk. Across the towns, 1433

students were served in CC's out-of-school-time programs. The number of children that we served increased significantly due to our expansion into Berlin in February where we replaced Kidwatch as the provider of before and afterschool care.

During the past school year, Montpelier Community Connections afterschool and summer programming enrolled 174 Union Elementary students, 131 Main Street Middle School students, and 141 students from Montpelier High School. Also, 54 Montpelier students came to summer camp; 23 kids got off to a great start in kindergarten courtesy of a two-week Boot Camp; and over 60 kids came to in-service and vacation day camps. We also served hundreds of free lunches to the children of Montpelier at our Summer Food site at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center.

Community Connections serves a diverse population of Montpelier youth. Our programming, with its focus on healthy risk-taking, social skills development, fun, and enrichment, has offered many students chances to achieve when social, economic, or institutional barriers would otherwise inhibit out-of-school-time involvement. Montpelier youth benefitted from participation in a wide range of CC programs such as African Drumming, Winter Ecology/Snow Science, swimming, gardening, Wild Edibles, Homework Club, LEGO Robotics, canoeing and kayaking, and song writing.

We look forward to the next fifteen years of service to the families of Montpelier.

Alexander Rob, *Executive Director*



# Area Agencies Social Services

## Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice



**Central Vermont  
Home Health & Hospice**  
A Century of Caring and Quality

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice (CVHHH) is a 104-year-old full service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association governed by a local voluntary Board of Directors. Serving the residents of 23 central Vermont communities in the comfort and privacy of their own homes, CVHHH is committed to providing high-quality, medically-necessary home health and hospice care to all central Vermonters, regardless of their ability to pay. The agency also promotes the general welfare of local community members with long term care and health promotion activities including flu and pneumonia vaccinations, health screenings, foot care clinics, and international travelers' health. In addition to direct patient care, CVHHH's hospice program offers comprehensive bereavement services and volunteer training.

**2015 Annual Service Report City Of Montpelier  
Report of CVHHH Services to the City of Montpelier  
January 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015\***

<u>Program</u>	<u># of Visits</u>
Home Health Care .....	6,703
Hospice Care.....	741
Long Term Care .....	5,625
Maternal Child Health .....	173
<b>TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS .....</b>	<b>13,242</b>
<b>TOTAL PATIENTS.....</b>	<b>362</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMISSIONS .....</b>	<b>476</b>

\*Audited figures for the full twelve months were not available at the time this report was submitted. Final figures will be available after the first quarter of the year.

Town funding will help ensure CVHHH continues these services in Montpelier through 2016 and beyond. For more information contact Sandy Rousse, President/CEO, or Daniel L. Pudvah, Director of Development at 223-1878.

## People's Health & Wellness Clinic



**PEOPLE'S HEALTH  
& WELLNESS CLINIC**

553 North Main Street Barre, VT 05641

Telephone (802) 479-1229

*Serving the Uninsured and Underinsured of  
Central Vermont*

Now in our 22nd year, the Mission of the People's Health & Wellness Clinic is to provide primary health care and wellness education to uninsured and underinsured central Vermont residents who could not otherwise afford these services.

Our services have always included primary medical care, mental health, body work and other complementary health, diet and nutrition, and vision care. The addition of oral health care to our services has been extremely well received, and the demand far outweighs our current capacity. We have been offering on site dental hygiene for over a year. Currently, we have one full day a week and part of a second day. The rest of that day, our oral health case manager works on referrals to a growing number of central Vermont dentists who generously donate their services for more serious oral health needs, including extractions, restorative work, and occasionally dentures. However, as with on site hygiene services, there is far more demand than current capacity, and we must triage these services.

2015 was our fifth year of providing special women's services, in collaboration with Central Vermont Medical Center, and funded by the Susan G. Komen Foundation and the Ladies First program. All female patients receive a complete breast cancer risk factor assessment, and have access to physicals, free mammograms, other diagnostic tests, and coverage for gaps in their insurance. Even if you have commercial insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare, these programs may still offer benefits. One example is addressing cardio-vascular health by paying for membership in fitness programs for eligible women.

In 2015, we also continued our participation in the evidence-based prevention screening program known as SBIRT. This stands for Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment. It's designed to identify people at low to medium risk for alcohol and/or drug abuse and depression and head off riskier behavior by an early intervention. All our patients receive this screening routinely.

Finally, we continue to offer navigation services for people needing to sign up for health insurance through Vermont Health Connect. We have certified staff that is experienced in helping people understand their options and choose a plan that fits their specific needs and budgets. We have worked with the program since its inception in 2013, and are well-versed in

dealing with the system and the technical challenges that have presented over time. The public should know that five out of six applications go through just fine, and we can help with the ones that are problematic.

In Calendar Year 2015, the People's Health & Wellness Clinic provided 1664 patient interactions to 478 individual patients. 177 of these patients were new to the Clinic. We provided 556 medical visits, 441 medical consults, 691 diagnostic tests, 77 dental hygiene visits and 51 referrals to dentists for treatment. We provided 186 pharmaceutical samples, immunizations, and vouchers, and wrote hundreds more prescriptions. Our services include screening all patients for eligibility in a variety of health insurance and assistance programs. We also helped many of the 478 patients navigate the application process for a variety of programs including Medicaid, Ladies First, Medicare, Healthy Vermonters, Affordable Meds, and Central Vermont Medical Center – UVM Health Network and other hospitals' patient financial assistance programs. Through all these efforts, we were able to successfully enroll them 150 times, many in more than one program.

**63 separate Montpelier residents sought our services in 2015, requiring 175 separate patient interactions. They came for 62 full medical visits. We provided 52 case management interactions, 10 medical consults, performed or arranged for 95 diagnostic tests (labs, x-rays, etc.) and provided immunizations and pharmaceutical samples or vouchers 24 times. We had 21 dental visits, resulting in 20 cleanings (prophylaxis), 5 x-rays, and 9 referrals out to participating dentists. We also had 2 mental health visits. Our navigation services helped individuals successfully enroll into health insurance and assistance programs 26 times.**

Volunteer practitioners are the heart of our service model. In 2015, over 75 volunteers gave over \$65,700 worth of their time serving our patients. Over \$47,000 worth of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies were donated for our patients, and we paid \$9,666 for diagnostic testing, and got another \$6,696 of tests donated.

We define our primary service area as all of Washington County, plus the Orange County towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown, but we do not restrict geographic access, and ended up serving people from 45 Vermont towns. To have been eligible for our services in 2015, one must not have health insurance (including Medicaid or Medicare), or have a health insurance deductible that is greater than 7.5% of household income, or need services offered by PHWC that are not covered by insurance, and have a household income of less than 400% of the Federal Poverty Level.

We are a free clinic, and depend on grants and donations, including from our patients. For more information on our

services, to make a donation, or to volunteer, please visit our website at [phwcvt.org](http://phwcvt.org). Patients are seen by appointment only – call 802-479-1229, Monday through Thursday.

We are grateful to the voters of Montpelier for many years of support for the Clinic, and are very pleased to be able to provide these services to the community. Thank you.

Peter Youngbaer, *Executive Director*

## Project Independence

Over the past year (2015) Project Independence (PI) served 10 residents of Montpelier and we currently have 5 enrolled in our program. Most of these participants come 5 days a week, with an average day being 7 hours long.



Each day, our highly trained and experienced staff care for participants with a wide range of health and emotional issues/limitations. We provide them with:

- Nursing care and physical therapy support (diabetes monitoring, vital signs, medication, etc.)
- Hygiene assistance (showers, nail care, shampoo, haircut, shaving, etc.)
- Physical and mental stimulation (word games, exercise, crafts, board games, educational speakers, musical entertainers)
- Socialization & outings (bowling, dining out, mall walks, shopping trips)
- Balanced and nutritional meals (breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack)
- Support groups for family caregivers and others (with on-site respite for the loved one)
- Transportation to/from our facility, when needed

### Project Independence' Work/Mission

The core of our mission is to keep our elderly, frail, mentally & physically disabled adults at home with their loved ones and independent for as long as possible. Adult Day Centers remain a crucial piece of the healthcare circle as our population of aging adults continues to grow.

Our services allow family members/spouses to continue working and/or time for themselves which supports their efforts to keep their loved one at home with them. Families know PI is a safe environment where their loved ones enjoy spending time and are kept safe.

For our participants themselves, coming to PI is a familiar place

where they socialize, have delicious meals, experience fun activities and entertainment and get medical assistance.

Dee Rollins, *Executive Director*

## THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Since 1979, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with significant disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.



In FY'15 (10/2014-9/2015) VCIL responded to over 3,265 requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 346 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 18 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 238 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 68 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 100 individuals with information on assistive technology; 42 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 500 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60.

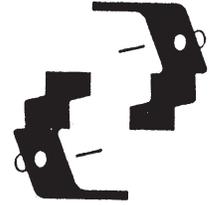
VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY '15, 44 residents of Montpelier received services from the following programs:

- Home Access Program (HAP)
- Meals on Wheels (MOW)  
(\$8,697.00 spent on meals for residents)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC)
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)  
(\$1,200.00 spent on assistive technology)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

## Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired



More than 10,500 Vermonters are blind or visually impaired. Vision problems complicate an individual's ability to perform daily tasks, remain mobile, and enjoy leisure activities. Vermont's rural nature makes it hard for this population to interact with people who face similar challenges. These realities often lead to feelings of isolation and depression. VABVI works to counter this trend.

During Fiscal Year 2015, we served 1,444 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont. This included 31 clients in Montpelier and 124 clients in Washington County.

VABVI is a nonprofit organization. Since 1926 we have diligently pursued our mission of enabling Vermonters with vision problems, whether blindness or impairment, to achieve and maintain independence. We are the only private agency in Vermont to offer a complete range of services to visually impaired residents – and at no cost to the client.

Services include Rehabilitation (adapting daily living tasks to allow those with low vision to live independently); Orientation and Mobility (providing white cane and guide dog instruction, allowing individuals to navigate through their home and community independently); Assistive Technology (adaptive aids allow clients to successfully perform most activities); Social Networking (improving social skills, providing a support network); and Statewide Transportation (volunteer drivers provide rides to medical appointments, grocery stores and for personal visits).

VABVI has four offices statewide, located in Brattleboro, Montpelier, Rutland and South Burlington. For more information about VABVI's services, or to volunteer, please contact us at (800) 639-5861, email us at [general@vabvi.org](mailto:general@vabvi.org) or visit our website at [www.vabvi.org](http://www.vabvi.org). Feel free to "like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/vabvi.org](http://www.facebook.com/vabvi.org)!

## Sexual Assault Crisis Team

The Sexual Assault Crisis Team (SACT) is a private, non-profit organization that offers free of charge advocacy for male and female victims of sexual violence. This advocacy includes emotional support both one on one and groups, 24/7 emergency hotline, legal support, medical and hospital support, emergency overnight shelter support and shelter use for victims/survivors, their non-offending family members during the legal process including court, depositions, rape exam recovery, time before or after individual counseling sessions through private therapist, other times when victims/survivors need a private space or bed for an hour or a day. SACT also provides education around all sexual violence issues for Washington County Schools K-12 and colleges, service groups and other public organizations.



SACT is continuing to face additional demands on our resources as we attempt to provide the services needed for male and female shelter residents who are leaving behind their homes, belongings and financial resources for medical, food and restart costs. Victims and survivors not only look to us to provide food, emergency dental and or medical assistance but also look to us for transportation funds and relocation funds including rent deposits etc. We have also found our shelter staff is having to provide assistance to people to apply for RFA's, to fill out victim's compensation forms, aid in communicating with other needed services and using our shelter to apply for or change location information for SSI and other resource needs. SACT is working collaboratively with community partners to provide services to Washington County Communities and the survivors and their families we serve. SACT is also working closely with Norwich University and the Vermont National Guard Sexual Violence Response Coordinator to ensure returning soldiers and their family members, who are struggling with sexual violence issues, are offered all of our services to facilitate their transition to civilian life.

SACT operates using paid staff and during 2014-2015 we had eight volunteers and five part time stipend paid hotline staff from local communities who trained for twenty hours to provide confidential advocacy to victims by responding to hotline calls. During 2014-2015 SACT received 654 calls for services including crisis calls for sexual assaults, requests for emotional support, hospital advocacy, criminal justice advocacy, information and referral, and requests for education and training. These calls for services were handled by both paid staff and volunteers. During fiscal year 2014-2015 SACT provided services to 55 new unduplicated and 22 return clients. SACT served survivors who suffered from a variety of abuse, including sexual assault, sexual abuse, stalking, pornography and human trafficking.

SACT provided shelter for male and female survivors of sexual violence and the services provided by SACT including shelter are inclusive of all non-offending survivors and their non-offending family members. SACT also provided shelter for male victims of domestic/sexual violence (of which two were returning military) and for special needs victims, primarily those needing a handicapped accessible facility which allows the non-offending care provider to stay in shelter with the victim/survivor. During the 2014-2015 fiscal year, SACT provided shelter for 12 people, including 5 adult females and 2 adult males and 2 female children and 3 male children for a total of 423 bed nights. SACT remains dedicated to providing services to all survivors of sexual violence and remains committed to identifying new needs and meeting that challenge.

## Circle

This has been a year of transition for Circle, with numerous staffing changes and programmatic reviews, but as you can see from our annual statistics, the need for direct services has remained consistent. More of Circle's time was spent meeting the demands of these direct services, but we continue to provide trainings and to promote community partnerships in order to better serve each victim/survivor of domestic violence. Circle staff and volunteer advocates were kept extremely busy during fiscal year 2015 providing the following services:



- Staff and volunteers responded to 5,212 hot line calls, an average of 434 calls per month.
- Shelter services were provided to 29 women and 18 children for a total of 2,335 bed nights, which is 214 more bed nights than last year.
- Our prevention based programs in schools reached a total of 42 students in Washington County through the 25 presentations and long-term support groups held during this fiscal year.
- Circle provided community presentations to 432 individuals through the 24 trainings and workshops offered to individuals and professionals in Washington County.
- Advocates provided support to 113 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 121 individuals file for temporary orders.
- Court Education Program was presented to 198 individuals, and our Court Hour Program, which offers one-on-one support to plaintiffs as they prepare for their final hearings, was offered to 38 individuals.
- Over 1,500 people received direct services from Circle, which are maintained by trained staff and volunteers.

- Our organization continues to rely heavily on the vast support of its many dedicated volunteers. Board Members, Hotline Advocates, Group Facilitators, and Shelter Support have all contributed 7,671 hours to the work of Circle.

**Our services include:**

- **Shelter:** Emergency shelter for women and their children fleeing from domestic violence.
- **Shelter youth program:** Available to children staying in shelter.
- **Toll free confidential 24-hour hot line** (1-877-543-9498)
- **Emergency, civil and criminal court advocacy**
- **Support groups**
- **Prevention education offered to schools throughout Washington County.**
- **Educational presentations and trainings:** Offered to civic organizations and businesses.
- **Information and referral:** Information about domestic violence and community resources, as well as individualized advocacy and referral to social service, legal, employment, counseling, and housing options.

**The Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club**

*Is an Important Resource to the Residents of Montpelier*



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**

**How City of Montpelier funds were used:**

The City of Montpelier has been supporting the need for a community teen center since the early '90's. With the City's designation of City Hall space and critical funding support, the Washington County Youth Service Bureau's Basement Teen Center has been an important community resource for local youth since 1993.

The \$20,000 received from the MCF supported general operating expenses at the Basement Teen Center (BTC). A significant portion of this funding is being used as required non-federal match for the Basement's AmeriCorps Member. AmeriCorps members are national service volunteers that offer valuable, high quality direct service opportunities to community-based non-profits that address critical community issues. The presence of an AmeriCorps Member ensures that the Basement

Teen Center offers appropriate supervision and delivers high-quality programming to teens. To be a safe and effective resource, the BTC must have two adult supervisors at the center. Without an AmeriCorps member, the Center would not be operational. AmeriCorps members serving at the Basement deliver service based on a year-long service plan that guides the development and implementation of programming and leadership opportunities for youth. The member also plays a key role in brokering community collaborations that benefit center activities. The Basement has benefitted from AmeriCorps members for 15 years. Additional staffing is covered by various grants, including the Boys & Girls Club of America, grants and fundraising activities. MCF funds also support programming and some general operating costs. MCF funding represents 18.5% of the center's operating budget. The following table outlines the final FY 15 expenditures for MCF funds:

**Basement Teen Center FY15 Budget 7/1/14/- 6/30/15**

Expenses:	BTC Budget	MCF Budget	MCF Final Expenses
WCYSB Director of Prevention Programs (Supervises operations, but not an FTE position at the BTC)	35,061	2,500	1373
Supervision	8,000	0	329
AmeriCorps Member	12,600	6,300	6188
Clerical Financial	1,750	0	436
Fringe @ 18%	10,334	1,584	2337
Total Salary/Fringe	67,745	10,384	10663
Allocated Admin	16,849	0	0
Clinical Supervision	500	500	840
Programming	5,000	4,616	4321
Telephone	1,000	1,000	568
Membership (BGC of America)	2,000	2,000	1420
Insurance	500	500	540
Supplies	500	500	1115
Travel	500	500	533
PREP (curriculum stipends/activities)	3,200	0	0
Facilities (YSB Main office)	3,300	0	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>101,094</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**Program Activities:**

The Basement Teen Center provides an important resource to Washington County youth ages 13-18 during the peak hours of the day where juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, tobacco and sexual activity is the greatest, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Montpelier youth report many risk factors that the Basement Teen Center responds to through program activities. From July 1, 2014 through July 31, 2015, the Basement achieved the following:

**Youth Served:**

- 180 individual youth were served at the BTC, 122 were from Montpelier
- 80% of regular attendees (attending at least 10 times) were from Montpelier (31 out of 39 were from Montpelier)
- Average daily attendance of 9 youth per day
- A total of 1,859 visits (1,543 were from Montpelier teens)
- We were open 205 days, with one youth attending 145 times and another 134

**Volunteers:**

- 27 volunteers gave 140 hours to the BTC. Volunteers included cooking/nutrition mentors, volunteers to help staff the BTC, cleaning help, and special event volunteers.

**Meal Delivery:**

- The BTC served more than 80 meals and a nutritious daily snack was provided on all 205 open days. Teens regularly used the kitchen for cooking and baking. The BTC made dinner with the teens every Friday night. BTC staff members delivered nutrition education and teens helped to plan, purchase supplies and prepare dinners. Celebratory meals are also delivered to celebrate teen accomplishments and important milestones.

**Weekly Recreation Activities:**

- The BTC used the State House lawn for soccer, football and frisbee, and Hubbard Park for hiking and group games to promote healthy lifestyles through physical activity, and also used the green space outside the center for impromptu activities and challenges. 21 youth participated in ongoing outdoor recreation activities such as Frisbee, Soccer, Hiking and more. 20 of these were from Montpelier.

**Cultural/Arts Programming:**

- The BTC implemented a Photography Mentoring series, ongoing music mentoring, alternating fine-art workshops, open mics, etc.

**Teen Council:**

- 31 total youth, with 27 from Montpelier, played an active role in monthly teen council meetings. Teen Council is held once a month and provides opportunities for teens to take a leadership role by providing advice, expressing concerns, and sharing ideas for activities. This gives more ownership of the space to the teens and allows the BTC to provide activities that are directly interesting to them. Ideas that have come from Teen Council that have been implemented at the BTC include hikes, various tournaments (ping-pong, pool, board games), trivia nights, open-mic nights, art walks, photography lessons, and group activities with the Northfield Teen Center, which is also run by the WCYSB.

**Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP):**

- PREP is a federally-funded, evidence-based program to educate youth about sexual health, gender and sexual identity, delay tactics and refusal skills, and birth control and harm-reduction strategies including, but not limited to, abstinence. Thirteen teens completed the PREP course, with all thirteen saying they are more likely to resist or say no to peer pressure, more likely to be more respectful to others, and more likely to make plans to reach goals as a result of completing PREP. Eight teens said they were more likely to make healthy decisions about drugs and alcohol with the other five reporting that their attitudes had stayed the same. Six said they were more likely to abstain from sex in the next 6 months, though 11 said they were more likely to use a condom in the next 6 months as a result of PREP. This can be interpreted in many ways, but what is clear is that a better understanding of condom use is an important tool for youth to have.

**Gardening:**

- The BTC has a gardening space out front for teens to learn about growing healthy food sources. Produce cultivated from the garden is used in BTC meal and snack preparation. 12 youth regularly worked in the garden, 10 from Montpelier. We were able to connect seed planting to weeding and watering to harvesting and cooking with these youth, giving them a much better understanding of local food systems and nutrition and an increased appreciation of hard work and growing your own food.

**Unstructured drop-in:**

- In addition to structured programming, such as our sex-ed/healthy choices/harm reduction curriculum, the BTC provides a rare opportunity for youth to step away from an increasingly scheduled life. While we do offer a daily activity of some type, we have musical instruments, a pool table, ping-pong table, art supplies, cooking supplies with food free to teens, board games, and knitting and other crafts available at all times to youth. Unstructured time is where many positive relationships and meaningful conversations take place among teens, and also between teens and staff. Unstructured time is a very important pathway to engaging teens in structured activities.

**Community Partners to support programming:**

We are fortunate to live in a community that values the BTC and its mission. We partnered with many local businesses who offered a range of benefits, from donated and discounted goods to reduced admissions, services and instructions. Of particular highlight are those that contributed in some way to our annual fundraiser, based on the TV show “The Amazing Race”. Teams raced around Montpelier’s shops, streets, and green spaces,

completing various team and individual challenges, in a family event that encouraged fun and no one particularly cared who “won.” Community partners included: Hunger Mountain Coop, Capitol Kitchen, Shaws, Vermont Salumi, Twin City Lanes, Capitol City Farmer’s Market, Global Gifts, Movement Dance Studio, The Drawing Board, The Getup Vintage, Buch Spieler, National Life, Splash, Delish, Skinny Pancake, Bailey Road, Guitar Sam, VT Mountaineers, Collage.com, No. 9 Boutique, Noyle W. Johnson, Capitol Cab, Main Street Dentistry, Montpelier Elks Lodge, and Washington Electric Coop.

In addition to the BTC’s numerous community partnerships, the BTC is an access point for other services offered through the WCYSB. The BTC is frequently the first point of contact a young person has with the WCYSB. Therefore, we are able to connect them with important services they may need, such as substance abuse treatment, individual and family counseling, runaway and homeless services, assistance for pregnant youth, and emergency crisis response.

**Direct and in-kind support the Basement Teen Center receives from the City of Montpelier:**

The City of Montpelier provides the in-kind donation of a basement room in City Hall to house the Basement Teen Center. The Basement would not be sustainable without this level of community support and we are grateful for the support of the City of Montpelier. Local dollars are a critical financial resource for our agency. In addition to providing direct support for program operation, local dollars speak very loudly in convincing other funding sources that the Bureau meets a real need in the local community, and is viewed by local citizens as an important resource. The Bureau requests funds from all Washington County towns.

**Personal Note from BTC teen, Rachael Cummings:**



Rachael, VT Youth of the Year, receiving a \$5,000 scholarship from Boys & Girls Clubs of America

**VT Youth of the Year:**

*Through our partnership with the National Boys and Girls Club of America, the BTC annually nominates a teen to participate in the National Youth of the Year competition. Youth of the Year is a National Boys & Girls Club’s initiative that honors our nation’s most awe-inspiring young people on their path to great futures and encourages all kids to lead, succeed and inspire. Club members who earn the Youth of the Year title embody the values of leadership service; academic excellence; and healthy lifestyles. BTC participant, Rachael Cummings, was nominated by Center staff to compete against four other VT teen nominees for the statewide title and won! Rachael received a \$6,000 scholarship and advanced to the Northeast regional competition in New York City where she competed for an additional \$10,000 scholarship. Rachael did not advance in the regional competition, but we were so thrilled for her. The following is an excerpt from her speech about the role the BTC has played in her life:*

*“I’m Rachael, a sophomore at Montpelier High School, and I’ve been a member at The Basement Teen Center for 3 Years running. Initially, I started coming to the Basement for the free food, like many of you attending this dinner tonight. \*Queue Laughter Track\* I didn’t really talk to anyone at first, because I’m someone who has a hard time trusting new people, and the teen center was full of them. But, I kept coming back. It took me about a year to start to get comfortable with the people and the activities in the space. Throughout these years, I can say that the people I was once afraid to talk to have now given me multiple opportunities to develop leadership skills and serve in my community. At the Basement, I’ve had opportunities to Lead Teen Council, volunteer to make Thanksgiving dinner for my community, hike with peers, and act as a mentor to new members. And being able to mentor new members means a lot to me because how we treat each other affects the community as a whole. And as someone who has first-hand experience in being bullied for things I couldn’t change about myself, I know the kind of impact that can have on somebody, which is why I am able to stand up for myself and others, and work hard at staying true to who I am. In addition to mentoring, this past summer, I did something that I didn’t think I’d be able to do. A three day, 20 mile hike with youth and staff from the Basement Teen Center. I remember reaching the top of Camels Hump, disheveled and tired with the first words out of my mouth being “take my picture,” because even though I’ll admit I looked like crap, I wanted to remind myself that I am able go out and accomplish things I wouldn’t have thought I’d be able to do. I’ve also learned about what leadership truly means by being given the opportunity to lead Teen Council where I let youth know they are able to communicate what they want to see happen and have them voice their opinions while also respecting other’s. Being able to provide service to my community by cooking an annual meal which feeds over 400 people on thanksgiving day, being someone who I would have looked up to when I started coming to the basement. And it’s important to me that youth’s minds are open to new ideas*

*and experiences, and are hard at work at making change for the things that they stand for because these are things I couldn't see in myself three years ago, and now as a senior member, I can clearly claim them for my own."*

## Washington County Diversion Program, Inc.



### Who We Are and What We Do:

The Washington County Diversion Program (WCDP) is a local non-profit program that addresses unlawful behavior, supports victims of crime and promotes a healthy community. The mission of Vermont's Court Diversion Programs is to engage community members in responding to the needs of crime victims, the community, and those who violated the law, holding the latter accountable in a manner that promotes responsible behavior.

- Diversion is a voluntary, confidential restorative justice process for juvenile and adult offenders. Cases are referred by the State's Attorney to Diversion on an individual basis.
- We follow a balanced and restorative justice model by making right the wrongs that have been done and addressing the needs of all stakeholders, including the victim, the community and the offender. Participation is voluntary; but requires individuals to accept responsibility for their unlawful action(s).
- Court Diversion is the community alternative to court for low-level offenders in Washington County.
- Our Community Review Panel volunteers hear both adult and juvenile cases referred.

Our philosophy is that ordinary citizens who volunteer their time and energy are more effective in confronting those who have committed crimes than our court system can be, especially for low-level offenders charged with an illegal act.

We run four separate programs: Court Diversion, the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, the Balanced and Restorative Justice Program (funded separately), and the Driving with License Suspended Program.

### Court Diversion

Diversion is a restorative program for individuals charged with a crime or delinquency. After the police issue a citation for violating the law, the State's Attorney decides whether to refer the person out of the court system to the community-based Court Diversion program. Participants must admit responsibility for their actions and develop a contract with Review Panel volunteers through which they repair the harm caused. After successful completion, the State's Attorney dismisses the case.

During Fiscal Year 2015, WCDP's Diversion Program worked with:

- 278 diversion participants (9% were Montpelier residents)
- 72% of participants successfully completed the program

### Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program

Since 2000, Vermont Court Diversion has run a program to address civil violations of underage possession of alcohol. In 2013 the program was expanded to include civil violations of Vermont's under 21 years of age possession of marijuana law. Youth who violate these laws are given the option of participating in the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program. Participants in the program are required, by law, to have an alcohol and drug screening and are then given other educational, remedial, reflective and financial conditions to complete. If the participant completes the conditions the ticket is voided. Participants who fail to complete or refuse to participate in the program face a civil ticket which includes a \$300 fine and a driver's license suspension for 90 days.

During Fiscal Year 2015, WCDP's YSASP Program worked with:

- 211 youth referred from law enforcement (16% were Montpelier residents)
- 89% of participants successfully completed the program

### Balanced and Restorative Justice Program (BARJ)

These services are provided to youth who are charged with a delinquency, have been adjudicated delinquent or are at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system. BARJ services vary depending on each individual youth, but consist of restorative interventions that reduce and eliminate further involvement in the juvenile justice system such as: restorative panels, restitution services, risk screening, and restorative classes and skills development. This program is funded through a grant from the Department for Children and Families.

### Driving with License Suspended

The Civil DLS Diversion Program began in May 2013. The program serves Vermont drivers whose license remains suspended because of unpaid fines and fees. Upon approval of the Judicial Bureau, a participant's license will be reinstated while the individual follows a payment plan and completes community service and/or an educational program. This program is an unfunded mandate from the state.

During Fiscal Year 2015, WCDP's DLS program worked with:

- 91 who were seeking to get their privilege to drive reinstated
- 41 individuals had their licenses reinstated through the program

- 15 other individuals were referred to a fine re-payment program run by the Vermont Judicial Bureau that also leads to a reinstated license

### Is Diversion Effective?

Yes! Over 80% of the individuals referred to Court Diversion complete successfully. The majority who complete the Diversion Program do not re-offend. In Washington County, the recidivism rate for folks who have been through Diversion is 11% (89% do not reoffend). Diversion collects more than 95% of the restitution due to victims. And, Diversion is cost effective to taxpayers because it takes less time and less money to process a case than through the court system.

### Community Engagement

Our Community Review Panel is made up of community members who generously give of their time and energy to help make our restorative justice model work. In Fiscal Year 2015 we held approximately 48 Community Restorative Panels, which represent over 500 hours of volunteer time. We also held two in-service trainings for volunteers.

We appreciate the consistent support the residents of Montpelier have provided to us over the years. We continue to need -- and deeply appreciate -- that assistance!

## Capstone Community Action



Since 1965, Capstone Community Action (formerly known as Central Vermont Community Action Council) has served low-income residents of Lamoille, Orange, and Washington Counties and nine communities in Windsor, Addison, and Rutland Counties. We help people build better lives for themselves, their families and their communities. This year, Capstone Community Action served 18,187 people in 8,895 Vermont households through Head Start and Early Head Start, business development, financial education, food shelves and nutrition resources, housing counseling, tax preparation, teen parent education, emergency heating assistance, home weatherization, workforce training, healthcare navigation, ongoing disaster relief, and more.

Programs and services accessed by 455 Montpelier households representing 673 individuals this past year included:

- 241 individuals in 138 households accessed nutritious meals and/or meal equivalents at the food shelf.
- 38 households with 90 family members were able to keep heating their homes with help from our Crisis & Supplemental fuel programs as well as other utility costs.

- 44 individuals in 20 households worked with housing counselors to find and retain affordable, safe, secure housing.
- 1 homeless individual with 2 homeless family members worked with housing counselors to find and retain affordable, safe, secure housing.
- 6 children were in Head Start and Early Head Start programs that supported 3 additional family members.
- 1 pregnant and parenting teen and their child gained literacy skills through our Family Literacy Center supporting 1 family member.
- 40 households were weatherized at no charge, making them warmer and more energy efficient for 69 residents, including 9 seniors and 16 residents with disabilities.
- 4 multi housing units were weatherized supporting 4 occupants.
- 12 people found and maintained reliable transportation with support from the Capstone Transportation Project, including car purchases.
- 22 people attended classes or met one-on-one with a financial counselor to be better able to manage and grow family finances.
- 22 entrepreneurs received counseling and technical assistance on starting or growing a business.
- 4 people saved towards an asset that will provide long-term economic security. With savings, homes were purchased; businesses were capitalized and people enrolled in higher education or training.
- 3 childcare providers received nutrition education and were reimbursed for the cost of serving nutritious meals and snacks to the 38 children in their care.
- 21 people received information and assistance for signing up for Vermont Health Connect.
- 89 residents had their taxes prepared at no charge by Capstone's IRS certified volunteers ensuring them all the refunds and credits they were due.
- 3 people participated in an intensive 13-week workforce training program for the food service sector.

Capstone thanks the residents of Montpelier for their generous support this year!

## Central Vermont Adult Basic Education in Montpelier



### ~Local Partnership in Learning~

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education (CVABE) is a community-based nonprofit organization serving the basic education and literacy needs of Montpelier adults and teens for fifty years.

CVABE serves as central Vermont's resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for individuals (ages 16-90+) in:

- Basic skills programs: reading, writing, math, computer literacy
- English Language Learning and preparation for U.S. citizenship
- High school diploma and GED credential programs
- Academic skill readiness for work, technical training and/or college

CVABE has six welcoming learning centers located throughout the organization's tri-county service region, including our Montpelier Learning Center, located at 100 State St., Suite 3, in the Capital Plaza. We collaborate with schools, libraries, employers, and a great number of other community resources to make our unique service locally accessible. Our welcome extends to everyone.

Last year alone, 55 residents of Montpelier enrolled in CVABE's free programs, and on average CVABE serves 60 Montpelier residents annually. Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups. Each student has a personalized education plan to address his/her learning goals. These goals might include: getting or improving one's job, earning a high school credential, helping one's children with homework, budgeting and paying bills, reading important information, obtaining a driving license, preparing for college, gaining citizenship, and more. *As parents gain literacy, their children are twice as likely to grow up literate themselves.*

In recent years, CVABE has provided free instruction to 500-600 people annually in its overall service area of Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties. It currently costs CVABE \$2,887 per student to provide a full year of instruction. Nearly all students are low income. Over 120 community volunteers, including 30 volunteers from Montpelier, work with CVABE's professional staff to meet the large need for these services while keeping overhead low.

We are deeply appreciative of Montpelier's voter-approved past support. This year, your level support of \$6,000 is again critical to CVABE's free, local education services. Only a portion

of CVABE's budget is comprised of state and federal support. *Funding is needed each year from the private sector and from the towns and cities we serve, or we could not help many of the neighbors who need education for a better life.*

For more information regarding CVABE's basic education and literacy instruction for students, or volunteer opportunities, contact:

### CVABE's Montpelier Learning Center

100 State Street, Suite 3  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
(802) 223-3403  
[www.cvabe.org](http://www.cvabe.org)

## Central Vermont Council on Aging

Central Vermont Council on Aging is a private, nonprofit organization that is dedicated to the mission of supporting elders and family caregivers in leading self-determined, healthy, interdependent, meaningful and dignified lives in their homes and communities.

For more than 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonters aged 60 and up to remain independent for as long as possible. We connect the elders in our communities to the network of benefit programs and services that they need to thrive. All services are made available to our clients at no charge without regard to health, income or resources.

Some of the options we make available include:

- Senior HelpLine – (800) 642-5119 – has the answers to hundreds of common questions from elders, families and caregivers.
- Information & Assistance staff counsel elders and families on the many available benefit programs and services, such as 3SquaresVT, seasonal fuel assistance, and more.
- Case Managers work with clients in their homes to assess needs and develop, implement and coordinate individualized long-term care plans.
- Nutrition Services oversees the menu development for home-delivered and community meals and provides the largest source of funding for the 14 meal sites that prepare and deliver these meals.
- State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) provides personalized Medicare counseling, group training, and enrollment assistance for Medicare Part D plans.
- Volunteer Programs: CVCOA sponsors RSVP and the Senior Companion Program.
- Family Caregiver Support promotes the well-being of the family members who help to make it possible for seniors to remain in their home.

In the past year, we have touched the lives of thousands of elders throughout Central Vermont, including 170 Montpelier families. Wanda Craig & Davoren Carr are the Case Managers dedicated to working directly with the seniors in Montpelier and provided at least 864 hours of service directly with 81 seniors in the past year. In addition, our Senior HelpLine has responded to 215 calls, and 71 seniors received nutritional support through our wellness programs. 14 RSVP volunteers provided 679 hours of service in Montpelier.

All of us at CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of Montpelier for their ongoing commitment to the health, independence, and dignity of those who have contributed to making the Central Vermont communities what they are today.

## FAMILY CENTER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

### ....serving families in Montpelier

The Family Center of Washington County fosters the positive growth and development of young children and their families. We offer services for children, youth and families, including: Early Care and Education, Children's Integrated Services-Early Intervention, Family Support Home Visiting, Specialized Child Care supports, Transportation, Child Care Provider supports, Reach Up and Job Development, Family Works, Child Care Financial Assistance, Child Care Referral, Welcome Baby visits, Strengthening Families Demonstration Project, Parent Education, and Playgroups for children from birth to five. For more information about Family Center programs and services, please visit: [www.fcwcv.org](http://www.fcwcv.org).

Among the 1,045 individuals in Montpelier who benefited from the Family Center's programs and services from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015 were:

- \* **93 families** who consulted our **Child Care** and other **Resource and Referral services**, receiving assistance in finding child care to meet their needs, answering questions related to child care and child development, and receiving information about other community resources available to them.
- \* **174 families** who received **Child Care Financial Assistance**.
- \* **31 licensed and registered child care providers** and other support agencies who consulted our **Child Care Provider Support services**, and received

monthly newsletters and training on a wide variety of topics through home visits, conferences, and workshops.

- \* **216 children and caregivers** who participated in our **Playgroups**. Playgroups are free, open to all families with children birth to five, and have no eligibility requirements. Children have a chance to play with others in a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment. Parents talk to other parents, draw upon each other for support, learn new skills from Playgroup Facilitators and get information about community resources.
- \* **36 adults and children** who participated in Parent Education workshops and related activities for children.
- \* **36 children** who attended our **4 STARS Early Childhood Education** program.
- \* **213 children and caregivers** who attended our Community Events.
- \* **78 individuals** who were served by one of our **Home Visiting services**, providing parent and family education and support.
- \* **154 children and caregivers** who received food and household items from our newly created **Food Pantry** to help supplement their nutritional and basic needs of families we serve.
- \* **10 children** who received **Transportation assistance** through our bus.
- \* **4 individuals** who received employment training in our **Reach Up Job Development**.

We are grateful for the support shown by the voters of Montpelier. For more information about Family Center programs and services, contact Information and Assistance at (802) 262-3292, Ext. 122.

*"...fostering the positive growth and development of young children and their families."*

## HOME SHARE NOW

Home Share Now has been facilitating and mediating shared housing in central Vermont since 2003 and Montpelier was its birthplace; matches are traditionally between people who need affordable housing and older adults who want to age safely at home. Instead of market rent, services are performed by vetted home seekers in exchange for housing; some matches involve a monthly contribution to household expenses like utilities.

For example, 86 year old Carolyn opens the spare bedroom in her home to 47 year old Sara who is living on a fixed income and unable to afford area rents. In exchange for housing, Sara provides Carolyn with an overnight presence, some shared meals, and \$100/mth for utilities.

Home Share Now is the only organization doing this work in Orange, Washington, and Lamoille counties and in some adjacent towns in Caledonia, Orleans, and Windsor counties.

Last year 625 people consider home sharing as a strategy to meet their needs. For those who decide that home sharing is not a good fit for them, do not find a suitable match in the program, or who require additional services, Home Share Now serves as a referral organization.

Additional outcomes and stories can be found in Home Share Now's FY15 Annual Report, available by request or online (<http://www.homesharenow.org/about>).

- Intakes: 473
- Enrollments: 192 (up from FY14)
- Intakes from Montpelier: 66
- Enrollments from Montpelier: 16 (8 home seekers, 8 home providers)
- Matched: 114 (up from FY14)
- Matched in Montpelier and provided ongoing support: 21 (up from FY14)
- Outreach events: 55

The term "enrollment" above means a person is interviewed, completes a background check, and provides personal/landlord/employment references. FY15 was the first year we supported over 100 people in home sharing matches; in FY16 we project this number to be 150.

### Outcomes of home sharing are many, here is a brief sample:

- The average rent paid by a home seeker was \$304 which saved home seekers \$122,558 in rental expenses with 25% of all home seekers providing services and paying \$0 in rent.

- While new infrastructure is important in meeting housing needs, the 63 units created by utilizing existing housing stock (home sharing) would cost over \$12 million to build new.
- Home sharing provided over 10,000 hours of assistance, enabling older adults and others to stay home and potentially saving them \$117,000.
- Seniors likely saved over \$400,000 in nursing home diversion thanks to home sharing.

Home Share Now's successes were made possible on a budget of \$230,912:

- 31% Foundations, Corporations, Community Organizations, and Individuals
- 28% State of Vermont (Dept. of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living)
- 31% Federal Match (Global Commitment)
- 3% Municipal Appropriations
- 7% Fee for Service

Thank you to the City of Montpelier for its ongoing support. For more information, visit [www.homesharenow.org](http://www.homesharenow.org) or call 802-479-8544.

## Community Services

### Just Basics



Just Basics Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization overseeing the operation of the Montpelier Food Pantry, the FEAST Senior Meals Program, and the Summer Food for Kids free meal site at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. Our mission is to meet basic needs by providing, free of charge, high quality, nutrient dense food and prepared meals to individuals, families, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities in the greater Montpelier area (Montpelier, E. Montpelier, Berlin, Middlesex, Calais, Worcester, Adamant) who are food insecure.

### FEAST Senior Meals

During the 2014-15 fiscal year the FEAST Senior Meals Program served a total of 17,704 hot and frozen nutritious meals to homebound seniors and people with disabilities:

13,076 of these were home delivered.

4,628 were served at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center.

Meals served to Montpelier residents:

8,455 (65%) home delivered.

2,057 (44%) served at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center.

**The Montpelier Food Pantry**

In FY 2015, Just Basics Inc. provided 70,956 meals to 214 households.

Montpelier residents served:

240 households (66%)

42,573 meals (60%)

**Summer Food for Kids**

This past summer Just Basics Inc. ran a pilot program offering free lunches to youth ages 0-18 at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. The program was free for any child regardless of their town of residence. Over a period of 6 weeks, we served 636 lunches. Four local high school and college students were hired to prepare and serve the lunches. Next summer we will offer the program again for 10 weeks and will include breakfast.

All of the programs of Just Basics Inc. are funded by donations from individuals, grants, and municipalities. The majority of the work involved in providing these services is performed by over 100 volunteers. Through the generosity of the people in the greater Montpelier area we are able to nourish and in turn, significantly improve the health and well being of our most vulnerable neighbors.

**Green Mountain Transit Agency**

**Who We Are**

GMTA is the public transportation provider for the northwest and central regions of Vermont, offering a variety of services to the communities in which we serve. GMTA operates traditional public transportation services like commuter, deviated fixed routes and demand response shuttles to densely populated municipalities, while also providing individualized services such as shopping and health care shuttles, Medicaid and Elderly and Disabled services to both urban and rural communities.



**Our Services**

**Individual Special Service Transportation**

GMTA provides essential medical and non-medical transportation service to those who qualify for Medicaid, Elderly and Disabled, non-Medicaid medical, human service and/or

critical care funds. We offer individual coordinated services for those who qualify and who are in need of scheduled rides through GMTA volunteer drivers, special shuttle service or general public routes.

In FY15, 259 City of Montpelier residents were provided special transportation service, totaling 15,669 trips and 53,321 total miles driven. Special services offered direct access to:

- Medical treatment
- Prescription and Shopping
- Meal site programs
- Social and Daily services
- Central VT Substance Abuse
- Reach Up
- Washington County Mental Health

**General Public Transportation**

In FY15, GMTA ridership for general public transportation in all regions served totaled 376,103, (excluding Montpelier Link). This general public transportation ridership was in addition to Special Service ridership, (above). General public transportation for the City of Montpelier is available through a variety of services including local commuter, deviated fixed routes, demand response shuttles and regional commuter service to Chittenden, Lamoille and Caledonia counties.

<u>Route</u>	<u>RIDERSHIP</u>
Montpelier Link Express	137
City Commuter	69,108
US	21,502
*Montpelier Circulator	19,369
Waterbury Commuter	9,864
Montpelier Hospital Hill	21,411
Northfield Commuter	7,783
Capital Shuttle	6,039

**\*Montpelier Circulator Service**

The design of the Montpelier Circulator route and schedule was a collaborative effort between GMTA staff, Montpelier residents, and City officials. The Circulator is a fare free route that runs Monday through Friday, along two distinct loops in Montpelier and offers a flexible deviation option up to 1/2 mile for those who cannot access the bus along the fixed route. Requests for route deviations can be made when boarding or by calling GMTA at 223-7287 at least one hour in advance.

Saturday service on the Circulator was recently halted, (July 20, 2015), to provide additional afternoon service during the weekdays. Supporting this change was ridership data, (FY15 weekday boardings averaged 74 per day, Saturday boardings averaged 16), and a robust outreach effort conducted by GMTA

over the course of many months. GMTA will continue to monitor ridership on the new trip times and will report ridership changes relative to this change as more data becomes available and more people become accustomed to the new trips.

### **GMTA Local Heroes**

#### ***Volunteer Driver Program***

In addition to shuttle vehicles, GMTA uses an extensive network of Volunteer Drivers to provide coordinated and caring rides throughout our rural service area. Volunteer Drivers are essential in providing cost effective and community driven services, and are the foundation of our special services. Drivers are reimbursed monetarily for the miles they drive and provide services under the management of GMTA.

If you are interested in becoming a GMTA Volunteer Driver, please contact us at 802-223-7287 or [info@gmtaride.org](mailto:info@gmtaride.org).

#### ***Thank You***

Thank you to the City of Montpelier voters and officials for your continued support of GMTA's public transportation services and for your commitment to efficient transportation solutions.

#### ***Information***

Please feel free to contact us with questions or to request additional information on GMTA services at 802.223.7287 or [info@gmtaride.org](mailto:info@gmtaride.org). For service and route info, please go to [www.gmtaride.org](http://www.gmtaride.org).

## Community Development

### **Montpelier Alive**

Supporting the unique spirit of Montpelier since 1999



#### **From the Director**

2015 was a great year. Montpelier Alive is proud of the work we have accomplished and are ever grateful for the number of volunteers, members, donors, festivalgoers, committee members and others that make our work possible.

Every five years, Montpelier Alive must reapply to remain one of the 24 designated downtowns in Vermont. We are proud to announce that after a lengthy application process, that included a five-year strategic plan, we were once again awarded designation until 2020.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our legacy member, National Life Group and fireworks sponsor, VSECU for their continued underwriting support.

I am honored to continue the work that contributes to Montpelier being a great place to work, live and play. Here's to an amazing 2016.

Ashley Witzemberger, *Executive Director*

#### **Marketing**

Thanks to the Downtown Improvement District Tax, Montpelier Alive was able to greatly increase our tourism and business marketing reach in 2015. First, we completed a new tourism and business website showcasing all the amazing cultural, recreational and business that Montpelier has to offer.

Secondly, Montpelier Alive was proud to partner with the Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing with a matching funds grant to promote Montpelier out of state.

We also began quarterly inserts in The Bridge Newspaper listing all community-wide events and started an online community event calendar.

#### **Festivals & Events**

Montpelier Alive continued our full festival and event schedule, but we were also able to expand our programming as well as add new, fun community events.

- Montpelier Art Walk – Now held quarterly and with themes: February is chocolate, May is maple, September is cheese, and December is cookies and baked goods.
- Green Up Day – 385 volunteers, plus corporate organizers participated in 2015. A record year!
- Ellis Mills Brown Bag 2015 Concert Series – Expanded programming to 10 weeks of free music. In 2015 we added a very popular evening concert in addition to the regular noontime concerts.
- New quarterly networking events gave Montpelier Alive another opportunity to serve our local business and non-profit community. Additionally, they provided an opportunity to partner with groups such as the Montpelier Business Association, Skinny Pancake and CarShare Vermont.
- In 2015, Montpelier Alive started a City-Wide Tag Sale. The event was so popular all over town, it has become an annual event with the second tag sale taking place on June 4, 2016.
- In August of 2015, Montpelier Alive partnered with the Green Mountain Film Festival to turn the State House Lawn into a movie theater for one night. Close to 400 kids and family members enjoyed E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial.

Look for these events and a new Corporate Cup Event in 2016!

**Economic Development**

Montpelier Alive’s economic development committee worked to create materials to assist to recruit and retain local businesses. In addition, Montpelier Alive representatives sit on the Economic Development Strategic Plan Committee working with the City consultant to create an economic development strategic plan to guide city-wide efforts. This plan will be released in the spring of 2016.

Montpelier Alive also became a member of the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation in 2015.

**Streetscape & Beautification**

The Downtown Improvement District funds continue to enable Montpelier Alive to bring flowers, benches and more holiday decorations to our downtown. New hanging baskets lined State Street and barrels and benches we dispersed all over town this year.

We assisted community partners with the implementation of the Main Street Pocket Park and approval of a community skating rink on the State House Lawn for winter 2016-2017.

Montpelier Alive also added flower boxes and new benches around the downtown information booth, helping to beautify the entrance point of the summer Farmers’ Market and to welcome our out-of-town visitors.

**Staffing & Volunteers**

In 2015, Montpelier Alive partnered with the Vermont Associates Program, allowing us to bring in office support to help with customer and member services and event preparation.

Additionally, Montpelier Alive has contracted with our long-time July 3rd Volunteer Coordinator to expand her work to build the volunteer program in 2016. As we grow, we see our impact on the community strengthening.

This year Montpelier Alive implemented an Advisory Council. Our Advisory Council Members are volunteer advocates in a variety of areas in our community. Our current advisors are:

- Peter Ricker, *Denis Ricker Brown*
- Kevin Ellis, *Ellis Mills Public Relations*
- Tim Heney, *Heney Relators*
- Gary Holloway, *Community Planning and Revitalization, Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development*
- Mayor John Hollar, *DRM*
- Fred Wilber, *Volunteer*
- John Mayfield, *Owner, Julio’s Cantina*
- Justin Bourgeois, *Community National Bank*

**Downtown Improvement District**



Montpelier’s Downtown Improvement District (DID) was implemented by public vote in 2013. The purpose of the District is to raise revenue for streetscape improvements / enhancements and for marketing and promoting downtown Montpelier.

In May of 2014, Montpelier Alive’s proposal for the use of DID revenue was approved by the City Council based on the anticipated collection of a total of \$75,000. Of this total, \$41,000 was to come from municipal tax revenue (assessed against commercial properties in the downtown) and \$34,000 was to come from the State in the form of a PILOT payment (payment in lieu of taxes). Unfortunately, a mistake was made at the time of the State’s calculation of PILOT payments and, therefore, no funds were received from PILOT for the DID. This meant that the total available DID funds for the year was \$41,000. Adjustments to the budget were as follows:

**Budget for FY ‘15**

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Approved Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
Marketing & Promotions	\$18,000	\$12,000
Visitor’s Website	\$15,000	\$5,000
Community and Arts Grants	\$9,000	\$6,000
Banners and Signage	\$10,000	\$3,000
Holiday / Winter Decorations	\$10,000	\$10,000
Street Furniture	\$8,000	\$0
Downtown Plantings	\$5,000	\$5,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>\$41,000</b>

**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 comprising 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 136 other municipal entities, including villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts.

Vermonters use local government services – including highways, police, fire, recreation, libraries, sewer, and water – on a daily basis. In large part, volunteer elected and appointed municipal officials lead these local governments.

VLCT provides the following services to its member cities and towns to help them provide their citizens with quality services at affordable costs:

- Legal, consulting, and education services.** VLCT's Municipal Assistance Center (MAC) provides training, information, and assistance to municipal officials to help them carry out their roles and responsibilities. In 2015, attorneys and staff responded to nearly 3,500 inquiries from municipal officials about their statutory duties and about best practices in municipal governance. More than 1,300 people attended 16 workshops on topics ranging from municipal budgeting to solid waste management, and training for selectboard members, auditors, and land use officials. Additionally, MAC conducted 10 on-site workshops at municipal offices covering Open Meeting Law compliance, financial fraud prevention, effective property tax appeal hearings, as well as other topics. Attorneys provided 28 municipalities with legal review of ordinances and policies, financial assistance, and other specialized consulting services. Many municipalities have received technical assistance on water quality and stormwater management related to the recent passage of Vermont's Clean Water Act. All handbooks, technical papers, model documents, and past newsletter articles – more than 1,000 documents – are available on VLCT's website.
- Advocacy representation at the state and federal levels to ensure that municipalities have the resources and authority needed to serve their citizens.** VLCT is a leader in the education property tax debate, enhancing local voter authority in governance decisions, municipal efforts to clean up Vermont's lakes and rivers, and securing revenues for town highway and bridge maintenance programs. Municipalities will face significant challenges in the 2016 legislature as limited financial resources at the national and state level continue to force more demand for services at the local level. VLCT also publishes a Weekly Legislative Report that details legislative issues affecting municipal government. It is available free of charge on the VLCT website.
- Opportunities to provide purchasing of needed services at the lowest cost.** Members may purchase municipal unemployment, property, and casualty and workers' compensation insurance coverage for town operations. The VLCT Employee Resource and Benefit (VERB) Trust continued to assist towns navigate their way to Vermont Health Connect and, where appropriate, to secure health insurance through the marketplace. When substantial municipal damages occur as a result of weather events, the value to our members of VLCT Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) is quite clear, as members benefit from the broad coverage, excellent re-insurance, and prompt service and claims payments provided. The two Trusts are responsible for \$24 million in municipal tax dollars spent for insurance and risk management services in 2015.

To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including its audited financial statements, visit the VLCT website, [www.vlct.org](http://www.vlct.org).

## Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation



In 2015, the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC) worked on numerous projects in addition to its contractual obligations with the State of Vermont. CVEDC continues to focus on 'Retention and Expansion' of our existing businesses. To accomplish this goal, staff conducts an active Business Contact & Visitation Program. This past year CVEDC met one on one with over 60 businesses in the region. Establishing a working relationship with the Central Vermont business community is paramount. Staff not only gathers information regarding specific challenges and issues for the business but also relays the suite of tools available from the State of Vermont and other program partners such as USDA Rural Development, the Small Business Administration, as well as our regional partners. CVEDC maintains a strong relationship with the Department of Economic Development as well as other divisions of State government. CVEDC implements a coordinated response to business needs, leveraging all the available economic development tools. CVEDC is actively engaged with over 20 municipal and regional organizations and committees. We work closely with the local development corporations in our region to bring coordinated assistance to business projects.

The Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC) provides a suite of programs and services that include; promoting our region to those businesses considering relocation to Vermont, and working on improving the infrastructure necessary for economic growth in Vermont. CVEDC has and will continue to work in partnership with all the Central Vermont municipalities, and community stakeholders to advance those initiatives identified by the City of Montpelier as important to their residents and the economic well-being of the community. In addition, the issues of workforce development, telecommunications and housing remain top priorities for CVEDC.

In the past year, CVEDC continued its work on the CDBG-DR Grant for businesses in the Washington and Windsor County regions for 'unmet needs' from Tropical Storm Irene. This initiative is finally being completed and the results are over 80 businesses were assisted with grant funds for their recovery from the flooding. Staff is now in the final stages of the grant and conducting site visits with the grant recipients.

Workforce development is a top priority for CVEDC. CVEDC

initiated the first Workforce Investment Board and helped to restructure the organization into the Central Vermont Workforce Development Board. We continue to participate both on the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee. CVEDC is very committed to Workforce Development initiatives. We co-host an Annual Job Fair with Voc-Rehab. The 2015 Job Fair was the 6th Annual Job Fair held on April 1, 2015. Approximately, 815 job seekers attended the event and we had 58 Vendors/Businesses. People came from 49 communities within our region, as well as two from New Hampshire and one from St. Louis, Missouri. There were job seekers from every municipality in Washington County as well as from the first three abutting communities in Orange County. Of the attendees who participated in our survey, 82% said they intended to apply for one or more positions. More women than men attended the Fair and the largest age group was 46+, followed by the 'up to 25, then the 26-35 age group. The smallest age group was the 36-45 year olds. Approximately, 37% of the attendees were already employed however the majority was unemployed and seeking full-time jobs. Consistently, over the past four years, the survey indicates that job seekers are willing to travel up to 25 miles for a good wage-paying job. The 2016 CVT Job Fair will be held on April 6, 2016.

CVEDC continues with our Revolving Loan Fund for Telecommunications Infrastructure projects. The original initiative, funded by USDA Rural Development, was extended and additional funds were granted so that the service can continue to be brought to un-served or under-served municipalities in our region. To date, the initiative has brought high-speed wireless internet to several hundred residents/businesses in our outlying rural communities. This initiative was the first of its kind conducted by a regional development corporation in partnership with a wireless service provider.

CVEDC works diligently to conduct workshops and events of value to the business community. The first was an Employee Ownership Workshop that CVEDC co-hosted with VEOC on March 25, 2015. There were business owners who attended from a variety of industry sectors including manufacturing, retail, and services.

In March, 2015 CVEDC partnered with the 'Generator Space' to bring 'Maker's to the State House for the day. Twelve 'Maker's and the Director of the Maker space spent the day at the State house to inform our Legislators about this new emerging business sector.

In June, 2015 CVEDC held its annual business seminar titled 'Grabbing the Bull by the Horns, Success from Financial Services to the Green Mountains'. The guest speaker was Win Smith, principal owner and President of Sugarbush Resort and former member of senior management for Merrill Lynch. He spoke to over 75 attendees about the lessons he learned on

Wall Street and how he applied them to the development of the resort.

A workshop was also held in June on Financing Your Business. Twelve panelists from banks, credit unions, VEDA, USDA, SBA, Community Capital, and Venture Capital entities described the loan programs they have to assist businesses, both existing and start-up. CVEDC is partnering this coming year with the Vt Small Business Development Center (VtSBDC) to continue the series of workshops for businesses and entrepreneurs.

The Small Business Development Center is co-located in CVEDC's offices and continues to provide the City of Montpelier residents with information and assistance regarding starting a new business or providing assistance to an existing business with marketing, financing and other issues. In addition, the 'How to Start Your Own Business' seminars are offered both on line and in person to all Central Vermont residents. Visit our website at [www.cvedc.org](http://www.cvedc.org) or our facebook page to learn more about our monthly VtSBDC joint workshops.

We greatly appreciate the support given to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation by the City of Montpelier and we look forward to continuing and strengthening our relationship in the future. Your financial support is critical so that we may continue or work on the issues of economic vitality for the Central Vermont region. We are always available to meet with town Select Boards, Councils, and special committees on economic development and vitality issues.

## Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission



The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington County and western Orange County. The Commission has been providing planning and development assistance to communities since 1967 through its experienced and knowledgeable staff. CVRPC is governed by appointed representatives from each municipality in the Region.

The Commission provides assistance on municipal plan and bylaw updates, and this year continued its focus on town planning and consultations with local officials. The Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) continued to evaluate the regional inter-modal transportation needs and make recommendations on projects that should be included in the State Transportation Agency's 5 year capital program. CVRPC continued its work on the development of local hazard mitigation plans, river and stream assessments to support transportation and water quality improvements, and amended the 2008 Regional Plan. The Commission has been actively in-

involved in assisting towns with the development or updates of Local Emergency Operations Plans. The Commission continued its assistance to towns on flood issues from Tropical Storm Irene and subsequent storms. Assessment and mapping services were provided to the impacted towns, and work is ongoing as it relates to procuring grant funds to repair local infrastructure. CVRPC continued its work with towns on assessing green stormwater infrastructure barriers and developing language for town plans and bylaws, as well as finalizing the Forest Stewardship Plan. CVRPC is developing the 2016 Regional Plan with its “Plan Central Vermont” outreach effort to involve members and residents in the work of building a sustainable and engaged Region.

This year, the Commission supported the efforts of the City with administration of Wrightsville Beach Recreation District, development of Local Emergency Operations and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, bridge and culvert inventory, review of Act 250 projects, review and approval of the City’s Master Plan, and providing GIS mapping training to City staff.

The Commission also sponsors regional planning programs, provides a forum for inter-municipal cooperation, and participates in State regulatory proceedings for projects that have impacts across municipal boundaries. CVRPC provides model bylaws and assists municipalities with the administration of grants.

Thank you for your continued support for local and regional planning. Please call us for assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, recreation, water quality, mapping, or data needs. For more information, you can reach us at (802) 229-0389, or visit our website [www.centralvtplanning.org](http://www.centralvtplanning.org) and Find us on Facebook!

Bonnie Waninger, *Executive Director*  
Tina Ruth, *Commissioner*

## Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District

CVSWMD is made up of 18 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. Mia Moore represented Montpelier on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors in FY2015; Claire Wheeler is the current representative. Dona Bate is the alternate.

In FY15, CVSWMD provided \$12,917 in School Zero Waste and Walbridge Reuse Grants and \$3,705 in Green Up Day Grants to member municipalities. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual, non-competitive Green Up Day Grant each spring.

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

- Residential Composting: CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soilsaver composting units and kitchen compost buckets at cost to district residents.
- Business Composting: CVSWMD has 86 participating businesses and institutions throughout Central Vermont, which combined, diverted an estimated 1,276 tons of food scraps to composting facilities in FY15.
- School Composting (part of our School Zero Waste Program): All 25 public schools in the district participate in this program. Over the course of the 2014-2015 school year, our schools diverted an estimated 295,840 pounds (or 147.92 tons) of high quality food scraps.
  - ~ Union Elementary School has diverted 8.2 tons of food scraps in FY15 alone!
  - ~ Main Street Middle School has diverted 2.9 tons of food scraps.
  - ~ Montpelier High School has diverted 4.5 tons of food scraps from the landfill in FY2015
- Special Collections: In 2015, nine events were held, in which CVSWMD collected household hazardous waste, paint, batteries and fluorescent bulbs.
  - ~ In Montpelier, 157 households participated in our annual household hazardous waste collection.
  - ~ 722 visitors to our Additional Recyclables Collection Center came from Montpelier.
- Web Site: CVSWMD posts useful information about what can be recycled, how to dispose of hazardous waste, and about our goal to move toward Zero Waste, including the “A to Z Guide,” Act 148, Paint Care guidelines, dates and times of our special collections, and strategies for achieving a Zero Waste household.



For more information go to [www.cvswmd.org](http://www.cvswmd.org) or contact us at 802-229-9383 or [comments@cvswmd.org](mailto:comments@cvswmd.org)

## ECFiber

Montpelier is a founding member of ECFiber, a consortium of 24 municipalities in East-Central Vermont building a community-owned, fiber-optic network to deliver high-speed Internet to every home, business, and civic institution in our territory. Its top priority is reaching as many unserved locations as possible, with a focus on back roads and outlying neighborhoods. At inception, the organization opted to build a Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) network that has the ability to provide the highest possible bandwidth, without distance or other limitations, to all customer locations within its territory.

During FY 2015, ECFiber succeeded in achieving its goal of reaching 1200 active subscribers. It has extended its network into Chelsea and Tunbridge, expanded service in Randolph and Norwich, and has successfully lobbied the State legislature to pass legislation that allows for the creation of telecommunication utility districts.

With the enabling law in effect, the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District (ECVTD) became the new governing body for ECFiber, with all of the 24 member towns of the former Inter-Local Contract (ILC), including Montpelier, voting to join the ECVTD. This change removes a barrier to obtaining large investments by replacing the unfamiliar ILC structure with a more familiar Utility District structure. With the potential for greater investment in ECFiber there should be a much more rapid completion of the ECFiber network, with the potential for real planning on how to incorporate Montpelier into the network.

For more information, visit [ECFiber.net](http://ECFiber.net) or contact one of the Montpelier delegates:

John Bloch – [john@bugleg.com](mailto:john@bugleg.com)

Rob Chapman – [rob@orcamedia.net](mailto:rob@orcamedia.net)



(Photo courtesy of Linda Hogan)

## Culture and The Arts

### T.W. Wood Gallery & Arts Center

The T. W. Wood Gallery, located at 46 Barre Street, is a lively arts center-serving residents of Montpelier. The Gallery professionally maintains the Thomas Waterman Wood treasured art collection along with Vermont's portion of art from the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA). The Gallery's collection was established in 1895, as a gift to the people of Montpelier by its native son and nationally renowned artist Thomas Waterman Wood (1823-1903). Paintings from the Gallery's collection are also being exhibited at Montpelier's City Hall and at the Vermont State House.

In addition to the permanent collection, the Gallery host's contemporary art exhibits that range from local Art Association member shows and students artwork to well known professional artists. Exhibits change often and if you haven't been to the Gallery's Barre Street location plan to come by soon! The Gallery draws a range of visitors including art lovers, artists, tourists and students. This past fall the Gallery was visited by a number of enthusiastic Montpelier High School art classes, a lively Montpelier after school group of third and fourth graders, a Community College of VT watercolor class and an animated group of seniors from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

The past year has been a busy one for the Gallery. Ginny Callan was hired as the Gallery's Executive Director and events, classes, exhibits and art openings are increasing. Renovation work continues to improve the Gallery's exhibit space. Classroom and event rooms are available for a variety of needs and local community groups are regularly using the Gallery space. A recently donated baby grand piano adds to the resources the Gallery offers the community.

The Gallery is part of the Center for Arts and Learning (CAL) and partnered with the Monteverdi Music School and the River Rock School to purchase the 46 Barre Street building, (next to the Montpelier Senior Center). CAL is dedicated to maintaining a thriving art, music and art education community. CAL has been joined by many other local organizations now housed in the building including the Summit School of Traditional Music, Green Mountain Film Festival, Onion River Exchange, Shambala Meditation Center, Capital Orchestra and Green Mountain Youth Symphony, plus individual writers, musicians and artists.

The Gallery welcomes visitors during regular hours Tuesday – Saturday, 12-4pm and can offer additional opportunities for visits by appointment. The Gallery is a regular participant of Montpelier ArtWalk and ArtsFest events. More information about

the Gallery can be found at our website, [twwoodgallery.org](http://twwoodgallery.org) and on Facebook. 802-262-6035 [twwoodgallery@gmail.com](mailto:twwoodgallery@gmail.com)

Ginny Callan, *Executive Director*

## Kellogg-Hubbard Library

The Kellogg-Hubbard Library is a non-profit, independent corporation that serves Montpelier and several smaller Central Vermont communities as a free public library and an important cultural resource. The library's beautiful granite building is a major landmark in our Capital City. Founded in 1894, the library is open six days and 54 hours per week, and high patron use has made it one of the busiest public libraries in the state. In addition to having a collection of over 77,000 items, we borrow more items for our patrons through interlibrary loans than all but one other library. In terms of number of items our patrons borrow and how many visits they make, we are second only to the public library in Burlington.

In addition to lending books, DVDs, CDs and magazines, we provide diverse programs for both children and adults. Last year we ran 575 programs for children and adults, with a total attendance of 10,536. Aside from our programs and materials to borrow, the library itself is a destination for residents of all ages. Our Outreach program brings books and story times to area preschools, daycares and senior residential centers, provides books for borrowing at satellite lending sites, and delivers books and other materials to homebound patrons.

Although our Children's Library is popular with patrons from all of our communities, it is used most heavily by city residents. Our Tuesday and Friday morning story times are extremely popular, as are our afternoon and summer programs. Even on a day when there are no programs, within a few minutes of the end of school, elementary and middle school students flood into the library. In addition to the wide variety of year-round programming, in 2015 we also offered three, free, week-long summer camps, with science, social studies and Shakespeare as the themes.

Our technology services continue to grow in popularity. We provide public computers and free, high-quality Wi-Fi at the library, but KHL patrons don't even have to come to the library. They can download audio and electronic books from any location with their library card. In 2015, as demand increased, we added a second online service for downloading books; library patrons downloaded 8,621 audio and electronic books in the last year. The email reminders a couple of days before items are due continue to be a very popular service.



Given our location in the heart of the city, it is no surprise the Montpelier residents are the heaviest library users in our service area. During the last 12 months, Montpelier adults, children and business owners checked out 113,971 items.

Our Outreach program last year lent 1,622 books to one Montpelier daycare, and volunteers who delivered the books regularly provided pre-literacy activities and read books to children—more than 100 books in all. Outreach regularly provided books (mostly large print) to two senior residential centers and maintained four book exchanges (an informal, leave one/take one set-up) in locations around the city.

The City has six representatives on the KHL Board of Trustees: Steve Gold (who serves as board president), Thierry Guerlain (past president and former councilman), Rachel Muse (appointed by the City Council), Amy Cunningham (trust officer), Steve Norton, and Lorraine Pilon.

The library's current operating budget is \$911,556, which is \$67,000 lower than it was five years ago. The Library Trustees are asking City taxpayers for the same level of support as it currently receives—\$316,698. The library appreciates the City's strong support and looks forward to continuing to provide the best service possible to all.

Tom McKone, *Executive Director*



(Photo courtesy of Linda Hogan)

**KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 2014 through June 2015

	<b>Jul '14 - Jun 15</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Annual Endowment Distribution	216,444.00
<b>Municipalities Income</b>	
City of Montpelier	308,673.00
Town of Calais	27,950.00
Town of East Montpelier	36,775.00
Town of Middlesex	26,800.00
Town of Worcester	17,525.00
<b>Total Municipalities Income</b>	417,723.00
Development	194,766.36
Fines	25,519.31
Misc. Income	10,154.56
Non-Resident Fees	12,067.50
Restricted Income	23,318.32
<b>Total Income</b>	899,993.05
<b>Expense</b>	
6000. Adult Library Services	240,988.24
6010. Children's & Outreach Srv	153,462.23
6020. Executive Director & Library Director	103,107.92
6120. Programs	22,768.67
6130. Technology	11,982.94
6140. Nonprofit Administration	106,690.23
6160. Fundraising	48,215.10
6200. Occupancy Costs	134,908.64
9000. Depreciation Expense	74,232.73
9001. Miscellaneous Expense	1,799.76
9002. Deferred Heating Cost	12,535.60
<b>Total Expense</b>	910,692.06
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-10,699.01
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>	
Bank Interest Income	100.17
Endowment gifts	3,369.91
Investment Income	-36,685.07
<b>Total Other Income</b>	-33,214.99
<b>Net Other Income</b>	-33,214.99
<b>Net Income</b>	-43,914.00

**KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of June 30, 2015

Jun 30, 15

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Checking/Savings**

NSB Checking 79,732.76

**NSB Money Market**

NSB MM - Restricted Donations 14,796.03

NSB Money Market - Other 52,096.76

**Total NSB Money Market** 66,892.79

Petty Cash 411.00

VSECU Savings 25.07

**Total Checking/Savings** 147,061.62

**Other Current Assets**

Accrued Income 184.20

Payroll Receivable 33.18

Prepaid Expenses 5,857.58

**Total Other Current Assets** 6,074.96

**Total Current Assets** 153,136.58

**Fixed Assets** 1,812,271.47

**Endowment Assets** 4,530,037.81

**TOTAL ASSETS** 6,495,445.86

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable 9,959.15

Other Current Liabilities 3,301.34

**Total Current Liabilities** 13,260.49

**Long Term Liabilities**

Deferred Heating Cost Liability 12,535.60

Accrued Compensated Absences 36,513.29

District Heat Loan 99,501.02

**Total Long Term Liabilities** 148,549.91

**Total Liabilities** 161,810.40

**Equity**

Permanently Restricted 534,172.37

Unrestricted - Board Designated 262,398.41

Unrestricted Net Assets 5,580,978.68

Net Income -43,914.00

**Total Equity** 6,333,635.46

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 6,495,445.86

## Lost Nation Theater

*“Crazy as it sounds, one of the things that led us to Montpelier from New York is the fact that it has a professional theater company. We figured that a small town that supports a major cultural institution must be pretty special.”*

– Amy Willis, Montpelier Resident



In 2015, Lost Nation Theater having recently won “Best of New England” Award from Yankee Magazine, continued its excellent work and celebrated its 27th Season at City Hall Arts Center!

The Main Stage season began in April with LNT’s original adaptation of *Treasure Island* (with original music, swordplay and projections) and Sarah Ruhl’s *Eurydice* (which incorporated aerial silks, puppets & live music) running in “rotating rep” (2 shows, nightly alternating performances). These projects included a tribute to longtime teachers and Montpelier residents Joanne Greenberg and Liz Snell, as well as a partnership with Montpelier’s f7 photography group. “Theatrical Visions” were gallery exhibits throughout Montpelier showcasing photos these wonderful photographers shot – on-stage - during the final dress rehearsals for each show.

The season continued with the smash hit *Always, Patsy Cline* – which LNT brought back for Montpelier Alive’s Brown Bag Series; *STONE* – enjoyed its 10th anniversary production, on-site at the Vermont Granite Museum; and the comedies *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and Shakespeare’s *As You Like It*. With *As You Like It*, LNT conducted another poem-writing contest throughout Vermont high schools and in the community. Panelists were award-winning authors including Sean Prentiss, Kerrin McCadden, Julia Shipley, and Jessica Hendry Nelson.

LNT also assisted several other theater groups and theater artists to produce their own work at City Hall Arts Center including Gruesome Playground Injuries.

Thanks in part to a contribution from the taxpayers of Montpelier, Lost Nation Theater continued to grow its education & outreach programs in 2015:

- 7 different Camps and/or Classes serving 170 students age 6-76.
- \$6,732 in cash scholarship assistance distributed -Additionally, LNT “bartered” skills with parents or more experienced/older students to further defray costs for families.
- ~ 53% of students, age 6–18, received scholarships of half or more of workshop fee.
- ~ the highlight of these programs were the productions of *Words Words Words*, *Charlotte’s Web* and *Pippin Jr!*,

which served 78 aspiring actor-singers and technicians age 9-19, guided by 21 professional artists. These expanded production camps enjoyed 9 “full house” performances.

- 1 Middle & High school Two-Week Residency, serving approximately 70 students, their teachers and families funded by the Vermont Arts Council.
- 7 Middle/High school students and “special needs” community members received mentoring internships (at no cost to them & which helped 3 non-traditional students get their HS diplomas)
- Special school matinees (with pre/post show discussions with cast and crew and some interactive workshops) – including MPSS, MSMS, & UES (for free) were conducted.
- LNT’s productions of *Eurydice* and *Treasure Island* provided acting and technical roles for 15 students (age 11-19).
- 2619 students given specially discounted tickets.

### In other outreach work...

- Special “senior matinees” of main-stage shows (with tickets just \$5 for those 65+).
- Special Free or heavily discounted tickets for Community Connections Girls/Boys First Mentoring program participants.
- LNT presented over a dozen visual artists in its lobby gallery and in the City Hall Arts Center gallery, 9 other performance groups & musicians were presented by LNT at City Hall Arts Center. These efforts by LNT provided over \$20,000 worth of support to those artists/events.

***Thanks to the community and to the support of the City of Montpelier, LNT continued to produce a wealth of performance, education, and outreach programs – bringing acclaimed artists from across the country to Vermont as well as providing opportunities for Vermont’s own stellar theater professionals.***

***“This theater is a gem, so if you’ve never been, do give it a try. You won’t regret it.”*** – Lynne & Bob Lincoln, Front Porch Forum

### The Background:

LNT is one of the state’s “original” year-round professional theater companies. Artistic Director Kim Bent founded Lost Nation Theater in 1977 in Bristol, Vermont.

In residence at City Hall Arts Center since 1989, LNT helped transform the Hall into a vital gathering center for theater, music, dances, and community events. LNT’s work now includes musicals, a host of education and professional training programs, and many partnerships with social service and other arts organizations.

In 1989, LNT's annual budget was under \$20,000.

In 2014 its cash budget was approximately \$275,000 (our matching in-kind budget is more). LNT's annual economic contribution is approximately \$1 million.

LNT donates more than \$35,000 in goods and services each year to the community.

### **The Programs**

**PERFORMANCES!** — *Over 120 each year -- featuring the best Vermont and "Imported" professionals*

- Six Mainstage Shows
- February Frolics!
- An Edgar Allan Poe & Fiends Halloween
- It's a Wonderful Life-Radio Play
- Cabarets
- Theater For Kids By Kids shows

**EDUCATION!** — *Opportunities for all ages and experience levels*

- Youth Theater Classes & Camps — summer & winter-break day camps for ages 6-21; winter/spring skill development classes – includes technical and performance.
- Professional Theater Training Program—bridging academic & professional worlds.
- Will on Wheels & other Workshop Programs—for elementary through college-level students.
- Master Classes in specific skills (like stage-combat, acting techniques, directing) for a wide variety of ages and proficiency levels.
- Mentorships, Individual Learning Plans, Community Based Learning and Independent Studies.

**OUTREACH!** — *A Professional Theater Rooted in Community*

- Benefit Performances.
- Ticket Donations to non-profit arts, human service, education & other organizations.
- Facility Management of City Hall Auditorium Arts Center, making possible such events as: Hunger Mountain Coop's Food Fair and assisting groups such as Dave Keller's Annual New Year's Eve Bash, Green Mountain Youth Orchestra, Washington County Mental Health, Montpelier Alive, NECI, CV Land Trust, with their events.

- Mini-Performances to Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, Adult Day Cares, and Low-Income Children's Day Care programs.
- Custodians of City Hall Auditorium.
- Consultation, Referral, & Technical Support Services for area schools and others.
- Accessibility Initiatives — with Adult Basic Education, VCIL, Heaton Woods, VSA, Headstart, and many more; plus ASL-interpreted and Audio-Described Performances, large-print programs, assisted listening systems, and reserved seating for those with physical challenges.
- Vermont Foodbank Partnership — standard discount on admission to anyone who brings a non-perishable food item for the Foodbank when they attend Lost Nation Theater.

### **2015 LNT Staff**

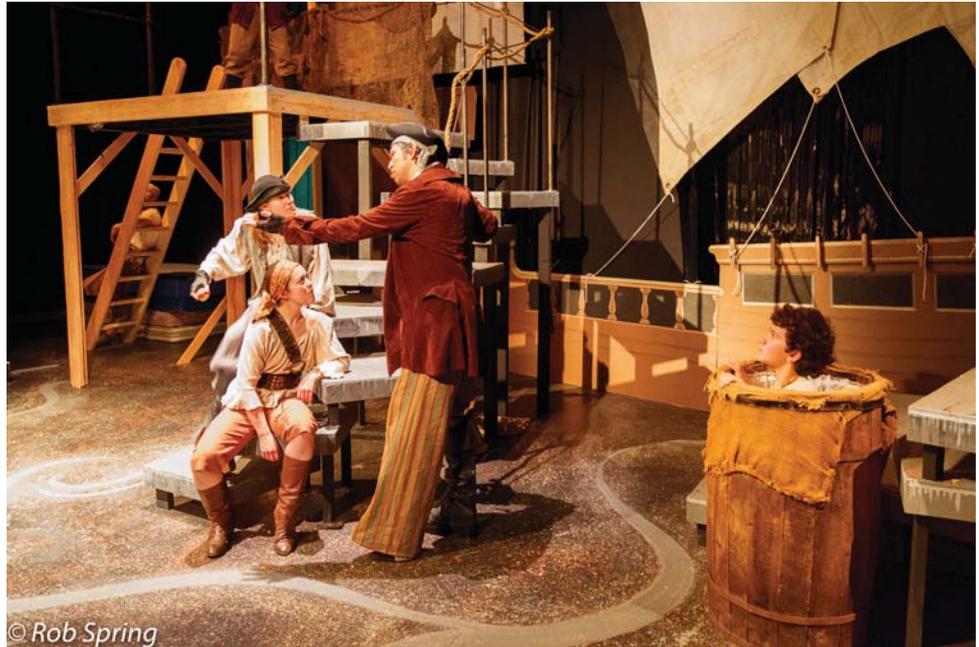
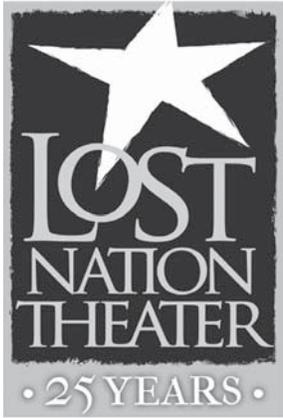
Kim Bent and Kathleen Keenan – *Producing Artistic Directors*  
Kris Weir – *Production Stage Manager/CHAC Facilities Manager*  
Dona Bate – *Outreach Development & Bookkeeping*  
Wendy Stephens – *Master Electrician & Social Media*  
Janine Woods Thoma – *Technical Director*

### **2015 LNT Board of Directors & Advisors**

Warren Kitzmiller – *President*  
Bronwyn Fryer – *Secretary*  
Rob Chapman – *Treasurer*  
Kathleen McDonald, Steve Pike, Carolyn Wesley, Amy Willis  
Dona Bate, Joan Black, John Fricke, Doug & Sonja Grahn,  
Linda Henzel, Sue Killoran, Betty Lord, Maura O'Brien,  
Brian Prendergast, Anthony Otis, Tim Tavcar, Alan Weiss,  
Ron Wild, Sue Zeller

### **Volunteer Staff:**

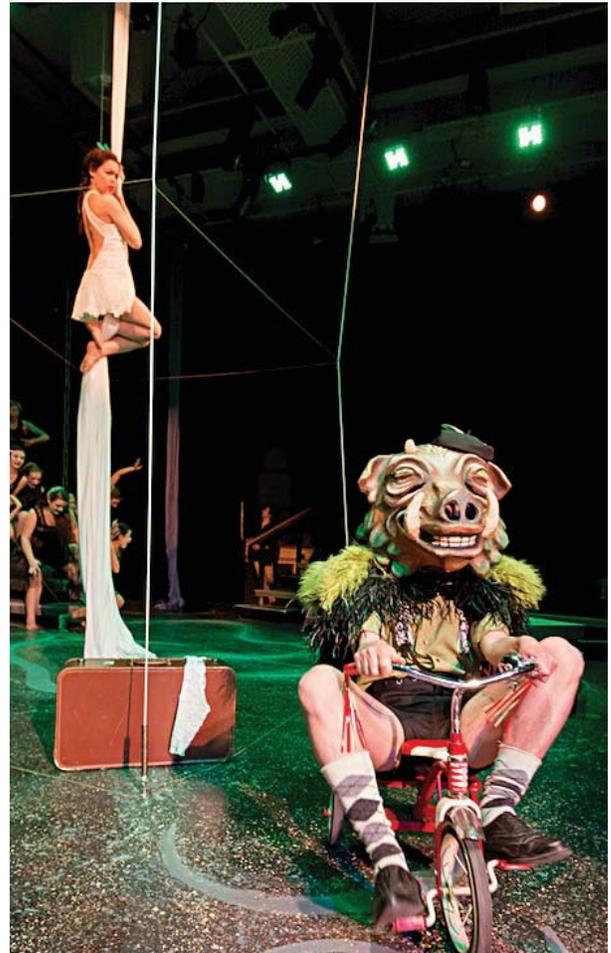
Hank Babcock – *Asst. Technical Director*  
Amanda & Sarah Menard – *Management & Marketing*  
Pat Babcock – *Office Assistant*  
Lauren Aradi and Pat Keenan – *Executive Assistants*  
Louise & Ray Menard – *Concessions*  
Mitch Osiecki – *Volunteer Coordinator*  
Wes Parker, North Branch Tech Services – *IT Advisor*



© Rob Spring  
*Treasure Island*



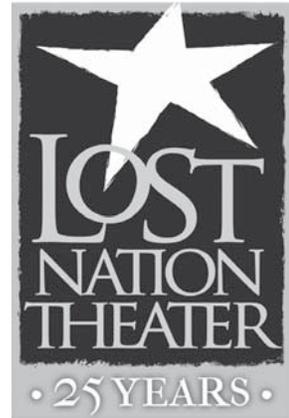
*Always, Patsy Cline*



*Eurydice*



*Aerial Skills Camp*



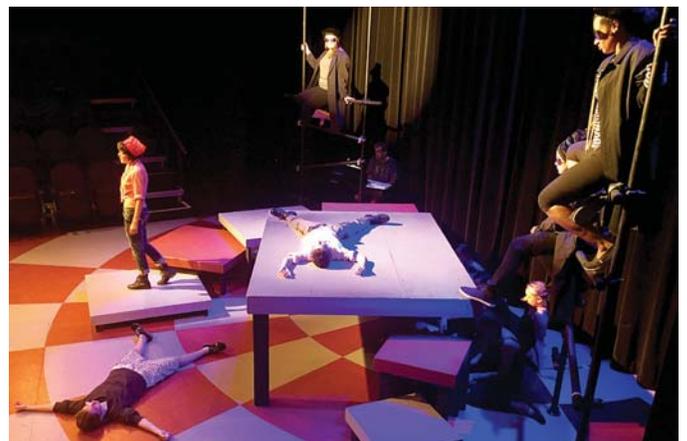
*The Hound of the Baskervilles*



*Stone*



*As You Like It*



*Theater for Kids by Kids*

## City Hall Arts Center

In 2015, City Hall Auditorium Arts Center was host to some 25 events (plus some small meetings) over 230 days. And some of these days held multiple events!

These events were diverse occurrences; ranging from rummage sales, annual meetings, craft fairs, Hunger Mountain's Health & Wellness Fair, education workshops, and city meetings, to Winterfest, LNT productions, and Dave Keller's 3rd Annual New Year's Eve Bash, then back again to hosting the Capitol City Winter Farmer's Market. Of course, twice a year the Hall hosts Voting!

Lost Nation Theater is the facility manager for City Hall Arts Center. What does that mean?

It means helping renters plan their use of the Hall, opening the Hall and then securing it; determining what kind of technical support (lighting, staging, tables, additional electricity) they will need, and arranging for qualified support staff when necessary; and even hanging the banners on the building that advertise events or community projects like Blood Drives.

– It also means the Theater is in charge of maintaining the Hall for all users: changing light bulbs, washing the woodwork, small repairs to the plaster, tile floor, chairs and risers, cleaning the bathroom and making sure supplies are stocked, etc. Sometimes these duties are much larger, such as assisting the City with a massive energy-efficiency improvement project.

In 2015, Lost Nation Theater donated over \$8500 worth of technical support and services to other users of City Hall Arts Center (in addition to those groups presented by LNT). The Theater also continues to make improvements to the Hall to make it as easy as possible for any user of the Hall to create an intimate environment, different areas in which to have "break-out" meetings, or to host 100 vendors at a time.

Over the years, LNT has invested over \$120,000 in the City Hall Arts Center.

## Capital City Band

During the summer of 2015, the Capital City Band played 10 free community concerts on the Statehouse lawn each Wednesday evening from 7:00 - 8:00, from June 17 through August 19. The band also performed at the Statehouse during the Montpelier July 3rd Independence Day celebration, the 4th of July parade in Stowe, and the grand opening of newly renovated Christ Church Pocket Park. The band played for the 80th birthday celebration of the Social Security Act. The residents at the Rowan Court Health & Rehabilitation Center in Barre were entertained with a special post-season concert.

This year, Charles Mayhood continued with us as conductor. Charles has worked hard to develop our audience through innovative outreach. The audience at our concerts on the Statehouse Lawn numbered 50-75 at each concert, including many tourists and newcomers to town, as well as long-time residents and a large weekly contingent from Heaton Woods residential care home. This year, Charles worked with state officials and Heaton Woods staff to re-arrange the Band's performance space to make the concerts more fully accessible for audience members with disabilities. We are now playing on the walkway in front of the Supreme Court building so that audience members do not have to walk across grass to reach good seating positions.

Our band member attendance records show that 45 volunteer instrumentalists performed with us this year; 16 were Montpelier residents, 29 were from other local communities, and 2 were visitors from out of state. Of these volunteer instrumentalists, 12 played with the band for the first time this year.

We're already looking forward to another active season next year, with additional performances.

Joan Senecal, *President*



# Tax Exempt Parcels

Property Owner	Exempt Value	Payment in Lieu of Taxes as of 1/2016	Property Owner	Exempt Value	Payment in Lieu of Taxes as of 1/2016
			Montpelier, City of	13,973,300	
			17 properties		
American Legion	341,500	--	Montpelier Elderly Housing Project		
21 Main Street			155 Main Street	2,739,900	11,959.54
Brown Johnson Post #792 (VFW)	374,900	--	120 Northfield Street	535,100	
1 Pioneer Center			Resurrection Baptist Church	512,100	--
Beth Jacob Synagogue	235,100	--	144 Elm St, 2 properties		
Harrison Avenue			Roman Catholic Diocese of VT		
Bethany Church	1,814,600	--	Rectory/Church, 16 Barre St	3,528,000	--
Main Street			Shepherd of the Hills	398,100	--
Capitol City Housing Foundation	2,394,500	--	Lutheran Church		
Heaton Woods			115 Northfield St.		
Cemeteries: --			Social Security Building	643,700	--
Elm Street	76,900		School Street		
Green Mount	529,300		Trinity Methodist Church		
Roman Catholic	99,900		of Montpelier, VT Inc.		
Center for Arts & Learning	415,000	--	Main Street	1,252,400	--
46 Barre Street			2 Deerfield Dr/Parsonage	219,400	--
Central VT Memorial Civic Ctr	386,100	--	Unitarian Church	793,900	--
268 Gallison Hill Road			Main Street		
Central VT Solid Waste	259,800	--	US Post Office	4,818,500	--
Management District			State Street		
137 Barre Street			VT Center for Independent Living	575,600	--
Christ Church – Episcopal	2,577,800	--	11 East State Street		
State Street			Vermont College of Fine Arts	6,916,000	--
Family Center of Washington County	1,430,100	--	7 properties		
285 Sherwood Drive			College St, West St.		
Lighthouse Christian Church	484,000	--	Vermont Humanities Council	561,000	--
34 School Street			11 Loomis Street		
First Church of Christ	429,800	--	VT Program for Quality in	296,200	
145 State Street			Health Care Inc.		
Fisher, OM Home	1,122,000	--	Vermont, State of	114,813,300	184,000.00
149 Main Street			39 properties		683,810.00
Food Works	188,200	--	State St., Baldwin St., Gov. Aiken Ave,		
5 Home Farm Way			Green Mt. Dr., Stone Cutters Way,		
Friends of the			Terrace St.		
North Branch Nature Center Inc.	99,900	--	Washington, County of	1,956,000	--
713 Elm Street			3 properties		
Kellogg Hubbard Library	1,950,200	--	State Street, Elm Street		
135 Main Street			Washington County	421,400	--
Montpelier, City of	11,692,600	--	Mental Health		
3 school properties			90 & 157 Barre Sts		

# Calendar Year 2015 Compensation

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Department/Office</b>	<b>2015 Wage</b>	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Department/Office</b>	<b>2015 Wage</b>
Aldrighetti, Jane	Assessor's Office	\$59,053	Edgerly Walsh, Jessica	City Council	\$1,200
Alexander, Nancy	Elections	\$95	Eggleston, Leon	Fire	\$83,271
Amaral, Michelle	Police	\$46,963	Elliott, Kyle	Public Works	\$1,170
Aumand, Francis	Executive Director CVPSA	\$27,705	Ellis, Frank	Public Works	\$58,120
Bagg, Scott	Police	\$6,580	Ellsworth, Alec	Parks	\$25,572
Baker, Burtis	City Hall	\$43,306	Facos, Anthony John	Police Chief	\$95,031
Baker, Jessie	Assistant City Manager	\$79,221	Farnham, Michael	Public Works	\$57,050
Barlow Casey, Donna	Public Works	\$34,420	Fischer, Robert	Public Works	\$50,254
Bate, Dona	City Council	\$1,200	Fraser, William	City Manager	\$110,894
Bean, Chad	Police	\$72,200	Gallup, Sandra	Finance Director	\$79,814
Beyer, Geoffrey	Park Director	\$64,944	George, Bonnie	Police	\$44,716
Blatchford, Sharon	Finance	\$47,960	Gibson, Judith	Community Justice Ctr	\$59,456
Blodgett, Zachary	Public Works	\$51,097	Gidney, Jane	Elections	\$157
Bolduc, Marguerite	Finance	\$50,194	Golonka, Thomas	City Council	\$1,200
Bookmyer-Baker, Christine	Planning	\$14,826	Gowans, Robert	Fire Chief	\$85,520
Bousquet, Jeffrey	Public Works	\$48,181	Gray, Christopher	Public Works	\$42,697
Breakstone, Leslie	Senior Center	\$150	Groberg, Daniel	Senior Center	\$37,261
Bresette, Loretta	Finance	\$50,412	Haskins, Nichlous	Public Works	\$32,259
Bresette, Nicholas	Fire	\$73,843	Healy, Patrick	Cemetery Director	\$69,903
Brown, Audra	Planning	\$56,390	Hepburn, Kristine	Finance/Police	\$60,812
Brunell, David	Parks	\$23,913	Hill, Beverlee P	Deliquent Tax Collector	\$31,491
Byrd, Yvonne	Community Justice Ctr Dir	\$66,964	Hoagland, Devin	Public Works	\$55,317
Cahill, Gregory	Public Works	\$38,652	Hollar, John	Mayor	\$3,000
Campbell-Nelson, Samuel	Public Works	\$12,711	Hood, George	Public Works	\$60,812
Carpenter, Anthony	Public Works	\$12,206	Hoyt, Charlotte	City Treasurer	\$42,434
Casey, Kevin	Planning	\$58,144	Huoppi, Dana	Fire	\$83,951
Charron, Paul	Fire	\$69,825	Jasman, Douglas	Fire	\$66,732
Chase, Crystal	Assistant City Clerk	\$48,916	Jennings, William	Police	\$79,861
Chase, Eric	Public Works	\$43,667	Kachajian, David	Police	\$84,757
Christman, Kenneth	Firefighter/Emt	\$72,493	King, Annette	Police	\$70,624
Clar, Janna	Senior Center Director	\$50,257	Knisley, Matthew	Police	\$74,745
Cleveland, Richard	Police	\$118,933	Ladd, Eric	Public Works	\$76,517
Cochran, Wade	Police	\$98,646	Lamson, Matthew	Public Works	\$59,074
Conneman, Thomas	Police	\$77,196	Larrabee, Jacob	Fire	\$67,203
Cowens, Nathan	Public Works	\$18,259	Lavallee, Michelle	Police	\$48,762
Cox, Christopher	Public Works	\$60,307	Lee, Richard	Public Works	\$52,482
Cubit, Colby	Public Works	\$1,879	Lewis, Jeremy	Public Works	\$61,370
Cummings, Bernard	Police	\$31,254	Line, Corey	Public Works	\$34,941
Cushing, Sidney	Public Works	\$25,455	Luce, Peter	Public Works	\$51,191
Day, Suzanne	Elections	\$121	Lumbra, Christopher	Asst Building Inspector	\$57,482
Dockter, Ruth	Finance	\$44,352	Macdonald, Jean	Elections	\$157
Drake, Adam	Public Works	\$45,552	Mackey, Virginia	Public Works	\$50,421
			Macura, Joshua	Police	\$77,237
			Marineau, Andrew	Fire	\$55,598
			Markus, Lise	Senior Center	\$24,962
			Marold, Glen	Fire	\$56,608

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Department/Office</b>	<b>2015 Wage</b>	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Department/Office</b>	<b>2015 Wage</b>
Martel, Neil	Police	\$88,969	Power, Marjorie	Elections	\$95
McArdle, Thomas	Public Works Director	\$84,801	Powers, Scott	Public Works	\$52,435
McCool, Carrie	Police	\$53,084	Provencher, Todd	Finance	\$45,728
McShane, Sarah	Zoning Administrator	\$16,821	Purcell White, Kathryn	Police	\$57,085
Michaud, Benjamin	Police	\$62,622	Quinn, James	Deputy Fire Chief	\$71,639
Miles, Zachary	Public Works	\$6,013	Redmond, Justin	Fire	\$53,728
Miller, Michael	Planning & Comm Dev Dir.	\$79,247	Rodimon, Jesse	City Clerk's Office	\$998
Mills, Alfred	Community Justice Ctr	\$34,464	Royce, Craig	Parks	\$8,790
Moody, Mark	Police	\$541	Ruggles, Daniel	Fire	\$54,575
Morse, Chad	Fire	\$70,417	Savard, Sandra	Police	\$49,485
Motyka, Kurt	Public Works	\$74,920	Shangraw, John	Public Works	\$43,335
Moulton, Kevin	Police	\$85,729	Shaw, Richard	Police	\$10,400
Naikus, Vytas	Public Works	\$50,620	Skeels, Frederick	IT Manager	\$62,042
Neilson, Hannah	Police	\$18,906	Smith, Arielle	Public Works	\$42,408
Nolan, Stephen	Police	\$72,833	Snetsinger, Robert	Public Works	\$5,021
Nordenson, Eric	Police	\$89,795	Thereault, Galen	Fire	\$53,938
Odum, John	City Clerk	\$60,884	Thurston, Peter	Fire	\$50,803
Olson, Jean	City Council	\$700	Timian, Jacob	Fire	\$52,354
Olson, Sharon	Police	\$61,741	Truhan, Christopher	Police	\$77,120
Papineau, Michael	Public Works	\$29,649	Turcotte, Justin	City Council	\$1,200
Pearson, Jeffrey	Police	\$73,249	Tuttle, Brian	Supervisor-Dpw Streets	\$76,734
Pelletier, Charles	Police	\$16,165	Utton, Michael	Public Works	\$40,990
Perry, Daniel	Public Works	\$77,137	Watson, Anne	City Council	\$1,200
Persons, Albert	Public Works	\$46,255	Willis, Adam	Public Works	\$12,270
Philbrick, Michael	Police	\$70,570	Wilson, Geoffrey	Public Works	\$71,635
Pitonyak, Sandra June	City Manager's Office	\$55,012	Wood, Seth	IT/Finance	\$48,552
Potter, Michael	Public Works	\$55,803	Yaeger, Joseph	Public Works	\$41,012
Potvin, Peter	Public Works	\$8,001			

# CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Fothergill Segale & Valley, CPAs, Montpelier, Vermont conducted an audit of the financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. They performed their audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. The following Management's Discussion and Analysis is an important part of our Financial Statements and the audit report.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis for the Year Ended June 30, 2015 is intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Montpelier, Vermont's basic financial statements. It contains sections that include Financial Highlights, Net Position, Capital Assets and Debt Administration as well as Economic Factors. Copies of the full Audit Report, with all the Exhibits and Notes to the Financial Statements are available at the Finance Department at City Hall, located at 39 Main Street in Montpelier. The Audit Report is also available on the City's web site at <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/3731>. If you have questions or comments regarding this financial report, please call or email Sandra Gallup, City Finance Director at (802)262-6253, [sgallup@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:sgallup@montpelier-vt.org).

## Other Financial Information

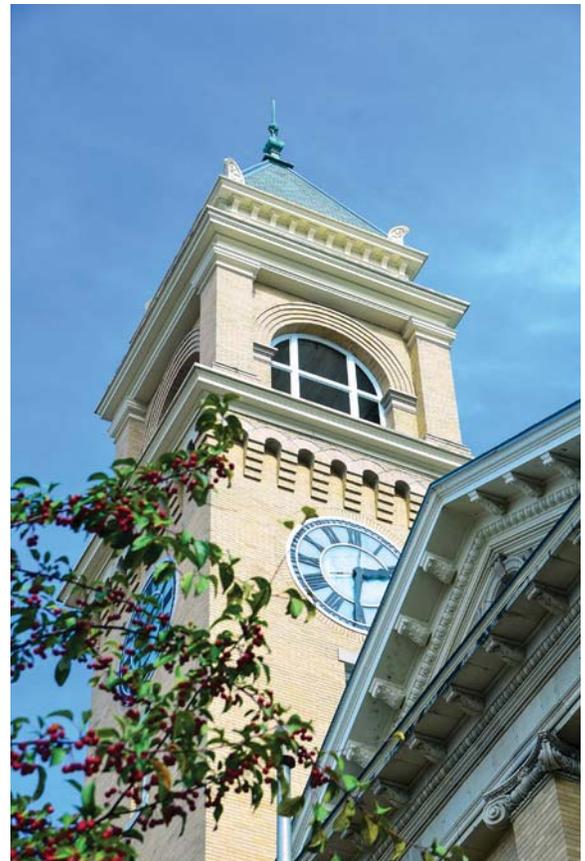
### Statement of Taxes (School and City), Sewer/Water Benefit, Sewer Separation (CSO) Benefit Charges Raised for Fiscal Year July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

#### Taxes & Charges Billed

Real Estate/Personal Property	\$21,103,098
Sewer/Water/ CSO Benefit Charges	\$734,449
Delinquent Taxes - Total	
As of June 30, 2014	\$155,537
<b>TOTAL TAXES/CHARGES</b>	<b>\$21,993,084</b>

#### Accounted For As Follows:

Collections/Adjustments/Abatements	\$21,859,145
Delinquent as of June 30, 2015	\$133,939
<b>TOTAL TAXES/CHARGES</b>	<b>\$21,993,084</b>



**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Montpelier, Vermont's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements include three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

**Financial Highlights**

***Government-Wide Statements***

In July of 2014, the City adopted GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. GASB Statement No. 68 establishes standards for measuring and recognizing liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expenses/expenditures. As a result of the adoption of GASB 68, the June 30, 2014 balances had to be restated. The net effect of the restatement is a reduction of governmental activities net position of \$616,243, and a reduction of business-type activities net position of \$183,258 as of June 30, 2014.

During fiscal year 2015, the total net position of the governmental activities increased by \$1,367,138 or 6.08 percent and the total net position of the business-type activities increased by \$305,346 or 1.13 percent. The City's total net position increased by \$1,672,484 or 3.38%, as a result of this year's operations. The increase in the governmental activities is the result of a large estate donation of \$455,192 which is classified as extraordinary, capital grants invested in police equipment and infrastructure of \$401,769 and an excess of charges for services and operating grants revenue over program expenses of \$510,177. The increase in the business-type activities is largely the result of charges for services revenue being higher than program expenses and transfers out by \$263,358 and a capital grant of \$34,308.

Total revenue for all the City's programs decreased from \$26,777,769 in 2014 to \$19,470,282 in 2015, which is a 27.29% decrease from the previous year. The cost of all of the City's programs decreased from \$20,245,502 cost in fiscal year 2014 to \$18,252,990 in fiscal year 2015 which is 9.84 percent lower than the previous year. The revenue and expense decreases are primarily due to a decrease in capital grant activities, most notably, the District Heat project which was completed in the prior year.

***Fund Statements***

GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions* entries are recorded on the proprietary fund statements but not on the City's governmental fund statements.

During fiscal year 2015, the General Fund reported a net increase in the fund balance of \$27,919. This was primarily due to unbudgeted transfers from the Capital Projects Fund of \$43,400 (prior year flood grant funds available to reimburse the general fund for prior year public works flood cleanup work), and \$1,884 (street light project funds available to offset general fund street light repairs), less a budgeted transfer from the District Heat fund of \$20,154 for debt that was not needed as the debt is now in the District Heat fund. Operating revenues less operating expenditures are favorable by \$2,789.

The General Fund balances totaled \$1,358,692 as of June 30, 2015. The fund balances that are nonspendable, restricted, committed and assigned totaled \$456,669 as of June 30, 2015, which is a decrease of \$51,321, mostly due to the early payoff of a note receivable. These fund balances are either nonspendable or have spending constraints placed on the purposes for which they can be used. This leaves an unassigned fund balance of \$902,023 which is \$79,240 higher than the prior year's unassigned fund balance.

The Community Development Fund ended the year with a restricted and committed fund balance of \$478,513, which was \$34,129 lower than the prior year fund balance of \$512,642. This fund balance is reserved by various sources for Community Development programs and activities.

The Capital Projects Fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$1,677,872 which was \$138,258 lower than the prior year fund balance of \$1,816,130. The decrease was the result of \$367,993 of grant funds which were spent but not recognized as revenue because they were not collected within sixty (60) days after year-end and \$27,876 of overspend projects which will be funded by future appropriations. These total \$395,869 and are classified as a

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

negative unassigned fund balance. The remaining fund balance consists of \$1,110,935 which is restricted by bonding constraints and impact fee ordinances and \$962,806 which are committed for various capital improvement projects (including \$250,000 for unidentified projects).

Other nonmajor governmental funds ended the year with a fund balance of \$1,534,474, which was \$479,509 higher than the prior year fund balance of \$1,054,965. The increase is primarily due to an estate donation of \$350,000 to the senior center fund which is classified as an extraordinary item. The remaining increase is unspent appropriations of \$66,280 in the Senior Center Fund and \$41,000 in the Montpelier Housing Trust fund. The ending fund balance consists of \$489,860 Non-Expendable by Trust Agreements, \$542,754 restricted and \$501,860 committed.

Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, the net position of the Water Fund at June 30, 2014 was reduced by \$57,656. The Water Fund ended the 2015 fiscal year with a net position of \$9,171,953 which was \$217,616 more than the prior year restated balance of \$8,954,337. Of the total net position balance, \$9,546,080 is invested in property and equipment. This leaves an unrestricted deficit of \$374,127 to be recovered in future periods. The unrestricted deficit is \$104,851 less than the \$478,978 unrestricted deficit as of June 30, 2014. \$297,500 of the unrestricted deficit is debt related to the refinancing of the unfunded pension liability. Principal repayments on this debt are not due until November, 2017.

Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, the net position of the Sewer Fund at June 30, 2014 was reduced by \$84,486. The Sewer Fund ended the year with a net position of \$12,037,546, which was \$197,705 higher than the prior year restated balance of \$11,839,841. Of the total net position balance, \$11,777,836 is invested in property and equipment. This leaves an unrestricted net position balance of \$259,710, which is \$161,535 lower than the previous year.

Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, the net position of the Parking Fund at June 30, 2014 was reduced by \$38,085. The Parking Fund ended the year with net position of \$315,158, which was \$62,392 higher than the prior year restated balance of \$252,766. Of the total net position balance, \$331,327 is invested in property and equipment and \$2,417 is restricted for various projects. This leaves a deficit of \$18,586 to be recovered in future periods. Included in this deficit is \$192,500 in debt related to the refinancing of the unfunded pension liability. Principal repayments on this debt are not due until November, 2017.

Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, the net position of the District Heat Fund at June 30, 2014 was reduced by \$3,031. The District Heat Fund ended the year with net position of \$5,727,753, which was \$172,367 lower than the prior year restated balance of \$5,900,120. Of the total net position balance, \$5,818,320 is invested in property and equipment. This leaves an operating deficit of \$90,567 to be recovered in future periods.

### **Using This Annual Report**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (Exhibits A and B) provide information about the activities of the City as a whole and present a longer-term view of the City's finances. Fund financial statements start on Exhibit C. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the City's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the City's most significant funds.

### **Reporting the City as a Whole**

Our analysis of the City as a whole begins on Exhibit A. One of the most important questions asked about the City's finances is, "Is the City as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the City as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

These two statements report the City's net position and changes in them. You can think of the City's net position - the difference between assets and liabilities - as one way to measure the City's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the City's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the City's property tax base and the condition of the City's roads, to assess the overall health of the City.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, we divide the City into two kinds of activities:

**Governmental activities** - Most of the City's basic services are reported here, including the police, fire, public works, and parks departments, and general administration. Property taxes, franchise fees, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

**Business-type activities** - The City charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of certain services it provides. The City's water, sewer, parking and district heat activities are reported here.

***Reporting the City's Most Significant Funds***

Our analysis of the City's major funds begins on Exhibit C. The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds - not the City as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law and by bond covenants. However, the City Council establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money (like grants received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development). The City's two kinds of funds - governmental and proprietary - use different accounting approaches.

**Governmental funds** - Most of the City's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the City's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the City's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds on the exhibits that follow each financial statement. The City's main governmental fund is the General Fund. The Community Development Fund, the Capital Projects Fund and Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds are included in the governmental funds financial statements and schedules.

**Proprietary funds** - When the City charges customers for the services it provides - whether to outside customers or to other units of the City - these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the City's enterprise funds (a component of proprietary funds) are the same as the business-type activities we report in the government-wide statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds. The City has four proprietary funds; the Water Fund, the Sewer Fund, the Parking Fund and the District Heat Fund.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

Our analysis below separately considers the operations of governmental and business-type activities as well as the City as a whole.

**The City as a Whole**

The City's combined net position increased by \$1,672,484 from a year ago - increasing from \$49,415,124 to \$51,087,608. Our analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the City's governmental and business-type activities.

As stated previously, the June 30, 2014 balances were restated due to the adoption of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*.

**Table 1**  
**Net Position**

	June 30, 2015			6/30/2014 - Restated		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government
Current and other assets	\$ 7,410,445	\$ 787,107	\$ 8,197,552	\$ 7,262,628	\$ 5,913,119	\$ 13,175,747
Capital assets	26,048,279	43,143,946	69,192,225	25,589,108	43,712,589	69,301,697
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>33,458,724</b>	<b>43,931,053</b>	<b>77,389,777</b>	<b>32,851,736</b>	<b>49,625,708</b>	<b>82,477,444</b>
Deferred outflows	305,984	90,993	396,977	0	0	0
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows</b>	<b>33,764,708</b>	<b>44,022,046</b>	<b>77,786,754</b>	<b>32,851,736</b>	<b>49,625,708</b>	<b>82,477,444</b>
Long term liabilities	8,229,740	16,121,345	24,351,085	8,825,780	17,176,667	26,002,447
Net pension liability	209,857	62,406	272,263	209,857	62,406	272,263
Other liabilities	782,261	375,444	1,157,705	941,653	5,318,719	6,260,372
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>9,221,858</b>	<b>16,559,195</b>	<b>25,781,053</b>	<b>9,977,290</b>	<b>22,557,792</b>	<b>32,535,082</b>
Deferred inflows	707,652	210,441	918,093	406,386	120,852	527,238
<b>Total liabilities and deferred inflows</b>	<b>9,929,510</b>	<b>16,769,636</b>	<b>26,699,146</b>	<b>10,383,676</b>	<b>22,678,644</b>	<b>33,062,320</b>
<b>Net position:</b>						
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	22,127,271	27,473,563	49,600,834	21,400,960	27,359,460	48,760,420
Restricted	2,439,577	2,417	2,441,994	2,493,337	2,417	2,495,754
Unrestricted	(731,650)	(223,570)	(955,220)	(1,426,237)	(414,813)	(1,841,050)
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 23,835,198</b>	<b>\$ 27,252,410</b>	<b>\$ 51,087,608</b>	<b>\$ 22,468,060</b>	<b>\$ 26,947,064</b>	<b>\$ 49,415,124</b>

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

**Table 2**  
**Change in Net Position**

	<i>June 30, 2015</i>			<i>June 30, 2014</i>		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
			Primary Government			Primary Government
<b>REVENUES:</b>						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 1,158,816	\$ 7,759,109	\$ 8,917,925	\$ 1,033,881	\$ 7,092,526	\$ 8,126,407
Operating grants and contributions	1,032,749	0	1,032,749	932,205	0	932,205
Capital grants and contributions	401,769	34,308	436,077	2,889,871	5,836,078	8,725,949
General Revenues:						
Property taxes, penalties and interest	7,908,336	0	7,908,336	7,735,975	0	7,735,975
Payment in lieu of taxes	887,165	0	887,165	954,271	0	954,271
Unrestricted investment earnings	129,012	3,396	132,408	112,618	25,523	138,141
Gain (loss) on sale of capital assets	83,207	4,284	87,491	13,549	12,000	25,549
Other revenues	59,971	0	59,971	132,452	0	132,452
Contributions to permanent endowments	8,160	0	8,160	6,820	0	6,820
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>11,669,185</b>	<b>7,801,097</b>	<b>19,470,282</b>	<b>13,811,642</b>	<b>12,966,127</b>	<b>26,777,769</b>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES:</b>						
General government	1,845,248	0	1,845,248	1,662,130	0	1,662,130
Public safety	4,766,228	0	4,766,228	4,536,745	0	4,536,745
Public works	2,644,934	0	2,644,934	2,799,404	0	2,799,404
Culture and recreation	1,067,276	0	1,067,276	1,107,516	0	1,107,516
Community development	4,138	0	4,138	35,462	0	35,462
Cemetery	214,862	0	214,862	188,685	0	188,685
Interest on long-term debt	236,553	0	236,553	251,392	0	251,392
Water	0	2,420,023	2,420,023	0	2,416,290	2,416,290
Sewer	0	3,615,274	3,615,274	0	3,513,938	3,513,938
Parking	0	761,748	761,748	0	757,637	757,637
District Heat	0	676,706	676,706	0	2,976,303	2,976,303
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>10,779,239</b>	<b>7,473,751</b>	<b>18,252,990</b>	<b>10,581,334</b>	<b>9,664,168</b>	<b>20,245,502</b>
Excess before extraordinary item and transfers	889,946	327,346	1,217,292	3,230,308	3,301,959	6,532,267
<b>Transfers</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>(22,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Increase in net position before extraordinary item</b>	<b>911,946</b>	<b>305,346</b>	<b>1,217,292</b>	<b>3,240,308</b>	<b>3,291,959</b>	<b>6,532,267</b>
<b>Extraordinary item:</b>						
Estate donation	455,192	0	455,192	0	0	0
<b>Increase in net position</b>	<b>\$ 1,367,138</b>	<b>\$ 305,346</b>	<b>\$ 1,672,484</b>	<b>\$ 3,240,308</b>	<b>\$ 3,291,959</b>	<b>\$ 6,532,267</b>

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time to be a useful indicator of a government's financial position.

The total net position of the City's governmental activities increased \$1,367,138 or 6.08%. This increase is the result of a large estate donation of \$455,192 which is classified as extraordinary, capital grants of \$401,769 invested in police equipment and infrastructure and \$510,177 in excess of all other revenues over program expenses.

The total net position of the business-type activities increased by \$305,346 or 1.13%. This increase is due to charges for services revenue being higher than program expenses and transfers out by \$263,358 and a capital grant of \$34,308.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

**Governmental Activities**

The City's tax rate increased from \$0.8882 to \$0.9012 per \$100 of assessed value (up 1.46%) from fiscal year 2014 to fiscal year 2015.

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the City's eight largest programs - general government, public safety, public works, culture and recreation, community development, water, sewer, parking and district heat - as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenue generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the City's taxpayers by each of these functions.

**Table 3  
Costs of Programs**

	<b>June 30, 2015</b>				<b>June 30, 2014</b>			
	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities	
	Total Cost of Services	Net Revenues (Cost) of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net (Cost) of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Revenues (Cost) of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net (Cost) of Services
General government	\$ 1,845,248	\$ (1,403,091)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,662,130	\$ (1,306,014)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Public safety	4,766,228	(3,599,865)	0	0	4,536,745	(3,437,896)	0	0
Public works	2,644,934	(2,057,826)	0	0	2,799,404	187,915	0	0
Culture and recreation	1,067,276	(718,987)	0	0	1,107,516	(721,797)	0	0
Community development	4,138	(4,138)	0	0	35,462	(35,462)	0	0
Water	0	0	2,420,023	198,332	0	0	2,416,290	60,552
Sewer	0	0	3,615,274	209,309	0	0	3,513,938	221,436
Parking	0	0	761,748	84,392	0	0	757,637	(13,709)
District Heat	0	0	676,706	(172,367)	0	0	2,976,303	2,996,157
All others	451,415	(401,998)	0	0	440,077	(412,123)	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 10,779,239</b>	<b>\$ (8,185,905)</b>	<b>\$ 7,473,751</b>	<b>\$ 319,666</b>	<b>\$ 10,581,334</b>	<b>\$ (5,725,377)</b>	<b>\$ 9,664,168</b>	<b>\$ 3,264,436</b>

**The City's Funds**

As the City completed the year, its governmental funds (as presented in the Balance Sheet on Exhibit C) reported a combined fund balance of \$5,049,551 which is \$335,041 higher than last year's total of \$4,714,510. Included in this year's total change in fund balance is an increase of \$27,919 in the City's General Fund; a decrease of \$34,129 in the Community Development Fund; a decrease of \$138,258 in the Capital Projects Fund and an increase of \$479,509 in Other Governmental Funds.

**General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

When comparing budget to actual net change in fund balance for the year ended June 30, 2015, there is a favorable variance of \$27,919 (as presented in Exhibit F). Operating revenues less operating expenditures are favorable by \$2,789. Transfers from other funds are favorable by \$25,130 due to unbudgeted transfers from the Capital Projects Fund of \$43,400 (prior year flood grant funds available to reimburse the general fund for prior year public works flood cleanup work), and \$1,884 (street light project funds available to offset general fund street light repairs), less a budgeted transfer from the District Heat fund of \$20,154 for debt that was not needed as the debt is now in the District Heat fund.

Revenue (excluding transfers noted above) is \$162,249 more than budgeted. Although there are many variances in many revenue line items, overall, this additional revenue is unbudgeted grant funds of \$125,617 received for public safety operations. Other significant favorable variances in revenue are \$25,549 in property taxes, \$41,215 in unbudgeted downtown improvement taxes, \$19,415 current use tax, \$19,258 in building permits and \$31,602 in interest income. Unfavorable variances in revenue are \$58,511 in state and local payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT), \$14,335 in recording fees, and \$32,094 in ambulance call charges.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

Expenditures are over budget by \$159,460. Similar to revenue, a significant amount of the unbudgeted expenditures is related to police operations funded mostly by federal grant funds (general police operations over by \$144,972). Some other significant unbudgeted expenditures are; \$59,265 city legal services, \$50,144 clerk records restoration (offset by a records restoration reserve), and \$50,890 in outside agencies downtown improvement expenditures (offset by downtown improvement taxes noted above). Significant favorable expense variations which help offset the overages in expenditures are \$15,923 Community Justice Center expenses (\$11,010 for health insurance), \$40,023 fire and ambulance expenses (\$28,522 health insurance and \$16,244 professional services), \$47,199 public works fleet operations expenses (savings of \$69,168 supplies and \$25,354 wages & benefits offset partially by overages of \$30,068 vehicle/equipment maintenance and \$16,185 less in fuel reimbursements).

Employee health insurance costs across departments are \$160,841 lower than anticipated and \$119,700 in funds are set aside (committed) for possible, future health reimbursement arrangement overages.

The unassigned fund balance increased from \$822,783 on June 30, 2014 to \$902,023 on June 30, 2015. This \$79,240 increase is mainly due to the decrease in nonspendable items such as inventories, note receivables and prepaid expenses. The City of Montpelier's Fund Balance Policy sets a long-term goal of an Unassigned Fund Balance that is 15% of budgeted General Fund Expenditures.

**Capital Asset and Debt Administration**

**Capital Assets**

At June 30, 2015, the City has \$69,192,225 compared to \$69,301,697 at June 30, 2014 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including police, fire, and department of public works equipment, buildings, park facilities, roads, bridges, water, sewer, district heat lines. (See Table 4 below) This amount represents a net decrease (including additions and deductions) of \$109,472 over last year. Governmental net capital assets increased by \$459,171 (\$1,764,471 additions less \$32,248 deletions and \$1,273,052 accumulated depreciation) and business net capital assets decreased by \$568,643 (\$896,269 additions less \$4,216 deletions and \$1,460,696 accumulated depreciation).

	<b>June 30, 2015</b>			<b>June 30, 2014</b>		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government
Land	\$ 2,762,937	\$ 250,672	\$ 3,013,609	\$ 2,762,937	\$ 250,672	\$ 3,013,609
Capital improvements and equipment	21,603,275	42,846,146	64,449,421	20,880,738	33,676,143	54,556,881
Construction in progress	1,682,067	47,128	1,729,195	1,945,433	9,785,774	11,731,207
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 26,048,279</b>	<b>\$ 43,143,946</b>	<b>\$ 69,192,225</b>	<b>\$ 25,589,108</b>	<b>\$ 43,712,589</b>	<b>\$ 69,301,697</b>

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

This year's capital asset additions are:

City Hall doors (back & teen center) & Light Pole	\$	27,427
Police-Radio System & Equipment upgrades		192,504
Police-new truck		34,226
Police-new car		14,234
Police-Console system installed		19,800
Generator installed & Generator Building		27,712
DPW-2015 Dump Truck		74,416
DPW-Asphalt Roller & attachments		13,325
DPW-2014 F150 Pickup		18,576
DPW-Trackless MT6 Tractor, hydraulic Sander		104,640
DPW-2008 Silverado 2500 Pickup		8,500
DPW -2015 Ford F550		42,953
DPW-2014 Dump Truck		46,810
DPW-9' Fisher Blade, Dump Body & Hydraulics		31,835
DPW-2015 Salco TP44 Sidewalk Paver		34,965
Parks - 2006 Ford F250		8,500
Infrastructure-Streets		209,837
Infrastructure-Sidewalks		370,408
Infrastructure-Bridges -Granite & Cumming Street		54,548
Infrastructure-Winooski Flood Prevention Work		24,028
Infrastructure- Culvert-Terrace Street		21,853
Infrastructure-Retaining Walls		1,055
Infrastructure-Slope Stabilization-Cherry Street		120,182
Infrastructure-CV Bike Path-CIP		86,670
Infrastructure-Carr Lot Transit Center-CIP		131,168
Infrastructure-Carr Lot Bike Path-CIP		44,299
Water-2015 Silverado Pickup w/Plow		32,536
Water -CVMC Pump # 1 & #2 Repairs		35,520
Water System Improvements -Guernsey		42,210
Sewer-Heat Pump System		16,955
Sewer -Install Sludge Transfer Pump		6,638
Sewer -Dewatering Compressor Refurbish		10,331
Sewer-Pump & Motor Refurbish		10,728
Sewer-Sewer Line Baldwin Street		39,660
Sewer-River Street Sewer Line		142,186
Sewer-WW Methane Burner -CIP		47,128
Parking - Cale System-CWT		23,500
District Heat Distribution System		206,997
District Heat Plant Capacity		111,481
District Heat Project -Machinery & Equipment		170,399
	\$	<u>2,660,740</u>

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

**Long Term - Debt**

At June 30, 2015, the City has \$23,890,227 in bonds, notes and leases outstanding versus \$25,564,221 on June 30, 2014 - a decrease of \$1,673,994 - as shown in Table 5.

**Table 5  
Outstanding Debt at Year-End**

	Balance at		Balance at	
	June 30, 2014	Additions	Reductions	June 30, 2015
<b>Notes, capital leases and bonds payable:</b>				
Governmental activities	\$ 8,492,491	\$ 0	\$ 613,348	\$ 7,879,143
Proprietary Funds	17,071,730	111,481	1,172,127	16,011,084
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 25,564,221</b>	<b>\$ 111,481</b>	<b>\$ 1,785,475</b>	<b>\$ 23,890,227</b>

The new long term debt in the Proprietary Funds during the year was a Note Payable to the State of Vermont for the District Heat City Room at the Heat Plant.

**Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

The City's elected and appointed officials consider economic factors and the community's priorities when setting the fiscal year 2016 budget, property tax rates, and fees that will be charged for the business-type activities.

Economic factors considered include the unemployment in the City, which stood at 3.7% (August 2014) compared with 4% (August 2013). Also considered was the Consumer Price Index percent change over one year (August 2013-August 2014) which was 1.3%. Montpelier's Vermont Personal Adjusted Gross Income in 2013 was \$58,331 (up 4%) which is higher than the Vermont average of \$56,117. Montpelier's estimated median house or condo value in 2013 was \$212,762 (up 1.6%) which is lower than the Vermont average of \$218,300. The City's population is 7,787 with slight decreases over the past few years.

In recent years, the City of Montpelier's budgets contained no appreciable annual revenue growth or increase in taxable property. Costs continue to increase annually and demands for services often are expanded. The combination of a slow-growing economy, little growth in the grand list and Montpelier's relatively high property tax rates, has resulted in a council goal to produce budgets with tax rate increases at or below inflation. The 2016 municipal budget provides for an increase slightly above the change in the consumer price index, with all additional revenues dedicated to infrastructure investments.

The City Council is committed to making Montpelier affordable for all its residents and at the same time invest in the city's infrastructure. The City Council is in the third year of a multi-year capital plan to rebuild and improve the city's roads and sidewalks. The FY16 municipal budget requires a 2.7 cent tax rate increase which, at 2.8% is higher than the 1.3% inflation rate for 2015. The budget includes a new appropriation to study a regional public safety authority. The municipal tax rate for fiscal year 2016 is \$1.0034 per \$100 of property value.

The City continues to partner with federal and state agencies to study flood mitigation measures to alleviate the threat of damages due to ice-jam flooding of the Winooski River in the downtown area. The installation of flood gauges and a recent flood mitigation project reduces the risk of future flood events. The City also is moving ahead with two other grant-funded projects; a new transit center on Taylor Street and a bike path through the city.

In addition to balancing and controlling the municipal budget, taxes and services, the City Council has identified the goals of being a bike and pedestrian friendly city and becoming the first "net zero (energy) capital city".

**ANNUAL CITY MEETING  
CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
MARCH 3, 2015**

**ARTICLE 1 (Candidates)**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TERM</b>	<b>CANDIDATES</b>	<b>VOTES</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
<b>Green Mount Cemetery Commissioner</b>	<b>5 years</b>	<b>Linda Berger</b>	<b>1698</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
<b>Park Commissioner</b>	<b>5 years</b>	Nolan Langweil	516	
		Bill Johnson	578	
		<b>Carolyn Grodinsky</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
<b>School Commissioner</b>	<b>3 years</b>	Bridget Asay	808	
		<b>Steve Hingtgen</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
		<b>Tina Muncy</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
		Jennifer Cahill Bean	378	
		Charlie Phillips (write-in)	714	
<b>Council Person District 1</b>	<b>2 years</b>	<b>Tom Golonka</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
		Bridget Houston	213	
		Thomas Gram	104	
<b>Council Person District 2</b>	<b>2 years</b>	<b>Anne Watson</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
		Ben Eastwood	91	
<b>Council Person District 3</b>	<b>2 years</b>	<b>Jessica Edgerly Walsh</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
<b>City Clerk</b>	<b>3 years</b>	<b>John Odum</b>	<b>1704</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>
<b>ARTICLE 2. (Candidate for PSA)</b>				
<b>CV Public Safety Authority</b>	<b>3 years</b>	<b>Douglas Hoyt</b>	<b>1683</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>

**ARTICLE 3.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,626,087 for the payment of debts and current expenses of the City for carrying out any of the purposes of the Charter, plus payment of all state and county taxes and obligations imposed upon the City by law to finance the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the City Council)

**YES: 1673**

**NO: 409**

**ARTICLE 4.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$18,062,853 necessary for the support of the public school system for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Local budget of \$17,428,877 plus grant budget of \$633,976, for a total school budget of \$18,062,853.) (Requested by the School Board)

**YES: 1404**

**NO: 702**

**ARTICLE 5.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$575,230 for the support of the Recreation Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the School Board)

**YES: 1787**                      **NO: 344**

**ARTICLE 6.** Shall the voters of the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority (CVPSA) appropriate the sum of \$75,000 (\$40,275 from Barre City and \$34,725 from the City of Montpelier) for the operating budget of the CVPSA for fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by CVPSA)

**YES: 1641**                      **NO: 406**

**ARTICLE 7.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,000 as compensation to the Mayor for services for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the City Council)

**YES: 1651**                      **NO: 455**

**ARTICLE 8.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,200 (\$1,200 each) as compensation to the Council Members for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the City Council)

**YES: 1712**                      **NO: 394**

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,300 (Chair \$1,300; others \$1,000 each) as compensation to the School Commissioners for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the School Board)

**YES: 1670**                      **NO: 442**

**ARTICLE 10.** Shall the voters authorize the Board of School Commissioners to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2015 in a reserve (restricted) fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Commissioners for the purpose of operating the school? (Requested by the School Board)

**YES: 1623**                      **NO: 460**

**ARTICLE 11.** Shall the voters authorize the City levy a special assessment of \$0.0515 per \$100 of appraisal value on properties within Montpelier's Designated Downtown not used entirely for residential purposes? The assessment shall be apportioned according to the listed value of such properties except that the assessment for any property also used for residential purposes shall be reduced by the proportion that heated residential floor space bears to heated floor space for such property. Funds raised by the assessment shall be used to improve the downtown streetscape and to market the downtown. (Requested by the City Council)

**YES: 1448**                      **NO: 626**

**ARTICLE 12.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$316,698 to be used by the Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (This amount is in addition to the \$39,716 for the library bond payment included in the City General Fund Budget, ARTICLE 3) (By Petition)

**YES: 1732**                      **NO: 411**



## School Superintendent's Report

It continues to be a professional privilege to serve the Montpelier community as Superintendent of Schools. As I reflect on the almost five years I have spent in Montpelier Public Schools, I continue to be awed by the tremendous work our faculty and staff display on behalf of our students. I am also inspired by the students who spend more waking hours with us than with their own families. With such a mission-driven and learner-focused faculty and such dedicated and hard-working students, it is no surprise that we defy the state trend of declining enrollment in Montpelier.

Besides the fact that our enrollment is increasing and is projected to continue rising through the end of this decade, this year was an award-winning year for several of our teachers. Sue Abrams (math teacher, Montpelier High School) earned a Presidential Award for Excellence in Math & Science Teaching. As part of this award, Sue traveled to Washington, D.C. and met President Obama. Susan Koch (early elementary teacher, Union Elementary School) was named Vermont State Teacher of the Year. This too has earned Susan a trip to meet the President of the United States. Kerrin McCadden (English teacher, Montpelier High School) won the first ever Vermont Book Award for her collection of poetry, "Landscape with Plywood Silhouettes." Finally, Anne Watson (science teacher, Montpelier High School) earned one of only five Rowland Foundation Fellowships this year and is researching global citizenship in an effort to welcome international students to Montpelier Public Schools in the coming years.

I am proud that our FY17 budget is below the threshold set forth by Act 46. While I firmly believe the thresholds are bad public policy and should be repealed, the Leadership Team is committed to providing high quality personalized public education at a sustainable cost for this community. During this fiscal year, we completed all the work articulated in the \$2.3 million bond that was approved. The work that was done this year that completes our bond list:

At Union Elementary, we completed the auditorium renovation. The existing vaulted plaster ceiling was repaired with a small asbestos abatement project. We also renovated the gym at UES. The original hardwood floor was sanded and re-finished. The wall panels were removed and replaced with new high impact acoustic panels. The new space is beautiful!

At Main Street Middle School, the original Franklin Street stairway was outfitted with new higher guardrails, providing greater fall protection. Also we completed the finishing touches on the roof. Copper flashings were replaced on the chimneys and building trim.

Finally, at Montpelier High School, the existing roof top condenser and chiller for our air conditioning system were re-

placed, allowing for increased capacity than was originally planned for when the building was constructed. Also the auditorium has been renovated with a new side seating balcony providing ADA access to the stage.

I sincerely thank the Montpelier community for passing this bond so that this work could be completed in addition to our yearly maintenance and capital improvement work. The Facilities Staff works diligently to model stewardship of our buildings and that makes a substantial difference in the day-to-day upkeep and cleanliness of our buildings. Between the bond work and the leadership on our Facilities Staff, I am proud of how we are caring for the places where our students and adults come to learn and grow on a daily basis.

As educators, we work diligently and tirelessly to meet the growing and diverse needs of the learners that come to Montpelier Public Schools every day. It is our firm belief that the relationships that are fostered between adults and students, between students and students, and between the adults are one of the ways that make us as successful as we are. Do we have room to grow? Absolutely. Is it important that we celebrate our successes? Without question. There is a true sense of community, in our community of learners that makes a difference. In large part, our students feel very safe in our buildings and that is truly the only way anyone is able to learn.

It is our students who remain the focus of our work. The adults strive to create the environment for all students to be "capable, motivated, contributors to our local, national, and world communities." We invite you to visit our schools and see first-hand what we are doing to further that end. I am confident that you will be as impressed and as proud as I am when I am in our schools, learning from our students, faculty, and staff. We are very grateful for the myriad of ways this community supports us. I am honored to serve this community as Superintendent of Schools.

~Dr. Brian G. Ricca, *Superintendent*



(Photo courtesy of Linda Hogan)

# Montpelier 2016 / Annual Report / 99

PRELIMINARY

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by AOE

ESTIMATES ONLY

District: <b>Montpelier</b> County: <b>Washington</b>		<b>T129 Montpelier</b>				Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$9,870 of spending per equalized pupil
				<b>9,870</b>	<b>1.00</b>		
				<b>11,065</b>	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income		
Expenditures		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017		
1.	<b>Budget</b> (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$17,359,522	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	\$18,578,965		1.
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-		2.
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-		3.
4.	Locally adopted or warned budget	<b>\$17,359,522</b>	<b>\$17,891,803</b>	<b>\$18,062,853</b>	<b>\$18,578,965</b>		4.
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-		5.
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-		6.
7.	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$17,359,522</b>	<b>\$17,891,803</b>	<b>\$18,062,853</b>	<b>\$18,578,965</b>		7.
8.	S U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-		8.
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-		9.
Revenues							
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$3,504,642	\$3,479,380	\$3,313,525	\$3,100,910		10.
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-		11.
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-		12.
13.	<b>Offsetting revenues</b>	<b>\$3,504,642</b>	<b>\$3,479,380</b>	<b>\$3,313,525</b>	<b>\$3,100,910</b>		13.
14.	<b>Education Spending</b>	<b>\$13,854,880</b>	<b>\$14,412,423</b>	<b>\$14,749,328</b>	<b>\$15,478,055</b>		14.
15.	Equalized Pupils	997.09	987.95	992.33	1,030.28		15.
<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil</b>		<b>\$13,895.32</b>	<b>\$14,588.21</b>	<b>\$14,863.33</b>	<b>\$15,023.15</b>		16.
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$351.13	\$459.23	\$445.95	NA		17.
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	\$49.09	\$56.43	\$57.73	NA		18.
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		19.
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		20.
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		21.
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		22.
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA		23.
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	NA	NA	\$35.77	NA		24.
25.	plus Allowable growth per pupil spending threshold (secs. 37 & 38, Act 46, 2015)	NA	NA	NA	\$15,131.19		25.
26.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	-		26.
27.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	<b>\$13,895</b>	<b>\$14,588</b>	<b>\$14,863</b>	<b>\$15,023.15</b>		27.
28.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	151.845%	157.118%	157.134%	NA		28.
<b>Prorating the local tax rate</b>							
29.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [\$15,023.15 ÷ (\$9,870.00 ÷ \$1,000)]	\$1,4273	\$1,5397	\$1,5556	\$1,5221		29.
30.	Percent of Montpelier equalized pupils not in a union school district	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%		30.
31.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (100.00% × \$1.52)	\$1,4273	\$1,5397	\$1,5556	\$1,5221		31.
32.	<b>Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)</b>	99.51%	97.92%	97.07%	95.26%		32.
33.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$1,5221 ÷ 95.26%)	\$1,4343	\$1,5724	\$1,6026	\$1,5978		33.
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;">                     If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.                 </div>							
34.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [((\$15,023.15 ÷ \$11,065) × 2.00%)	2.73%	2.83%	2.83%	2.72%		34.
35.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (100.00% × 2.72%)	2.73%	2.83%	2.83%	2.72%		35.
36.	Percent of equalized pupils at union 1	-	-	-	-		36.
37.		-	-	-	-		37.

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,955 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,157 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1,538. New and updated data have changed the proposed property yield to \$9,870 and the income yield to \$11,065.  
 - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.  
 - The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2017 Report  
16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)

School: Union Elementary School  
S.U.: Montpelier S.D.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports":  
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2015 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Elementary school, enrollment ≥ 300  
(31 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)  
5 out of 31

School level data		Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu / Tchr Ratio	Stu / Admin Ratio	Tchr / Admin Ratio
Smaller ->	Chamberlin School	PK - 5	465	23.43	1.00	19.85	465.00	23.43
	Essex Elementary School	PK - 2	486	34.80	1.00	13.97	486.00	34.80
	Malletts Bay School	PK - 5	522	30.70	2.00	17.00	261.00	15.35
	<b>Union Elementary School</b>	<b>PK - 5</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>38.67</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>14.09</b>	<b>545.00</b>	<b>38.67</b>
<- Larger	Swanton Schools	PK - 6	555	55.20	2.00	10.05	277.50	27.60
	Rutland Intermediate School	3 - 6	586	54.60	3.00	10.73	195.33	18.20
	Champlain Elementary School	PK - 5	635	25.36	1.00	25.04	635.00	25.36
Averaged SCHOOL cohort data			<b>424.65</b>	<b>30.90</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>13.74</b>	<b>302.69</b>	<b>22.02</b>

School District: Montpelier  
LEA ID: T129

Special education expenditures vary substantially from district to district and year to year. Therefore, they have been excluded from these figures.

The portion of current expenditures made by supervisory unions on behalf of districts varies greatly. These data include district assessments to SUs. Including assessments to SUs makes districts more comparable to each other.

FY2014 School District Data

Cohort Description: K - 12 school district  
(34 school districts in cohort)

Grades offered in School District

Student FTE enrolled in school district

Current expenditures per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs

Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest)  
8 out of 34

School district data (local, union, or joint district)

Smaller ->	Stowe	PK-12	783.16	\$11,543
	Fairfax	PK-12	848.21	\$10,907
	Morristown	PK-12	864.72	\$12,172
	<b>Montpelier</b>	<b>PK-12</b>	<b>984.76</b>	<b>\$12,816</b>
<- Larger	Springfield	PK-12	1,316.46	\$14,687
	Hartford	PK-12	1,546.86	\$11,944
	Milton	PK-12	1,595.27	\$11,807
Averaged SCHOOL DISTRICT cohort data			<b>787.86</b>	<b>\$13,311</b>

Current expenditures are an effort to calculate an amount per FTE spent by a district on students enrolled in that district. This figure excludes tuitions and assessments paid to other providers, construction and equipment costs, debt service, adult education, and community service.

FY2016 School District Data

LEA ID	School District	Grades offered in School District	School district tax rate			Total municipal tax rate, K-12, consisting of prorated member district rates			
			SchIDist	SchIDist	SchIDist	MUN	MUN	MUN	
			Equalized Pupils	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Common Level of Appraisal	Actual Homestead Ed tax rate	
Smaller ->	T132	Morristown	PK-12	761.69	13,724.35	1.4364	1.4364	105.10%	1.3667
	T071	Fairfax	PK-12	769.03	12,235.33	1.2806	1.2806	96.03%	1.3335
	T249	Winooski ID	PK-12	925.03	12,896.81	1.3498	1.3498	98.34%	1.3726
	<b>T129</b>	<b>Montpelier</b>	<b>PK-12</b>	<b>992.33</b>	<b>14,863.33</b>	<b>1.5556</b>	<b>1.5556</b>	<b>97.07%</b>	<b>1.6026</b>
<- Larger	T193	Springfield	PK-12	1,331.78	16,264.65	1.7023	1.7023	109.86%	1.5495
	T093	Hartford	PK-12	1,510.39	14,882.93	1.5577	1.5577	103.42%	1.5062
	T126	Milton	PK-12	1,638.84	14,100.15	1.4758	1.4758	105.32%	1.4013

The Legislature has required the Agency of Education to provide this information per the following statute:  
16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2) The school, at least annually, reports student performance results to community members in a format selected by the school board. . . . The school report shall include:

(K) data provided by the commissioner which enable a comparison with other schools, or school districts if school level data are not available, for cost-effectiveness. The commissioner shall establish which data are to be included pursuant to this subdivision and, notwithstanding that the other elements of the report are to be presented in a format selected by the school board, shall develop a common format to be used by each school in presenting the data to community members. The commissioner shall provide the most recent data available to each school no later than October 1 of each year. Data to be presented may include student-to-teacher ratio, administrator-to-student ratio, administrator-to-teacher ratio, and cost per pupil.

Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2017 Report  
16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)

School: Main Street Middle School  
S.U.: Montpelier S.D.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports":  
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2015 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Middle school  
(25 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)  
21 out of 25

School level data		Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu / Tchr Ratio	Stu / Admin Ratio	Tchr / Admin Ratio
Smaller ->	Harwood Union Middle UHS #19	7 - 8	130	14.38	0.44	9.04	295.45	32.68
	Woodstock Union Middle School	7 - 8	145	14.30	1.00	10.14	145.00	14.30
	Winooski Middle School	6 - 8	155	19.50	0.90	7.95	172.22	21.67
	<b>Main Street Middle School</b>	<b>6 - 8</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>22.33</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>8.28</b>	<b>123.33</b>	<b>14.89</b>
-> Larger	Bellows Falls Middle School	5 - 8	234	16.80	2.00	13.93	117.00	8.40
	Lamoille Union Middle School #18	7 - 8	239	27.60	2.30	8.66	103.91	12.00
	Peoples Academy Middle School	5 - 8	259	24.40	1.00	10.61	259.00	24.40
Averaged SCHOOL cohort data			<b>308.68</b>	<b>28.25</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>10.93</b>	<b>176.03</b>	<b>16.11</b>

School District: Montpelier  
LEA ID: T129

Special education expenditures vary substantially from district to district and year to year. Therefore, they have been excluded from these figures.

The portion of current expenditures made by supervisory unions on behalf of districts varies greatly. These data include district assessments to SUs. Including assessments to SUs makes districts more comparable to each other.

FY2014 School District Data

Cohort Description: K - 12 school district  
(34 school districts in cohort)

School district data (local, union, or joint district)

School district data (local, union, or joint district)		Grades offered in School District	Student FTE enrolled in school district	Current expenditures per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs	Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest) 8 out of 34
Smaller ->	Stowe	PK-12	783.16	\$11,543	Current expenditures are an effort to calculate an amount per FTE spent by a district on students enrolled in that district. This figure excludes tuitions and assessments paid to other providers, construction and equipment costs, debt service, adult education, and community service.
	Fairfax	PK-12	848.21	\$10,907	
	Morristown	PK-12	864.72	\$12,172	
	<b>Montpelier</b>	<b>PK-12</b>	<b>984.76</b>	<b>\$12,816</b>	
-> Larger	Springfield	PK-12	1,316.46	\$14,687	
	Hartford	PK-12	1,546.86	\$11,944	
	Milton	PK-12	1,595.27	\$11,807	
Averaged SCHOOL DISTRICT cohort data			<b>787.86</b>	<b>\$13,311</b>	

FY2016 School District Data

LEA ID	School District	Grades offered in School District	School district tax rate			Total municipal tax rate, K-12, consisting of prorated member district rates			
			SchlDist	SchlDist	SchlDist	MUN	MUN	MUN	
			Equalized Pupils	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Common Level of Appraisal	Actual Homestead Ed tax rate	
						Use these tax rates to compare towns rates. These tax rates are not comparable due to CLA's.			
Smaller ->	T132	Morristown	PK-12	761.69	13,724.35	1.4364	1.4364	105.10%	1.3667
	T071	Fairfax	PK-12	769.03	12,235.33	1.2806	1.2806	96.03%	1.3335
	T249	Winooski ID	PK-12	925.03	12,896.81	1.3498	1.3498	98.34%	1.3726
	<b>T129</b>	<b>Montpelier</b>	<b>PK-12</b>	<b>992.33</b>	<b>14,863.33</b>	<b>1.5556</b>	<b>1.5556</b>	<b>97.07%</b>	<b>1.6026</b>
-> Larger	T193	Springfield	PK-12	1,331.78	16,264.65	1.7023	1.7023	109.86%	1.5495
	T093	Hartford	PK-12	1,510.39	14,882.93	1.5577	1.5577	103.42%	1.5062
	T126	Milton	PK-12	1,638.84	14,100.15	1.4758	1.4758	105.32%	1.4013

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Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2017 Report  
16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)

School: Montpelier High School  
S.U.: Montpelier S.D.

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FY2015 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Senior high school  
(27 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)  
24 out of 27

School level data		Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu / Tchr Ratio	Stu / Admin Ratio	Tchr / Admin Ratio
Smaller ->	Twin Valley Joint Contract High School	9 - 12	154	18.50	1.20	8.32	128.33	15.42
	Winooski High School	9 - 12	214	26.50	1.61	8.08	132.92	16.46
	Peoples Academy	9 - 12	241	22.27	1.00	10.82	241.00	22.27
	<b>Montpelier High School</b>	<b>9 - 12</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>31.80</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>8.74</b>	<b>139.00</b>	<b>15.90</b>
-> Larger	Bellows Free Academy HS, Fairfax	9 - 12	336	25.27	1.00	13.30	336.00	25.27
	Bellows Falls UHS #27	9 - 12	343	28.59	2.00	12.00	171.50	14.30
	Woodstock UHS #4	9 - 12	347	38.81	1.00	8.94	347.00	38.81
Averaged SCHOOL cohort data			<b>628.15</b>	<b>53.36</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>11.77</b>	<b>222.08</b>	<b>18.87</b>

School District: Montpelier  
LEA ID: T129

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FY2014 School District Data

Cohort Description: K - 12 school district  
(34 school districts in cohort)

Grades offered in School District

Student FTE enrolled in school district

Current expenditures per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs

Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest)  
8 out of 34

School district data (local, union, or joint district)

Smaller ->	Stowe	PK-12	783.16	\$11,543
	Fairfax	PK-12	848.21	\$10,907
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			Equalized Pupils	Equalized Spending per Equalized Pupil	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Common Level of Appraisal	Actual Homestead Ed tax rate	
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	T249	Winooski ID	PK-12	925.03	12,896.81	1.3498	1.3498	98.34%	1.3726
	<b>T129</b>	<b>Montpelier</b>	<b>PK-12</b>	<b>992.33</b>	<b>14,863.33</b>	<b>1.5556</b>	<b>1.5556</b>	<b>97.07%</b>	<b>1.6026</b>
-> Larger	T193	Springfield	PK-12	1,331.78	16,264.65	1.7023	1.7023	109.86%	1.5495
	T093	Hartford	PK-12	1,510.39	14,882.93	1.5577	1.5577	103.42%	1.5062
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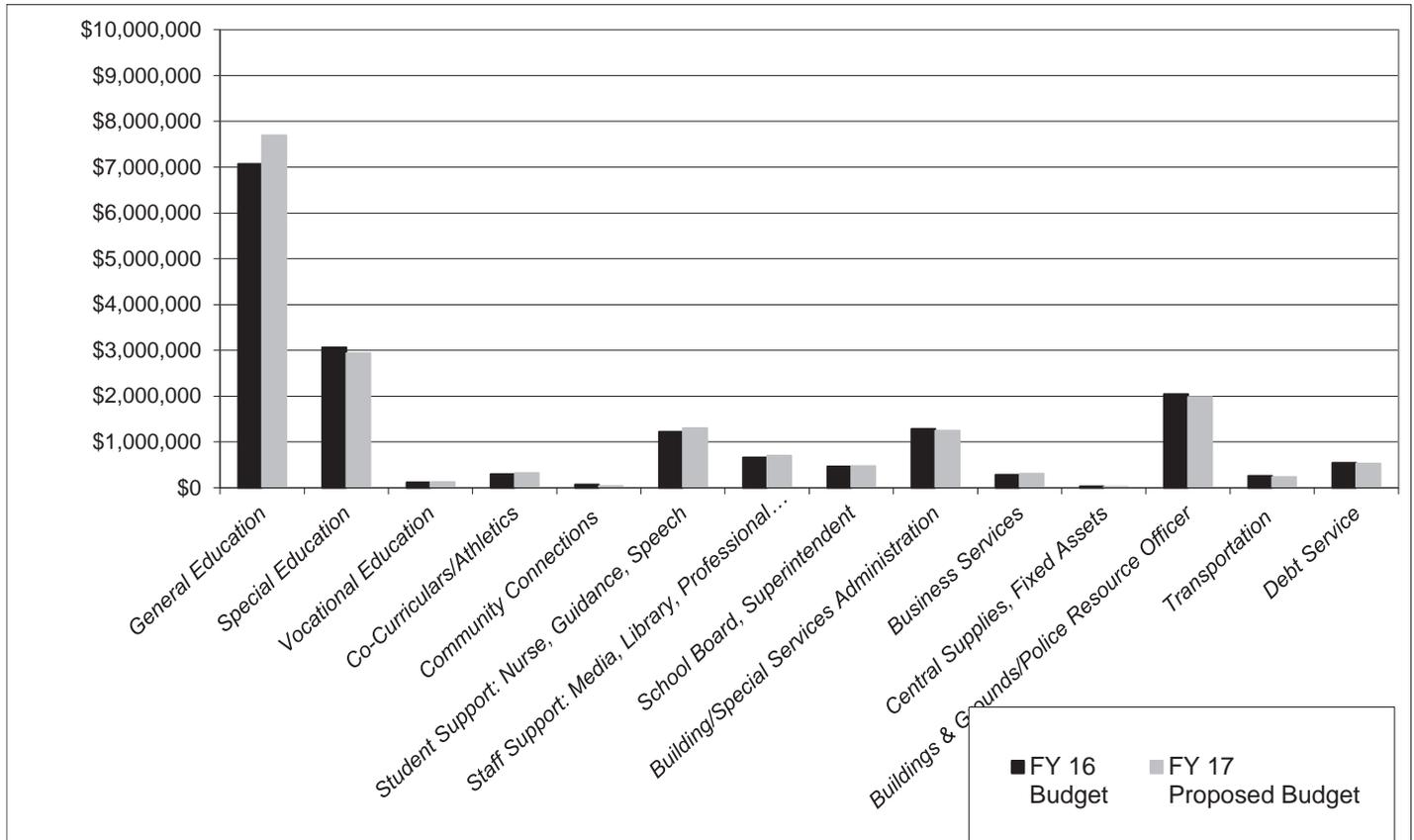
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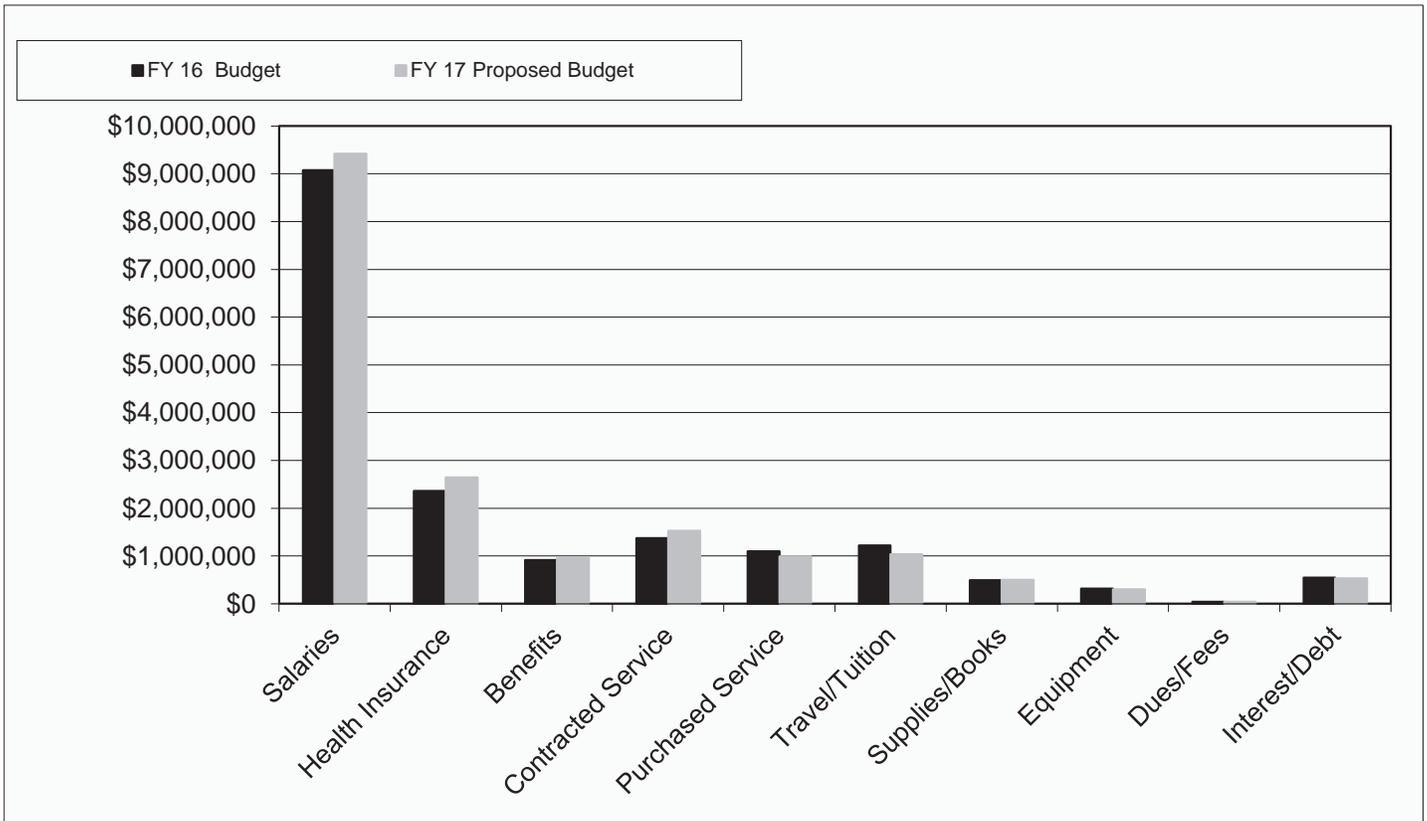
## Budget Overview FY17 - Program Analysis

Program	FY 16 Budget	FY 17 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/Decrease	Percent Increase/Decrease
General Education	\$7,067,352	\$7,696,584	\$629,232	8.90%
Special Education	3,065,220	2,939,221	-125,999	-4.11%
Vocational Education	119,506	129,489	9,983	8.35%
Co-Curriculars/Athletics	303,196	323,729	20,533	6.77%
Community Connections	72,500	36,250	-36,250	-50.00%
Student Support: Nurse, Guidance, Speech	1,227,567	1,302,713	75,146	6.12%
Staff Support: Media, Library, Professional Development	662,207	704,927	42,720	6.45%
School Board, Superintendent	462,182	471,907	9,725	2.10%
Building/Special Services Administration	1,283,874	1,250,416	-33,458	-2.61%
Business Services	286,014	305,894	19,880	6.95%
Central Supplies, Fixed Assets	27,800	25,750	-2,050	-7.37%
Buildings & Grounds/Police Resource Officer	2,049,292	1,983,273	-66,019	-3.22%
Transportation	257,483	239,024	-18,459	-7.17%
Debt Service	544,684	532,806	-11,878	-2.18%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$17,428,877</b>	<b>\$17,941,983</b>	<b>\$513,106</b>	<b>2.94%</b>
<b>Total Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$633,976</b>	<b>\$636,982</b>	<b>\$3,006</b>	<b>0.47%</b>
<b>Total General Fund &amp; Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$18,062,853</b>	<b>\$18,578,965</b>	<b>\$516,112</b>	<b>2.86%</b>



## Category Analysis Budget FY17

Category	FY 16 Budget	FY 17 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/Decrease	Percent Increase/Decrease
Salaries	\$9,073,593	\$9,418,569	\$344,976	3.80%
Health Insurance	2,361,597	2,640,487	278,890	11.81%
Benefits	911,324	955,868	44,544	4.89%
Contracted Service	1,375,954	1,527,806	151,852	11.04%
Purchased Service	1,098,250	992,065	-106,185	-9.67%
Travel/Tuition	1,220,450	1,038,223	-182,227	-14.93%
Supplies/Books	492,836	496,330	3,494	0.71%
Equipment	312,570	301,380	-11,190	-3.58%
Dues/Fees	37,619	38,449	830	2.21%
Interest/Debt	544,684	532,806	-11,878	-2.18%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$17,428,877</b>	<b>\$17,941,983</b>	<b>\$513,106</b>	<b>2.94%</b>
<b>Total Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$633,976</b>	<b>\$636,982</b>	<b>\$3,006</b>	<b>0.47%</b>
<b>Total General Fund &amp; Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$18,062,853</b>	<b>\$18,578,965</b>	<b>\$516,112</b>	<b>2.86%</b>



# Budget Summary FY17

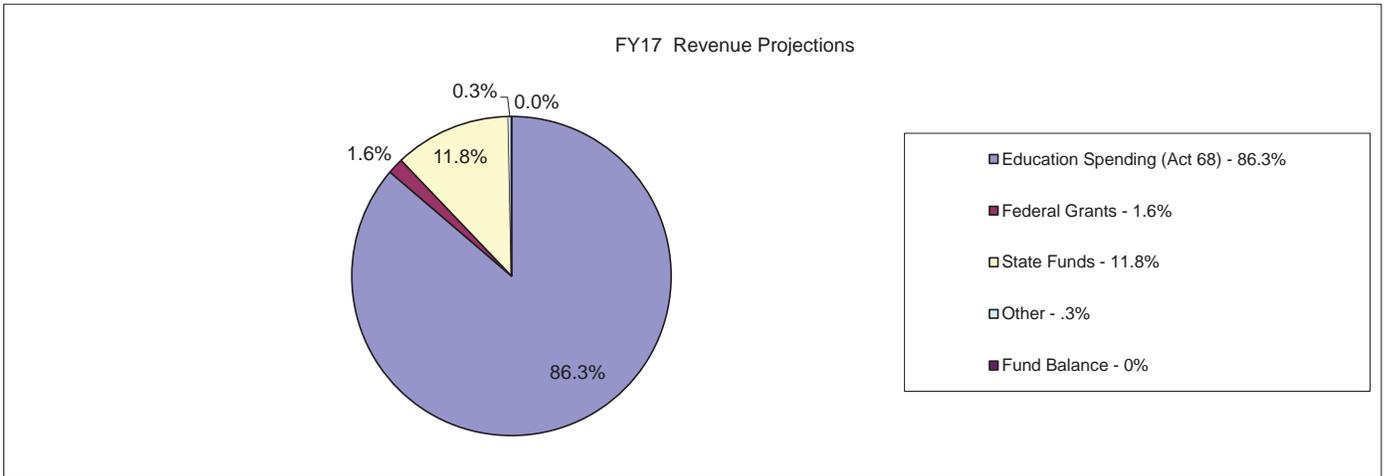
Program	FY16 Budget	FY17 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/Decrease	Percent Increase/Decrease
General Fund	639,638	781,180	141,542	22.13%
Community Based Learning	162,090	167,432	5,342	3.30%
Art	246,653	257,682	11,029	4.47%
Driver Education	80,253	83,090	2,837	3.54%
English (7-12)	304,376	309,852	5,476	1.80%
Foreign Language	373,835	364,542	-9,293	-2.49%
Family and Consumer Science	83,302	50,078	-33,224	-39.88%
Tech Education	97,450	99,905	2,455	2.52%
Math	287,014	298,504	11,490	4.00%
Music	311,188	303,506	-7,682	-2.47%
Science	362,558	384,125	21,567	5.95%
Social Studies	270,641	279,823	9,182	3.39%
Physical Education	332,667	345,344	12,677	3.81%
Health	36,706	37,834	1,128	3.07%
PreK	0	93,182	93,182	100.00%
Literacy	10,370	10,175	-195	-1.88%
Kindergarten	372,561	397,979	25,418	6.82%
Grade 1	387,469	402,267	14,798	3.82%
Grade 2	340,193	332,229	-7,964	-2.34%
Grade 3	313,763	424,759	110,996	35.38%
Grade 4	292,420	321,614	29,194	9.98%
Grade 5	330,707	334,739	4,032	1.22%
Grade 6	238,582	321,392	82,810	34.71%
UES Science	24,600	24,600	0	0.00%
Computer Technology	230,096	228,727	-1,369	-0.59%
ELL	150,672	159,751	9,079	6.03%
Regular Education Support	195,729	319,342	123,613	63.16%
Team Summit (Grades 7 & 8)	170,091	176,252	6,161	3.62%
Team Sirius (Grades 7 & 8)	321,622	291,472	-30,150	-9.37%
SOAR Program	90,106	95,207	5,101	5.66%
Dual Enrollment MHS	10,000	0	-10,000	100.00%
Special Education Tuition/Travel	570,664	410,005	-160,659	-28.15%
Idea B - Special Education	30,556	30,556	0	0.00%
Special Education	1,600,767	1,690,619	89,852	5.61%
Special Education IA's	863,233	808,041	-55,192	-6.39%
Vocational Education	119,506	129,489	9,983	8.35%
Co-Curriculars/Athletics	303,196	323,729	20,533	6.77%
Community Connections	72,500	36,250	-36,250	-50.00%
Guidance	445,248	463,807	18,559	4.17%
Student Assistance Program	36,193	0	-36,193	-100.00%
Student Records	81,730	84,053	2,323	2.84%
Nurses	209,716	215,822	6,106	2.91%
Physical Therapy	34,800	35,200	400	1.15%
Occupational Therapy	35,200	35,200	0	0.00%
Social Work General Fund	39,174	115,144	75,970	193.93%
Social Workers/Evaluations/Psychologist	104,946	102,364	-2,582	-2.46%
Speech/Language	228,860	240,123	11,263	4.92%

# Budget Summary FY17

Program	FY16 Budget	FY17 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/Decrease	Percent Increase/Decrease
Graduation/Assemblies	11,700	11,000	-700	-5.98%
Curriculum Coordinator	61,059	68,732	7,673	12.57%
Professional Development/Inservice	68,999	68,999	0	0.00%
Library	268,453	284,177	15,724	5.86%
Media	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Technology	261,696	281,019	19,323	7.38%
School Board	13,088	13,088	0	0.00%
Legal	30,000	30,000	0	0.00%
Audit	15,700	16,020	320	2.04%
Insurance	92,892	86,440	-6,452	-6.95%
Superintendent's Office	310,502	326,359	15,857	5.11%
Principal's Office	1,056,944	1,001,915	-55,029	-5.21%
Special Education Administration	226,930	248,501	21,571	9.51%
Business Services	286,014	305,894	19,880	6.95%
Fixed Asset	800	750	-50	-6.25%
Central Supplies	27,000	25,000	-2,000	-7.41%
Buildings & Grounds	1,966,035	1,897,415	-68,620	-3.49%
Crossing Guards/School Safety	37,005	37,348	343	0.93%
Police Resource Officer	46,252	48,510	2,258	4.88%
Special Ed Transportation	93,893	71,345	-22,548	-24.01%
Transportation	163,590	167,679	4,089	2.50%
Debt Service	544,684	532,806	-11,878	-2.18%
<b>TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$17,428,877</b>	<b>\$17,941,983</b>	<b>\$513,106</b>	<b>2.94%</b>
<b>Other Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$633,976</b>	<b>\$636,982</b>	<b>\$3,006</b>	<b>0.47%</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET &amp; Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$18,062,853</b>	<b>\$18,578,965</b>	<b>\$516,112</b>	<b>2.86%</b>

## Revenue Projections FY17

Revenue	FY16 Revenue	FY17 Proposed	Difference	Explanation
Education Spending (Act 68 definition)	14,749,328	15,478,055	728,727	Amount from state to fund education spending.
Special Ed Intensive	1,424,549	1,369,429	(55,120)	State special education funding estimated at 56% for reimbursement of costs exceeding grants.
Special Ed Block Grant	365,809	365,809	-	State provides sum of money based on enrollment and core special ed staffing.
Special Ed Extraordinary	315,194	291,956	(23,238)	State provides sum of money for extraordinary costs.
IDEA B Grant	289,879	289,879	-	Reflects actual Federal Grant amount for current year.
Tuition	32,000	32,000	-	Tuition estimate from other LEA's and private sources.
Rentals	15,500	18,000	2,500	Income received for use of facilities.
Vocational Transportation	12,410	12,452	42	State reimbursement for transportation expenses.
Driver Education	7,000	6,000	(1,000)	State reimbursement for driver education expenses.
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	-	Miscellaneous revenue and donations received.
Transportation Aid	57,208	68,903	11,695	State reimbursement for K-12 transportation expenses reimbursed at 40.145%
Interest	8,000	7,500	(500)	Anticipated interest earned.
Balance Forward	150,000	0	(150,000)	No Fund Balance added
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$17,428,877</b>	<b>\$17,941,983</b>	<b>\$513,106</b>	<b>2.94%</b>
<b>Other Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$633,976</b>	<b>\$636,982</b>	<b>\$3,006</b>	<b>0.47%</b>
<b>Total General &amp; Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$18,062,853</b>	<b>\$18,578,965</b>	<b>\$516,112</b>	<b>2.86%</b>



## Salaries for 2015 -- Montpelier School District

Salaries include all School and Recreation Department employees. These include substitute teachers and instructional assistants, other temporary employees, and Recreation Department summer camp and pool employees.

Susan R. Abrams	\$69,105	Rhonda M. Brace	47,360	Kelli-Ann L. Cody	13,648
Johanna Ackerson	1,161	Dennis Brancaccio	240	Patricia Dow Collier	68,555
Clarissa S. Adams	55,650	Andrea J. Brassard	7,040	Judy U. Colombo	1,840
Ellen L. Adams	6,859	Anne M. Witten Braun	1,000	Mary K. Commins	1,360
Rachel L. Aldrich	43,902	Jenna L. Bravakis	47,319	Carrie S. Cook	55,450
Suzanne Kennedy Aldrich	1,300	Erin M. Bresette	640	Elizabeth M. Cookson	14,830
Cynthia H. Allen	1,120	Theodore C. Bressor	7,600	Shelby L. Copans	3,191
Kathryn O. Allen	1,733	Timothy J. Brick, Jr.	5,569	Alison A. Covie	3,712
Ronald L. Allen	51,631	Margaret E. Brigham	21,563	Kylie R. Cowens	80
Thomas L. Allen	46,515	Samuel F. Bromley	47,235	Chandrakala T. Cranse	5,625
Scott R. Appel	49,954	Kevin M. Brown	19,616	Julie E. Curran	2,174
Deborah L. Archer	80	Emery H. Brush	2,332	Kyle L. Cushman	80
Pamela J. Arnold	106,636	Cindy P. Bubrouski	21,995	Suzanne J. Da Via	60,118
Barbara J. Austin-Hutchins	70,974	Geraldine Bucci	1,438	Steven A. Daniels	200
Emily Aylward	1,483	William H. Bugbee	8,712	Alicia E. Danyew	3,327
Michael R. Baginski	65,885	Adam D. Bunting	49,955	Erin E. Davey	15,950
Elizabeth A. Bailey	40,785	Janet G. Burke	21,563	Christopher F. Davis	720
Laura M. Ballantyne	2,920	Lisa D. Burns	5,438	Gabriele A. Davis	38,814
Toren H. Ballard	3,054	Anthony H. Bushway	19,210	Jennifer L. Davis	4,256
John D. Balzanelli	37,407	Cathleen Butterfield-Heitmann	61,947	Jacob J. Delcore	2,133
Cara E. Barbero	52	Jo-Ann L. Buzzi	42,089	Laura A. Delcore	25,565
Hannah E. Barden	34,960	Esther M. Byam	13,732	John M. Dellipriscoli	2,131
Scott J. Barker	14,603	Brian A. Cain	2,168	Paula L. Despault	17,195
Jenny L. Bartlett-Hardy	38,429	Lilli B. Cain	1,014	Brandon D. Diaz	12,913
William T. Basa	2,131	Anne T. Cameron	560	Amariah Z. DiGiovanni	2,235
John H. Bate	25,490	Rebecca E. Cardone	31,515	Stephanie J. DiLena	62,791
Heather A. Bates	55,771	Carrie-Sue Carpenter	11,833	Michelle E. Doney	426
Ashley M. Beach	50,982	Phillip B. Carr	18,864	Linda S. Dostie	49,333
Jennifer C. Bean	500	Joseph D. Carroll	17,978	Penny L. Downen	7,858
Linda C. Beaupre	71,205	Thomas D. Cate	16,040	Lexie B. Drew	913
Margaret S. Becker	375	Louis A. Cecere III	80	Ashley T. Dubois	45,952
Valerie W. Belanger	47,679	Toni L. Ceckler	67,755	Janice W. Dunn	731
Nolan R. Benoit	1,558	Katherine A. Chabot	45,959	Mikaela O. Dunn	640
Josee C. Bevington	32,078	Lauren P. Chabot	26,868	Sharyn E. Duplessis	22,509
Ana Bikic	2,119	Jo-Anne H. Chaloux	44,554	Jane S. Edwards	11,535
Zephyr Cerulli Billingsley	35,685	Nancy F. Chase	42,316	Trees-ah M. Elder	39,812
Jennifer L. Blacklock	6,343	Myles G. Chater	55,550	Sophia T. Eldridge	1,877
Sharon A. Blatchford	2,635	Alison L. Cheroff	2,280	Irene M. Facciolo	4,000
Carrie E. Blodgett	47,834	Aldo M. Ciampi, Jr.	1,260	Sylvia A. Fagin	53,473
Darryl F. Bloom	320	Lacey W. Clark	125	Audrey Famette	21,596
Paul C. Boffa	1,980	Pinky Clark	12,161	Kathleen Fechter	1,240
Kimberly J. Bolduc	2,760	Sheila A. Cleary	8,375	Kyle M. Ferguson	240
Brenda L. Bolio	62,050	Catherine H. Clements	56,753	Joyce G. Ferris	21,462
Nicholas D. Boraker	3,234	Jill A. Closter	47,834	Paulette Fiorentino-Robinson	46,914
Brett A. Bova	1,450	J. Peter Cobb	2,399	Brendan Y. Flanagan	3,480
Charlotte M. Brace	2,401	Dena T. Cody	56,350	Mikayla E. Flynn	2,069

Nicholas Foster	2,893	Cynthia C. Hooker	40,914	Whitney W. Machnik	60,968
Pamela J. Foster	30,324	Jennifer Wall Howard	65,975	Bianca Magiera	8,374
Madison C. Francis	1,062	Kasandra B. Howe	14,912	Patricia M. Magoon	67,585
Suzanne M. Francke	56,821	Mary Hoyne	18,998	Daniel L. Maguire	13,898
Anne O. Fraser	20,734	Carly Humke	6,196	Ella H. Mansfield-Mitchell	119
Olivia A. Fraser	9,444	Grace M. Hurley	120	Dennis Maranville	960
Samantha C. Funk	14,759	Jeffrey W. Jarrad	55,821	Carly P. Martin	1,368
Laura H. Furber	1,675	Marie L. Jennings	41,796	Michael S. Martin	96,850
Brian J. Gallagher	52,647	Lucas P. Johnson	32,498	Norma L. Maurice	31,767
Debra S. Garrett	37,195	Kenneth C. Jones	1,000	Robert C. Maurice	38,601
Hannah R. Geier	34,682	Mark W. Joy	4,362	Kerrin A. McCadden	53,864
John G. Gerdel	3,440	Elisabeth W. Kahn	42,915	John A. McCann	520
Paula E. Gervia	61,977	Kristina L. Kane	46,635	James B. McCarthy	2,360
Donna M. Gibbs	21,577	Todd A. Keller	47,635	Seth W. McCoy	15,807
Christine E. Gibson-Davis	12,334	Windy L. Kelley	59,344	Marita C. McDonald-Frey	46,922
Michael D. Gibson-Davis	4,049	Alexandra Kelley-St. Clair	24	William M. McGill	1,071
Theresa A. Giffin	69,634	Theresa G. Kennedy	1,040	Wendy J. McGuiggan	47,235
Julia HC Gilbert	320	Samuel P. Kessler	1,483	Brendan N. McLane	48,891
Sherrill Piken Gilbert	80	Kimberly J. Kidney	22,905	Heather J. McLane	20,612
Jason M. Gingold	2,284	Amy L. Kimball	59,927	Matthew B. McLane	56,826
Anne E. Giroux	36,693	Kenric A. Kite	1,040	Arne T. McMullen	62,234
Morgan H. Glines	9,653	John Klimenok, Jr.	480	Kaitlyn E. McMullen	156
Hilary L. Goldblatt	50,793	Sarah E. Knauss	55,251	Mehgan M. McMullen	1,918
Alice R. Goltz	4,132	Jessica M. Kobb	7,686	Seth T. McMullen	5,767
Diana C. Goodell	26,284	Susan E. Koch	59,936	Michael J. McRaith	43,750
Glen R. Goodell	21,886	Karlynn C. Koenemann	18,838	Nancy L. Mears	51,053
Linda L. Goodell	54,058	Diana B. Koliander-Hart	7,730	Stephen A. Mears	800
Holly K. Gordon	544	Matthew J. Koucky	503	Sarah E. Mele	34,894
Joseph EK Gore	80	Kirk D. Kreitz	47,264	Mary Mello	67,605
Eleanor M. Gowans	4,802	Colleen F. Kresco	6,610	Ernest Merrimont	160
Matthew W. Graham	80	Lisa M. Labounty	1,766	Hope A. Metcalf	10,227
Eric N. Grey	318	Richard T. Lachapelle	55,563	Heather J. Michaud	50,035
Haley C. Grey	2,041	William G. Laidlaw	56,728	Julie J. Michaud	21,563
Kelly A. Grey	19,200	Ryan J. Larson	1,228	Jason P. Miles	61,147
Gary M. Griffith	43,013	Russell C. Leete	41,315	Robert A. Miller	2,178
Daniel H. Grosvenor	560	Daniel J. LeFebvre	47,157	Daniel M. Miller-Arsenault	56,651
Christopher L. Guros	48,055	Emily E. LeFebvre	45,295	Teresa B. Milne	19,304
Sarah G. Guyette	1,200	John Edward Lepore	320	Susan M. Monamane	53,578
Chelsea K. Haberek	80	Ann M. Limoge	2,704	Paige M. Montague	11,383
Sarah A. Halpine	59,127	Kayla M. Link	1,877	Carlos E. Montero	23,549
Elizabeth K. Hammond	47,189	Matthew P. Link	52,811	Elizabeth A. Moody	54,296
Maia L. Hansen	240	Morgan E. Lloyd	48,313	Peter T. Morande	80
Magali R. Harper	80	Craig E. Long	50	Linda J. Moreno	203
Michelle E. Harper	50,611	Sarah C. Loveless	16,594	Michael A. Morgenbesser	240
Sheyla Harper	1,199	Jo-Ann Lowell	2,556	Robin C. Morissette	39,000
Maria B. Harries	10,156	Christopher M. Luce	35,561	Joshua P. Morse	16,634
Christopher Hennessey	94,091	Christine M. Lukas	9,509	Julie A. Morton	23,951
Debra A. Hickey	53,951	Jordan R. Lumsden	1,200	Melissa A. Muller-Moore	17,940
Steven R. Hingtgen	500	Mary K. Lundeen	100,971	Tina Muncy	500
Terry C. Holloway	33	Michelle Y. Lynch	2,360	Cynthia A. Murphy	42,105

Henry O. Murray	21,722	Sadie E. Richer	2,196	Joy E. Thomas	41,289
Andrea H. Myotte	61,446	Robin L. Ricker-Lumsden	24,145	Peggy A. Thompson	22,869
Carole J. Naquin	600	Carolyn S. Roberge	60,997	Richard I. Thompson, Jr.	35,516
Fabio P. Nascimento	880	Jeffrey W. Robie	2,148	Patrick A. Tibbetts	1,864
Ann L. Nelson	69,505	Karen Rodis	4,947	Diana M. Tierney	21,958
Kaitlin A. Nelson	9,710	Susan E. Romans	1,978	Jerry E. Tillotson	58,127
John L. Nelson-Miles	25,188	Sarah K. Rose	2,747	Daniel P. Towle	560
Judith M. Nolan	9,076	Eli S. Rosenberg	57,771	Pamela A. Towne	60,168
Timothy J. Noonan	2,360	Cynthia E. Rossi	106,636	Ryan T. Tran	3,102
Carlyle M. Nunn	37,579	Dorothy J. Rowe	36,449	Shannon Triplett	80
Cailin L. O'Hara	52,299	Kaitlyn E. Roy	3,121	Andrea M. Ustianov	13,302
Grace C. O'Neil	6,410	Elizabeth B. Russell	7,237	Nancy C. Vachon	1,040
Molly M. Pahuta	1,044	Marijke Russo	60,368	Anna K. Valentine	2,720
Carol Paquette	1,000	Thomas J. Sabo, Jr.	42,904	Thomas H. Van Meter	3,040
Robert T. Parento	926	Jeffrey Sarpong	29	Lowell J. VanDerlip	1,000
Christine E. Parker	52,481	Guillermo R. Sarriera	480	Lindsay M. Vanoli	22,418
Jacob R. Parker	560	Geoffrey C. Sather	65,834	Amia C. Cervantes Vazquez	1,560
Joshua L. Parker	41,296	Annette Scalzo	160	Doris C. Viens	41,464
Joslin A. Parker	1,400	Kyrsten R. Schreiber	320	Heather A. Walpole	879
Melissa M. Parker	54,730	Christopher L. Schumacher	3,276	Sophia K. Warner	1,594
Ariel N. Pascoe	13,081	D. Andrew Scott	54,051	Anne E. Watson	53,364
Brooke Pearson	35,112	Kimberly A. Scott	49,333	Barbara L. Watson	1,713
Nijha M. Peloquin	575	Cheyenne S. Sebold	222	Bonnie J. Watson	960
Pascale Philibert	21,508	Ellen C. Selkowitz	68,305	Peggy A. Watson	10,036
Charles S. Phillips	500	Anju Sharma	2,115	Wendy C. Watson	2,360
Katrina K. Phillips	22,614	Timothy T. Shea	1,520	Peter G. Watt	20,499
Marlana J. Pickel	1,715	CharlesDaniel B. Sheffy	10,896	Nancy A. Webb	18,608
Susan L. Picking	1,423	Reuben S. Sherman	5,960	Scott R. Weigand	3,424
Melissa J. Pierce	55,229	Marianne Signorino	60,170	Vanessa H. Weinstein	49,333
Sharon L. Pine	50,390	Melissa E. Sivvy	1,200	Robert L. Welch	36,386
Michelle Pitzner	4,911	Lara B. Slesar	53,830	Patricia M. Welsh	27,627
Stephanie R. Podesta	680	Jessica G. Smith	5,276	Meagan K. Whalen	3,441
Bethany L. Pombar	440	Suzanne D. Smith	6,263	Benjamin C. White	65,975
Rachel E. Popoli	19,563	Mary Ellen Solon	46,235	Eileen Wildman	9,811
Dakota W. Powers	12,379	Sarah Squier	64,218	Michael A. Wilson	320
Benjamin J. Prevost	428	Paula M. Stafford	498	Meghan H. Wingate	800
Kenzie J. Provencher	1,950	Helene S. Steinberg	18,689	Clayton J. Winters	700
Corey C. Pulsifer	21,159	Susan Steinhurst	8,243	Jonna R. Wissert	2,360
Colleen K. Purcell	36,701	Juliet A. Stephens	1,240	Thomas K. Wood	79,820
Shelby P. Quinn	46,335	Jean B. Stetter	20,139	Diana K. Wright	7,320
Dillon J. Raftery	1,884	Minda G. Stridsberg	3,192	Emily Anne O. Wrigley	47,135
David R. Rapacz	32,340	Elizabeth A. Strobell	26,377	Christina L. Young	41,838
Michael F. Reardon	400	Fiona E. Sullivan	40	Virginia Q. Zahner	18,455
Dorothy A. Redmond	13,062	Kimberly E. Surwilo	3,349	Kerri B. Zurowski	44,782
Mary C. Redmond	40,764	Carol R. Sweeney	80	Timothy W. Zurowski	3,723
Mary Catharine R. Reed	51,732	Elizabeth J. Swenson	21,796		
Erica I. Reich	10,063	Scott A. Tassej	35,132		
Emmanuel O. Riby-Williams	49,508	Donald H. Taylor III	56,050		
Noel Riby-Williams	1,068	Jeffrey B. Theis	1,338		
Brian G. Ricca	113,066	Mark R. Therrien	7,125		

**MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
AUDIT REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015**

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FOTHERGILL SEGALE & VALLEY

Certified Public Accountants



John E. (Jeff) Fothergill, CPA  
Michael L. Segale, CPA  
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Donald J. Murray, CPA

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Board of School Directors  
Montpelier Public School System  
Montpelier, Vermont

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Montpelier Public School System as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School System's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

**Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Montpelier Public School System, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the respective budget comparison for the General Fund and the Recreation Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis on pages 4-11 and the Schedule 3 pension related information on page 47 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School System's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements on Schedules 1 and 2 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements.

The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 11, 2015, on our consideration of the School System's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School System's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

*Fothergill Segale & Valley, CPAs*

FOTHERGILL SEGALE & VALLEY, CPAs  
Montpelier, Vermont  
Vermont Public Accountancy License #110

November 11, 2015

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Our discussion and analysis of Montpelier Public School System's financial performance provides an overview of the School System's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. A comparative analysis of government-wide data is presented. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School System's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements, which begin on Exhibit A.

**Financial Highlights**

- The School System's net position increased by \$815,433 in fiscal year 2015, compared to an increase of \$523,416 in the prior year.
- The cost of all of the School System's programs was \$19,043,239 this year compared to \$19,047,623 last year, a decrease of \$4,384.
- The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$448,947 this year. The total fund balance for the General Fund was \$1,569,023 as of June 30, 2015. Of this amount, \$181,761 is committed for fiscal year 2016 capital expenditures, and \$150,000 is assigned for fiscal year 2016 revenue, and the remainder of \$1,237,262 is assigned for future revenues after fiscal year 2016.
- The Recreation Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$36,967 this year. The fund balance of the Recreation Fund as of June 30, 2015 was \$281,100. Of this amount, \$138,262 is committed for fiscal year 2016 capital expenditures, and \$142,838 is assigned for future recreation fund expenditures.
- The Grants Fund had a zero year end fund balance because revenues are recognized as expenditures are incurred.
- The Capital Projects Fund had a decrease in fund balance of \$991,035 this year. The fund balance of \$212,324 as of June 30, 2015 is restricted for capital improvements.
- The Nonmajor Funds reported a combined net fund deficit of \$9,960. The fund deficit decreased \$1,976 during fiscal year 2015.

**Using This Annual Report**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the School System as a whole and present a longer-term view of the School System's finances. Fund financial statements provide another level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the School System's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the School System's most significant funds. All other non-major funds are presented in total in a single column. The remaining statement provides financial information about activities for which the School System acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside the government.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

*Reporting the School System as a Whole*

The financial statements of the School System as a whole are included on Exhibit A and B. One of the most important questions asked about the School System's finances is, "Is the School System as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the School System as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenue and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the School System's net position and changes in net position. You can think of the School System's net position – the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure the School System's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the School System's net position is one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the School System's property tax base and the condition of the School System's capital assets, to assess the overall health of the School System.

All of the School System's basic services are governmental activities. They include regular and special education for Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, support services, administrative services, transportation, food services, interest on long-term debt and other activities. Act 68 state aid, property taxes, and state grants finance most of these activities.

*Reporting the School System's Most Significant Funds*

The financial statements of the School System's governmental funds are reflected on Exhibit C – Exhibit F. The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds – not the School System as a whole. The School System establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money (like grants received from the State of Vermont Agency of Education). The School System's major funds are the General Fund, Recreation Fund and Grants Fund.

*Governmental Funds*

All of the School System's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School System's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the School System's programs. We describe the differences between governmental activities and governmental funds in Exhibits C and E that are included in the financial statements.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

*The School System as Agent*

The School System is the fiscal agent for funds held for various school related activities. The School System's fiduciary activities include Agency Funds and Private Purpose Trust Funds and are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and Changes in Fiduciary Net Position on Exhibit G and Exhibit H. We exclude these activities from the other financial statements because the School System cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The School System is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

**The School System as a Whole**

The perspective of the Statement of Net Position is of the School System as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the School System's net position for 2015 and 2014. The June 30, 2014 balances are restated to account for the implementation of GASB 68, which is a new accounting pronouncement related to accounting for pensions. The net effect of the restatement is a reduction of net position as of June 30, 2014 of \$142,674.

Table 1 - Net Position

	2015	2014 (Restated)	Change
Current and other assets	\$ 3,380,424	\$ 3,897,761	\$ (517,337)
Capital assets	9,597,897	8,739,864	858,033
Total assets	<u>12,978,321</u>	<u>12,637,625</u>	<u>340,696</u>
Deferred outflows of resources	91,024	81,002	10,022
Long-term liabilities	5,447,374	5,906,170	(458,796)
Other liabilities	1,422,867	1,605,510	(182,643)
Total liabilities	<u>6,870,241</u>	<u>7,511,680</u>	<u>(641,439)</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>176,724</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>176,724</u>
Net position:			
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	5,959,628	5,647,831	311,797
Unrestricted	62,752	(440,884)	503,636
Total net position	<u>\$ 6,022,380</u>	<u>\$ 5,206,947</u>	<u>\$ 815,433</u>

The increase in the net amount invested in capital assets is due to the increase in capital assets purchased during the year and the reduction of prior year long term debt. The increase in the current assets and unrestricted net position is due to favorable results of operations. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement 68, deferred outflows and inflows of resources are appearing on the School System's statement of net position for the first time.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Table 2 reflects the change in net position for the fiscal years 2015 and 2014.

	Table 2 - Change in Net Position		
	2015	2014	Change
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 650,845	\$ 618,270	\$ 32,575
Operating grants and contributions	4,452,133	4,557,530	(105,397)
General revenues:			
Act 68 State Aid	14,336,974	13,772,086	564,888
Property taxes	575,230	575,230	0
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(179,388)	0	(179,388)
Other general revenues	22,878	47,923	(25,045)
Total revenues	<u>19,858,672</u>	<u>19,571,039</u>	<u>287,633</u>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>			
Instruction	6,555,942	6,385,663	170,279
Special education	2,691,370	3,324,564	(633,194)
Vocational	112,046	115,177	(3,131)
Co-curricular	268,344	263,194	5,150
Community connections	108,750	145,000	(36,250)
Support services - student	1,243,095	1,212,449	30,646
Support services - staff	552,616	698,035	(145,419)
School Board/Superintendent's office	416,510	439,531	(23,021)
Building administration	1,194,630	1,110,888	83,742
Business office	303,074	285,112	17,962
Building maintenance	1,989,197	1,937,136	52,061
Transportation	253,174	270,615	(17,441)
Food service	455,984	461,632	(5,648)
Recreation programs	861,763	831,747	30,016
Grant programs	624,337	553,872	70,465
Interest on long-term debt	251,819	262,608	(10,789)
On behalf payments	1,160,588	750,400	410,188
Total program expenses	<u>19,043,239</u>	<u>19,047,623</u>	<u>(4,384)</u>
Increase (decrease) in net position	<u>\$ 815,433</u>	<u>\$ 523,416</u>	<u>\$ 292,017</u>

Total revenues increase by \$287,633, or 1.5%. Total program expenses remained consistent compared to the prior year. Operating grants and contributions decreased by \$105,397, primarily due to a significant reduction in special education costs which was offset by an increase in on behalf payments relating to the teacher's retirement system. An Act 68 State increase of \$564,888 corresponds to increase made in the budget for fiscal year 2015.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the School System's largest programs as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenue generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the School System's taxpayers by each of these functions.

Table 3

	Total Cost of Services <u>2015</u>	Net (Revenue)/ Cost of Services <u>2015</u>	Total Cost of Services <u>2014</u>	Net (Revenue)/ Cost of Services <u>2014</u>
Instruction	\$ 6,555,942	\$ 6,385,794	\$ 6,385,663	\$ 6,243,940
Special education	2,691,370	454,161	3,324,564	523,550
Support services - student	1,243,095	1,243,095	1,212,449	1,212,449
Building maintenance	1,989,197	1,971,460	1,937,136	1,884,929
Building administration	1,194,630	1,194,630	1,110,888	1,110,888
All others	5,369,005	2,691,121	5,076,923	2,896,067
Totals	<u>\$ 19,043,239</u>	<u>\$ 13,940,261</u>	<u>\$ 19,047,623</u>	<u>\$ 13,871,823</u>

*The School System's Funds*

- The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$448,947 this year compared to an increase of \$302,134 in the prior year. The increase in fund balance for fiscal year 2015 was \$620,768 better than what was budgeted. The total fund balance for the General Fund was \$1,569,023 as of June 30, 2015. \$181,761 is committed for fiscal year 2016 capital expenditures, \$150,000 is assigned for fiscal year 2016 revenue, and the remainder of \$1,237,262 is assigned for future revenues after fiscal year 2016.
- The Recreation Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$36,967 this year compared to an increase of \$14,016 in the prior year. The fund balance of the Recreation Fund as of June 30, 2015 was \$281,100. \$138,262 is committed for fiscal year 2016 capital expenditures, and \$142,838 is assigned for future recreation fund expenditures.
- The Grants Fund had a zero year end fund balance because revenues are recognized as expenditures are incurred. During fiscal year 2015, revenues of \$631,837 were offset by expenditures of the same amount.
- The Capital Projects Fund had a decrease in fund balance of \$991,035 this year compared to an increase of \$1,275,879 in the prior year. This fund is being used to account for various capital improvements that were approved by the voters and is being funded by bond proceeds. The fund balance of \$212,324 as of June 30, 2015 is restricted for this purpose.
- The Nonmajor Funds reported a combined net fund deficit of \$9,960. The fund balance deficit decreased \$1,976 during fiscal year 2015 compared to a net decrease of \$11,276 in fiscal year 2014.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

*General Fund Budgetary Highlights*

The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$448,947 which was \$620,768 better than what was budgeted. Exhibit F-1 shows the budgetary information on the General Fund. The following are the major variances:

	Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable) Variance
<b>Revenues</b>			
State special education reimbursements	\$ 1,937,641	\$ 1,581,296	\$ (356,345)
Tuition regular	14,500	80,850	66,350
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Instruction	6,586,559	6,349,587	236,972
Special education	3,260,790	2,685,823	574,967
Support services - staff	648,182	517,284	130,898
Building maintenance	1,698,906	1,582,414	116,492
Capital outlays	228,787	554,206	(325,419)

State special education expenditures and reimbursements are difficult to budget. Therefore, there are always differences between actual and budget related to special education. During fiscal year 2015, special education expenditures were less than budgeted due to changes in student needs and adjustments that were made to how certain services are provided. The decrease was offset by a decrease in special education reimbursements from the State.

Tuition revenues depend on outside enrollment, which is not known at the time the budget is developed. The District made efforts to attract new tuition students.

The favorable variance in the instruction and support services was primarily due to actual salaries and benefits being lower than originally budgeted. Building maintenance also reported actual salaries and benefits lower than budget, and realized additional savings on maintenance and electricity.

Capital outlays were higher than the budget primarily due to the costs associated with moving 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Main Street Middle School.

**Capital Asset and Debt Administration**

*Capital Assets*

At June 30, 2015, the School System had \$9,597,897 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including school buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, and vehicles. (See Table 4 below) This amount represents a net increase (including additions/disposals less depreciation of \$858,033) compared to last year.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Table 4 - Capital Assets at Year-End  
(Net of Accumulated Depreciation)

	2015	2014	Change
Land improvements	\$ 1,020,863	\$ 908,970	\$ 111,893
Buildings and improvements	8,046,854	7,106,156	940,698
Machinery and equipment	471,045	418,545	52,500
Vehicles	51,779	53,344	(1,565)
Construction in progress	7,356	252,849	(245,493)
Totals	<u>\$ 9,597,897</u>	<u>\$ 8,739,864</u>	<u>\$ 858,033</u>

This year's additions, including reclassifications from construction in progress were:

Drivers education vehicle	\$ 14,304
Computer equipment	96,550
Software	84,837
Floor scrubber	6,442
Union School improvements	673,422
Main Street School improvements	535,634
Montpelier High School improvements	382,362
Total additions	<u>\$ 1,793,551</u>

*Debt Administration*

At June 30, 2015, the School System had \$5,320,593 in bonds and leases outstanding versus \$5,765,392 on June 30, 2014 – a decrease of \$444,799 – as shown in Table 5.

Table 5  
Outstanding Debt at Year-End

	2015	2014	Change
Vermont Municipal Bond - MHS, MSMS Renovations	\$ 420,000	\$ 560,000	\$ (140,000)
Vermont Municipal Bond - 2009 various renovations	1,045,000	1,120,000	(75,000)
Vermont Municipal Bond - VMERS lump sum	1,470,000	1,470,000	0
Vermont Municipal Bond - 2014 various renovations	2,185,000	2,300,000	(115,000)
Capital Leases - various equipment and improvements	200,593	315,392	(114,799)
Totals	<u>\$ 5,320,593</u>	<u>\$ 5,765,392</u>	<u>\$ (444,799)</u>

During fiscal year 2015, the School System made payments of \$330,000 on bonds, and \$114,799 on leases.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

**Current Issues**

Enrollment in the Montpelier School System was 942 for the 2015-16 school year compared to 939 in the prior year. Under the formula employed by the State of Vermont to determine the local tax rate, enrollment poses a significant budgeting challenge. Because costs associated with the basic infrastructure of the school (utilities, maintenance, transportation, administration) are not reduced at all by a change in student population (capped by the State in its funding formula at 3.5%), it is very difficult to produce a budget that doesn't have a significant increase in per pupil spending. The community's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was 97.07% for fiscal year 2015. This means that property values in Montpelier are close to 100% of fair market value.

The School System has responded to budget challenges by reducing professional and support staff positions in those grades with lower enrollment. The School System is also continuing to focus on improving facilities, with a special focus on heating needs and energy efficiency.

**Contacting the School System's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers and creditors with a general overview of the School System's finances, and to reflect the School System's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions about this report or additional financial information needs should be directed to Cynthia Rossi, Business Manager, or Brian Ricca, Superintendent, Montpelier Public School System, 5 High School Drive, Unit 1, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT A

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

JUNE 30, 2015

	Governmental Activities	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 3,093,981	
Cash - restricted	234,109	
Accounts receivable - State	28,837	
Accounts receivable - other	16,530	
Inventory	6,967	
Construction in progress	7,356	
Capital assets - depreciable, net of accumulated depreciation of \$7,248,013	<u>9,590,541</u>	
Total assets		12,978,321
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Pension related		<u>91,024</u>
Total assets plus deferred outflows of resources		<u>13,069,345</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable	48,498	
Construction payable	21,785	
Accrued salary and benefits	1,028,197	
Deferred revenue - grants	204,044	
Due to State	25,413	
Accrued interest	37,618	
Leases payable due in one year	132,869	
Bonds payable due in one year	330,000	
Compensated absences	126,781	
Net pension liability	57,312	
Leases payable due after one year	67,724	
Bonds payable due after one year	<u>4,790,000</u>	
Total liabilities		6,870,241
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Pension related		<u>176,724</u>
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources		<u>7,046,965</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	5,959,628	
Unrestricted	<u>62,752</u>	
Total net position		<u>\$ 6,022,380</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT B

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Charge for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
Instruction	\$ 6,555,942	\$ 80,850	\$ 89,298	\$ (6,385,794)
Special education	2,691,370	0	2,237,209	(454,161)
Vocational	112,046	0	87,500	(24,546)
Co-curricular	268,344	0	0	(268,344)
Community connections	108,750	0	0	(108,750)
Support services - students	1,243,095	0	0	(1,243,095)
Support services - staff	552,616	0	0	(552,616)
School Board/Superintendent's office	416,510	0	0	(416,510)
Building administration	1,194,630	0	0	(1,194,630)
Business office	303,074	0	0	(303,074)
Building maintenance	1,989,197	17,737	0	(1,971,460)
Transportation	253,174	0	44,851	(208,323)
Food service	455,984	291,801	162,647	(1,536)
Recreation programs	861,763	260,457	38,203	(563,103)
Grant programs	624,337	0	631,837	7,500
Interest on long term debt	251,819	0	0	(251,819)
On behalf payments	1,160,588	0	1,160,588	0
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 19,043,239</u>	<u>\$ 650,845</u>	<u>\$ 4,452,133</u>	<u>(13,940,261)</u>
General Revenues:				
				14,336,974
				575,230
				6,885
				(179,388)
				15,993
				<u>14,755,694</u>
				815,433
				<u>5,206,947</u>
				<u>\$ 6,022,380</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM EXHIBIT C

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
AND RECONCILIATION TO STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2015

	Major Funds				Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	General Fund	Recreation Fund	Grants Fund	Capital Projects Fund		
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash	\$ 3,079,009	\$ 6,158	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 8,814	\$ 3,093,981
Cash - restricted	0	0	0	234,109	0	234,109
Accounts receivable - State	0	11,856	6,733	0	10,248	28,837
Accounts receivable - other	2,540	9,311	0	0	4,679	16,530
Inventory	0	0	0	0	6,967	6,967
Due from other funds	24,992	300,122	174,080	0	0	499,194
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,106,541</b>	<b>\$ 327,447</b>	<b>\$ 180,813</b>	<b>\$ 234,109</b>	<b>\$ 30,708</b>	<b>\$ 3,879,618</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)</b>						
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Accounts payable	\$ 36,731	\$ 10,876	\$ 675	\$ 0	\$ 216	\$ 48,498
Construction payable	0	0	0	21,785	0	21,785
Accrued salary and benefits	988,489	35,471	861	0	3,376	1,028,197
Deferred revenue	18,829	0	173,131	0	12,084	204,044
Due to State	19,267	0	6,146	0	0	25,413
Due to other funds	474,202	0	0	0	24,992	499,194
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,537,518</b>	<b>46,347</b>	<b>180,813</b>	<b>21,785</b>	<b>40,668</b>	<b>1,827,131</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)</b>						
Nonspendable - inventory	0	0	0	0	6,967	6,967
Restricted - capital projects	0	0	0	212,324	0	212,324
Committed for fiscal year 2016 capital	181,761	138,262	0	0	0	320,023
Assigned for future years revenues	1,237,262	142,838	0	0	0	1,380,100
Assigned for fiscal year 2016 revenues	150,000	0	0	0	0	150,000
Unassigned	0	0	0	0	(16,927)	(16,927)
<b>Total fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b>1,569,023</b>	<b>281,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>212,324</b>	<b>(9,960)</b>	<b>2,052,487</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 3,106,541</b>	<b>\$ 327,447</b>	<b>\$ 180,813</b>	<b>\$ 234,109</b>	<b>\$ 30,708</b>	<b>\$ 3,879,618</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION TO STATEMENT OF NET POSITION</b>						
Total fund balances of all Governmental Funds						\$ 2,052,487
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds. The cost of the assets is \$16,845,910, and the accumulated depreciation is \$7,248,013.						9,597,897
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.						(85,700)
Long-term liabilities and accrued interest, including bonds and leases payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds. These liabilities at year end consist of:						
Bonds payable					5,120,000	
Leases payable					200,593	
Net pension liability					57,312	
Accrued compensated absences					126,781	
Accrued interest					37,618	(5,542,304)
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES (EXHIBIT A)</b>						<b>\$ 6,022,380</b>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

EXHIBIT D

	Major Funds				Other	Total
	General Fund	Recreation Fund	Grants Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Governmental Funds	
<b>REVENUES</b>						
Act 68 State Aid	\$ 14,336,974	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 14,336,974
Property taxes	0	575,230	0	0	0	575,230
Intergovernmental - State	2,079,549	0	90,922	0	84,908	2,255,379
Intergovernmental - Federal	295,751	0	358,970	0	161,297	816,018
Medicaid	0	0	133,094	0	0	133,094
Investment earnings	6,780	40	0	0	65	6,885
Tuition	80,850	0	0	0	0	80,850
Program fees	0	260,457	0	0	285,939	546,396
Other revenue, private grants	33,730	38,203	48,851	0	5,862	126,646
On-behalf payments	859,000	0	0	0	0	859,000
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>17,692,634</b>	<b>873,930</b>	<b>631,837</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>538,071</b>	<b>19,736,472</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
<b>Current Expenditures</b>						
Instruction	6,349,587	0	0	0	173,540	6,523,127
Special education	2,685,823	0	0	0	0	2,685,823
Vocational	112,046	0	0	0	0	112,046
Co-curricular	268,344	0	0	0	0	268,344
Community connections	108,750	0	0	0	0	108,750
Support services - students	1,126,379	0	0	0	113,753	1,240,132
Support services - staff	517,284	0	0	0	0	517,284
School Board/Superintendent's office	449,365	0	0	0	0	449,365
Building administration	1,194,630	0	0	0	0	1,194,630
Business office	294,450	0	0	0	0	294,450
Building maintenance	1,582,414	0	0	4,683	0	1,587,097
Transportation	225,930	0	0	0	27,244	253,174
Food service	0	0	0	0	449,322	449,322
Recreation programs	0	825,973	0	0	0	825,973
Grant programs	0	0	624,337	0	0	624,337
On-behalf payments	859,000	0	0	0	0	859,000
<b>Debt service</b>						
Interest - capital leases	13,701	0	0	0	0	13,701
Principal - capital leases	114,799	0	0	0	0	114,799
Interest - bonds	226,000	10,990	0	0	7,167	244,157
Principal - bonds	330,000	0	0	0	0	330,000
Capital outlays	554,206	0	7,500	986,352	0	1,548,058
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>17,012,708</b>	<b>836,963</b>	<b>631,837</b>	<b>991,035</b>	<b>771,026</b>	<b>20,243,569</b>
<b>EXCESS REVENUES (EXPENDITURES)</b>	<b>679,926</b>	<b>36,967</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(991,035)</b>	<b>(232,955)</b>	<b>(507,097)</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>						
Transfers from (to) other funds	(230,979)	0	0	0	230,979	0
<b>Total other financing sources (uses)</b>	<b>(230,979)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>230,979</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>448,947</b>	<b>36,967</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(991,035)</b>	<b>(1,976)</b>	<b>(507,097)</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - JULY 1, 2014</b>	<b>1,120,076</b>	<b>244,133</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,203,359</b>	<b>(7,984)</b>	<b>2,559,584</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - JUNE 30, 2015</b>	<b>\$ 1,569,023</b>	<b>\$ 281,100</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 212,324</b>	<b>\$ (9,960)</b>	<b>\$ 2,052,487</b>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT E

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT  
OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)  
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

TOTAL NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS \$ (507,097)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities  
are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays net of disposals of \$1,368,670 exceeds depreciation expense of \$510,637.	858,033
Repayment of bond and lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.	444,799
Governmental funds report pension contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension expense:	
District pension contributions	87,061
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions	(87,399)
In the statement of activities, termination benefits and compensated absences are measured by the amounts incurred during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid). This year, termination benefits and compensated absences paid exceeded amounts earned by \$13,997.	13,997
Interest on long-term debt in the statement of activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recognized as an expenditure in the funds when it is due, and thus requires the use of current financial resources. In the statement of activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is due. The increase in interest reported in the statement of activities is because accrued interest on bonds and leases payable decreased by \$6,039.	<u>6,039</u>
 CHANGE IN NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	 <u>\$ 815,433</u>

Governmental funds report on behalf revenue and expenditures based on the approximate contributions made to the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System by the State of Vermont on the School System's behalf. On the statement of activities, both the revenue and expense increased by \$301,588 to represent the long-term actuarially determined contributions.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET - GENERAL FUND  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

EXHIBIT F-1

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Act 68 State Aid	\$ 14,336,974	\$ 14,336,974	\$ 0
Intergovernmental - State			
State Transportation Aid	44,930	44,851	(79)
Special education - mainstream block grant	360,162	360,162	0
Special education - intensive reimbursement	1,351,624	1,175,968	(175,656)
Special education - extraordinary reimbursement	586,017	275,619	(310,398)
Special education - state placed students	0	129,709	129,709
Drivers education	6,474	5,740	(734)
Vocational	87,500	87,500	0
Intergovernmental - Federal			
IDEA B	288,723	295,751	7,028
Tuition - regular	14,500	80,850	66,350
Investment earnings	9,500	6,780	(2,720)
E-rate communications reimbursement	0	13,990	13,990
Rental income	21,000	17,737	(3,263)
Other revenue	2,000	2,003	3
Total revenues	<u>17,109,404</u>	<u>16,833,634</u>	<u>(275,770)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>Current Expenditures</b>			
Instruction	6,586,559	6,349,587	236,972
Special education	3,260,790	2,685,823	574,967
Vocational	121,671	112,046	9,625
Co-curricular	305,795	268,344	37,451
Community connections	108,750	108,750	0
Support services - students	1,195,962	1,126,379	69,583
Support services - staff	648,182	517,284	130,898
School Board/ Superintendent's office	485,698	449,365	36,333
Building administration	1,176,160	1,194,630	(18,470)
Business office	304,822	294,450	10,372
Building maintenance	1,698,906	1,582,414	116,492
Transportation	232,050	225,930	6,120
<b>Debt Service</b>			
Interest - capital leases	13,701	13,701	0
Principal - capital leases	114,799	114,799	0
Interest - bonds	226,000	226,000	0
Principal - bonds	330,000	330,000	0
Capital Outlays	228,787	554,206	(325,419)
Total expenditures	<u>17,038,632</u>	<u>16,153,708</u>	<u>884,924</u>
<b>EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>70,772</u>	<u>679,926</u>	<u>609,154</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>			
Transfers to other funds	(242,593)	(230,979)	11,614
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(242,593)</u>	<u>(230,979)</u>	<u>11,614</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE</b>	<u>\$ (171,821)</u>	448,947	<u>\$ 620,768</u>
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2014		<u>1,120,076</u>	
FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2015		<u>\$ 1,569,023</u>	

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
 IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET - RECREATION FUND

EXHIBIT F-2

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Property taxes	\$ 575,230	\$ 575,230	\$ 0
Season passes	20,100	27,788	7,688
Daily fees	12,300	14,143	1,843
Program fees	164,090	210,972	46,882
Concessions	7,800	7,554	(246)
Rental income	15,500	28,353	12,853
Ski and Skate sale	8,500	9,229	729
Other revenue	7,000	661	(6,339)
Total revenues	<u>810,520</u>	<u>873,930</u>	<u>63,410</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>Current Expenditures</b>			
Administration	295,048	291,036	4,012
Indoor - rec center	71,955	76,536	(4,581)
Outdoor - fields	329,517	344,657	(15,140)
Swimming pool	120,763	113,744	7,019
Indoor skating	1,000	0	1,000
<b>Debt Service</b>			
Interest - VMERS bond payment	10,890	10,990	(100)
Total expenditures	<u>829,173</u>	<u>836,963</u>	<u>(7,790)</u>
<b>EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$ (18,653)</u>	36,967	<u>\$ 55,620</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2014</b>		<u>244,133</u>	
<b>FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2015</b>		<u>\$ 281,100</u>	

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT G

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

JUNE 30, 2015

	Private Purpose Trust Funds	Agency Funds
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 205,401	\$ 79,588
Investments	82,570	0
Total assets	287,971	79,588
LIABILITIES		
Due to student organizations	0	79,588
NET POSITION		
Held in Trust for Individuals and Organizations	\$ 287,971	\$ 0

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT H

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	Private Purpose Trust Funds
ADDITIONS	
Contributions and bequests	\$ 41,731
Investment earnings:	
Interest and dividends	3,508
Unrealized loss on investments	(1,498)
Net investment income	2,010
Total additions	43,741
DEDUCTIONS	
Scholarships	56,250
Total deductions	56,250
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	(12,509)
NET POSITION - JULY 1, 2014	300,480
NET POSITION - JUNE 30, 2015	\$ 287,971

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

The Montpelier Public School System is a department of the City of Montpelier, Vermont authorized by Title VI of the City Charter. The School System operates under its separately elected Board of School Commissioners who appoints a Superintendent, and provides education services for kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the City of Montpelier. The School System also manages the Recreation Department. The Recreation Department is responsible for general recreation activities in the City.

The School System, for financial reporting purposes, includes all of the funds relevant to the operations of the Montpelier Public School System. The financial statements presented herein do not include agencies which have been formed under applicable state laws or separate and distinct units of government apart from the Montpelier Public School System.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The School System's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is primarily responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (including Statements and Interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the School System are discussed below.

*Reporting Entity*

The School System's basic financial statements include the accounts of all School operations. The criteria for including organizations as component units within the School System's reporting entity are set forth in GASB 14 as amended by GASB 39, and Section 2100 of GASB's Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards. Based on the criteria, the School System has no component units.

*Basis of Presentation*

The School System's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the School System as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the School System's major funds).

*Basic Financial Statements – Government-Wide Financial Statements*

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the School System as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. All the activities of the School System are governmental in nature and none are considered business-type activities.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

The Statement of Net Position presents all of the School System's activities on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The School System's net position is reported in three parts – invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted net position; and unrestricted net position. The School System first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities for which both restricted and unrestricted resources are available.

The Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the School System's governmental functions. The functions are also supported by general government revenue (Act 68 State Aid, property taxes and other local revenue). The Statement of Activities reduces gross expenditures (including depreciation) by related program revenue, consisting of operating grants and contributions. Program revenue must be directly associated with the governmental function (regular education, special education, etc.). Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants.

The net costs (by governmental function) are normally covered by general revenue (assessments, interest income, etc.).

This government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the School System as an entity and the change in the School System's net position resulting from the current year's activities.

*Basic Financial Statements – Fund Financial Statements*

The financial statements of the School System are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenue and expenditures/expenses. The various funds are reported by major funds within the financial statements. The School System has two categories of funds: governmental and fiduciary.

The emphasis in fund financial statements is on the major funds in either the governmental activities categories. GASBs No. 34 and No. 37 set forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets, liabilities, revenues or expenditures of either fund category or the governmental and enterprise funds combined) for the determination of major funds. The General Fund, Recreation Fund, Capital Projects Fund and Grants Fund are shown as major governmental funds of the School System. All other funds are Nonmajor and are combined in a single column in each of the respective fund financial statements.

**Governmental Funds**

The focus of the governmental funds' measurement (in the fund statements) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The School System reports on the following governmental funds:

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

General Fund is the main operating fund of the School System. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Recreation Fund is used to account for the activities of the Recreation Department.

Grants Fund is used to account for the various activities funded with Federal, State and Local grants.

Capital Projects Fund is used to account for the capital improvements financed with bond proceeds.

Other Governmental Funds are used to account for activities related to food service and the early education program.

**Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary funds are used to report assets held in a trustee or agency capacity for others and therefore are not available to support School System programs. The reporting focus is on net position and changes in net position and is reported using accounting principles similar to proprietary funds.

The School System's fiduciary funds are presented in the fiduciary fund financial statements by type (private purpose and agency). Since by definition these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party (other local governments, private parties, etc.) and cannot be used to address activities or obligations of the government, these funds are not incorporated into the government-wide statements. The School System's agency fund accounts for various student-managed activities.

*Basis of Accounting*

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenue or expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time the liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flow takes place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the School System gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On the accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Basis of Accounting (Continued)*

The governmental funds financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenue is recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. The School System considers all revenues reported in governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year end, or shortly thereafter. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exception to this general rule is that principal and interest on general obligation long-term debt, if any, is recognized when due.

General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the School funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the School's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by general revenues. Expenditure driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and other grant requirements have been met.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

The School System has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and cash with fiscal agent. Additionally, each fund's equity in the School System's investment pool is treated as a cash equivalent because the funds can deposit or effectively withdraw cash at any time without prior notice or penalty.

*Investments*

Investments are stated at fair value (quoted market price or the best available estimate).

*Inventory*

Inventories are determined by physical count and are valued at cost. Inventory represents food and supplies in the Food Service Fund.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Capital Assets*

Capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$5,000 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Land improvements	15 – 50 years
Buildings and improvements	15 – 50 years
Machinery and equipment	5 – 20 years
Vehicles	5 – 15 years

*Accrued Compensated Absences*

Government-Wide Financial Statements – All vested or accumulated vacation leave is reported as a liability and an expense on the government-wide financial statements.

Fund Financial Statements - Vested or accumulated vacation leave that has matured is reported as an expenditure and a fund liability of the governmental fund that will pay it. Amounts of vested or accumulated vacation leave that are not expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources are not reported as a liability in the fund financial statements and no expenditure is reported for these accounts.

*Net Position*

The statement of net position includes four components: assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. Net position represents the difference between assets plus deferred outflows of resources and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position. Net resources invested in capital assets are reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets and deferred inflows of resources attributable to either capital asset acquisition, construction or improvement. This amount is then increased by any deferred outflows of resources attributable to capital asset acquisition, construction, or improvement (to arrive at net investment in capital assets). Net position is reported as restricted when there are legal limitations imposed on its use by legislation or external restrictions by creditors, grantors, laws or regulations of other governments.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Fund Balances*

GASB Statement 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" defines fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on a government's fund balance more transparent. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

Nonspendable fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that cannot be spent due to their form (e.g. inventories and prepaids) or funds that legally or contractually must be maintained intact.

Restricted fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that is mandated for a specific purpose by external parties, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation (e.g. federal and state grants, bondholders, trust and trustee accounts).

Committed fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that is set aside for a specific purpose by the School Board. Formal action must be taken prior to the end of the fiscal year (e.g. capital projects, compensated absences). The same formal action must be taken to remove or change the limitations placed on the funds.

Assigned fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that is set aside with the intent to be used for a specific purpose by the School Board or body or official that has been given the authority to assign funds (e.g. encumbrances, subsequent budgets). Assigned funds cannot cause a deficit in unassigned fund balance.

Unassigned fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that has not been classified in the previous four categories. All funds in this category are considered spendable resources. This category provides the resources necessary to meet unexpected expenditures and revenue shortfalls.

The School Board establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of a resolution. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund (such as special incentives). Assigned fund balance is established by the School Board through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purposes (such as the purchase of fixed assets, construction, debt service or other purposes).

When an expenditure is incurred that would qualify for payment with either restricted or unrestricted funds, it will be paid from restricted funds.

When an expenditure is incurred that qualifies for payment from either of the three unrestricted fund balance categories, it will be applied in the following order:

1. Committed
2. Assigned
3. Unassigned

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Deferred Outflows of Resources*

The School System reports decreases in net assets that relate to future periods as deferred outflows of resources in a separate section of its government-wide statement of net position. The deferred outflows of resources reported in this year's financial statements is 1) a deferred outflow of resources for contributions made to the School System's defined benefit pension plans between the measurement date of the net position liabilities from those plans and the end of the School System's fiscal year and 2) the changes in proportional share of contributions. No deferred outflows of resources affect the governmental funds financial statements in the current year.

*Deferred Inflows of Resources*

The School System's statements of net position and its governmental fund balance sheet report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element reflects an increase in net assets that applies to a future period(s). Deferred inflows of resources are reported in the School System's statement of net position for actual pension plan investment earnings in excess of the expected amounts included in determining pension expense. This deferred inflow of resources is attributed to pension expense over a total of 5 years, including the current year. No deferred inflows of resources affect the governmental funds financial statements in the current year.

*Pensions*

In July of 2014, the School System adopted GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. GASB Statement No. 68 establishes standards for measuring and recognizing liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expenses/expenditures.

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System (VMERS) and additions to/deductions from VMERS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by VMERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Budgets and Budgetary Accounting*

The School follows these procedures in establishing the General Fund and the Recreation Fund budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- The School Superintendent submits to the School Board a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and special revenues.
- Public hearings are conducted at locations throughout the City to obtain taxpayer comments. The proposed budget is required to be distributed to the legal voters of the City at least 10 days before the public hearing.
- The School Board then reviews the School budget and adopts it with or without change.
- The School Superintendent may at any time transfer an unencumbered balance or portion thereof between budget lines. Transfers over \$500 are included in quarterly financial reports to the Board. Expenditures over \$5,000 not planned for in the budget are submitted to the Board for prior approval. The Board approves a prioritized list of capital expenditures.

The Grants Fund is not legally required to adopt a budget, therefore, a budgetary comparison schedule is not presented for this fund.

*Interfund Activities*

Interfund activities are reported as either loans, services provided, reimbursements or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Services provided, deemed to be at market or near market rates, are treated as revenues and expenditures. Reimbursements are when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund activities are treated as transfers.

*Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

*On Behalf Payments*

On behalf payments are contributions made by the State of Vermont to the State Teachers' Retirement System on behalf of the School System's teaching employees. The General Fund budget does not include on behalf payments as a revenue or expense. The amounts reported in the financial statements are based on information provided by the State of Vermont.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

*Deposits*

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School System's deposits may not be returned to it. The School System obtains additional coverage for deposits exceeding FDIC limits; however, deposits exceeded this coverage briefly near year-end. The following is a breakdown of the School System's bank deposits at June 30, 2015.

Insured by FDIC	\$ 488,410
Insured by letter of credit	3,000,000
Uninsured - collateralized	129,440
Uninsured	<u>236,302</u>
Total bank balance at June 30, 2015	<u>\$ 3,854,152</u>

*Investments – Trust Fund*

The fair value of the investments at June 30, 2015 was \$82,570, which consisted of a money market account of \$2,955, and mutual funds of \$79,615. The Mutual Funds are balanced funds that include approximately 75% in Domestic and Foreign Equities, approximately 20% in Domestic and Foreign Bonds and about 5% in cash. These allocations change as the markets change. The fair value is based on quoted market prices.

The School System has an investment policy related to these investments. The policy allows for the investments in mutual funds that are either equity, balanced or fixed income that have a track record of at least ten years and net assets of at least \$500 million. Investment income for fiscal year included interest and dividends of \$2,940 and unrealized losses of \$1,498.

**NOTE 3 – RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at June 30, 2015, consisted of accounts (rents and services) and intergovernmental grants and services. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of State programs and the current year guarantee of federal funds.

**NOTE 4 - INTERFUND RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES**

The School System has combined the cash resources of its governmental funds for accounting and reporting purposes. That portion of the pooled cash balance is reported in the specific fund as an interfund balance. Interfund balances at June 30, 2015 are as follows:

	Receivable	Payable
General Fund	\$ 24,992	\$474,202
Recreation Fund	300,122	0
Grants Fund	174,080	0
Nonmajor funds		
Early Education Program	0	1,882
Food Service Fund	0	23,110
	<u>\$ 499,194</u>	<u>\$499,194</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

The summary of capital assets as of June 30, 2015 is as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2014	Reclassifications Additions	Retirements	Depreciation	Balance June 30, 2015
Capital assets not depreciated:					
Construction in progress	\$ 252,849	\$ (245,493)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,356
Capital assets depreciated:					
Land improvements	1,264,663	179,566	0	0	1,444,229
Building & improvements	12,902,310	1,445,066	(259,468)	0	14,087,908
Machinery and equipment	1,069,717	154,615	(37,660)	0	1,186,672
Vehicles	115,941	14,304	(10,500)	0	119,745
Total capital assets depreciated	15,352,631	1,793,551	(307,628)	0	16,838,554
Accumulated depreciation:					
Land improvements	355,693	0	0	67,673	423,366
Building & improvements	5,796,154	0	(80,236)	325,136	6,041,054
Machinery and equipment	651,172	0	(37,660)	102,115	715,627
Vehicles	62,597	0	(10,344)	15,713	67,966
Total accumulated depreciation	6,865,616	0	(128,240)	510,637	7,248,013
Total capital assets	\$ 8,739,864	\$ 1,548,058	\$ (179,388)	\$ (510,637)	\$ 9,597,897

Depreciation was charged to building maintenance (\$395,349), food services (\$6,662), recreation programs (\$35,270), support services – staff (\$35,332), instruction (\$32,477) and special education (\$5,547).

This year's major additions included a drivers' education vehicle for \$14,304, computer equipment \$96,550, software \$84,837, floor scrubber \$6,442, Union School improvements of \$673,422, Main Street School improvements of \$535,634, and Montpelier High School improvements of \$382,362.

**NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM DEBT AND LIABILITIES**

*Compensated absences*

The School System has agreed to permit support staff, custodians and administrators to accumulate earned but unused vacation days up to different limits based on longevity. Employees are not eligible to be paid for unused sick days upon termination. The liability as of June 30, 2015 was \$126,781 compared to \$105,186 as of June 30, 2014. None of the year end balance will be paid from current financial resources.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM DEBT AND LIABILITIES (continued)**

*Termination agreement*

On January 16, 2013, the Board of School Directors signed an employment separation and release agreement, which requires the School System to pay amounts to the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on behalf of the former employee, to be financed over three years. During fiscal year 2015, \$35,592 was paid. The balance as of June 30, 2015 is \$0.

*Bonds and Capital Leases payable*

The following is a summary of bonds and capital leases payable at June 30, 2015:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Due in One Year</u>
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest between 4.85% and 5.4% paid semi-annually on 6/1 and 12/1, principal of \$140,000 due December 1st until 2017, for High School and Middle School renovations.	\$ 420,000	\$ 140,000
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest between 1.9% and 4.65% paid semi-annually on 5/15 and 11/15, principal of \$75,000 due on November 15th until 2027 and \$70,000 due in 2028, for various renovations at all three schools.	1,045,000	75,000
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest of 6.5% paid semi-annually on 5/15 and 11/15, principal payments that start at \$10,000 on November 15, 2017 and increase up to \$221,000 in 2032, used to fund the retirement plan lump sum payment.	1,470,000	0
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest between .444% and 4.644% paid semi-annually on 5/15 and 11/15, principal of \$115,000 due on November 15th until 2033, for various renovations to all three schools.	2,185,000	115,000
Capital lease with Sun Trust, interest at 4.29%, annual principal and interest payments that range from \$94,250 to \$111,600 through July 1, 2015 with a final payment of \$43,647 due on July 1, 2016, used to finance energy efficiency building improvements.	147,129	105,277
Capital lease with Sun Trust, interest at 4.49%, annual principal and interest payments that range from \$17,000 to \$44,417 through July 1, 2016, used to finance energy efficiency building improvements and computer equipment.	<u>53,464</u>	<u>27,592</u>
Total bonds and leases payable	<u>\$ 5,320,593</u>	<u>\$ 462,869</u>

The interest paid on bonds totaled \$244,157 and the interest paid on leases totaled \$13,701 during fiscal year 2015.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM DEBT AND LIABILITIES (Continued)**

Bonds and leases payable will mature approximately as follows:

	Bond Principal	Bond Interest	Bond Total	Lease Principal	Lease Interest	Lease Total
2016	\$ 330,000	\$ 232,843	\$ 562,843	\$ 132,869	\$ 8,731	\$ 141,600
2017	330,000	220,964	550,964	67,724	2,965	70,689
2018	335,000	208,357	543,357	0	0	0
2019	206,000	195,369	401,369	0	0	0
2020	211,000	185,449	396,449	0	0	0
2021-2025	1,195,000	787,448	1,982,448	0	0	0
2026-2030	1,460,000	476,070	1,936,070	0	0	0
2031-2035	1,053,000	103,127	1,156,127	0	0	0
	<u>\$ 5,120,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,409,627</u>	<u>\$ 7,529,627</u>	<u>\$ 200,593</u>	<u>\$ 11,696</u>	<u>\$ 212,289</u>

Changes of long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2015 were:

	Balance June 30, 2014	Increases	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2015	Due in One Year
Bonds payable	\$ 5,450,000	\$ 0	\$ (330,000)	\$ 5,120,000	\$ 330,000
Capital leases	315,392	0	(114,799)	200,593	132,869
Compensated absences	105,186	24,678	(3,083)	126,781	0
Termination benefits	35,592	0	(35,592)	0	0
Total	<u>\$ 5,906,170</u>	<u>\$ 24,678</u>	<u>\$ (483,474)</u>	<u>\$ 5,447,374</u>	<u>\$ 462,869</u>

**NOTE 7 - RECONCILIATION OF EXHIBIT D TO EXHIBIT F-1**

Amounts recorded in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Compared to Budget – General Fund (Exhibit F-1) are reported on the basis budgeted by the School System. Amounts recorded in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances (Exhibit D) for the General Fund were adjusted for on behalf payments (see Note 8) as follows:

	Revenues	Expenditures
Exhibit D	\$ 17,692,634	\$ 17,012,708
On behalf payments	(859,000)	(859,000)
Exhibit F-1	<u>\$ 16,833,634</u>	<u>\$ 16,153,708</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS**

**VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

*Plan description*

The School System contributes to the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System (VMERS) which is a cost sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan that is administered by the State Treasurer and its Board of Trustees. It is designed for school districts and other municipal employees that work on a regular basis and also includes employees of museums and libraries if at least half of that institution's operating expenses are met by municipal funds. An employee of any employer that becomes affiliated with the system may join at that time or at any time thereafter. Any employee hired subsequent to the effective participation date of their employer who meets the minimum hourly requirements is required to join the system. During the year ended June 30, 2015, the retirement system consisted of 437 participating employers.

The plan was established effective July 1, 1975, and is governed by Title 24, V.S.A Chapter 125.

The general administration and responsibility for formulating administrative policy and procedures of the retirement system for its members and their beneficiaries is vested in the Board of Trustees, consisting of five members. They are the State Treasurer, two employee representatives elected by the membership of the system, and two employer representatives – one elected by the governing bodies of participating employers of the system and one selected by the Governor from a list of four nominees. The list of four nominees is jointly submitted by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and the Vermont School Boards Association.

All assets are held in a single trust and are available to pay retirement benefits to all members. Benefits available to each group are based on average final compensation (AFC) and years of creditable service.

**Summary of System Provisions**

*Membership* is open to all full time employees of participating municipalities. The municipality elects coverage under Groups A, B, C, or D. The School System has Group B and C members.

*Creditable service* is service as a member plus purchased service.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

*Benefits provided and contributions:*

	<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>	<u>Group C</u>	<u>Group D</u>
<b>Avg Final Compensation (AFC)</b>	Average annual compensation during highest 5 consecutive years	Average annual compensation during highest 3 consecutive years	Average annual compensation during highest 3 consecutive years	Average annual compensation during highest 2 consecutive years
<b>Service Retirement Allowance</b>				
Eligibility	Earlier of age 65 with 5 years of service or age 55 with 35 years of service	Earlier of age 62 with 5 years of service or age 55 with 30 years of service	Age 55 with 5 years of service	Age 55 with 5 years of service
Amount	1.4% of AFC times service	1.7% of AFC times service as Group B member plus percentage earned as a Group A member times AFC	2.5% of AFC times service as Group C member plus percentage earned as a Group A or B member times AFC	2.5% of AFC times service as Group D member plus percentage earned as a Group A, B, or C member times AFC
Maximum Benefit	60% of AFC, including portion of allowance provided by member contributions		50% of AFC, including portion of allowance provided by member contributions	
<b>Early Retirement Allowance</b>				
Eligibility	Age 55 with 5 years of service		n/a	Age 50 with 20 years of service
Amount	Normal allowance based on service and AFC at early retirement, reduced by 6% for each year commencement precedes Normal Retirement Age		n/a	Normal allowance based on service and AFC at early retirement, without reduction
<b>Vested Retirement Allowance</b>				
Eligibility	5 years of service	5 years of service	5 years of service	5 years of service
Amount	Allowance beginning at normal retirement age based on AFC and service at termination. The AFC is to be adjusted annually by one-half of the percentage change in the CPI, subject to the limits on "Post-Retirement Adjustments" described below.			
<b>Disability Retirement Allowance</b>				
Eligibility	5 years of service and disability as determined by Retirement Board			
Amount	Immediate allowance based on AFC and service to date of disability; children's benefit of 10% of AFC payable to up to three minor children (or children up to age 23 if enrolled in full-time studies) of a disabled Group D member.			
<b>Death Benefit</b>				
Eligibility	After 5 years of service	After 5 years of service	After 5 years of service	After 5 years of service
Amount	Reduced early retirement allowance under 100% survivor option commencing immediately or, if greater, survivor's benefit under disability annuity computed as of the date of death.			70% of the unreduced accrued benefit plus children's benefit
<b>Optional Benefit and Death after Retirement</b>				
	Lifetime allowance or actuarially equivalent 50% or 100% joint and survivor allowance with refund of contributions guarantee.			Lifetime allowance or 70% contingent annuitant option with no reduction
<b>Refund of Contribution</b>	Upon termination, if the member so elects or if no other benefit is payable, the member's accumulated contributions are refunded.			
<b>Post-Retirement Adjustments</b>				
	Allowance in payment for at least one year, increased on each January 1 by one-half of the percentage increase in CPI but not more than the following percentage:			
	2%	3%	3%	3%
<b>Member Contributions</b>	2.5% effective 1/1/00	4.75% effective 7/1/14	9.625% eff. 7/1/14 and 9.75% eff. 1/1/15	11.25% effective 7/1/14
<b>Employer Contributions</b>	4%	5.375% effective 7/1/14	6.875% eff. 7/1/14 and 7% eff 1/1/15	9.75% effective 7/1/14
<b>Retirement Stipend</b>	\$25 per month payable at the option of the Board of Retirees			

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

For the year ended June 30, 2015, the School System's contributions to the Plan were \$87,061.

*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions.* At June 30, 2015, the School System reported a liability of \$57,312 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2014, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School System's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the School System's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2014, the School System's proportion was 0.628%, which was an increase of 0.0136% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2013.

For the year ended June 30, 2015, the School System recognized pension expense of \$87,399. At June 30, 2015, the School System reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on Plan investments.	\$ 0	\$ 176,724
Changes in proportion and differences between School System contributions and proportionate share of contributions.	3,963	0
Member contributions subsequent to the measurement date.	87,061	0
Total	<u>\$ 91,024</u>	<u>\$ 176,724</u>

The \$87,061 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the School System's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2015. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year ending</u>	<u>Amount</u>
June 30, 2016	\$ (42,233)
June 30, 2017	(42,233)
June 30, 2018	(42,233)
Thereafter	0
Total	<u>\$ (126,699)</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

**Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2015 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

*Interest rate* – A select-and-ultimate interest rate set, specified below. The interest rate set is restarted every year.

Year 1	6.25%	Year 10	8.50%
Year 2	6.75%	Year 11	8.50%
Year 3	7.00%	Year 12	8.50%
Year 4	7.50%	Year 13	8.50%
Year 5	7.75%	Year 14	8.50%
Year 6	8.25%	Year 15	8.50%
Year 7	8.25%	Year 16	8.75%
Year 8	8.25%	Year 17 and later	9.00%
Year 9	8.50%		

*Salary increase* – 5% per year

*Deaths*

Active participants – 50% of the probabilities in the 1995 Buck Mortality Tables for males and females

Non-disabled retirees and terminated vested participants – the 1995 Buck Mortality Tables with no set-back for males and one-year set-back for females

Disabled retirees – RP-2000 Disabled Life Tables

Beneficiaries – 1995 Buck Mortality Tables for males and females

*Spouses age* – husbands are assumed to be three years older than their wives

*Cost of Living Adjustments to Benefits of Terminated Vested and Retired Participants* - Assumed to occur at the rate of 1.5% per annum for Group A members and 1.8% per annum for members of Groups B, C and D.

*Asset Valuation Method (for funding purposes)* - A smoothing method is used, under which the value of assets for actuarial purposes equals market value less a five-year phase-in of the differences between actual and assumed investment return. Then value of assets for actuarial purposes may not differ from the market value of assets by more than 20%.

*Inflation* - The separately stated assumptions for investment return, salary increases and cost of living adjustments are consistent with an expected annual inflation rate of 3.00% to 3.25% per year.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

**Long-term expected rate of return**

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) developed for each major asset class using an econometric model that forecasts a variety of economic environments and then calculates asset class returns based on functional relationships between the economic variable and the asset classes. These best estimate ranges were combined to produce forecasts of the short, intermediate, and longer term horizons by weighting the expected future nominal rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage. The various time horizons in the forecast are intended to capture more recent economic and capital market conditions as well as other plausible environments that could develop in the future over economic cycles. To reflect this in the rate-of-return assumption, a Select and Ultimate assumption setting approach, which is cited in Section 3.8.4 of Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 27 as an alternative to a single assumed rate of return, is employed.

Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of June 30, 2014 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Equity	31.50%	6.70%
Fixed Income	33.00%	2.94%
Alternatives	15.50%	6.26%
Multi-strategy	20.00%	5.98%

Nominal long-term expected rates of return for these asset classes are equal to the sum of the above expected long-term real rates and the expected long-term inflation rate of 3.0%.

*Discount Rate* – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 8.23%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will continue to be made in accordance with the current funding policy. Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current System members. The assumed discount rate has been determined in accordance with the method prescribed by GASB 68.

*Sensitivity of the School System's proportionate share of the net pension liability to change in the discount rate* – The following presents the School System's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 8.23 percent, as well as what the proportionate share would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (7.23 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (9.23 percent) than the current rate:

1% Decrease (7.23%)	Discount Rate (8.23%)	1% Increase (9.23%)
\$ 482,812	\$ 57,311	\$ (299,671)

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

*Plan Fiduciary Net Position.* Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the State of Vermont's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR can be viewed on the State's Department of Finance and Management website.

**VERMONT STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

*Plan description*

The State of Vermont contributes on behalf of the School System to the Vermont State Teachers Retirement System (VSTRS) which is a cost sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan with a special funding situation. It covers nearly all public day school and nonsectarian private high school teachers and administrators as well as teachers in schools and teacher training institutions within and supported by the State that are controlled by the State Board of Education. Membership in the system for those covered classes is a condition of employment. During the year ended June 30, 2015, the retirement system consisted of 288 participating employers.

The plan was created in 1947, and is governed by Title 16, V.S.A. Chapter 555.

Management of the plan is vested in the VSTRS Board of Trustees, which consists of the Secretary of Education (ex-officio); the State Treasurer (ex-officio); the Commissioner of Financial Regulation (ex-officio); two trustees and one alternate who are members of the system (each elected by the system under rules adopted by the Board) and one trustee and one alternate who are retired members of the system receiving retirement benefits (who are elected by the Association of Retired Teachers of Vermont).

The Pension Plan is divided into the following membership groups:

- Group A – for public school teachers employed within the State of Vermont prior to July 1, 1981 and who elected to remain in Group A
- Group C – for public school teachers employed within the State of Vermont on or after July 1, 1990, or hired before July 1, 1990 and were a member of Group B at that time

All assets are held in a single trust and are available to pay retirement benefits to all members. Benefits available to each group are based on average final compensation (AFC) and years of creditable service, and are summarized below:

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

*Benefits provided and contributions*

	<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group C - Group #1*</b>	<b>Group C - Group #2**</b>
<b>Normal service retirement eligibility (no reduction)</b>	Age 60 or 30 years of service	Average annual compensation during highest 3 consecutive years	Average annual compensation during highest 3 consecutive years
<b>Average Final Compensation (AFC)</b>	Highest 3 consecutive years, including unused annual leave, sick leave, and bonus/incentives	Highest 3 consecutive years, excluding all payments for anything other than service actually performed	Highest 3 consecutive years, excluding all payments for anything other than service actually performed
<b>Benefit formula - normal service retirement</b>	1.67% times creditable service times AFC	1.25% times service prior to 6/30/90 times AFC plus 1.67% times service after 7/1/90 times AFC	1.25% times service prior to 6/30/90 times AFC plus 1.67% times service after 7/1/90 times AFC, 2.0% after attaining 20 years
<b>Maximum Benefit payable</b>	100% of AFC	53.34% of AFC	60% of AFC
<b>Post-Retirement COLA</b>	Full CPI, up to a maximum of 5% after 12 months of retirement; minimum of 1%	50% CPI, up to a maximum of 5% after 12 months of retirement or with 30 years; minimum of 1%	50% CPI, up to a maximum of 5%, minimum of 1% after 12 months of normal retirement or age 65
<b>Early Retirement Eligibility</b>	Age 55 with 5 years of service	Age 55 with 5 years of service	Age 55 with 5 years of service
<b>Early Retirement Reduction</b>	Actuarial reduction	6% per year from age 62	Actuarial reduction
<b>Medical Benefits</b>	Health subsidy based on member's service credit	Health subsidy based on member's service credit	Health subsidy based on member's service credit
<b>Dental</b>	Members pay full premium	Members pay full premium	Members pay full premium
<b>Employee Contributions</b>	2.5% of gross salary	5.0% of gross salary with 5 or more years of service as of 7/1/14; 6.0% of gross salary if less than 5 years of service as of 7/1/14	5.0% of gross salary with 5 or more years of service as of 7/1/14; 6.0% of gross salary if less than 5 years of service as of 7/1/14
<b>Employer Contributions</b>	Varies based on actuarial recommendation	Varies based on actuarial recommendation	Varies based on actuarial recommendation

\*Group #1 are members who were within 5 years of normal retirement (age 62 or 30 years of service) on June 30, 2010

\*\*Group #2 are members who were less than 57 years of age or had less than 25 years of service on June 30, 2010

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

**Significant Actuarial Assumptions and Methods**

The total pension liability as of June 30, 2015 was determined by rolling forward the total pension liability as of June 30, 2014 to June 30, 2015 using the actuarial assumptions outlined below. These assumptions were selected on the basis of the experience study that was performed for the five year period ending June 30, 2010.

*Interest rate* – A select-and-ultimate interest rate set, specified below. The interest rate set is restarted every year.

Year 1	6.25%	Year 10	8.50%
Year 2	6.75%	Year 11	8.50%
Year 3	7.00%	Year 12	8.50%
Year 4	7.50%	Year 13	8.50%
Year 5	7.75%	Year 14	8.50%
Year 6	8.25%	Year 15	8.50%
Year 7	8.25%	Year 16	8.75%
Year 8	8.25%	Year 17 and later	9.00%
Year 9	8.50%		

*Salary increase* - representative values of the assumed annual rates of future salary increases are as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Annual rate of Salary Increase</u>
25	8.40%
30	7.05%
35	6.15%
40	5.45%
45	4.95%
50	4.60%
55	4.35%
60	4.25%
64	4.25%

*Deaths after retirement* – The 1995 Buck Mortality Tables set back three years for males and one year for females, for retirees, terminated vested members and beneficiaries; the RP-2000 Disabled Life Table with projections to 2016 using Scale AA for disabled retirees. The tables used contain a margin to reflect anticipated mortality improvement after the valuation date.

*Inflation* – the separately stated assumptions for investment return, salary increases and cost of living adjustments are consistent with an expected annual inflation rate of 3.00% to 3.25% per year.

*Spouse's Age* – Husbands are assumed to be three years older than their wives.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

*Cost of Living Adjustments* - Assumed to occur on January 1 following one year of retirement at the rate of 3.0% per annum for Group A members and 1.5% per annum for Group C members (beginning at age 62 for Group C members who elect reduced early retirement).

*Actuarial Cost Method* – The individual entry age normal actuarial cost method was used. For actuarial valuations prior to June 30, 2006, the entry age normal method with frozen initial liability was used.

*Asset Valuation Method* – The amount of the assets for valuation purposes equals the preliminary asset value plus 20% of the difference between the market and preliminary asset values. The preliminary asset value is equal to the previous year's asset value (for valuation purposes) adjusted for contributions less benefit payments and expenses and expected investment income. If necessary, a further adjustment is made to ensure that the valuation assets are within 20% of the market value.

*Member data* – 351 members terminated on June 30, 2013 and retired on July 1, 2013 were included with a valuation status as members receiving benefits. 409 members who were active on June 30, 2013 and terminated on July 1, 2013 were included with a valuation status as inactive. For those terminated members with at least five years of service, the system will automatically vest them six years after their termination if they do not withdraw.

*Health and Medical Benefits for Retirees* – Not included in this valuation.

**Long-term expected rate of return**

The long-term expected rate of return on System investments was determined using best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) developed for each major asset class using an econometric model that forecasts a variety of economic environments and then calculates asset class returns based on functional relationships between the economic variable and the asset classes. These best estimate ranges were combined to produce forecasts of the short, intermediate, and longer term horizons by weighting the expected future nominal rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage. The various time horizons in the forecast are intended to capture more recent economic and capital market conditions as well as other plausible environments that could develop in the future over economic cycles. To reflect this in the rate-of-return assumption, a Select and Ultimate assumption setting approach, which is cited in Section 3.8.4 of Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 27 as an alternative to a single assumed rate of return, is employed.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 8 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)**

Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of June 30, 2014 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Asset Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Equity	31.50%	6.70%
Fixed Income	33.00%	2.94%
Alternatives	15.50%	6.26%
Multi-strategy	20.00%	5.98%

Nominal long-term expected rates of return for these asset classes are equal to the sum of the above expected long-term real rates and the expected long-term inflation rate of 3.0%.

*Discount Rate* – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 8.15%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will continue to be made in accordance with the current funding policy. Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current System members. The assumed discount rate has been determined in accordance with the method prescribed by GASB 68.

*Sensitivity of the School System's proportionate share of the net pension liability to change in the discount rate* – The following presents the School System's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 8.15 percent, as well as what the proportionate share would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (7.15 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (9.15 percent) than the current rate:

<u>1% Decrease (7.15%)</u>	<u>Discount Rate (8.15%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (9.15%)</u>
\$ 13,255,536	\$ 10,070,374	\$ 7,421,821

*Plan Fiduciary Net Position.* Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the State of Vermont's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR can be viewed on the State's Department of Finance and Management website.

The contribution made by the State on behalf of the participants in the State Teachers' Retirement System is approximately \$859,000 and is reported as both revenue and an expenditure on Exhibit D. On Exhibit B, the government-wide revenue and expenses for on behalf payments increase to \$1,160,588. These amounts are based on information provided by the State. Of the School System's total payroll of \$9,744,885, \$6,740,031 was covered under the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 9 - DEFERRED REVENUE**

The deferred revenue at June 30, 2015 consisted of:

General Fund	
IDEA B	\$ 18,829
Grants Fund	
Act 176	10,285
Redducs grant	5,036
Rowland grant	6,140
Title I	6,546
Health Info Nurse	203
VSBIT Wellness	1,494
Fit and healthy grant	1,260
Wellness grant	423
America's promise grant	447
Standards board	1,424
Medicaid EPSDT	39,143
Medicaid IEP	100,730
Total Grants Fund	<u>173,131</u>
Nonmajor Funds	
Early education program	23
Food Service student accounts	12,061
Total Nonmajor Funds	<u>12,084</u>
Total deferred revenue	<u>\$ 204,044</u>

**NOTE 10 - INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

During the year, one transfer occurred between funds. The operating transfer was made in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2015 consisted of \$230,979 from the General Fund to the Early Education Program.

**NOTE 11 – CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS**

The School System participates in a number of federally and state assisted grant programs, principal of which are the ESEA Title I Compensatory Education, Child Nutrition, Education of the Handicapped, Early Education and Special Education programs. The programs are subject to program compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The audits of these programs for or including the year ended June 30, 2015, have not yet been completed. Accordingly, the School System's compliance with applicable grant requirements will be established at some future date. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time although the School System expects such amounts, if any to be immaterial.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 11 – CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS (Continued)**

In March of 2013, the Voters approved a \$2,300,000 bond for energy, efficiency and safety improvements in all three schools. The bond was issued in July of 2013. As of June 30, 2015, most of the projects had been completed. The Capital Projects Fund is being used to account for the improvements being paid from this bond. As of June 30, 2015, approximately \$2.1 million had been spent out of the \$2.3 million bond.

In May of 2013, The School System entered into a contract for transportation services for fiscal year 2014-2016 with the option to extend through fiscal year 2018. The contract calls for minimum payments that range from \$213,313 for fiscal year 2015 to \$230,833 for fiscal year 2018 that cover regular, vocational and special education related transportation. Athletics and co-curricular transportation is an additional charge based on set prices as outlined in the contract. The School System can terminate the contract with a 60 day notice if the budget does not pass. The amount expended in fiscal year 2015 was \$225,930. The additional amount was due to transportation needs related to special education.

**NOTE 12 – FUND DEFICIT**

The Food Service Fund reported a deficit of \$9,960 as of June 30, 2015. Management is working on a plan to eliminate this deficit.

**NOTE 13 - EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS**

For the year ended June 30, 2015, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the Recreation Fund by \$7,790. The expenditures were financed with excess program revenues.

**NOTE 14 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The School System covers its significant risks of loss, which are identified with the assistance of insurance agents, by commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage or settlement amounts exceeding insurance coverage for the current or three (3) prior years.

In addition, Montpelier Public School System is a member of Vermont School Boards Association Insurance Trust, Inc. (VSBIT) Medical Benefits Program. VSBIT is a non-profit corporation formed in 1978 to provide insurance and risk management programs for Vermont school districts and is owned by the participating districts. To provide health insurance coverage, VSBIT has established a self-funded fully insured program in conjunction with Blue Cross and Blue Shield. A portion of member contributions is used to purchase reinsurance and to fund a reserve required by the reinsurance. Contributions in excess of claims requirements, reserve fund requirements, reinsurance and administrative costs are returned to participants. The pooling agreement does not permit the pool to make additional assessments to its members.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2015

**NOTE 15 – CONCENTRATION OF REVENUE**

The School System receives approximately 81% of its General Fund revenue from Act 68 State Aid. The amount of Act 68 State Aid received by the School System is equal to the budgeted expenditures approved by the voters less expected other revenues for the year. Act 68 State Aid is funded with statewide property taxes. The State determines a different education property tax rate for homestead and non-homestead properties based on statewide information. The tax rate on homesteads in Montpelier is adjusted based on the amount of Act 68 State Aid in relation to the number of students in Montpelier. The tax rate for non-homestead property in Montpelier is not impacted by the amount of Montpelier’s Act 68 State Aid. The State uses a common level of appraisal to equalize property values between communities.

In addition to Act 68 State Aid, the School System receives grants from the State of Vermont for special education, transportation and other programs.

**NOTE 16 – PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT**

The government-wide net position for July 1, 2014 was restated below to adjust the beginning balances of the School System to add the beginning net pension liability in order to be in accordance with GASB 68. The governmental activities opening net position was restated as follows:

June 30, 2014, as previously reported	\$ 5,349,621
Deferred outflows	81,002
Deferred inflows and net pension liability	<u>(223,676)</u>
June 30, 2014, restated	<u>\$ 5,206,947</u>

**NOTE 17 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through November 11, 2015, the date which the financial statements were available for issue. Management is not aware of any subsequent events which require disclosure.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 COMBINING BALANCE SHEET  
 ALL NONMAJOR FUNDS  
 JUNE 30, 2015

SCHEDULE 1

	Special Revenue Funds		Total Nonmajor Funds
	Early Education Program	Food Service Fund	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	\$ 0	\$ 8,814	\$ 8,814
Due from State	2,077	8,171	10,248
Accounts receivable - other	0	4,679	4,679
Inventory	0	6,967	6,967
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,077</b>	<b>\$ 28,631</b>	<b>\$ 30,708</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 0	\$ 216	\$ 216
Accrued payroll	172	3,204	3,376
Deferred revenue	23	12,061	12,084
Due to other funds	1,882	23,110	24,992
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,077</b>	<b>38,591</b>	<b>40,668</b>
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit)</b>			
Nonspendable - inventory	0	6,967	6,967
Unassigned - food service	0	(16,927)	(16,927)
<b>Total fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,960)</b>	<b>(9,960)</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 2,077</b>	<b>\$ 28,631</b>	<b>\$ 30,708</b>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

SCHEDULE 2

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)  
ALL NONMAJOR FUNDS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	Special Revenue Funds		Total Nonmajor Funds
	Early Education Program	Food Service Fund	
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Intergovernmental - Federal	\$ 6,647	\$ 154,650	\$ 161,297
Intergovernmental - State	76,911	7,997	84,908
Fees for service	0	285,939	285,939
Interest on investments	0	65	65
Miscellaneous	0	5,862	5,862
Total revenues	<u>83,558</u>	<u>454,513</u>	<u>538,071</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Instruction	173,540	0	173,540
Support services - students	113,753	0	113,753
Transportation	27,244	0	27,244
Food service	0	449,322	449,322
Debt Service			
Interest - bonds	0	7,167	7,167
Total expenditures	<u>314,537</u>	<u>456,489</u>	<u>771,026</u>
EXCESS EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUES	<u>(230,979)</u>	<u>(1,976)</u>	<u>(232,955)</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>			
Operating transfers in	230,979	0	230,979
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>230,979</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>230,979</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)	0	(1,976)	(1,976)
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT) - JULY 1, 2014	<u>0</u>	<u>(7,984)</u>	<u>(7,984)</u>
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT) - JUNE 30, 2015	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ (9,960)</u>	<u>\$ (9,960)</u>

SCHEDULE 3

SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE  
NET PENSION LIABILITY  
VERMONT EMPLOYEES MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PLAN  
Last fiscal year

	<u>2014</u>
District's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	0.6280%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 57,312
District's covered-employee payroll	\$1,509,240
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	3.80%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	98.32%

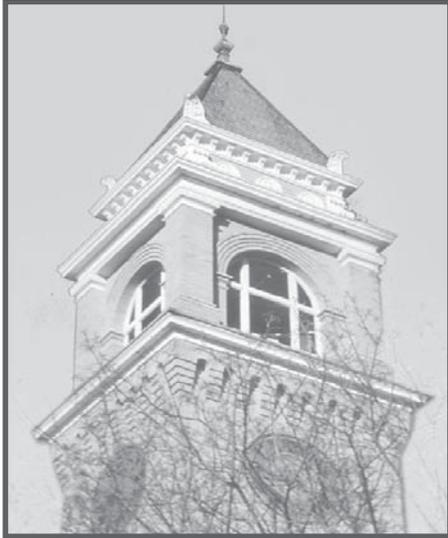
SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL SYSTEM CONTRIBUTIONS  
VERMONT EMPLOYEES MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PLAN  
Last three fiscal years

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contractually required contributions	\$ 87,061	\$ 81,002	\$ 73,408
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(87,061)</u>	<u>(81,002)</u>	<u>(73,408)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
District's covered-employee payroll	1,548,901	1,509,240	1,403,619
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	5.621%	5.367%	5.230%





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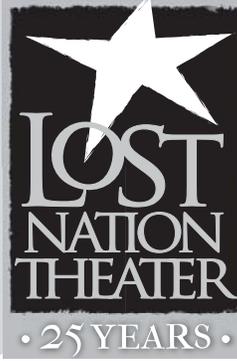
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Tom Golonka ..... 223-3657

*Council Member, District 1*

Jean Olson ..... 223-5191

*Council Member, District 2*

Anne Watson ..... 595-1734

*Council Member, District 2*

Jessica Edgerly Walsh ..... 371-7556

*Council Member, District 3*

Justin Turcotte ..... 223-6012

*Council Member, District 3*

## City Hall:

39 Main Street

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday

City Manager, William Fraser ..... 223-9502

*wfraser@montpelier-vt.org*

Assistant City Manager, Jessie Baker ..... 262-6250

*jbaker@montpelier-vt.org*

Delinquent Tax Collector, Beverlee Hill ..... 223-9512

*bhill@montpelier-vt.org*

City Clerk, John Odum ..... 262-6263

*jodum@montpelier-vt.org*

City Assessor, Stephen Twombly ..... 223-9505

*stwombly@montpelier-vt.org*

Zoning Administrator, Sarah McShane ..... 262-6270

*sncshane@montpelier-vt.org*

Asst. Building Inspector, Chris Lumbra ..... 262-6170

*clumbra@montpelier-vt.org*

Public Works Department ..... 223-9508

Thomas McArdle, Director

*tmcardle@montpelier-vt.org*

Planning & Development ..... 223-9506

Michael Miller, Director

*mmiller@montpelier-vt.org*

Health Officer, Robert Gowans ..... 229-4913

Finance Director, Sandra Gallup ..... 262-6253

*sgallup@montpelier-vt.org*

Emergency Management System ..... 229-4913

Robert Gowans, Coordinator

Green Mount Cemetery ..... 223-5352

Patrick Healy, Director

*cemetery@montpelier-vt.org*

Hubbard Park ..... 223-7335

Geoffrey Beyer, Director

*gbeyer@montpelier-vt.org*

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

58 Barre Street

Janna Clar, Director ..... 223-2518

*jclar@montpelier-vt.org*

## POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE EMERGENCY 911

Montpelier Police Dept. (Non-emergency) ..... 223-3445

Anthony Facos, Police Chief ..... 223-3445

*afacos@montpelier-vt.org*

Montpelier Fire Department and ..... 223-3445

Ambulance Service (Non-emergency) ..... 229-4913

Robert Gowans, Fire Chief

*rgowans@montpelier-vt.org*

## Other Departments:

### MONTPELIER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

5 High School Drive

Dr. Brian Ricca, Superintendent ..... 223-9796

*brian@mpsvt.org*

### MONTPELIER RECREATION DEPT

55 Barre Street ..... 223-5141

Arne McMullen, Director

*arne@mpsvt.org*

### MONTPELIER HOUSING AUTHORITY

155 Main Street

JoAnn Troiano, Executive Director ..... 229-9232

## Appointed Officials

### Development Review Board

Phil Zalinger, *Chair*

Kevin O'Connell, *Vice Chair*

James LaMonda

Roger Cranse

John Lindley, III

Dan Richardson

Michael Sherman

Kate McCarthy, *Alternate*

William Schebaum, *Alternate*

### Planning Commission

Kim Cheney, *Chair*

Jon Anderson, *Vice Chair*

Leslie Welts

Eileen Simpson

John Adams

Barbara Conrey

Tina Ruth

### Design Review Committee

Stephen Everett, *Chair*

Hannah Smith

Eric Gilbertson

Seth Mitchell

Theodore Fetter

Liz Pritchett, *Alternate*

Benjamin Cheney, *Alternate*

### Tree Warden

Geoff Beyer

### Housing Authority

John McCullough, *Chair*

Edward Larson

Paul Audy

Cristine Zern

Stephen Coble

## Elected Officials

### School Commissioners

Sue Aldrich, *Chair*

Tina Muncy

Steve Hingtgen

Lowell vanDerlip

Ken Jones

Bridget Asay

Michele Braun

### Cemetery Commissioners

Jake Brown, *Chair*

Meri Nielsen

Linda Berger

Darragh Ellerson

Charles Wiley

## Park Commissioners

Emily Boedecker, *Chair*

Bill Johnson

Bryan Pfeiffer

Kip Roberts

Carolyn Grodinsky

## Justices of the Peace

Mary Alice Bisbee

Cary Brown

Paul Carnahan

Kim Cheney

Robert Gross

Page Guertin

Mary Hooper

Valerie Lewis

Nick Marro

John McCullough

Daniel Richardson

Nancy Sherman

Lynne Cleveland Vitzthum

Ron Wild

Philip H. Zalinger Jr.

## Regular City Meetings

### CITY COUNCIL

Meetings held second and fourth

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Meetings held first and third

Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall

### All City Council, Development

**Review Board & Planning**

**Commission** meetings are

televised on Channel 17.

### Public Notices

published every

Monday and Thursday in the

Times Argus and are also located

on the City's website:

[www.montpelier-vt.org](http://www.montpelier-vt.org)

### SCHOOL BOARD

Meetings held first and third

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Montpelier High School Library

School Board meetings are televised

on Channel 16.

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## Montpelier City Council – 2015



(Left to right): Assistant City Manager Jessie Baker, Council Member Justin Turcotte, Council Member Dona Bate, Council Member Jean Olson, Mayor John Hollar, Council Member Anne Watson, Council Member Jessica Edgerly Walsh, Council Member Tom Golonka, City Manager William Fraser.

## Montpelier School Board – 2015



(Left to right): School Board Member Steve Hingtgen, School Board Member Lowell VanDerlip, School Board Member Michele Braun, School Board Member Bridget Asay, Superintendent Brian Ricca, School Board Chair Sue Aldrich, School Board Member Tina Muncy, School Board Member Ken Jones.