

TOWN OF
PLAINFIELD, VERMONT

223rd Annual Report



2020

**Annual Report of the Town Officers
For the Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 - June 30 2020**

Town Meeting Voting by Australian ballot on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 9am-7pm

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AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

In accordance with V.S.A. Title 24, §1681, the Auditors have examined the accounts and records of the Town of Plainfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. To the best of our knowledge and belief, we find they are correct as reported herein.

As a response to some concerns, as Auditors we are responsible for the correction of spelling errors, within the submittal of all reports. Our responsibilities end with checking of all addition or subtraction errors. If any errors are found the reports are sent back with either written or verbal questions as to the correct totals. We are not allowed to change any numbers on any reports. Therefore, we always request a resubmission of said reports before we can submit to the printer.

Lorraine Cappetta

Mary Etta Chase

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town Clerk's Office	Hours M/W/F 7:30-12:00 12:30-4:00pm
PO Box 217	Telephone-454-8461 Fax-454-8467
Plainfield, VT 05667	
Town Website	www.plainfieldvt.us
Highway Department	Mike Nolan, Road Foreman Garage 454-7166 Cell 802-371-8050
Water and Wastewater Depts.	Greg Chamberlin, Chief Plant Operator 454-7173
Emergency Tel# 793-0795	Tristan MacGregor-Stewart, Assistant Operator
Property Tax Policy	Taxes are due and payable on the due date on your bill. Payments not hand delivered to the Town Clerk/Treasurer by 4pm or postmarked on the due date will not be accepted as on time payment. After this date, they become delinquent and will be turned over to the delinquent tax collector. You will be charged an 8% penalty fee and 1% interest per month thereafter. The only exception to the above policy is School Payment #1. This payment will be charged only the interest of 1% per month until the due date of the second School billing. The due dates of taxes are set at each annual Town meeting.

We have a drop box at the municipal building for your convenience.

Wastewater and Water Assessment Policy adopted December 12, 2016

Water Assessment Payments or Wastewater Assessment Payments not hand delivered to the Town Clerk/Treasurer by 4:00pm or postmarked on the due date will not be accepted as on time payment. The drop box at the municipal office is checked at 4:00pm on the due date. Any payments put in the drop box after 4:00pm on the due date will not be accepted as on time payment.

Town Board Meetings- In 2020 all meetings have been remote due to the COVID pandemic.

All meetings are posted at the Municipal Building, Post Office, and Plainfield Co-op

Cemetery Commission	Scheduled as needed
Conservation Commission	Third Wednesday each month
DRB (Development Review Board)	Second Wednesday of each the month
Hazard Mitigation Committee	Scheduled as needed
Historical Society	Scheduled as needed
Library Trustees	Scheduled as needed at Cutler Library

GENERAL INFORMATION

Library Hours	Mon closed, Tues 2-8, Wed 10-2, Thurs 10-2, Friday 2-8, and Sat closed, and Sun 2-8.
Planning Commission	First and Third Monday evenings
Plainfield Revolving Loan Committee	Scheduled as needed
Recreation Committee	Scheduled as needed
Selectboard	Second and Fourth Monday evenings
Social Concerns Committee	As needed during October/November
Water/Wastewater Commission	Third Monday evenings

LOCAL ASSISTANCE CONTACTS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS DIAL 911

Animal Control/Constable: Vacant	
Cutler Library: Director Angela Ogle	454-8504
Fire Warden: Andy Hebert	322-5016
Fire Chief: Greg Light	839-8878
Health Officer: Baylen Sky	310-1400

TOWN FEES AND ASSESSMENTS

Recording Fees

Warranty Deed	\$ 15.00 per page
Mortgage Deed	\$ 15.00 per page
Mortgage Discharge	\$ 15.00 per discharge
Property Transfer Return	\$ 15.00 per return
Certified Vital Record	\$ 10.00 per copy
License of Civil Marriage	\$ 60.00
Annual Dog License-ONTIME	
Neutered Dogs	\$ 9.00
Unneutered Dogs	\$ 13.00
Annual Dog License-LATE	
Neutered Dogs	\$ 11.00
Unneutered Dogs	\$ 17.00
Land Posting	\$ 5.00
Motor Vehicle Renewal Fee	\$ 3.00
Water Assessment semi-annually	\$ 264.00
Wastewater Assessment semi-annually	\$ 337.00

TOWN OFFICERS

ELECTED

Moderator	Charles T. Barasch	
Town Clerk	Linda B. Wells	
Treasurer	Linda B. Wells	
Selectboard:		
Term Expires 2021	Tammy Farnham	
Term Expires 2022	Jim Volz	
Term Expires 2023	Alexandra “Sasha” Thayer	
Listers:		
Term Expires 2021	Sandra Ross	
Term Expires 2022	Frederick Pope	
Term Expires 2023	Alexandra Forbes	R
Auditors:		
Term Expires 2021	Mary Etta Chase	A
Term Expires 2021	Lorraine Cappelletta	
Term Expires 2021	Carla Siegle	R
Term Expires 2022	Vacant	
Term Expires 2023	Vacant	
Cemetery Commissioners:		
Term Expires 2021	Dave Spence	A
Term Expires 2021	Alice Sky	A
Term Expires 2021	Rocky Edson	A
Term Expires 2021	Kenley Freeman	A
Term Expires 2022	Ed Hutchinson, Chair	
Term Expires 2023	Vacant	
Term Expires 2024	Vacant	
Term Expires 2025	Vacant	
School Directors:		
Term Expires 2021	Jamie Spector	
Term Expires 2022	Janna Osman	
Term Expires 2023	Lauren Cleary	
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	George Cushing	
Town Grand Juror	James Jamele	
Town Law Agent	James Jamele	
Trustee of Public Funds	Selectboard	
Justices of the Peace:		
Term Expires 2023	Dale Bartlett	
	Patricia Boyle	
	Steven Farnham	
	Alice Merrill	
	Mary Niebling	
	Leatrice Potter	
	Peter Youngbaer	
State Representative	Janet Ancel	
Term Expires 2023		

TOWN OFFICERS

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Animal Control/Constable	Kathleen Hayes	R
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	Carol Smith	
CV Fiber formerly know as Central VT Internet Michael Birnbaum Jeremy Matt		
Cent VT Reg Planning Commission Alternate representative	Paula Emery Bob Atchinson	
Central VT Solid Waste Mgmt Plainfield Representative Alternate	Betsy Ziegler Vacant	
Central VT State Police Advisory Plainfield Representative	Kathleen Hayes	
Conservation Commission Term Expires 2021 Term Expires 2021 Term Expires 2022 Term Expires 2023 Term Expires 2023 Term Expires 2023	Sarah Albert Julie Hackbarth Mary Trerice Serena Matt Becky Atchinson Rose Paul	
Development Review Board Term Expires 2021 Term Expires 2021 Term Expires 2022 Term Expires 2022 Term Expires 2023	Alice Sky Jim Volz Janice Walrafen, Chair Sarah Albert Elaine Parker	
E-911 Representative	Sandra Ross	
Emergency Mgmt Director	Alexandra ‘Sasha’ Thayer	
Energy Coordinator	Bob Atchinson	
Fire Chief 1st Assistant Fire Chief 2nd Assistant Fire Chief Deputy Fire Chief	Greg Light Johnathan Matthew Andy Hebert Gary Graves	
EMT Captain Fire Warden	Johnathan Matthew Andy Hebert	

TOWN OFFICERS

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS (continued)

Hazard Mitigation Committee

Gary Graves

Dennis Blair

Selectbord Member-Tammy Farnham

Health Officer-2021

Baylen Sky

Deputy Health Officer-2021

Justine Gadd

Deputy Health Officer-2021

Vacant

Planning Commission

Term Expires 2021

Will Colgan, Chair

Term Expires 2022

Jesse Cooper

Term Expires 2022

Karen Storey

Term Expires 2023

Baylen Sky

Recreation Committee

Dan Gadd

Ben Youngbaer

Nick Hooker

Jamie Spector

Michael Morlan

Registrar

Linda B. Wells

Deputy Registrars

R. Brent Whitcomb

Nicholas Whitcomb

Revolving Loan Committee

Karl Bissex

Dave Boynton

Road Commissioner

Vacant

Road Foreman

Mike Nolan

Highway Administrator

Mike Nolan

Social Concerns Committee

Gail Falk

Macy Hale

Judy Cyprian

Tree Warden

Nicko Rubin

Water and Wastewater Commissioners

Term Expires 2021

Tim Phillips

Term Expires 2022

Mary Lane, Chair

Term Expires 2023

Josh Pitts

Zoning Administrator 2025

Karen Storey

A-Appointed

R-Resigned

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

Town Moderator Charles Barasch called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

Moderator Barasch stated that the polls for casting Australian ballots were open and will remain so until 7:00pm. Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells noted that there were various tables set up around the room and downstairs to sell items to fundraise for various entities and/or provide information to the community, including the Cutler Memorial Library, the Town Hall Opera House, the Conservation Commission, the Energy Committee, Fire and Rescue, the Hazard Mitigation Committee, and the Historical Society. Select Board Chair Alexandra Thayer explained that a board has been set up for people to post notes of appreciation to fellow community members.

Moderator Barasch recognized Glenda Bissex, who wanted to acknowledge that Plainfield Town Meeting participants were meeting today on Abenaki land.

Moderator Barasch noted that Robert's Rules of Order comprise the basic rules of order for this meeting except where Vermont law takes precedence, and cited other general rules to which the meeting would adhere. After asking for a show of hands from those present who are not registered voters, Moderator Barasch stated that unregistered voters may not vote, and unless there was a suspension of the rules, may not speak on articles in the warning. Moderator Barasch read aloud an 11th-century Chinese poem by Su Tung P'O entitled *A Painting By Wang The Clerk Of Yen Ling*.

Hearing no objections from the floor, Moderator Barasch invited Vermont State Representative Janet Ancel to address Town Meeting. Ancel began by introducing Vermont State Senator Andrew Perchlik and Vermont State Senate President Pro-Tem Timothy Ashe, who were present to observe the proceedings. Ancel reported on several issues that the House of Representatives is currently working on, including the Global Warming Solutions Act; the minimum wage bill; the Act 250 rewrite; and the Rent Rebate program. Alex Forbes thanked Ancel for all her precise and focused energy at the state level, to which meeting participants responded with applause. Ancel responded to questions from Jamie Spector regarding paid family leave; from Mary Niebling regarding the cannabis bill; from Steven Farnham regarding the minimum wage; from Bram Towbin regarding a local tax share on cannabis sales; from Owen Bradley, who gently noted that the term "black market" refers to slavery; from Amos Meacham regarding revenue projections from the sale of cannabis; and Tom Kelly regarding the tone of debate in the State Legislature.

Moderator Barasch began consideration of the items on the Warning.

ARTICLE 2: To hear reports of Town Officers and act on same.

- **AUDITORS CERTIFICATE: Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Auditors Certificate. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The Auditors Certificate was accepted.**

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

- **TOWN CLERK’S REPORT:** John Monahan made a motion to accept the Town Clerk’s Report. Dan Marcus seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **The Town Clerk’s Report was accepted.**
- **TOWN TREASURER’S REPORT:** Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Town Treasurer’s Report. Michelle Clark seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **The Town Treasurer’s Report was accepted.**
- **COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES REPORT:** Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Collector of Delinquent Taxes Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion. Bram Towbin thanked George Cushing for doing a good job as delinquent tax collector. **The Collector of Delinquent Taxes Report was accepted.**
- **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Zoning Administrator Report. Janice Walrafen seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **The Zoning Administrator Report was accepted.**
- **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:** Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Planning Commission Report. Tim Phillips seconded the motion. Planning Commission member Bram Towbin reported that a draft of the Town Plan is available on the Town’s website and that the Planning Commission is looking for feedback on it. In response to a question from Janice Walrafen regarding whether dates for public hearings on the draft have been scheduled, Towbin responded that they will likely begin in late April 2020 and the public will be notified of the exact dates. **The Planning Commission Report was accepted.**
- **LISTERS REPORT:** Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Listers Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **The Listers Report was accepted.**
- **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD REPORT:** Meg Davis made a motion to accept the Development Review Board Report. Janice Walrafen seconded the motion. Brenda Lindemann asked if the minutes for the Development Review Board were posted to the Town website, to which Development Review Board Chair Janice Walrafen responded affirmatively. **The Development Review Board Report was accepted.**
- **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:** Dan Marcus made a motion to accept the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion. Steven Farnham asked for a progress report on the Main Street/Route 2 intersection, to which Moderator Barasch responded that it would be addressed during the Select Board Report. **The Central Vermont Regional Planning**

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

Commission Report was accepted.

- **SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Social Concerns Committee Report. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** Social Concern Committee member Mary Niebling stated that what is presented in the Town Report is not the committee's report and does not include some of the committee's recommendations. Niebling noted that the committee had recommended \$250 for Our House and that the amount had been changed to \$150 in the Town Report. In addition, Circle and the Onion River Food Shelf, both of which did not submit requests this year, were given \$525 and \$1,000 respectively by the committee, neither of which appears in the Town Report. **Lisa Ryan made a motion to amend the report to reflect the Social Concerns Committee's recommendations.** Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells stated that when no request for funding is received, the process is to petition for funding. Niebling agreed that it was in fact the process, but that the Social Concerns Committee's report still existed. Alexandra Thayer asked who wrote the report, to which Niebling responded that it was written by Social Concerns Committee member Gail Falk. Tom Kelly asked if it was relevant to understand why the two groups who did not submit an application did not apply. Niebling responded that she did not contact the groups. Amos Meacham asked if the different information that was reflected in the Town Report was in the narrative portion or in the budget line items. Niebling responded that language regarding the two organizations was removed from the narrative. Elaine Parker asked if the structure of this meeting allows participants to vote on specific items that they do not agree with in the Social Concerns budget. Moderator Barasch responded that that could take place during discussion of the budget. Bram Towbin noted that it was not about the worthiness of the organizations, and that the process charges the Social Concerns Committee with determining amounts in an effort to avoid arguments regarding how much to fund particular organizations. Jan Waterman thanked the Social Concerns Committee for the hard work that it does again and again, to which meeting participants responded with applause. **Moderator Barasch made a motion to amend the amendment to state that in addition to changing the dollar amounts, the amendment reflect that the text be changed to include the deletions if they can be found. Amos Meacham seconded the motion.** Glenda Bissex asked how it can be added back into the Town Report, which is already in print. Moderator Barasch responded that the change will be reflected in the Town Meeting minutes. Charles Cogbill stated that he found it hard to vote for additional wording when he does not know what that wording is. Bob Atchinson asked if the Social Concerns Committee had a copy of the missing text that can be read aloud, to which a member of the Social Concerns Committee responded "not here." Melinda Vieux asked that those wishing to speak stand up or come

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

to the microphone so that everyone can hear them. Social Concerns Committee member Alex Forbes stated that she would like to make an amendment to the amendment to the amendment, noting that she did not think that the process itself has been addressed and proposed that the committee meet with the Select Board to agree on a process so that items are not removed with the committee not knowing what happened or why. Moderator Barasch responded that an amendment cannot be made to an amendment of an amendment, but if the amendment passes, it can then be amended. Alexandra Thayer explained that the process is that the reports come to Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells and she then passes them to the Auditors who put together the Town Report; if there is a glitch somewhere, it involves the Auditors either receiving something different from what was sent by a committee or board or that there was some change made to what the Auditors received. Thayer added that a process might be implemented to ensure that the Auditors are clear about what was received and what will go into the Town Report. Cutler Memorial Librarian Loona Brogan, who is not a Plainfield resident, requested permission to speak. Hearing no objection, Moderator Barasch granted permission. Brogan noted that the Cutler Library's report has been changed in the past and that it might be time to look at the Auditor's authority to make changes to the original submissions. Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells stated that while the Auditors might try to shorten a lengthy report, they do not make changes to any of the numbers. Hearing that there was no further discussion, Moderator Barasch called for a vote on the amendment to the amendment. **The motion to amend the report to reflect the Social Concerns Committee's recommendations was approved.** Immediately following, Moderator Barasch called for a vote on the amendment to the Social Concerns Committee's amendment. Glenda Bissex questioned why the Social Concerns Committee only recommended \$600 for Washington County Mental Health when the request was for \$1,500. Social Concerns Committee Mary Niebling responded that its request was much more than the other deserving organizations so it was reduced to \$600. Elaine Parker noted that the \$600 for the organization, which serves 77 people, was not enough. Leon Romasco stated that he thought that numbers were not supposed to be discussed until the Article 4. Moderator Barasch responded that the numbers can be discussed in the overall scheme of the report, but cannot be changed until Article 4 is under discussion. Alex Forbes stated that Washington County Mental Health is a crucial organization and she would encourage returning the funding amount to the full request. Amos Meacham noted that discussion should take place on the issue, but not at this point. Donny Osman stated his respect for the work and wisdom of the Social Concerns Committee and noted his support of its recommendations, but asked if there were any applications that were rejected entirely. Osman asked another question regarding the elimination of property values in the Grand List and why, which Moderator Barasch stated was out of

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

order at this time. **The motion to accept the Social Concerns Committee's report as amended was approved.**

- **SELECT BOARD REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Select Board Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Glenda Bissex expressed her concern regarding the cessation of videotaping Select Board meetings and felt that substituting audio recording alone was not enough to understand the proceedings. Bissex urged reinstating the service, to which many meeting participants responded with applause. Lisa Ryan asked how much the cost was to videotape Select Board meetings annually. Select Board member Tammy Farnham stated that the Select Board has been working diligently to find different solutions after a cost increase came in mid-fiscal year from Central Vermont Television, noting that while the Select Board is not looking to discontinue it at this time, it is looking for cheaper options. Lisa Ryan repeated her question regarding the annual cost, to which Select Board member James Volz responded close to \$4,000 annually. Select Board chair Alexandra Thayer explained that the decision to discontinue the videotaping was a fiscal issue mindful of people saying that taxes are too high, but because of the response from the community to continue videotaping, it is possible to amend the budget. Bram Towbin noted that Select Board videographer Keith Swann was videotaping today's Town Meeting for free, to which meeting participants responded with applause. Glenda Bissex, quoting from the minutes of the 2/10/20 Select Board meeting, stated that in response to a question regarding the annual cost for videotaping meetings, Thayer responded \$2,940. **The Select Board Report was accepted.**
- **WATER/WASTEWATER COMMISSION REPORT: Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Water/Wastewater Report. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The Water/Wastewater Commission Report was accepted.**
- **TOWN CONSTABLE/ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT: Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Town Constable/Animal Control Report. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **Town Constable/Animal Control Report was accepted.**
- **CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Conservation Commission Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Conservation Commission chair Sarah Albert noted that there is a stand in the room with handouts from the Conservation Commission; that there will be a tree and shrub sale again this year; that Joanne Garton from Vermont Forests, Parks, and Recreation will be presenting the results of the roadside Emerald Ash Bore survey taken in Plainfield last summer at a meeting on 3/12/20; and that the Conservation Commission is looking for new members

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

to help with some newly proposed projects. **The Conservation Commission Report was accepted.**

- **E911 REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the E911 Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The E911 Report was accepted.**
- **FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Fire and Rescue Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Fire Chief Greg Light thanked Pat Martin, who served as the Plainfield Fire Chief for 23 years, and to Gary Graves, whose community service totals 50 years. Meeting participants responded with applause to each. Light strongly recommended that residents replace any smoke detectors that have been up for more than 10 years, and appealed to people not to drive around detour signs. Light stated that Fire and Rescue is always looking for volunteers to help in any way they can, and noted that the department has over 300 years of combined service, to which meeting participants responded with applause. **The Fire and Rescue Report was accepted.**
- **HAZARD MITIGATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Hazard Mitigation Committee Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Hazard Mitigation Committee chair Amos Meacham noted that there are openings on the committee. Much of the committee's activities have centered on the Marshfield Dam. A forum is coming up on 5/23/20 regarding preparations for people at risk during a disaster. Alexandra Thayer noted that there is a survey on the Hazard Mitigation table that the committee would like residents to complete. Hazard Mitigation Committee secretary Michael Billingsley noted that Amos Meacham will be stepping down as chair of the committee and thanked him for his service, to which meeting participants responded with applause. Billingsley stated that Alice Dworkin will be joining the committee, and noted that there is one more opening available that he hopes will be filled by someone from the first-responder community. Billingsley announced that there will be a forum on 3/19/20 to gather public input on proposed alternatives and other issues around the Brook Road Bridge Replacement project. Billingsley asked that those with household members or neighbors that might need special help during an emergency present those issues during the 5/23/20 forum that Meacham spoke about earlier. Thayer encouraged people to sign up for VT-Alert, which is an emergency notification system that provides current weather and health information. Brenda Lindemann asked if the committee had any information on the coronavirus. Thayer stated that Vermont Governor Phil Scott had recently put together a task force on it. She noted that many of the same precautions to avoid the seasonal flu can help to protect from other viruses. Janna Osman stated that Mark Tucker of the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union has provided information regarding

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

precautions that children and teachers can take. Winona Johnson asked if that information was available on the website, to which Osman responded that it should be, and will forward a link to Thayer to post on Front Porch Forum. **The Hazard Mitigation Committee Report was accepted.**

- **RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Recreation Committee Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The Recreation Committee Report was accepted.**
- **CEMETERY COMMISSION REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Cemetery Commission Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Cemetery Commission member Ed Hutchinson solicited for volunteers, stating that there are vacancies on the five-member commission, which cannot do business without a quorum of three members present. He spoke about the difficulties involved in removing a fair number of diseased pine trees around the cemetery due to an adjacent wetland mitigation project. **The Cemetery Commission Report was accepted.**
- **ENERGY COORDINATOR REPORT: Scott Stewart made a motion to accept the Energy Coordinator Report. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** Energy Coordinator Bob Atchinson noted the work that the Revitalizing All Marshfield and Plainfield (RAMP) project has been doing. He directed meeting participants to a table with literature on energy-related issues and encouraged people to sign up for one of the 30 home energy visits available to Plainfield and Marshfield through Efficiency Vermont. Atchinson announced that there will be a RAMP-sponsored Community Transportation Week starting 5/2/20 through 5/8/20 with many activities planned. He reported on changes to the buses traveling between Montpelier and Saint Johnsbury, noting that the fare will remain free, and that there are new ways to connect to areas via public transportation that previously did not exist. Glenda Bissex thanked Atchinson for all the needed and timely energy-related activity and asked how the gap was being filled between the donations collected by users of the Mill Street electric vehicle charging station and its operation costs. Atchinson responded that it comes from the Town's general fund, explaining that the honor system for collecting fees is being used because of the costly amount to install equipment that charges according to exact usage. James Volz thanked Atchinson for all the work he does on energy issues, to which meeting participants responded with applause. Responding to a question from Brenda Lindemann regarding the Hitching Post, Atchinson explained the concept of connecting neighbors both driving and needing rides through a number of pick-up locations. RAMP Transportation Committee member Nancy Ellen reported on the work being done currently to install a Hitching Post location at the corner of Main and Mill

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Streets in the Village. Meg Davis inquired as to how drivers are being educated on the Hitching Post concept, to which Alexandra Thayer noted the various ways it has been publicized as well as inviting people to attend the 3/9/20 Select Board meeting where it will be on the agenda. Jesse Cooper stated that during the process of updating the Town Plan, it was found that public transportation usage has been steadily declining since 2012, and that it will be interesting to see if a model such as the Hitching Post will grow in popularity. Nancy Ellen noted that the Hitching Post has both a website and Facebook page and that there will be a celebration regarding the installation of new locations in the area. **The Energy Coordinator Report was accepted.**

- **CV FIBER REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the CV Fiber Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The CV Fiber Report was accepted.**
- **TOWN HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Town Health Officer's Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The Town Health Officer's Report was accepted.**
- **CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REPORT: Tim Phillips made a motion to accept the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Report. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Conservation Commission chair Sarah Albert stated that after 7/1/20, a law will go into effect regarding recycling food waste, and noted that the Conservation Commission will be holding a composting workshop this spring. Betsy Ziegler stated that composting containers are available for reasonable prices through the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) from its office in Montpelier. Ziegler explained some of the types available as well as places to drop off compost. Paula Emery asked about some of the issues that have arisen around composting in the Village. Town Health Officer Baylen Slote reported that there is a rodent issue in the Village and that he is exploring options for rolling out universal recycling laws and possibly developing rodent proof communal composting in the Village. With regard to the coronavirus, Slote noted that there is an epidemic of fear surrounding the issue and that there are some practical steps that can be taken to protect yourself, including increasing your health with advanced treatment protocols to help ward off contagion. Steven Farnham asked if those taking immunosuppressant drugs are at a higher risk, to which Slote responded affirmatively, repeating that such practical steps as washing one's hands will help. Paul Emery inquired if Village residents are being asked not to compost at this time.

Alexandra Thayer responded that the Town has not yet applied a standard to deal with the issue, however, those who compost should be thoughtful

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about how secure their compost structure is. James Volz noted that there are rat-proof bins, and Slote raised the possibilities of setting up a community compost bin or training on rodent-proof composting solutions. Betsy Ziegler stated that green cones are rodent proof, but there is no way to retrieve the compost. Janice Walrafen asked if money was available through CVSWD to help towns with this new mandatory composting ordinance and noted that the North Branch Nature Center collects compost in rodent-proof bins. Slote added that Vermont Compost also takes food scraps and that compost hauling services are available. Michael Carriveau stated that rodents are only a small portion of the wildlife that composting draws, and that raccoons and bears are more dangerous. Slote agreed, but stated that as a health officer, he is responding to the rodent issue that residents are raising. Slote noted that he has spoken to the individual who is dropping food at the Recreation Field or Park and Ride. Camilla Kelly-Kinniburgh stated that a lidded metal garbage can with the bottom removed and partially sunk into the ground is rodent proof. Betsy Ziegler noted that CVSWMMD will be offering composting workshops in Montpelier and Barre and that there might be one offered in Plainfield. Becky Atchinson stated there will be one offered in Plainfield at the end of June, but that the date has not yet been set. **The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Report was accepted.**

- Moderator Barasch concluded the Reports of Town Officers portion of the meeting. He noted that there is a volunteer form in the back of the Town Report for those interested in filling open seats on committees and boards.
- Thayer announced that Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells has been involved in the Town Clerk's office for 25 years, to which the meeting participants responded with applause. Wells was presented with a card, a vase of flowers, and a gift certificate to one of her favorite restaurants. Wells thanked everyone, and, noting the increasing amount of work that the Town Clerk's office is tasked with, stated that she could not do this without Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer Carol Smith. There was another round of applause for Smith.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,333.00 as its share of the ninth year cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier? This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and passenger fares.

- **Steven Farnham made a motion to approve Article 3. Amos Meacham seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town voters authorize the expenditures for the following not-for-profit service agencies as recommended by the appointed Social Concerns Committee?

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Central VT Adult Basic Education \$ 400.00
Capstone (Central VT) Comm. Action \$ 500.00
Central VT Council on Aging \$ 1,300.00
Central VT Home Health Hospice \$ 2,500.00
Family Center of Wash County \$ 500.00
Good Beginnings of Central VT \$ 300.00
Green Mountain Transit Agency \$ 786.00
Our House \$ 150.00
People's Health and Wellness \$ 750.00
Twinfield Learning Center \$ 400.00
Twinfield Together Mentoring \$ 250.00
Twin Valley Senior Center \$ 3,500.00
VT Center for Independent Living \$ 100.00
VT Family Network \$ 100.00
Washington CTY Mental Health \$ 600.00
Washington CTY Youth Service Bureau \$ 500.00

Total \$12,636.00

- **Scott Stewart made a motion to approve Article 4. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** Jamie Spector asked why the Select Board changed the funding for Our House from \$250 to \$150. Select Board member James Volz responded that the Select Board gave a lot of weight to the recommendations of the Social Concerns Committee, but felt that those agencies that did not submit a request should not receive funding or, if so, at the level of what was approved last year. Spector stated that her question was specifically about Our House, which did submit a request for \$250, but was given only \$150. Select Board chair Alexandra Thayer noted the steep increase in the cost of health insurance, that Plainfield residents have stated that it is difficult to pay their taxes, and that Our House serves only five people. Select Board member Tammy Farnham added that the Town's current allocation to Our House is \$50 more than it was last year. Noting the importance of the Onion River Food Shelf (ORFS) in terms of food security, Michael Billingsley stated his frustration that the Select Board did follow the Social Concerns Committee's recommendation of \$1,000, despite the fact that the organization did not submit a request. Thayer responded that the protocol set up is to respond to funding requests and there was no request made by the ORFS; nor did ORFS subsequently petition for funding after the deadline. Noting the confusion around the information printed in the Town Report, Lisa Ryan suggested that it should be clear in the Town Report what the Social Concerns Committee recommended and what was changed by the Select Board. Carla Siegel asked why ORFS did not submit a request, to which no one responded. Amos Meacham echoed his support of the work of the Social Concerns Committee and noted that the total Social Concerns budget was almost

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\$1,000 less than last year. **Amos Meacham made a motion to amend the Social Concerns budget to fund Circle for a total amount of \$525, Onion River Food Shelf for a total amount of \$1,000, and add \$100 to Our House. Lisa Ryan seconded the motion to amend. The motion to amend was approved.**

Steven Farnham expressed his appreciation to the Select Board for its vigilance as guardians of the Town's finances, however, agreed that what gets published in the Town Report should be what the Social Concerns Committee expressed. Farnham asked the Social Concerns Committee to address why the process of not considering funding for organizations that do not submit requests was not followed. Committee member Sarah Albert responded that the committee felt bad that because the Onion River Food Shelf did not submit a request, it would not receive funding. She added that she was disappointed that it did not follow up with a petition for funding. Linda Wells noted that Assistant Town Clerk Carol Smith contacted ORFS to remind it about the petition process. Carol Smith added that she had to tell other organizations that did not get their requests in by the deadline that it was too late, and felt it was unfair that those organizations were not added as well. Ed Hutchinson was concerned about the abuse of process where the Social Concerns Committee recommended funding for those that did make requests. Alexandra Thayer agreed that the Social Concerns Committee's report should go into the Town Report as written, with any Select Board changes clearly noted, but felt that the Town is disregarding the effort of those organizations that do follow the process. James Volz added that it also provides an incentive for not submitting a request, and recommended that only those who follow the process be considered. Michelle Clark suggested a compromise to follow the Social Concerns Committee recommendations this time, but send a letter to those who were funded without a request that states that the Town will not be able to provide funding in the future without a request. As a retired executive director of an organization that sought funding from towns, Peter Youngbaer noted that Plainfield has a reputation of having a rigorous review process that, if not followed, will result in not being funded. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town voters authorize an appropriation of \$37,500 to the Cutler Memorial Library to pay for the librarian and the purchase of materials and services that the library acquires to make accessible to the community?

- **Steven Farnham made a motion to approve Article 5. John Monahan seconded the motion.** Hearing no objections, Moderator Barasch granted Cutler Memorial Librarian, and non-resident, Loona Brogan permission to speak. Brogan thanked the Friends of the Library and announced a film entitled, *One Town at a Time*, that will be shown at the Library on 3/6/20. Brogan thanked outgoing board chair Marcy Hale, to which meeting participants responded with

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applause. Brogan thanked the Town for its assistance in obtaining a planning grant for Cutler Library expansion. Marcy Hale thanked Candace Beardsley at Spruce Mountain Inn for providing an interest-free loan of \$10,000 to the Library to cover grant expenses before funding was received. Hale noted that it is her last month serving on the board and that Carla Siegel will be replacing her, both point to which participants responded with applause. Michael Billingsley announced that the Friends of the Cutler Memorial Library will be sponsoring a community supper on 4/28/20, noting that there also would be one in March. Brenda Lindemann asked whether the Library had a program for children, to which Brogan responded that there is not an ongoing program at this time due to lack of parking and interior Library space, but that the Library circulates a lot of children's books and that many families come in on their own schedules. The Library is looking at parking lot expansion grants to alleviate that issue. Nicola Morris thanked Brogan for her diligence, dedication, and creativity in her job at the Library, to which participants responded with applause. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town establish a Municipal Building Maintenance Reserve Fund for future building maintenance of the municipal building?

- **Scott Stewart made a motion to approve Article 6. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** Amos Meacham asked if this was a new fund, to which Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells responded affirmatively, adding that part of the reason was because the Town no longer has revenue coming in from the rental area upstairs in the municipal building. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town fund the Municipal Building Maintenance Reserve Fund with any unexpended budget funds in the Municipal Building Maintenance and Repairs budget line item?

- **Scott Stewart made a motion to approve Article 7. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 8: To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay for the Water Department for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021?

- **Water/Wastewater Commissioner Tim Phillips made a motion to appropriate the amount of \$228,218 for the Water Department to be paid for by the users of the system for the period of 7/1/20 to 6/30/21. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** As a customer of the Water Department for an apartment house on the system, Bob Atchinson asked if users are now being charged by the gallon rather than by housing units. Phillips responded that at this time no changes have been made to the billing structure that has been in place for many years, however, one of the things that the Commission wants to do in the coming year is to look at changing how the bills are calculated. The Commission now has usage numbers from meters that were installed

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four years ago, and it needs to figure out how to use those numbers correctly because there is a certain amount of money needed to run the system. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 9: To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay for the Wastewater Department for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

- **Water/Wastewater Commissioner Tim Phillips made a motion to appropriate the amount of \$311,315 for the Wastewater Department to be paid for by the users of the system for the period of 7/1/20 to 6/30/21. Scott Stewart seconded the motion.** Michael Billingsley asked how many users were on the system. Water/Wastewater Department System Operator Tristan MacGregor Stewart responded that there are roughly 300 connections serving roughly 1,000 people for both systems. Stating that she was not a user of the system, Select Board chair Alexandra Thayer expressed her appreciation to the two employees of the Water/Wastewater Department, the three members of the Water/Wastewater Commission, and Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer Carol Smith for the work they all do, to which meeting participants responded with applause. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 10: To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay for highways, bridges, fire department, and administrative operations of the Town of Plainfield for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

- **Glenda Bissex made a motion to appropriate \$1,027,794 to pay for highways, bridges, fire department, and administrative operations of the Town of Plainfield for the period of 7/1/20 to 6/30/21. Sarah Albert seconded the motion.** On behalf of Road Foreman Mike Nolan, Road Commissioner Bram Towbin requested that during mud season, anyone expecting deliveries by truck to their houses touch base with Nolan at 454-7166 and leave a message prior to making delivery arrangements. This does not include FedEx and milk delivery trucks. Acknowledging the good work that the Road Crew does on the roads, Deborah Stoleroff asked if, during mud season and especially on highly trafficked roads, traffic can be diverted before the roads get damaged. Agreeing that it was a great idea, Towbin responded that because the Town receives State funding for those roads, the Town is prohibited from blocking traffic. Stoleroff inquired if drivers can be asked not to travel those roads, to which Towbin responded that the Road Crew has made requests, but with mixed results. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town of Plainfield authorize the Selectboard to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year?

- **Scott Stewart made a motion to approve Article 11. Tim Phillips seconded the motion.** Michael Billingsley asked if the Select Board can explain if unexpended monies from previous Emergency Management budgets were

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available for future emergency management needs or if they went back into the general fund. Select Board chair Alexandra Thayer responded that she has been in touch with Goddard College, the Health Department, and the Red Cross regarding issues around an emergency shelter in Plainfield, but that no monies have yet been expended. Thayer added that replacing the generator at the Town Hall Opera House, which is not very robust, might be one of the ways those monies can be used. Thayer has also been in discussion with the Maple Hill School, which is in Marshfield. Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells stated that an emergency management reserve fund was established last year, and Thayer noted that half of what was left in the emergency management budget line item was put into the reserve fund. Amos Meacham inquired about the process of putting unexpended monies into reserve funds, asking if reserve funds receive those funds first before any monies are returned to the general fund. Wells responded that the reserve funds are in the budget, and if the Town went way over budget and there was no surplus, those reserve funds would not be funded. Conservation Commission chair Sarah Albert noted the Town Woodlands fund and the Street Tree fund are not budgeted items; the Town Woodlands fund gets funded by any logging in the Town Forest and the Street Tree fund gets the proceeds from the tree and shrub sale. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of public statutes relating to the collection of taxes by the Town Treasurer, (VSA 32 Section 4791) and vote to collect municipal taxes thirty days from mailing and not prior to August 12, 2020 and collect school taxes on November 18, 2020 and February 10, 2021, collecting half of the total school taxes on each of those dates?

- **Tim Phillips made a motion to approve Article 12. Dan Marcus seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The motion was approved.**

ARTICLE 13: To transact any other non-binding business that may properly come before the meeting.

- **Lisa Ryan made a motion that Town Reports be published as submitted, or if changed or modified, that those changes be duly noted in the Town Report along with the entity that made the change. Dave Montgomery seconded the motion.** Steven Farnham stated that a better way to solve the problem is to have the Select Board and the person submitting the report agree on what is going into the Town Report before it is published rather than noting changes made after the reports are submitted. Select Board member James Volz stated that the Select Board thought that that was already happening, adding that no one knows how the particular report in question got changed. Select Board chair Alexandra Thayer noted that if the Auditors are responsible for what gets printed in the Town Report, they should flag discrepancies before it is printed. Select Board member Tammy Farnham stated that the Select Board

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was not aware of any changes and that it was not the Select Board's intention. A comment was made that if reports were submitted earlier, it might provide the time to discuss and agree on any changes, which is the standard process for publishing anything. Steven Farnham noted that the process and those submitting reports should be trusted, and he invited people to vote against the amendment. **The motion was approved.**

- Energy Coordinator Bob Atchinson presented a Declaration of a Climate Emergency from the Town of Plainfield, noting that the intention was to know that the problem exists, embrace it, and take some action steps regarding it. **Bob Atchinson made a motion that Plainfield adopt this declaration of climate emergency and that we therefore act as if there is an emergency, with the understanding that it is non-binding. Sarah Albert seconded the motion.** There was no objection to not reading the declaration aloud. Mike Carriveau stated that he felt that the declaration is way beyond what should be happening, noting that issues such as acid rain and global warming, which were once of great concern, went away. Now the issue is climate change, which we are taxing willingly to bring in money. He stated that Vermont has the lowest rate of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States and what we do have is coming from the south and west, that every year advances in technology diminish the amount of carbon dioxide emissions, and that the trees are doing the job of taking up carbon dioxide and producing oxygen. Carriveau stated that efforts going into curbing carbon dioxide emissions should be put into things that we can do something about such as composting, and that taxing ourselves on carbon dioxide emissions is self-defeating. Michael Billingsley noted that climate-assessment experts have laid out the kinds of climate-related difficulties that we are currently in the middle of, and those that we can expect in the future are probably bigger than we imagine. He stated that many major cities in Canada declared a climate emergency two years ago and, subsequently, its federal government proclaimed a climate emergency nationally. Billingsley stated that the problem is not with taxes, but allocating existing resources to respond to climate-related events. Elaine Parker noted that she recently heard on the radio that the state most responsible for emissions per capita is Vermont. James Volz noted that the statistic was for New England. **Deborah Stoleroff made a motion to call the question. Sarah Albert seconded the motion.** Moderator Barasch stated that the motion requires a two-thirds vote. Noting that the verbal vote was inconclusive, Moderator Barasch asked those wishing to vote yes to stop the debate stand and raise their hands while the votes were being counted. This was followed by asking those opposed to stopping debate to do the same. Moderator Barasch announced that the vote was 25 in favor of calling the question to 11 opposed. **The motion to call the question passed by a two-thirds vote and was approved.** Prior to a vote on the declaration,

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Moderator Barasch decided to read it aloud. The declaration follows:

Declaration of a Climate Emergency

Town of Plainfield, VT

(For adoption by the citizens of Plainfield at Town Meeting, March 3, 2020)

- **WHEREAS**, in April 2016 world leaders recognized the urgent need to combat climate change by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep global warming “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and to “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C”.
- According to the United Nations’ Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty, 1.5°C of global warming could expose 500 million people to water poverty, 36 million people to food insecurity because of lower crop yields, and 4.5 billion people to heat waves.
- Later, in October 2018, the United Nations International Panel on Climate Change released a special report, which projected that limiting warming to even the dangerous 1.5°C target this century will require an unprecedented transformation of every sector of the global economy by 2030.
- The death and destruction already wrought by current average global warming of 1°C demonstrates that the Earth is already too hot for safety and justice, as attested by increased incidents of wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts, and extreme weather events;
- **WHEREAS**, the United States of America has disproportionately contributed to the climate and ecological emergencies and thus bears an extraordinary responsibility to rapidly solve these crises;
- **WHEREAS**, Emergency Climate Mobilization is imperative to immediately end the use of fossil fuels, to massively reduce our daily usage of energy, to obtain all necessary energy from renewable sources, and to begin the drawdown of carbon from the Earth’s atmosphere. The measures to restore a safe climate must include:
 - A rapid, just, managed phase-out of fossil fuels,
 - Elimination of greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible to establish a zero emissions economy,
 - A widespread effort to safely drawdown excess carbon from the atmosphere, ○ A full transition to a regenerative agriculture system, and
 - Prevention of the Sixth Mass Extinction through widespread conservation and restoration of ecosystems;

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- **WHEREAS**, the massive scope and scale of the actions necessary to stabilize the climate and biosphere will require unprecedented levels of public awareness, engagement, and deliberation to develop and implement effective, just, and equitable policies to address the climate emergency.
- **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** We, the Citizens of the Town of Plainfield do hereby **Declare a Climate-Driven, Economic and Ecological Emergency**. We acknowledge that we must reverse or reject all policies not in alignment with this declaration and must work alongside, or in spite of, the media to communicate this urgency for change, and must develop a plan of action, which individuals, communities, businesses, and governments must initiate now.
- **Be It Further Resolved That:** We, the Citizens and Government of the Town of Plainfield must and will, enact legally-binding policies to reduce carbon emissions to **Net-Zero* by 2030** by take taking bold actions, such as weatherizing our buildings, electrifying vehicle fleets, supporting public transit, rapidly increasing renewable energy generation, and maintaining our forests for sequestering of carbon to remove the excess of atmospheric greenhouse gases;
- **Be It Further Resolved That:** Plainfield can and will act as a regional leader through initiating this emergency climate mobilization to convert to an ecologically, socially, and economically regenerative local economy at emergency speed, as well as advocating for the statewide, regional, national, and international efforts necessary to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis;
- **Be It Further Resolved That:** Climate Justice requires that frontline and marginalized communities, which have historically borne the brunt of the extractive fossil-fuel economy, participate actively in the planning and implementation of this emergency mobilization effort and that they benefit first from the transition to a climate-safe economy, which mitigates the effects of ongoing ecocide, (the complete destruction of an ecosystem due to human activities), to prevent extinction of human and all species, in order to maintain a livable, just Planet for all.

* Net Zero Energy means that a building or community balances its energy needs with energy produced from renewable, zero-emission sources.

The motion that Plainfield adopt this declaration of climate emergency and that we therefore act as if there is an emergency, with the understanding that it is non-binding, was approved.

- Alexandra Thayer announced that there are documents related to the Main Street/Route 2 intersection that have been posted to the Town website. A forum

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020

will be held for community input, but the date has not yet been set. Tammy Farnham stated that the first piece that needs to happen is feedback from the community on the design. James Volz noted that most of the problems with the design have to do with implementation, therefore if residents do not wish to move forward with the current design, then there is no concern about its implementation. Peter Youngbaer stated that his concerns are not with the design, but with the implementation and that if we say yes to a design without reassurance on the implementation process, then it will create a serious problem. Youngbaer asked if there was a drop-dead date that the Vermont Department of Transportation (VAOT) needs to hear from the Town. Thayer responded that if the Town does not endorse the design, the project goes on the back burner, but was not aware of a drop-dead date. Youngbaer stated that he had heard from VAOT that it wants to do the project in concert with the reconstruction of Route 2 in 2023, which, given all that would need to happen at the Legislature before then, means that we would need to know when the drop-dead date is. Thayer noted that the Select Board could ask VAOT when the deadline is, to which Youngbaer responded that the Select Board itself could set the deadline and ask the community for feedback by then. Thayer asked Youngbaer to review the minutes from a meeting on the project back in 2014 where there was a vibrant and lengthy discussion on project design, and posed the question of how to get people's feedback who may not be able to attend a forum. Youngbaer noted that now the questions are about implementation and how to deal with such ramifications as alternative bridges, alternate roads, etc., which are 100% on the Town and none of which came out at the 2014 meeting. He stated that he is looking for leadership from the Select Board to tell community members when they need to provide their feedback. Paula Emery asked how the Select Board wants to receive input. Farnham responded that it will start with the forum and from there identify if the community finds the design acceptable; at this point, the Town has no power to negotiate because it has not said yes to the design.

- Dave Spence made a motion to adjourn at 1:45pm. Alexandra Thayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Wyckoff

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The COVID pandemic continues to affect all of us in some way including the annual town meeting. For the first time since I started in 1995, we will not be able to have open Town Meeting. The only thing normal is that the voting polls will be open at the Town Hall from 9am-7pm.

We will miss the Fireman's Club coffee, donuts, and chili, the lovely primroses for sale by the Cutler Library, displays by committees, all the faces in the gallery, hand raising and discussions, and the sound of the gavel by Moderator Charlie Barasch!

All articles being considered this year will be decided by Australian ballot including officers and other articles we generally consider from the floor during our usual town meeting.

We mailed voter postcards to you folks so you may request absentee ballots as we did for the General election this past November, due to the continuation of the pandemic.

We will be mailing absentee ballots to all of you that have returned your absentee request postcard to us the second week of March. If you have not returned your postage paid absentee request postcard, please mail today!

Voter Information

New Online Voter Registration Tool – allows all eligible Vermonters to submit their voter registration application online anytime and anywhere they can access the internet; and

New “My Voter Page” – online resource that allows every registered voter to login and have access to a unique, voter-specific web page where they can request an absentee ballot, track its status, update their voter registration record, find their polling place, view a sample ballot, and much more.

The online voter registration page can be found at: <https://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/voters/registration.aspx> Just click on Register to vote online.

My Voter Page login can be found at <https://mvp.sec.state.vt.us/>

The following services are still being done by our office, by appointment only.

DMV motor vehicle renewals can be done here for your convenience. The renewal fee is \$3.00 per renewal. Registration renewals can now be done 24 hours a day. You can go online to <http://www.vermont.gov/expressrenewal> or by phone at 866-259-5368. DMV also has a second Mobile Van unit that travels around the state for your convenience. The schedule can be checked online at <http://www.aot.state.vt.us/dmv>

Since 2017, the State of VT has been working on Act 46 to enhance the security of birth and death certificates and to ensure better protection against misuse of the

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

documents and to reduce the risk of identity theft. Effective July 1, 2019, all vital records are processed online. You can apply for certified copies at any VT Town or City Clerk's office, or at VT State Archives, VT Dept of Health Vital Records, or online at: secure.vermont.gov/VSARA/vitalrecords. You must provide valid identification to apply.

Green Mountain Passports can be purchased here at the clerk's office. To be eligible you must be a resident of Vermont and 62 years of age or older or, a Veteran of the uniformed services. The passport entitles you to free admission to VT State Parks (excluding overnight camping and other park fees), VT State Historic Sites, and events which are fully State sponsored.

To receive a passport, you can complete an application and pay a \$2.00 fee here at the clerk's office, proper identification is required. This year we issued passports.

Homestead Declarations

The education funding system approved by the Vermont legislature continues to be time consuming for this office processing multiple corrected tax bills. **The State changed the law in 2013 so you must file YOUR HOMESTEAD every year by April 15!**

The state sends education tax rebate money directly to the schools and this is reflected on your tax bill. Late filing of your income taxes creates multiple billings to be processed by this office. If you receive an amended tax bill and your taxes are paid by your escrow company, **please notify your escrow of any corrected paperwork you may receive from this office so the correct amount is paid and paid timely. We do NOT notify your escrow company.**

Dog Licensing is required by Vermont State Law

Registering your dog is a VERMONT STATE LAW. For everyone's protection, including your dog, stop in and register your dog before APRIL 1ST, 2021.

We have suggested to residents to register their dogs through mail and telephone calls but there are still many dogs that are not registered. **PLEASE REGISTER YOUR DOGS!**

Effective July 1, 2015, the State of VT has increased dog licensing by \$1.00 to increase the dog, cat, and wolf-hybrid spaying and neutering program. We collect these fees on the town level here and submit them to the State Treasurer.

The current dog license fees are \$9.00 for spayed/neutered and \$13.00 for unsprayed/neutered.

We can process your dog license by mail, just give us a call and we can assist you. If you forget to register your dog by April 1st, you are still required to register your

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

dog. After April 1st, the registration fees are \$11.00 for spayed/neutered and \$17.00 for unsprayed/neutered.

PACE

The town adopted a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) District in 2011. This program is to assist property owners within Plainfield with the acquisition, construction, or installation of certain eligible energy efficient improvements to their homes. Eligible property owners who choose to participate in the program can apply for funds up front of installing energy improvements. Efficiency Vermont is the administrator of the program for the town. For further information, contact them at PACE@efficiencyvermont.com or 1-888-921-5990.

Fuel Assistance

In 2000, an anonymous contribution was made for a Fuel Assistance Fund. These funds are available to community members as supplemental funding and secondary to other local assistance programs. To find out more information or apply for funds call the town clerks office.

I want to express many thanks to Carol who does a great job keeping the busy front office humming along! I also want to thank our Election officials for doing an amazing job every year volunteering their time to help keep our elections running smoothly from the beginning by poll sitting to counting ballots late in the evening. You all make my job easier!

Town of Plainfield Vacancies

Cemetery Commission

The Cemetery Commission acts as stewards for maintenance and use of our five cemeteries, and approves all expenditures of the permanent funds. Volunteers are responsible for contracting services, determining policy concerning the cemeteries' use, and maintaining consistency with applicable laws.

Conservation Commission – the commission oversees the natural resources of the town by managing the town forest, the Conservation Fund, assisting with Green Up and other needs in the town.

Development Review Board (DRB) – The DRB hears all appeals of the Zoning Administrator and reviews applications for development.

Fuel Assistance Committee – We received an anonymous donation for a fuel assistance fund. The committee meets as needed when applications for fuel assistance are submitted.

Planning Commission – The Planning Commission manages planning and zoning bylaw development.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Plainfield Fire and Rescue Department

We are always looking for volunteers! Plainfield's Fire and Rescue Department needs people who enjoy serving the community—the job can be incredibly satisfying, especially when helping your neighbors. Volunteering for the Fire and Rescue Department can take many different forms depending on your available time and desire of commitment. If you would like to join a fun team and help strengthen our service, please contact Fire Chief Greg Light or any Fire and Rescue department member.

Please consider serving in one of these positions or committees. There is a volunteer form in the back of the town report to complete and return to the town office.

Linda B .Wells. Town Clerk and Treasurer

**PLAINFIELD TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020**

Cash on hand July 1, 2019		772,497.14
REVENUE		
Current Taxes Town	830,293.82	
Current Taxes School	1,502,210.97	
Interim School Tax and Interest	28,144.20	
Delinquent Taxes	140,404.66	
Delinquent Tax Interest	7,543.28	
Delinquent Tax Penalty	11,231.57	
State Aid to Highway	96,712.65	
Highway Grants/Misc Income	87,112.98	
Conservation Commission	3,605.50	
Zoning Permits	1,230.00	
CU Terminants and Harmless	67,920.00	
Municipal State tax credits	42,217.50	
REAPP	5,278.50	
Dog Licenses	915.00	
Liquor Licenses	300.00	
Marriage Licenses	90.00	
Recording and Fees	12,539.00	
Vault/Computerization Funds	4,338.00	
Judicial Income	2,652.56	
Interest Income	1,809.93	
Municipal Building Rent	4,050.00	
Fire/Rescue Grants/Misc Income	5,500.00	
Grant Income	1,000.00	
Green Up Grant(2yrs)	229.94	
Town Hall Donations/Rental	12,572.10	
Miscellaneous Revenue	653.84	
Recreation Dept Income	33.00	
Solar Charge Station	56.86	
Main St Bike/Pedestrian project	18,870.38	
CDBG grant reimbursement	36,233.58	
Cemetery Income	32,700.00	
Investment transfer due to Town	25,500.00	
	2,983,949.82	2,983,949.82
TOTAL CASH ON HAND & REVENUE		3,756,446.96

PLAINFIELD TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

Expenses		
Selectboard	361,815.57	
Fire Dept	140,272.05	
Highway	699,928.02	
Social Concerns	60,394.00	
Twinfield Union School	1,630,337.82	
Cemetery	28,635.46	
Total Town Expenses	2,921,382.92	
TOTAL REVENUE		3,756,446.96
TOTAL EXPENSES		(2,921,382.92)
ON HAND JUNE 30, 2020		835,064.04
RESERVED FUNDS		662,069.72
UNRESERVED FUNDS		172,994.32

**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD BALANCE SHEET
JULY 1 2019 - JUNE 30 2020**

ASSETS:

Reserved Funds	659,069.72	
Unreserved Funds	175,994.32	
Total Current Assets		\$835,064.04

FIXED ASSETS:

	Solar Array	Highway	Mun Bldg	Fire Dept	
Purchased prior years	30,000.00	1,148,886.95	149,900.00		
Purchased this year	-	-	-	-	
Total Fixed Assets	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>1,148,886.95</u>	<u>149,900.00</u>	<u>318,000.00</u>	1,646,786.95
Accumulated depreciation	(18,000.00)	(903,433.45)	(74,979.95)	(31,800.00)	(1,028,213.40)
Current year depreciation	(6,000.00)	(29,324.50)	(4,996.67)	(31,800.00)	(72,121.17)
Total Net Equipment Assets	<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>216,129.00</u>	<u>69,923.38</u>	<u>254,400.00</u>	<u>546,452.38</u>

Grand Total Assets		<u><u>1,381,516.42</u></u>
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CURRENT LIABILITIES:

Accounts Payable		15,984.68	
Notes Payable			
HWY \$60,000 Equip Loan			
Payment due 12/31/20		20,000.00	
SB \$16,789.34 Revolving Loan-Town Hall			
Payment due 6/30/21		5,279.28	
SB \$17,390.38 Solar Array Loan			
Payment due 07/27/2021		3,000.00	
FD \$154,000.00 Freightliner Truck			
Payment due 6/30/21		20,000.00	
Total Current Liabilities			64,263.96

LONG TERM LIABILITIES:

Notes Payable			
HWY Equip Loan-2023			
\$20,000 annual payment		40,000.00	
SB Revolving Loan-2024			
\$5,200 estimated annual payment		11,510.06	
SB Solar Array Loan-2025			
\$3,000 annual payment		14,390.38	
FD Freightliner Truck-2027			
\$20,000 annual payment		134,000.00	
Total Long Term Liabilities			199,900.44

Fund Balance 6/30/19	\$1,075,129.58	
Interim cash flow	42,222.44	
Fund Balance 6/30/20		1,117,352.02
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance		<u><u>1,381,516.42</u></u>

**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD BALANCE SHEET
JULY 1 2019 - JUNE 30 2020**

ASSETS

Reserved Funds

Computerization Fund	22,379.97
Conservation Commission Tree CD Fund	9,469.57
Conservation Fund	20,283.42
Current Use Funds/Training Funds	141,465.38
Emergency Operation Center & Shelter	2,001.32
FD Equipment Fund/Health Grant CD Fund	75,195.88
FD Building Improvements	45,855.97
FD Personal Protection Equip	12,400.05
Fuel Assistance Fund	3,637.47
Highway Dept Equip Fund	84,110.44
Municipal Buildings Fund	11,479.38
Municipal Building Rental Fund	88,565.61
Paving Fund	27,212.07
Recreation Equipment Fund	-
Town Hall Fund	17,031.76
Vault Preservation Fees	17,115.04
Willard Perry Fund	1,868.61
Arch Batchelder fund	61,075.42
Mitigation Reserve CD	6,625.06
HRA	5,876.98
Town Forest CD	5,420.32
2% to Municipal Building reserve	
Total Reserved funds	659,069.72
Unreserved funds	175,994.32
 Total on hand June 30, 2020	 835,064.04

**STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED
JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020**

Municipal tax

1,154,753.00	x .7859	907,520.38
1,154,753.00	x .0043	4,965.44
		912,485.82

Education tax

819,320.00	x 1.8267	1,496,652.00
338,152.00	x 1.6979	574,148.28
		2,070,800.28

Total taxes billed FY 2020 2,983,286.10

Collection of Taxes

Municipal Tax	830,293.82
Education Tax	1,529,958.73
Subtotal	2,360,252.55

Education State credits	470,441.17
Municipal State credits	42,217.50

Total credits 512,658.67

Total Collection 2,872,911.22

Total Collected 2,872,911.22

Amount to Coll of Delinquent Taxes	154,565.85
Subtotal	3,027,477.07
Final reconciliation credit from school	(46,874.91)
Total collected	2,980,602.16
Town .225% retained	2,413.94
Penalties collected	270.00
Final total	2,983,286.10

**SIMPLIFIED
STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES
DELINQUENT TOWN TAXES
JULY 1 2019 - JUNE 30 2020**

BALANCES OWED AS OF 6/30/2020

2016	4.69
2017	2405.85
2018	14760.98
2019	55648.8

BALANCE	\$72,820.32
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TOTAL COLLECTED	140,404.66
ABATED & ADJUSTED	-
TOTAL INTEREST	7,543.28
TOTAL COLLECTORS FEES	11,231.57
TOTAL LEGAL COLLECTION COSTS	35.00
TOTAL	\$159,214.51

**INTERIM REPORT
REAL ESTATE
Without Current Year (2020)**

NAME	PROPERTY	YEAR	TOTAL DUE
ABELL, STEPHEN	002-0270	2019	544.63
AUDET, STEVEN	033-1250	2019	2609.61
GRATTON-DOLE	201-0173	2019	2340.92
HART, MARK	003-0345	2017-18	4286.74
HEDDING, SUZANNE	016-0574	2019	453.51
MACLAREN, STEVE	0350/0399	2018-19	22034.64
MCCULLOUGH, KIM	038-1701	2019	1331.68
PEDUZZI, LISA	033-0300	2018-19	3962.68
SILVERIA, ANTHONY	033-0647	2017-19	4320.31
			41884.72

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DETAILED COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN CLERKS OFFICE.

PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THIS IS AN ONGOING SITUATION AND PAYMENT
MAY HAVE BEEN MADE TO REDUCE THESE TOTALS SINCE 12/31/2019.

SAVE MONEY-PAY YOUR TAXES PROMPTLY!

2020 LISTERS REPORT

Because of COVID-19, the Vermont Department of Taxes extended the deadline for filing income taxes in 2020. This meant that everything was late this year, including property tax payments and property tax bills. We are still processing changes and sending out revised property tax bills in December. We have no information at this time if there will be deadline extensions this year, so we are planning on the normal time frame.

Because of the filing delays, many people did not file their income taxes until late and therefore did not receive their property tax payment from the state before property tax bills were sent out. Even if there is an extension on the filing deadline this year, we urge you to file your income taxes and homestead declaration as early as possible to be sure your tax payment will reach the town before we send out this year's property tax bills.

Everyone who owns and lives in their primary residence in Plainfield must file a homestead declaration.

You can file the homestead declaration with a paper form or online on the Vermont.gov website. You will need last year's tax bill. On the bill you will find your Span number, which is a specific identifying number for your property, as well as the housesite information that you will be asked for.

We would be glad to help anyone file their homestead declaration, either on the paper form or online. It really is very simple and takes only a couple of minutes.

Remember, you cannot file for a homestead payment without filing a homestead declaration.

Again, because of COVID, the tax department recommended that Listers do not do interior inspections in 2020. We don't know if that will change for the coming year. We have tried to accommodate property owners and update the Grand List as best as possible. If you have any concerns or would like to talk to us about your property, please do not hesitate to call.

Don't forget, if you have any questions or concerns about your property assessment, we are always available to go over your record or take a look at your property. You don't have to wait until spring to contact us.

We are looking for a new Lister to fill Alex's term. It's an interesting and very part time job. If anyone is interested, we would love to talk to you!

Hope to see you in the spring.

Plainfield Listers

Sandra Ross

Rick Pope

Alex Forbes

2020 PLAINFIELD PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

This year the Planning Commission was able to complete work on the new draft Town Plan and hold a socially distanced public hearing that was also a public Zoom meeting. The draft plan has been sent to the Select Board who will be scheduling a public hearing on the draft. If the language is accepted the Select Board can approve the Plan and the town will have an approved Town Plan for making local decisions and be able to participate in regional and statewide projects.

The new Town Plan will act as a long-term guide for public and private initiatives that will affect the social and economic health of the community. It enables the town to take part in Act 250 hearings and Section 248 which permits energy projects such as wind and solar farms. It also enables the town to take part in municipal grants, community development, and affordable housing funds. The Town Plan sets the foundation and guidance for local zoning and subdivision regulations which are currently being worked on by the Planning Commission.

The town Zoning Ordinances have not been updated in quite a while and there are new requirements for flood and erosion controls on the town's waterways that need to be current with state and federal regulations. There are also new concepts for development and the desire to help the town grow with new technologies and the ability to adapt to Climate Change. Currently the town has 3 separate zoning ordinances which will be combined into one easier to use document with this new revision.

The Planning Commission will be holding hearings on this new ordinance in the near future to get public input. Once the language has been finalized the ordinance will go up for a town wide vote.

The Planning Commission meets currently via Zoom on the first and third Monday of each month at 7 pm. We try to post the Zoom invite on the town website ahead of time but please contact any of the Planning Commission members or the town clerk's office for further details on attending meetings or submitting comments.

Will Colgan
Karen Storey
Jesse Cooper
Baylen Sky

2020 DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD REPORT

The DRB meets on the second Wednesday of the month to attend to Town zoning matters and consider the effects of proposed developments including conditional use permits, variances, subdivisions and other permit requests that are not in the Zoning Administrator's authority.

This year, due to the pandemic, we did not meet between the months of April – August, as we did not have any business to attend to.

In the first three month's we met at the Town Office, and in March approved a major site plan revision. We resumed meeting monthly in September and had two site visits and hearings to look at historical site plan reviews for changes to existing buildings. We met outside in September and via Zoom in October, November and December.

We greatly appreciate the service of Cindy Wyckoff, our Administrative Assistant for her careful recording of the minutes, and Karen Storey, Plainfield Zoning Administrator for her guidance and commitment to our Town.

It is an honor to serve the people of Plainfield as we work and live in this community.

DRB Members: Janice Walrafen, Chair, Sarah Albert, Clerk; Elaine Parker, Alice Sky, Jim Volz.

2020 CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT TOWN OF PLAINFIELD

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington County and western Orange County. The Commission provides planning, development, and project implementation assistance to communities. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners.

2020 Plainfield Activities

- ❖ Completed road erosion inventory.
- ❖ Developed maps and assisted in updating and formatting Town Plan.
- ❖ Completed a final design project and drafted a construction grant application for stormwater treatment and gully restoration at The Health Center.
- ❖ Assisted with Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Local Emergency Management Plan updates.
- ❖ Identified bridges, culverts, and road embankments that are vulnerable to damage from floods and estimated risk of damage so that potential mitigation measures could be identified.
- ❖ Facilitated community conversations on Rt. 2/Main Street intersection project with Selectboard.
- ❖ Fostered conversation on FEMA funding opportunities for Brook Road bridge replacement.
- ❖ Supported application to Local Government Expense Reimbursement Program (LGER).
- ❖ Provided coaching for successful Bicycle and Pedestrian Program grant application.

CVRPC Projects & Programs

- ❖ *Municipal plan and bylaw updates:* Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through education, bylaw modernization, and plan updates.
- ❖ *Brownfields:* Complete environmental site assessments so properties can be sold, developed or redeveloped to benefit the community, stimulate the economy, create/protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.

**2020 CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT
TOWN OF PLAINFIELD**

- ❖ *Transportation planning:* Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions through the Transportation Advisory Committee and provide studies, plans, data collection, and counts.
- ❖ *Emergency planning:* Better prepare our region and state for disasters by coordinating with local volunteers and the state on emergency planning, exercises, and training.
- ❖ *Energy conservation and development:* Foster projects that support energy conservation to save energy and tax dollars and identify opportunities for renewable energy generation.
- ❖ *Natural resource planning and projects:* Implement activities to protect water resources/supplies, enhance recreational opportunities, maintain the forest products industry, and enhance environmental health.
- ❖ *Regional plans:* Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the development, adoption, and implementation of a regional plan.
- ❖ *Geographic Information System services:* Provide municipalities, state agencies, and regional groups with mapping and data analysis in support of their projects.
- ❖ *Special projects:* Complete special projects, such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
- ❖ *Grants:* Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, write applications, and manage projects.

The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource -- please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

2020 ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

In 2020, 22 Zoning Permits were processed as follows:

Residence, Accessory Apartments, Multi-Family	6
Site Plans (major review PUD, Historic Site, amended, exempt farm)	5
Additions to homes (room, deck, dormers and porch)	7
Accessory structures (garage, shed and pole barn)	5
Exempt Subdivisions, Boundary Line Adjustments (BLA)	1
Cottage Industry	0
Change of Use	2
Appealed	0
Reviewed by DRB (BLA, Amend PUD, Historic, Multi-Family dwelling)	4
Miscellaneous (sign)	1
Withdrawn or Tabled	1
Still being processed	2

*Note: some permits required more than one review

2020 Covid Pandemic has had a significant impact on processing Zoning Permit Application. I thank you all that have been involved in the process for your patience. A new webpage called Zoning Permits has been created on plainfieldvt.us under the heading Town Office. On this page you will find Zoning Permit Applications, Zoning Permits Granted and the Zoning Permit Application. Zoning Permit Applications will be applications under review by the Development Review Board with a link to the hearing notice. We are still working on the best way to provide these documents for public review.

Plainfield has 3 Zoning Documents: 2011 Zoning Regulations, Plainfield Inundation Regulations 2010, and Subdivision Regulations 2010. You can download these documents at plainfieldvt.us. Located under ordinances. The Planning Commission hopes to have newly adopted zoning regulations in 2021.

Please remember that all land development in Plainfield requires a zoning permit. The definition of land development is “the division of a parcel into two or more parcels, the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation, or landfill, and any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land, or extension of use of land.” This includes items such as ponds, boundary line adjustments between neighbors, driveways, and pad improvements for Recreation Vehicles on undeveloped lots.

2020 ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Zoning Administrator is available to assist you with your zoning permits and development approvals. Assistance includes review of existing property zoning records, review of applicable regulations and guidance regarding other approvals that may need to be obtained.

Please contact me with any questions about your project to determine whether or not a permit or site plan is required.

Karen Storey

Zoning Administrator

plainfieldza@gmail.com 454-7856

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PLAINFIELD SELECTBOARD FOR 2021 TOWN MEETING

The Social Concerns Committee this year consisted of Judy Cyprian, Gail Falk, and Marcy Hale.

History Each year the Town of Plainfield receives requests for funds from many different non-profit organizations. These requests are voted on at town meeting. Several years ago, the town decided to streamline this process in order to save time during Town Meeting. This committee's charge is to review requests sent to the town for funding and to make recommendations concerning these requests to the Select Board, using standard criteria for all the requests.

Funding Criteria In reviewing the requests, the Committee considers several factors:

- Number of Plainfield residents served in the past year

- The overall budget of the organization

- The scope of service of the organization (is it national, statewide, countywide, or local?)

- The amount of previous years' funding

- The uniqueness of the services provided by the organization to Plainfield residents

- How this request compares with requests from organizations of similar size and scope.

- How this request compares to requests made by the organization to towns of similar size to Plainfield..

All requests received this year were from worthy organizations. In responding to requests, the committee attempted to balance the worthy services provided by the organizations with the financial pressures faced by Plainfield taxpayers. We were guided by the amounts approved in previous years, generally favoring consistency. In some cases we would have recommended more but for the financial constraints faced by the Select Board this year. The breakdown by organization is set out below:

American Red Cross (requested \$100, recommended 0) responds to large disasters, including extreme weather events and small disasters like home fires. The Red Cross provides shelter and meals at no cost to displaced individuals and families and works to ensure that their basic human needs are met during their long journey to recovery. Ninety per cent of its work is performed by volunteers. The Red Cross also conducts blood drives, lifesaving courses, and home fire prevention training. No Plainfield residents needed help in a disaster last year, but the organization supported 23 residents of Washington County who suffered 10 disasters, mostly home fires

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PLAINFIELD SELECTBOARD FOR 2021 TOWN MEETING

Circle (formerly Battered Women’s Services and Shelter) (**requested \$525, recommend \$525**) Circle is a community-based organization dedicated to ending all forms of domestic violence. Because of confidentiality issues they do not require clients to give their town of residence, but of those who self-identified in 2020 there were 15 Plainfield residents who received services including emergency shelter, assistance with protection orders, and child-related support.

Central VT Adult Basic Education (**requested \$400, recommend \$300**) CV-ABE provides free literacy education and instruction in reading, math, writing, or English as a second language to adults and teens in Washington, Orange, and Lamoille counties, helping them to earn a high school credential and prepare for employment or college. Last year they provided services to two Plainfield residents (less than usual because of Covid).

Capstone Community Action (formerly known as Central Vermont Community Action Council) (**requested \$500, recommend \$500**) Capstone offers a wide range of programs to alleviate the effects of poverty and help people attain economic self-sufficiency. Plainfield residents were supported through emergency food, housing, transportation or fuel assistance, Head Start, home weatherization, emergency furnace repair, financial counseling, tax preparation, and assistance to start or grow a business. Capstone served 230 Plainfield residents in 133 households last year.

Central Vermont Council on Aging (**requested \$1,300, recommend \$1,300**) CVCOA used case managers to work with elders in their homes to assess their needs and develop individualized care plans. CVCOA staff also provided family caregiver support and information, assistance, and referrals regarding health care and insurance, transportation, nutrition, housing, fuel, and other issues of concern. Its service area covers Washington, Lamoille, and Orange, counties and parts of Windsor County. CVCOA served 54 Plainfield residents last year.

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice (**requested \$2,500, recommend \$2,500**) CVHH&H is a full service not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association, committed to providing comprehensive, high quality home health and hospice care to all Central Vermonters regardless of their ability to pay, geographic remoteness, or complexity of their health care needs. In addition, the agency promotes the general welfare of the citizens of central Vermont with health screenings, flu and pneumonia vaccinations, foot care clinics, bereavement support and discharge planning from skilled nursing facilities to home. It serves Washington County and the three northernmost towns of Orange County. Last year CVHH&H served 78 Plainfield residents with a total of 1364 patient visits, composed of hospice visits, long-term care visits, and maternal and childcare visits.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PLAINFIELD SELECTBOARD FOR 2021 TOWN MEETING

Family Center of Washington County (requested \$500, recommend \$500) The Family Center provides child care referral, child care provider training, child care subsidy administration, infant/toddler care, preschool and after school programs, playgroups for children birth-six and their parents or caregivers, home visiting, employment training, and parent education. In the past year they maintained social connections with families, many of whom were particularly vulnerable during the economic plight they have been facing. Last year the Family Center benefited 65 Plainfield residents.

Friends of the Winooski River (requested 300, recommend \$300) Friends of the Winooski River is a small non-profit organization that works with communities toward a clean, healthy resilient Winooski watershed through providing support to residents about planting trees along streams, collecting water quality samples, and developing solutions to local erosion problems. They connect landowners with each other and with expertise to help manage forested land for flood resilience and other goals. The organization impacts water quality and flood resilience in Plainfield but does not keep records about specific individuals benefited by their work.

Good Beginnings (requested 300, recommend \$300) Good Beginnings offers free support, education and home visits to birth and adoptive families in Central Vermont during the critical first weeks and months following birth, together with free goods and services such as diapers, baby carriers, winter clothing, and connection to community resources for food, housing and emergency funds. Good Beginnings served 9 Plainfield residents last year.

Good Samaritan Haven (requested \$500, recommend \$250) Good Samaritan Haven provides emergency shelter and support services to people experiencing homelessness in central Vermont. Due to the circumstances of the individuals they serve, they are unable to collect data regarding the residency of their clients. This is a first-time request.

Green Mountain Transit Agency (requested \$786, recommend \$786) GMATA provides transportation and meal delivery services for elderly citizens and individuals with disabilities through a combination of volunteer drivers and fixed-route services. In addition to its commuter services, in FY20 it provided ongoing individual special services such as Elderly and Disabled transportation and Medicaid-eligible transportation for Plainfield residents to senior centers, meal sites, medical treatment, adult day care, pharmacy, and shopping, equaling 961 trips.

Onion River Food Shelf (requested \$1,000, recommend \$1,000) Onion River Food Shelf is an all-volunteer program that provides food and clothing to families in need in Plainfield, Marshfield, Cabot, Calais and East Montpelier. In 2019 the program provided food and clothing to 111 residents of Plainfield.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PLAINFIELD SELECTBOARD FOR 2021 TOWN MEETING

OUR House of Central Vermont (requested \$250, recommend \$250) is a non-profit advocacy and special investigations unit that implements a multidisciplinary approach to child victims of sexual abuse and their non-abusing family members in a safe and supportive setting. The organization does not always have geographic information about those served, but in the last year they provided support for forensic interviews for 3 children and 2 adults from Plainfield.

People's Health and Wellness Clinic (requested \$1,000, recommend \$750) PHWC provides health care, dental services, medical case management and health advocacy for the uninsured and underinsured. Its basic service area is Washington County, plus the towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown. In the past year they have faced new expenses related to providing health services during the COVID-19 pandemic. PHWC provided 42 service interactions (medical, dental, mental health, case management, or health insurance navigation) to 12 Plainfield residents last year.

Twinfield Together Mentoring Program (requested \$250, recommend \$250) The Twinfield Together Mentoring Program connects community members with children and youth living in Marshfield and Plainfield through one-on-one mentoring relationships. Approximately 73 Plainfield children were served through its mentoring programs.

Twin Valley Senior Center (requested 3,500, recommend \$3,500) Designed for seniors, this program provides hot nutritional meals, exercise programs, socialization and wellness services, monthly shopping trips, foot clinics, flu clinics, and home delivery of meals for residents of Cabot, Calais, Woodbury, East Montpelier, Marshfield, and Plainfield. The number of individuals serviced last year was greatly reduced because of Covid-19. TVSC served 11 Plainfield residents last year.

Vermont Center for Independent Living (requested \$250, recommend \$100) VCIL is a statewide organization dedicated to assisting Vermonters with disabilities to achieve dignified, self-determined lives. Last year VCIL provided services to 7 Plainfield residents.

Vermont Family Network (requested \$250, recommend \$100) Vermont Family Network is a statewide organization that provides peer support services to parents of children with special needs before, during and after diagnosis. Last year the Network supported two families in Plainfield.

Washington County Diversion (requested \$450, recommend \$350) This organization provides community based alternatives to the court system for first time juvenile and adult offenders. Diversion follows a restorative justice model, seeking to put right the wrongs that have been done and addressing the needs of all stake-

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PLAINFIELD SELECTBOARD FOR 2021 TOWN MEETING

holders, including the victim, the community and the offender. Last year Diversion served 18 residents of Plainfield.

Washington County Youth Service Bureau (requested \$500, recommend \$500) This organization's mission is to empower and enrich the lives of youth and families in Washington County through a variety of programs such as run-away youth program, substance abuse treatment, transitional living, and the teen center. Last year WCYSB served a total of 23 youths and other family members in Plainfield.

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (requested \$700, recommend 0) Winooski NRCDC promotes the wise use, sustainable development, and conservation of our district's natural resources. Last year the organization provided outreach to farms in Plainfield and provided technical and financial assistance to help one farm create a comprehensive nutrient management plan. They also offered a free stormwater assessment program and other services to protect clean, drinkable, swimmable water, support healthy soil for farmers and the local food system, and increase wildlife habitat. This is a first-time request. The committee felt it was a worthy request, but recommends deferring funding for a year so that organizations that have been previously funded can continue to receive funding at current levels.

2020 SELECTBOARD REPORT

Our Plainfield Town Meeting took place on March 3, 2020 as it has for as long as anyone can remember, with citizens sitting side by side in the Town Hall-Opera House. Our election workers sat next to each other as they handed out ballots for town officers and as they checked voters off the checklist before voters placed their ballots in the ballot boxes. Our Town Clerk and Town Moderator sat at the tables in front of assembled voters along with members of the Select Board. A highlight of the meeting was celebrating Town Clerk & Treasurer Linda Wells having served our tiny town for 25 years with a bouquet and a gift certificate to a favorite restaurant.

None of us could imagine that two weeks later that because of COVID-19 our town buildings would be shut down to all except those who worked in the building. Nor could we imagine that our Town Hall-Opera House would be unable to offer the concerts and community gatherings that have been the life-blood of our town since renovations allowed the reopening of this historic building in 2014.

This has been a strange and stressful year for our citizens here in Plainfield, for our families, for our neighbors, for those who serve us in local and state government and, as well for our hardworking employees.

We extend deep thanks to folks who care for one another in our community in a myriad of ways, including wearing a mask, engaging in “social distancing” - a term none of us knew until eleven months ago, and being so thoughtful of when and how to visit with those close to us, even our parents and our children and grandchildren. Thank you to all of you!

Here we are, for the first time, having all 2021 Town Meeting articles being voted up or down by Australian ballot, and no in-person town meeting because of COVID-19. Will this result in greater participation in the decision-making? Or will this unforeseen outcome of the COVID-19 pandemic leave voters feeling that one more deeply-rooted tradition is also the victim of the pandemic? Discussion of these pros and cons of decision-making by Australian ballot has resulted in articles on this year’s Town Meeting warning to make the Australian ballot approach for budget matters and for public questions the Town’s approach in 2022 and beyond. These are Articles 6 and 7.

Those of you who follow what your Select Board is doing are aware that we’ve had to learn how to conduct meetings using new-to-us technology, rather than meeting in-person. “Virtual” meetings using Zoom is now the standard practice for Select Board meetings and meetings of our committees, boards, and commissions, rather than the collegiality of meeting together and being able to actually see those who bring their concerns to us. For some of those who reasonably have experienced our meeting spaces in the municipal offices to be constraining and

2020 SELECTBOARD REPORT

uncomfortably close, meetings using Zoom has allowed for easier participation in the workings of town government. And it's meant avoiding going out in the evening, but still being able to participate. A small silver lining.

There are a number of important concerns which have taken much of our time over the past year, including the Rte 2-Main Street intersection and the Pedestrian Bridge sidewalk project from the village up to Rte 2. Just as COVID-19 descended upon us, we learned that the bids for the construction of the Pedestrian Bridge sidewalk were way in excess of grant funds the town had received, in the amount of hundreds of thousands of dollars. As a result, none of the bids were accepted. But efforts to find some way to reduce construction costs have continued since then in coordination with working with the Vermont Agency of Transportation about the Rte 2-Main Street intersection.

Over the Summer VTrans undertook some exploration to find out the nature of what is underneath the area that would be reconstructed were this remediation project to go forward. And the Select Board had Community Conversations with people in town and in the area to hear their wisdom and concerns. Since this was summertime, two were outside at the Rec Field and three were "virtual" on Zoom. The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission was of great assistance. As a result of the information gathered, in October 2020 the Select Board voted to go ahead with the Rte 2-Main Street intersection project. Select Board member Tammy Farnham worked closely with VTrans to see whether there were ways to coordinate the Pedestrian Bridge work with the Rte 2-Main Street intersection project *and* reduce the costs Plainfield's Water and Wastewater Department would have to bear because of W/WW pipes in the construction area. The very positive outcome is a significant reduction in costs both to the W/WW Department and for the Pedestrian Bridge. We're glad to report that one lane over Main Street bridge will remain open throughout the Pedestrian Bridge construction which is expected to occur the summer of 2021.

The Rte 2-Main Street intersection project also involves shutting down Main Street as it comes from Rte 2 to the village for a number of weeks, perhaps as many as 12 weeks, during construction. This will have an impact on town businesses and on access to services from our wonderful Fire and Rescue volunteers and the East Montpelier Ambulance Service. The town is continuing to work with VTrans to find solutions to remove or reduce those impacts, but does not yet have a complete resolution. Construction is not anticipated to happen until 2023.

Through all the challenges that came along with the COVID-19 pandemic, creative, committed folks have carried us and our children and grandchildren in new ways: - the resurfacing and installation of new basketball poles, hoops, and nets, a "drills and skills" camp offered by volunteers, Halloween candy handed

2020 SELECTBOARD REPORT

out at the Fire House with careful COVID-19 precautions, and more. We had a primary and a general election where voters responded in amazing numbers to requests for voting by absentee ballot rather than coming in person. And our in-person voters responded to our asking them to wear a mask, have their temperature taken, answer COVID-19 screening questions, use hand sanitizer, and follow those social distance circles on the floor by doing so with grace and without complaint, keeping our election volunteers and Town Clerk and assistant safe from contracting COVID-19. Committees and commissions met outside during the summer and the Conservation Commission still had its annual shrub and tree sale for folks in town using protocols to keep people safe. We will see these trees and shrubs continue to grace our town in the years to come, reminding us of our resilience, our caring for the earth and each other.

Thank you all.

Plainfield Select Board: Sasha Thayer, Chair,
Tammy Farnham and Jim Volz

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

REVENUE	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
Del. Tax, Int. & Penalty	50,000.00	159,179.51	(109,179.51)	50,000.00	50,000.00
Tax Sale Income	91,000.00	96,712.65	(5,712.65)	91,000.00	91,000.00
State Aid To Highway	800.00	1,809.93	(1,009.93)	1,000.00	1,000.00
Interest Income	2,000.00	2,652.56	(652.56)	2,000.00	2,000.00
Judicial Fees	15,000.00	23,107.36	(8,107.36)	15,000.00	12,000.00
Recordings & Fees		5,500.00	(5,500.00)		
Fire Dept Income	1,500.00	87,112.98	(85,612.98)	1,500.00	1,500.00
Highway Grant/Misc Inc		56,333.90	(56,333.90)		
Municipal Grant Income	8,100.00	4,050.00	4,050.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Mun Bldg rental income	5,000.00	653.84	4,346.16	5,000.00	5,000.00
SB Misc Income	6,500.00	12,572.10	(6,072.10)	6,500.00	6,500.00
Town Hall Income		449,684.83	(269,784.83)	182,000.00	179,000.00
Subtotal	179,900.00				
Cemetery Income		58,200.00			
Current Use/Reappraisal income		73,198.50			
Total Revenue		581,083.33			
Total Tax Revenue		2,402,866.49			

Refer to Treasurer's report for Revenue detail

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
Selectboard Salaries	3,900.00	3,900.00	-	3,900.00	3,900.00
Auditor Salaries	3,000.00	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	3,000.00
Zoning Admin Salaries	4,500.00	1,445.30	3,054.70	4,000.00	4,000.00
Lister Salaries	3,200.00	1,054.52	2,145.48	2,200.00	2,200.00
Town Clerk/Treasurer	48,379.00	48,391.38	(12.38)	50,500.00	51,500.00
Ass't. Clerk/Treasurer	36,764.00	36,439.25	324.75	38,500.00	38,925.00
Coll of Del Taxes		11,261.57	(11,261.57)		
Road Commissioner	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	1,500.00
SB Administrative Asst	2,000.00	1,827.50	172.50	2,500.00	3,500.00
Building Maintenance Mgr	3,000.00	2,087.09	912.91	3,000.00	2,750.00
DRB Admin Salaries	2,200.00	593.05	1,606.95	1,000.00	1,000.00
Health Officer	500.00	593.45	(93.45)	500.00	500.00
Grant Administrator	4,000.00	3,600.00	400.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Emergency Mgmt	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	1,500.00	500.00
SB FICA/MEDI	9,200.00	8,100.61	1,099.39	9,000.00	9,000.00
SB Health Insurance	11,500.00	11,808.94	(308.94)	12,800.00	14,400.00
SB Insurance HRA	2,250.00	2,463.92	(213.92)	2,450.00	2,000.00
SB Fringe/Ret	4,850.00	4,906.51	(56.51)	5,200.00	5,700.00
SB FICA/MEDI DEL TXCOLL	900.00	859.23	40.77	900.00	900.00
Lister's Supplies	350.00	276.97	73.03	300.00	300.00
Lister's Printing/Postage	100.00	98.86	1.14	150.00	150.00
Lister's Sem./Dues	100.00	-	100.00	50.00	50.00
Lister's GIS Maps	300.00	-	300.00	300.00	300.00
Listers Software/Disast Rec	1,275.00	1,144.74	130.26	1,275.00	1,275.00
Lister's Mileage	200.00	-	200.00	100.00	50.00
Animal Control	1,000.00	376.07	623.93	1,000.00	100.00
Constable	5,000.00	1,244.37	3,755.63	4,000.00	4,000.00
CVT Reg'l. Planning	1,492.00	1,491.60	0.40	1,575.00	1,625.00
Animal Shelter/Pound	700.00	260.00	440.00	300.00	300.00
Conservation Commission	375.00	384.05	(9.05)	375.00	300.00
*Conservation Fund	1,500.00	4,700.00	(3,200.00)	1,500.00	2,000.00
*CC Trees/Green Up/Disposal	100.00	1,010.67	(910.67)	100.00	100.00
Energy Conservation	525.00	-	525.00	510.00	400.00
Personnel Contingency					1,350.00
*Tree sale expenses/XVT TRL					

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
Hazard Mitigation	300.00	-	300.00	300.00	100.00
Law Enforcement	10,000.00	10,306.65	(306.65)	10,000.00	10,000.00
DAM Fees	200.00	200.00	-	200.00	200.00
Fire and Rescue Departments					
Ambulance Service	50,546.00	50,544.00	2.00	52,062.00	53,624.00
EMT Stipend	3,000.00	2,450.00	550.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Electricity	1,300.00	1,278.81	21.19	1,350.00	1,350.00
Telephone/Internet	2,400.00	1,559.64	840.36	1,500.00	1,500.00
Fuel & Furnace	3,000.00	3,381.77	(381.77)	3,500.00	3,500.00
*Bldg Rep & Maint	7,500.00	3,145.16	4,354.84	7,500.00	7,500.00
Disability	2,200.00	2,125.00	75.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Workers Comp	1,250.00	1,210.50	39.50	1,250.00	1,250.00
Prop/Liab Insurance	5,063.00	4,896.10	166.90	5,000.00	5,200.00
Truck Repair/Fuel	2,800.00	4,695.42	(1,895.42)	2,800.00	2,800.00
Equipment Fund Reserves	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	10,000.00
Safety Eq/Med Splys	3,000.00	2,424.53	575.47	4,000.00	4,000.00
Small Items/Repairs	2,500.00	3,565.62	(1,065.62)	2,500.00	2,500.00
Fire Truck Note	20,000.00	20,000.00	-	20,000.00	20,000.00
Interest Expense	6,642.00	6,521.32	120.68	5,953.00	5,200.00
Dispatch	17,200.00	17,713.36	(513.36)	18,000.00	19,000.00
Training	2,000.00	1,847.50	152.50	2,000.00	2,000.00
Marshfield Approp. Expense*	500.00	5,250.00	(5,250.00)	500.00	500.00
Miscellaneous	12,500.00	12,913.32	(413.32)	12,500.00	12,500.00
Personal Protective Equip Fund	800.00	-	800.00	800.00	800.00
Recognition Fund	-	-	-	-	-

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
SB Prop/Liab Insurance	12,000.00	11,025.76	974.24	11,500.00	12,000.00
SB Workers Comp.	1,275.00	932.30	342.70	1,000.00	1,000.00
SB Unemployment Ins	500.00	515.44	(15.44)	350.00	500.00
Clerks Office Splys & Pstg	5,500.00	4,747.11	752.89	5,500.00	5,250.00
Clerks Computer Sprt/Internet	2,000.00	1,964.74	35.26	3,880.00	4,000.00
Preservation Costs*	500.00	50.00	450.00	500.00	500.00
Bank Fees & Charges	50.00	-	50.00	50.00	50.00
DRB Advertising	400.00	140.04	259.96	300.00	300.00
DRB Comp/Off Splys	150.00	-	150.00	150.00	150.00
DRB Postage	100.00	5.10	94.90	50.00	50.00
DRB Training	200.00	25.00	175.00	200.00	100.00
PC Postage	500.00	-	500.00	50.00	250.00
PC Advertising	300.00	-	300.00	150.00	150.00
PC Computer/Printing	500.00	45.00	455.00	300.00	250.00
PC Training/Mapping	700.00	968.00	(268.00)	150.00	150.00
PC Legal	-	-	-	-	850.00
PC Zoning Consultant	-	-	-	750.00	400.00
PC/Zoning Misc Expense	1,000.00	82.99	917.01	1,000.00	150.00
SB Printing/Communications	4,500.00	4,053.77	446.23	4,500.00	4,500.00
SB Legal Fees	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Park 'n Ride Electric	250.00	248.22	1.78	250.00	275.00
Park 'n Ride Solar array	3,557.00	3,537.95	19.05	3,479.00	3,398.00
Parks & Rec Bldg Maint/Equip	3,500.00	2,323.99	1,176.01	3,200.00	3,000.00
Rec Portalet/Power	1,200.00	1,271.78	(71.78)	1,400.00	1,400.00
Rec Reserve Fund	250.00	2,700.79	(2,450.79)	250.00	250.00
Skateboard Park	-	344.74	(344.74)	100.00	100.00
CV Solid Waste Mgmt	1,252.00	1,252.00	-	1,259.00	1,262.00
Taxes-County	9,715.00	9,715.00	-	9,800.00	9,800.00
Historical Bldg	1,250.00	1,300.71	(50.71)	1,000.00	1,000.00
Streelights-New	-	388.96	(388.96)	-	-
Streelights-Electricity	4,500.00	3,631.34	868.66	4,200.00	4,200.00
Mun Bldg-Telephone	1,300.00	1,328.21	(28.21)	1,325.00	1,375.00
Mun Bldg-Maint/Repairs	10,000.00	13,010.53	(3,010.53)	10,000.00	10,000.00

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
Municipal Bldg Electric	500.00	-	500.00	350.00	250.00
Municipal Bldg Fuel	3,000.00	2,546.20	453.80	3,500.00	3,500.00
TH Management Svcs	3,000.00	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	4,000.00
TH Maint/Repairs	3,600.00	16,508.48	(12,908.48)	4,500.00	3,800.00
TH Electricity	700.00	726.57	(26.57)	750.00	800.00
TH Equipment	600.00	659.70	(59.70)	-	-
TH Fuel & Furnace	2,500.00	1,936.36	563.64	2,300.00	2,200.00
TH Advertising	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	-
TH Revolving Loan & Int pymt	5,600.00	5,588.28	11.72	5,600.00	5,600.00
TH Telephone/Internet	1,100.00	1,058.80	41.20	1,100.00	1,200.00
VLCT Dues	1,775.00	1,746.00	29.00	1,837.00	1,325.00
Miscellaneous	500.00	416.78	83.22	500.00	500.00
Town Forest	-	-	-	-	-
Town property landscaping	4,500.00	3,385.00	1,115.00	5,000.00	4,500.00
Tree Warden/Tree maintnce	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	250.00
Sidewalk Snow Removal	5,000.00	7,239.43	(2,239.43)	8,000.00	7,500.00
SB Seminars/Misc	500.00	500.00	-	500.00	500.00
Tax sale expense	-	220.68	(220.68)	-	-
Website	3,500.00	3,353.86	146.14	3,500.00	2,000.00
CDBG Project	-	46,311.44	(46,311.44)	-	-
Main St.Bike/Walkway project	-	29,003.06	(29,003.06)	-	15,000.00
Old Home Days	1,000.00	751.50	248.50	900.00	900.00
Mill Street Park Electric	500.00	749.91	(249.91)	750.00	750.00
911 Signage	50.00	29.87	20.13	50.00	50.00
Fuel Assistance	-	566.45	(566.45)	-	-
Outstanding Delinquent Taxes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Selectboard	\$428,735.00	\$512,756.19	\$(84,021.19)	\$436,680.00	\$453,584.00

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
SOCIAL CONCERNS					
CIRCLE, formerly Battered Wn	525.00	525.00	-	525.00	525.00
Central VT Adult Basic Ed	400.00	400.00	-	400.00	300.00
Capstone-formerly CVCAC	500.00	500.00	-	500.00	500.00
Cen VT Cncl on Aging	1,300.00	1,300.00	-	1,300.00	1,300.00
Cen. VT Home Health	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	2,500.00
Fam Ctr of Wash Cty	500.00	500.00	-	500.00	500.00
Friends of the Winooski Rvr	300.00	300.00	-	300.00	300.00
Good Beginnings	300.00	300.00	-	300.00	300.00
Good Samaritan Haven					250.00
Green Mtn Transit	786.00	786.00	-	786.00	786.00
Home Share Now	325.00	-	325.00	-	-
Onion Rvr Food Shelf	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Our House	-			250.00	250.00
People's Hlth & Well	700.00	700.00	-	750.00	750.00
Sexual Assault Crisis	100.00	100.00	-	-	-
Twin Valley Seniors	3,500.00	3,500.00	-	3,500.00	3,500.00
Twinfield Learning Center	400.00	400.00	-	400.00	-
Twinfield Together Mentoring	250.00	250.00	-	250.00	250.00
VT Center for Independent Lyg	150.00	150.00	-	100.00	100.00
VT Family Network				100.00	100.00
Wash Cty Diversion	350.00	350.00	-	-	350.00
Wash Cty Youth SB	400.00	400.00	-	500.00	500.00
Wash Cty Mental Health	600.00	600.00	-	600.00	400.00
American Red Cross	-			-	-
Winooski NR Conservatin Dist					-
Subtotal Social Concerns	14,886.00	14,561.00	325.00	14,261.00	14,461.00
Warned articles					
Cutler Library	37,500.00	37,500.00	-	37,500.00	37,500.00
GMTA Bus Srvc	8,333.00	8,333.00	-	8,333.00	8,333.00
Total SC/warned articles	\$60,719.00	\$60,394.00	\$-	\$60,094.00	\$60,294.00

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT					
Labor/Road Foreman	59,343.00	59,051.20	291.80	62,000.00	62,682.00
Labor/Equip Operator 1	40,685.00	40,428.15	256.85	42,500.00	42,967.00
Labor/Equip Operator 2	39,250.00	40,153.39	(903.39)	42,300.00	42,765.00
OT/Rd. Foreman	9,496.00	9,496.52	3.48	11,000.00	12,000.00
OT/Equip. Operator 1	5,500.00	4,626.67	873.33	6,200.00	6,300.00
OT/Equip Operator 2	5,500.00	4,424.08	1,075.92	6,100.00	6,200.00
HD Fringe/FICA/Medi	12,250.00	11,938.06	311.94	13,020.00	13,250.00
HD Health Insurance	29,000.00	27,931.64	1,068.36	29,000.00	29,000.00
HD Insurance HRA	7,200.00	3,140.00	4,060.00	7,800.00	5,000.00
HD Fringe/Retirement	8,200.00	8,067.11	132.89	8,600.00	10,807.00
HD Prop/Liab Insurance	8,500.00	8,209.00	291.00	8,500.00	8,500.00
HD Workmans Comp Ins	21,500.00	19,068.16	2,431.84	17,500.00	15,000.00
Equip Loan and Interest	-	-	-	-	13,000.00
HD Truck Loan and Interest	21,600.00	21,600.00	-	21,200.00	20,800.00
HD Tools/Splys/Radios	4,000.00	3,033.91	966.09	4,000.00	4,000.00
Fuel and Furnace	1,000.00	853.96	146.04	1,000.00	1,000.00
Culvert Thawer	100.00	10.48	89.52	100.00	100.00
Lawn Tractor	-	-	-	200.00	200.00
Loader HD	2,000.00	5,638.91	(3,638.91)	1,000.00	500.00
Grader HD	10,500.00	9,507.81	992.19	8,000.00	8,000.00
Guardrails and Signage	2,000.00	2,640.35	(640.35)	3,500.00	5,000.00
HD Garage/Repairs & Splys	3,000.00	9,311.99	(6,311.99)	2,500.00	2,500.00
Sander/Rake/Plows	8,000.00	5,150.38	2,849.62	8,000.00	8,000.00
Backhoe	800.00	443.86	356.14	800.00	800.00
2005 MACK TRUCK	3,000.00	1,392.58	1,607.42	3,000.00	2,500.00
2007 MACK TRUCK	6,000.00	17,940.26	(11,940.26)	6,000.00	6,000.00
2019 MACK TRUCK	1,200.00	1,143.90	56.10	1,200.00	1,200.00
2012 WOOD CHIPPER	500.00	136.96	363.04	500.00	500.00
2015 FORD TRUCK	3,000.00	7,918.97	(4,918.97)	3,000.00	4,000.00
Electricity/GMP	1,000.00	1,091.34	(91.34)	1,200.00	1,200.00
Telephone	1,800.00	2,246.87	(446.87)	2,000.00	2,200.00

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
Fuel/Oil/Grease	35,000.00	31,095.92	3,904.08	38,000.00	38,000.00
Mileage	1,500.00	1,177.64	322.36	1,500.00	1,500.00
Gravel/HD Trucking	94,500.00	86,903.25	7,596.75	94,500.00	94,500.00
Sand/Trucking	40,500.00	48,613.27	(8,113.27)	50,000.00	50,000.00
Contracts-Mwing/Sweeping	9,000.00	9,305.00	(305.00)	9,500.00	9,500.00
Culverts	6,000.00	5,225.31	774.69	6,000.00	6,000.00
Hot Mix	10,000.00	783.00	9,217.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Salt	20,000.00	15,191.17	4,808.83	22,000.00	22,000.00
Chloride	24,000.00	12,201.01	11,798.99	24,000.00	24,000.00
Mulch	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	700.00	700.00
Equipment Fund	30,000.00	30,000.00	-	45,000.00	45,000.00
Uniforms	2,500.00	2,003.01	496.99	2,500.00	2,500.00
Tires	6,000.00	7,286.56	(1,286.56)	8,000.00	9,000.00
Chains	8,000.00	8,057.56	(57.56)	10,000.00	10,000.00
Safety Equipment	1,000.00	492.75	507.25	500.00	500.00
Sidewalk Repairs	750.00	-	750.00	500.00	500.00
Culvert Projects	-	72,800.00	(72,800.00)	-	-
Storm Drain Maintenance	4,000.00	-	4,000.00	4,000.00	-
Miscellaneous	1,600.00	1,513.30	86.70	1,600.00	1,500.00
Traffic Control Devices	4,500.00	-	4,500.00	-	-
Village Line Painting	25,000.00	4,559.75	(4,559.75)	4,560.00	-
Paving Projects	-	41,741.68	(16,741.68)	25,000.00	25,000.00
Bridge Projects	5,300.00	2,781.33	2,518.67	4,500.00	4,500.00
Ditching Projects	-	-	-	1,590.00	1,590.00
Mun Rds Gen Permit MRPG	2,350.00	-	2,350.00	2,350.00	2,350.00
Vt Act 64 Water Quality	-	-	-	-	-
Personnel Contingency	-	-	-	-	-
Total Highway Dept	\$648,428.00	\$708,328.02	\$(59,900.02)	\$688,020.00	\$696,811.00

SELECTBOARD ACTUAL/PROPOSED BUDGET

TOTALS	BUDGET 2019/2020	ACTUAL	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET 2020/2021	PROPOSED 2021/2022
Highway Dept Expense	648,428.00	708,328.02		688,020.00	696,911.00
State Aid/Misc Income	(92,500.00)	(96,712.65)		(92,500.00)	(92,500.00)
Grant Income		(87,112.98)			
Net Highway Expenses	555,928.00	524,502.39	31,425.61	595,520.00	604,411.00
Summary Selectboard	428,735.00	512,756.19		436,680.00	453,584.00
Social Concerns	60,719.00	60,394.00		60,094.00	60,294.00
SB Expense	489,454.00	573,150.19		496,774.00	513,878.00
Grant Income		(56,333.90)			
Income	(87,400.00)	(209,525.30)		(89,500.00)	(86,500.00)
Net SB Expense	402,054.00	307,290.99	94,763.01	407,274.00	427,378.00
Outstanding Del Taxes	25,000.00	59,652.80	(34,652.80)	25,000.00	10,000.00
	427,054.00	366,943.79	60,110.21	432,274.00	437,378.00
NET SB/HWY Budget	982,982.00	891,446.18	91,535.82	1,027,794.00	1,041,789.00

Due to the pandemic, we could not have Old Home Days last fall. Here is a glance of town memories of recent years.



PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL/OPERA HOUSE ANNUAL REPORT

The Plainfield Town Hall Opera House operated for seven and one-half months during the fiscal year starting July 1, 2019, before it was closed in mid-March 2020 as a precaution against the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Forty-two events which had been scheduled prior to closure for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 were cancelled or postponed indefinitely as a result of the closing. Among the events cancelled were four programs in the Friends of the Plainfield Town Hall Opera House Concert series, including one featuring Brian Boyes and the Saturn People's Collective scheduled for March 14th which had been sold out. Also cancelled were a pair of theatrical performances by students from the Orchard Valley School and a Maple Hill School graduation ceremony.

The facility was used for fifty-nine events between July 1, 2019 and the March 2020 closure. These included use on thirty-four occasions by town committees and town-related functions (including Town Meeting Day and the Old Home Day Variety Show); eleven gatherings were held for theatrical purposes (including six public shows); ten meetings were held by non-municipal organizations; and there were three concert performances. One film, "The Farmer of the Year", was shown.

Theater use remained the largest single function in terms of rentals. Performances included a Vermont Youth Theater production of the "Snow Queen", Rob Merwin demonstrating the art of mime, and Plainfield Little Theater's production of Shakespeare's "Othello". Plainfield's own Django Soulo put on a memorable concert; one of three musical performances held at the Opera House prior to closing. Two performances in the Friends of the Plainfield Town Opera House concert series were held: one by classical pianist Michael Arnowitz and another by the Northern Third Piano Quartet.

Several improvements were made to the Town Hall Opera House in this fiscal year. Roof guards were installed over the entrances on the eave sides of the building to prevent the build-up of snow on the landings. This was paid for by the Town Hall Reserve Fund. In addition, insulation voids in the exterior walls were filled and the windows in the hall were made operable and double-glazed with a \$9,800 grant from Efficiency Vermont.

Apart from work on the building itself, the Friends of the Plainfield Town Hall Opera House made progress deconstructing the house on property it purchased across the street from the Town Hall Opera House for much-needed additional parking to serve patrons of the town's historic cultural and communal space. Some of the reusable building material from this project has been set aside for use in the future for construction of the backstage addition to the Town Hall Op-

PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL/OPERA HOUSE ANNUAL REPORT

era House, a project which was put on hold when the property which had long been eyed for future parking expansion went up for sale. Once the mortgage on the new parking property has been retired, the Friends of the Town Hall Opera House plans to concentrate on the completion of the backstage construction project.



Ki Walker taking down the abandoned house at 25 High Street

At this writing, in January 2021, it is likely that the Town Hall Opera House will be reopened before the end of the year. Once holding events there becomes possible again, please remember that it is available for rent for public and private events at reasonable rates. Arrangements for the use of the facility can be made by going online to www.plainfieldoperahousevt.org. The website also has news about the Town Hall Opera House, information about events there, and directions about how to become involved as a supporter and Friend of the Town Hall Opera House.



GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT AGENCY PLAINFIELD FY20 ANNUAL REPORT

In April of 2010, GMTA and Rural Community Transportation (RCT) began operating the US2 Commuter, providing transportation along the Route 2 Corridor during peak commuting hours between St. Johnsbury and Montpelier. Service includes intermediate stops in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Marshfield, West Danville and Danville.

In FY20, the US2 Commuter had 14,566 in total ridership. Ridership during the first part of the year, prior to Covid-19, improved over FY20's performance. Generally, the route is very productive according to the standards it is held to by the State of Vermont Agency of Transportation.

This service was initially funded by a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant, which provided federal funding to cover 80% of the net cost of the service for a three-year period. The remaining net service costs are covered by passenger fares and a 20% local match from the towns served by the route.

FY13 marked the end of the CMAQ grant with FY14 transitioning the route to another state/federal funding source equaling 80% of the cost. As in previous years, GMT will continue to request the remaining 20% match from the towns served. For FY22 local match funds, GMT will be splitting the request of level funding with RCT for our portion of \$1,499.94 per town with the remaining being requested directly by RCT (\$6,833.06).

GMT requests the following language be listed as a separate Warning Article on the Plainfield Town Meeting Ballot for March 2021 voter consideration.

“Shall the Town of Plainfield appropriate the sum of \$1,499.94 as its share of the ninth year cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Plainfield. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and passenger fares.”

2020 CUTLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT

This past year has made clear that a library is far more than four walls and a repository of books. We all look back fondly to a library that served as a community space, providing opportunities to learn and socialize with neighbors. We miss the ease of movement in 2019 and early 2020: browsing the shelves, attending the Annual Potluck Supper, or a film screening of *One Town at a Time*. Our children have missed their storytime and the opportunity for events such as meeting “Vermont Rocket Man,” Ron Place, or building their own rockets and robots while learning about Moon Science.

We all anticipate returning to the traditions of our community library, once again. But in a review of this shifting year, we see a resilient library, a library that has adapted to the changes required. We see a library that has worked diligently, albeit cautiously, to provide much-needed services to the community, such as high-speed internet access, ebook and audiobook access, as well as curbside services.

The numbers tell us that despite a pandemic and full closure from mid-March through mid-May, use of the library increased 21%* and the circulation of library materials increased 9%* from the previous year. Forty-four (44) additional community members applied for library cards this year. OverDrive users grew with another 231 checkouts of ebooks and audio. The library also provided much-needed access to high-speed internet, both inside and outside the library. (**numbers adjusted for hours open, including curbside hours.*)

The Board of Trustees has tirelessly tackled many challenges and transitioned through many changes this year. We honor long-term board members Marcy Shaffer Hall and Lynda Volz for their many years on the board with their retirement. We are grateful for their service, as well as all the work of the new and continuing members of the board, including Carla Siegle, who has given her time and considerable energy as the new chair of the board. The board is currently seeking applicants for a treasurer. We are also appreciative of all the work and enthusiasm of our volunteers, Zane Byrnes, Gail Falk, Michael Moorlan, and Don Siegle.

As always, the Friends of the Library has proven to be a dynamic and supportive group. They held their annual Holiday Raffle as well as the Primrose Sale at Town Meeting in early March. Due to the pandemic, they canceled the Annual Plant and Book Sale. Still, they continued to support library programming and collection development, giving the library funds to expand our social justice collection. On a celebratory note, they held a party in February, honoring four of their members emerita: Joyce Fowler, Nancy Dix Perry, Janet Nielsen, and Maria McKnight. In June, at the group’s annual meeting (held via Zoom), they re-

2020 CUTLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT

elected Laura Zeisel as President, Emily Rappold as Secretary, and Pat Romeo Boyle as Treasurer. Over the past several years, active membership in Friends of the Library has more than doubled. New members are always welcome to join the group; a membership form is on the Library's website.

We made progress with our expansion plans, but due to circumstances, we paused in Phase 1, a redesign of the parking lot to include a safer traffic flow system with Route 2 and a sloping sidewalk entry into the building. To learn more about the project that will increase the library's capacity in size, parking, as well as income, we ask you to visit our website, cutlerlibrary.org.

In August, the much-beloved library director, Loona Brogan, shifted her attention to other challenges. We celebrated Loona's contributions with a socially-distanced send-off party to appreciate her ten years of devotion to the Cutler. The new Director, Angela Ogle, began in October and is working with Jane Youngbaer, who now serves in a newly created position as the library assistant. Angela and Jane are working together to continue the library's traditions while expanding programming, especially for our children.

We look forward to the time when we can see you at the library. In the meantime, contact us by phone or email. We are eager to speak with you, put new material into your hands, and be of help in any way we can.

Report from the Cutler Memorial Library for 2020, submitted by Library Director Angela Ogle

The Library Board of Trustees are:

Carla Siegle, Chair
John Broderick, Treasurer
Nancy Ellen, Secretary
Jennifer Carlo
Nick Cheldi Carter

**CUTLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT
JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020**

Cash on Hand July 1, 2019 - - - \$24,304.93

INCOME

Appropriation from Town Of Plainfield	37,500.00	
Rental Income	8,600.00	
Annual Appeal	4,823.79	
Donations from the Friends of the Library	300.00	
Other Donations	895.00	
Grants	390.00	
Program Income	0.00	
Miscellaneous Income (Fines, Copies, Printing)	535.25	
Program Income for Jt Programming	0.00	
Capital Campaign (Restricted Funds)	100.00	
Total Income		53,144.04

EXPENSES

Wages, Net	18,186.53	
Payroll Taxes	7,302.98	
ADP Fees	573.48	
Workman's Comp Insurance	507.00	
Professional Development	130.00	
Books/DVDs/Subscriptions	5,884.49	
Internet/Technology (Computers)	2,237.09	
Library Programs	172.94	
Postage (Includes Interlibrary Loan)	1,094.57	
Library Operations (Supplies, bank fees, etc.)	1,534.96	
Upkeep/Repairs/Maintenance	9,311.27	
Utilities (Heat, Electricity, Water/Sewer)	4,554.96	
Telephone	522.70	
Business Insurance	1,487.00	
Cost overruns in Expansion Planning (re Planning Grant)	2,031.38	
Total Expenses		55,531.35

**CUTLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT - EXPANSION
JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020**

Cash on Hand June 30, 2020

Checking	20,025.89
Debit	619.73
Interest-Free Loan Account - Restricted funds	0.00
Capital Campaign Account - Restricted funds	835.00
Joint events with other community groups - Restricted funds	437.00

Total Cash on Hand June 30, 2020*

21,917.62

Cash on Hand July 1, 2019

Checking	22,792.46
Debit	240.47
Interest-Free Loan Account - Restricted funds	100.00
Capital Campaign Account - Restricted funds	735.00
Joint events with other community groups - Restricted funds	437.00

Total Cash on Hand July 1, 2019

24,304.93

Interest-Free Loan Cash on Hand**

Payments to Independent Professional Contractors	18,236.38
Reimbursement from Town using Community Planning Grant funds	16,205.00
Cost overruns in Expansion Planning Community Grant Funds	2,031.38
\$10,000 Interest-Free Loan repaid in February 2020.	

*These are our funds at the end of June 2020. We use them to run the library until the Town appropriation is received in early September. The spendable portion is \$20,645.62.

**The \$10,000 interest-free loan was repaid to Spruce Mountain Inn, Inc.

2020 WATER/WASTEWATER REPORT

The past year has been strenuous for all of the people in our community. The pandemic has changed the way we conduct business and how we respond to the tasks that continue to present themselves. We hope that all the people in the community stay well. The ability to complete some of the projects we are working on has been a challenge. The twenty year wastewater system evaluation has not been completed due to the weather as well as the pandemic. We do anticipate completion in the spring of the coming year. We also have some projects in the water department that still need to be addressed in the coming year.

Thank you for helping to conserve our resources. Many of you were working from home during this year. The water usage for the year was thirteen million gallons. The wastewater flow through the treatment plant was twenty-four million gallons. The water table during a portion of the summer and fall was low due to lack of rain. Our springs were able to keep up with the flow through the system due to the conservation efforts of the users. Thank you again for those efforts. Our wastewater system flow is nearly double that of the water produced. Some of that flow is caused by infiltration due to age of the pipes and shifting soils. Much of the extra flow is caused by materials entering the system that are not supposed to be dropped in drains and toilets. We have published a list of those items. The cost to the users of the system reflects the increased cost of maintenance and disposal of this debris. Additional cost that will be appearing in future bills is the cost of chemicals, equipment and additional testing required in our new operating permit that was issued December 1, 2020. We have been working with ways to best utilize our current facilities to meet the requirements of the new permit. We would like to again ask that all the users, homeowners, renters and business owners refrain from putting debris in the system.

Mary Lane, Chair

Tim Phillips, Commissioner

Josh Pitts, Commissioner

2021/2022 PLAINFIELD WATER ACTUAL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

Balances as of June 30, 2019

Capital Improvement	60,920.95
Equipment Fund	8,894.43
Total Reserved Funds	69,815.38
Unreserved Funds	67,830.18
Total On Hand June 30, 2019	\$137,645.56

INCOME DESCRIPTION	BUDGET		ACTUAL		VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER		BUDGET		PROPOSED	
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2019/2020	2020/2021	2019/2020	2020/2021	2020/2021	2021/2022		
Water Assessments	184,070.00	146,049.72	146,049.72	204,335.00	38,020.28	204,335.00	208,560.00			
Delinquent Assess	9,000.00	33,067.79	33,067.79	9,000.00	(24,067.79)	9,000.00	9,000.00			
Del. Tax Interest	90.00	1,373.41	1,373.41	90.00	(1,283.41)	90.00	90.00			
Del. Tax Penalty	1,000.00	2,645.42	2,645.42	1,000.00	(1,645.42)	1,000.00	1,000.00			
Goddard College	11,596.00	7,997.50	7,997.50	13,416.00	3,598.50	13,416.00	13,728.00			
Impact Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Interest Income	50.00	153.74	153.74	50.00	(103.74)	50.00	100.00			
Grant Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Asset Mgmt Income*	-	204.00	204.00	-	(204.00)	-	-			
Miscellaneous Income	228.00	193.90	193.90	327.00	34.10	327.00	450.00			
Total Income	\$206,034.00	\$191,685.48	\$191,685.48	\$228,218.00	\$14,348.52	\$228,218.00	\$232,928.00			

*Funded by a loan

2021/2022 PLAINFIELD WATER ACTUAL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

EXPENSES DESCRIPTION	BUDGET			VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER		BUDGET		PROPOSED	
	2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	2019/2020	2019/2020	2020/2021	2020/2021	2021/2022		
Plant Operator	29,000.00	29,679.29	(679.29)	31,000.00	31,350.00				
Asst. Operator	25,000.00	24,964.83	35.17	26,000.00	26,286.00				
Asst Clerk/Treasurer	4,110.00	4,164.18	(54.18)	4,325.00	4,375.00				
Town Clerk/Treasurer	3,425.00	3,416.40	8.60	3,600.00	3,650.00				
Delinquent Tax Collector	600.00	2,645.42	(2,045.42)	600.00	600.00				
Commissioner Stipend	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	2,500.00				
Auditors	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00				
Fringe/FICA	4,070.00	4,204.72	(134.72)	4,200.00	4,350.00				
Fringe/MEDI	952.00	983.46	(31.46)	985.00	1,015.00				
Fringe BC/BS Insurance	8,400.00	6,975.90	1,424.10	7,400.00	8,724.00				
HRA	1,575.00	609.77	965.23	800.00	700.00				
Fringe/Retirement	3,550.00	3,577.92	(27.92)	3,800.00	4,100.00				
Delinquent Tax	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	500.00				
Office Supplies	600.00	938.66	(338.66)	600.00	700.00				
Computer Office	600.00	300.00	300.00	1,390.00	2,075.00				
Computer Plant	360.00	184.01	175.99	360.00	360.00				
Property/Liability Insurance	1,200.00	1,141.42	58.58	1,200.00	2,000.00				
Workers Comp. Insurance	6,000.00	5,782.41	217.59	6,000.00	4,500.00				
Unemployment Ins Trust	139.00	37.28	101.72	110.00	200.00				
Supplies/System Maint.	8,000.00	4,548.84	3,451.16	9,000.00	6,000.00				
Waterline Repairs	20,000.00	13,010.41	6,989.59	20,000.00	10,000.00				
Fowler Loan Principal	13,437.00	13,436.90	0.10	13,840.00	14,255.00				
Fowler Loan Interest & Fees	7,498.00	7,497.35	0.65	7,095.00	6,680.00				
Rt 2 Project Loan Principal	10,072.00	10,072.00	-	10,402.00	10,743.00				
Rt 2 Project Loan Interest	21,286.00	21,286.00	-	20,956.00	20,615.00				
Safety Equipment	350.00	-	350.00	350.00	350.00				
Asset Mgmt Expense*	-	204.00	(204.00)	-	-				

*Reimbursed by loan

2021/2022 PLAINFIELD WATER ACTUAL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

EXPENSES DESCRIPTION	BUDGET			VARIANCE		PROPOSED	
	2019/2020	ACTUAL 2019/2020	2020/2021	(OVER)/UNDER 2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2021/2022
Bank Fees	10.00	-	5.00	10.00	5.00	50.00	50.00
Legal Fees/VLCT Dues	450.00	383.00	450.00	67.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
Taxes To Marshfield	1,100.00	1,037.74	1,100.00	62.26	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Mowing	1,000.00	997.50	1,000.00	2.50	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Electricity/GMP	1,000.00	955.15	1,000.00	44.85	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Phone/Cell/Internet	1,450.00	1,655.17	1,450.00	(205.17)	1,450.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Furnace Repairs/Fuel	1,000.00	1,274.83	1,000.00	(274.83)	1,000.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Uniforms	350.00	-	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Staff Training	350.00	612.50	350.00	(262.50)	350.00	350.00	350.00
Chemicals & Supplies	400.00	885.14	1,000.00	(485.14)	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Testing	900.00	2,054.50	3,000.00	(1,154.50)	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Truck Maintenance	600.00	1,035.54	800.00	(435.54)	800.00	500.00	500.00
State Water Flow Fees	900.00	732.91	900.00	167.09	900.00	900.00	900.00
Misc/Advs/Publications	600.00	819.05	600.00	(219.05)	600.00	600.00	600.00
Capital Improvement	13,000.00	13,000.00	35,000.00	-	35,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Equipment Fund	8,700.00	8,700.00	2,200.00	-	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$206,034.00	\$197,304.20	\$228,218.00	\$8,729.80	\$228,218.00	\$232,928.00	\$232,928.00
Reserved		(13,000.00)					
Reserved		(8,700.00)					
		\$175,604.20					
Capital Improvement	73,955.33						
Equipment Fund	17,600.03						
Total Reserved Funds	91,555.36						
Unreserved Funds	62,221.48						
Due to from	(50.00)						
Total On Hand June 30, 2020	\$153,726.84						

**SIMPLIFIED
STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT
WATER ASSESSMENTS
JULY 1 2019 TO JUNE 30 2020**

Balances as of June 30 2020:

2018: \$ 1424.05

2019: \$ 5526.57

BALANCE: \$ 6950.62

Total Collected: \$ 33,067.79

Total Interest: \$ 1373.41

Total Collector's Fees: \$ 2645.42

Total Legal & Coll. Costs: \$ 135.00

Total: \$ 37,221.62

2021/2022 PLAINFIELD WASTEWATER ACTUAL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

Balance as of June 30, 2019

Capital Improvement 117,048.05
 Equipment Fund 24,356.57
Total Reserved Funds 141,404.62
 Unreserved Funds 94,011.31
Total on hand June 30, 2019 \$235,415.93

INCOME DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	ACTUAL (OVER)/UNDER	BUDGET	PROPOSED
	2019/2020	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Assessment	207,195.00	189,184.00	239,841.00	244,999.00
Del. Assessment	8,000.00	36,386.31	8,000.00	8,000.00
Del. Tax Interest	300.00	2,322.14	300.00	300.00
Del. Tax Coll. Fees	700.00	2,910.86	700.00	700.00
Recording Fees	-	-	-	-
Goddard College	55,920.00	50,471.76	62,263.00	63,665.00
Impact Fees	-	-	-	-
Interest Income	111.00	110.35	111.00	150.00
Miscellaneous Income	100.00	-	100.00	509.00
20 Year Eval. Income*	-	11,300.00	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$272,326.00	\$292,685.42	\$311,315.00	\$318,323.00
*Funded by a loan.		\$(20,359.42)		

2021/2022 PLAINFIELD WASTEWATER ACTUAL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

EXPENSES DESCRIPTION	BUDGET		VARIANCE		BUDGET		PROPOSED	
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2019/2020	2020/2021	2020/2021	2021/2022	2020/2021	2021/2022
Plant Operator	29,000.00	29,939.85	(939.85)	31,000.00	31,350.00	31,000.00	31,350.00	31,350.00
Asst. Operator	25,000.00	25,299.42	(299.42)	26,000.00	26,286.00	26,000.00	26,286.00	26,286.00
Asst. Clerk Treasurer	4,110.00	4,147.24	(37.24)	4,325.00	4,375.00	4,325.00	4,375.00	4,375.00
Clerk/Treasurer	3,425.00	3,416.40	8.60	3,600.00	3,650.00	3,600.00	3,650.00	3,650.00
Auditors	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Del. Tax Fees Paid	600.00	2,910.86	(2,310.86)	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
Fringe/FICA	4,070.00	4,107.33	(37.33)	4,200.00	4,200.00	4,200.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
Fringe/MEDI	952.00	960.72	(8.72)	985.00	985.00	985.00	985.00	985.00
Delinquent Tax	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
BC/BS Insurance	8,400.00	7,200.73	1,199.27	7,400.00	8,724.00	7,400.00	8,724.00	8,724.00
HRA	1,575.00	609.77	965.23	800.00	700.00	800.00	700.00	700.00
Fringe/Retirement	3,550.00	3,611.16	(61.16)	3,800.00	4,100.00	3,800.00	4,100.00	4,100.00
Office Supplies/Postage	800.00	811.58	(11.58)	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00
Supplies & System Repairs	45,000.00	49,850.38	(4,850.38)	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00
Computer Office	500.00	300.00	200.00	1,390.00	2,075.00	1,390.00	2,075.00	2,075.00
Computer Plant	300.00	184.02	115.98	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Property/Liability	4,400.00	4,223.32	176.68	4,400.00	3,000.00	4,400.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Workers Comp Insurance	6,000.00	5,782.39	217.61	6,000.00	4,500.00	6,000.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Unemp Insurance Trust	139.00	37.28	101.72	110.00	200.00	110.00	200.00	200.00
Equipment Repairs/Parts	16,800.00	52,793.27	(35,993.27)	23,000.00	23,000.00	23,000.00	23,000.00	23,000.00
Bank Fees	10.00	-	10.00	5.00	50.00	5.00	50.00	50.00
Legal Fees/VLCT Dues	450.00	525.07	(75.07)	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
Electricity/GMP	18,000.00	20,716.86	(2,716.86)	18,000.00	21,000.00	18,000.00	21,000.00	21,000.00
Telephone	1,450.00	1,755.82	(305.82)	1,450.00	1,500.00	1,450.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Fuel/Furnace Repairs	1,400.00	2,080.74	(680.74)	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Chemicals	300.00	343.90	(43.90)	3,950.00	3,950.00	3,950.00	3,950.00	3,950.00
Sludge Disposal	41,000.00	46,344.24	(5,344.24)	41,000.00	44,000.00	41,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00

2021/2022 PLAINFIELD WASTEWATER ACTUAL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	BUDGET	PROPOSED
	2019/2020	2019/2020	(OVER)/UNDER	2020/2021	2021/2022
Uniforms	350.00	-	350.00	350.00	350.00
Audit	-	-	-	-	-
Laboratory Services	3,000.00	2,462.30	537.70	6,520.00	6,520.00
Mowing	1,000.00	997.50	2.50	1,000.00	1,000.00
Staff Training	600.00	423.50	176.50	600.00	600.00
Truck Fuel/Maintenance	500.00	740.74	(240.74)	500.00	500.00
Safety Equipment	300.00	370.94	(70.94)	300.00	300.00
Bond & Interest Expense	47,515.00	47,514.66	0.34	47,500.00	48,158.00
Audit Rounding Adjustment	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	330.00	786.98	(456.98)	180.00	300.00
Capital Improvement	-	-	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
Equipment Fund	-	-	-	8,000.00	8,000.00
20 Year Evaluation*	-	11,300.00	(11,300.00)	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$272,326.00	\$333,548.97	\$(61,222.97)	\$311,315.00	\$318,323.00
*Funded by a loan.		(11,300.00)	11,300.00		
		322,248.97	\$(49,922.97)		
 Balance as of June 30, 2020					
Capital Improvement	59,473.75				
Equipment Fund	24,370.58				
Total Reserved Funds	83,844.33				
Unreserved Funds	110,658.05				
Due to from	50.00				
Total on hand June 30, 2020	\$194,552.38				

**SIMPLIFIED
STATEMENT OF
DELINQUENT WASTEWATER
JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020**

BALANCE OWED AS OF 6/30/2020

2018	1,883.86
2019	3,227.13
2020	6,435.25
BALANCE	11,546.24
TOTAL COLLECTED:	36,386.31
TOTAL INTEREST:	2,322.14
TOTAL COLLECTOR'S FEES	2,910.86
TOTAL LEGAL/COLLECTOR COSTS	
TOTAL	41,619.31

DOG LICENSE
Required by Vermont State Law

All dogs or wolf-hybrids six months of age or over shall be licensed annually on or before April 1st of each year. Also any dog acquired after April 1st or becoming six months old during the year shall within 30 days be licensed. Before obtaining a license for a dog or wolf-hybrid six months of age or older, a person shall deliver to the municipal clerk a certificate or a certified copy thereof issued by a duly licensed veterinarian, stating that the dog or wolf-hybrid has received a current preexposure rabies vaccination with a vaccine approved by the Agency of Agriculture Secretary, and the person shall certify that the dog or wolf-hybrid described in the certificate or copy is the dog or wolf-hybrid to be licensed. The owner of a dog or wolf-hybrid shall cause it to wear a collar and attach thereto a license tag issued by the municipal clerk.

License Fees

License Fees

<u>Neutered male or spayed female dogs</u>		<u>Un-neutered/spayed dogs</u>	
License	4.00	License	8.00
VT Rabies control programs	1.00	VT Rabies control programs	1.00
VT Spay/neuter program	4.00	VT Spay/neuter program	4.00
Total fee	\$9.00	Total fee	\$13.00

To be licensed, all dogs and wolf-hybrids over three months of age shall be vaccinated against rabies. The initial vaccination shall be valid for 12 months. Within 9 to 12 months of the initial vaccination, the animal must receive a booster vaccination. All subsequent vaccinations following the initial vaccination shall be valid for 36 months.

A 50% penalty is charged for dogs owned and not licensed by April 1st each year, increasing the fee to \$11.00 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$17.00 for un-neutered/spayed dogs.

VSA Title 20, Section 3581

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR DOGS OR WOLF-HYBRIDS

Just call the town clerks office with any questions, 454-8461.

RABIES CLINICS:

Hardwick Veterinary Clinic, 64 N Main Street, Hardwick, VT on Saturday March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, 2021, 8:30am to 9:30am. **DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING!** Go to the second window at the front of the building to register. The fee is \$20

**FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT RABIES CALL THE RABIES
HOTLINE AT 1-800-472-2437**

PLAINFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT FOR 2020

Our major goal is to foster community involvement and responsibility for our town's natural resources. Our work is accomplished with the invaluable help of many different partners from the community and beyond, to whom we are very grateful. Without them, very few of our projects would be possible. We meet at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, via Zoom during the pandemic and eventually in the meeting room at the town offices. All townspeople are welcome. Once approved, meeting minutes are available to read on the Town of Plainfield website.

If you are interested in helping with one of our current projects or proposing a new project, serving on the commission or being involved in any way, we encourage you to contact any of the commissioners listed below, the town clerk, or the Selectboard. Please consider becoming involved in large or small ways.

Here are some of what we've been working on this past year:

- Plainfield's 28-acre **Town Forest**, accessed via Gonyeau or Maxfield roads, is overseen by the Conservation Commission in accordance with the forest management plan. Both trails have a parking lot and a kiosk with a map and trail information, although passenger vehicle access to the Parking lot at the end of Gonyeau Rd is not possible during winter (not plowed) and is virtually impassable at other times of the year due to road erosion. We are striving to improve three-season access. The Town Forest is available for snowshoeing, skiing, hiking, hunting, birding, botanical studies, and other low-impact recreation. Each year we organize visits and work days to improve and maintain the trails. We encourage you to come and explore the town forest with us. This year the trails within the town forest were mowed, which will be done annually in the future to make them pleasant for walking. We thank the Maple Hill School students who, this past fall replaced the boardwalk that is used to access the town forest via Maxfield Road.
- Due to the pandemic, the 2020 Green Up was moved to May 30, 2020. Many thanks to Becky Atchinson and Dawna MacLaren for heading up a safe and successful event with much help by community volunteers. THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS! We were down a bit in trash collected but all in all it was a good effort given the circumstances. Mark your calendar for the **2021 Green Up Day on May 1, 2021**. What a difference you all can make by helping to clean up trash along our roadsides, riverbanks, the recreation field and the village park. Please call Becky at 479-4326 if you'd like to help out with planning for or volunteering on Green Up Day
- We continue to work with the Marshfield Conservation Commission on the annual spring **Tree and Shrub Sale**. Offerings include native landscaping trees and shrubs that are edible, attract wildlife, or are suitable for riparian

PLAINFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT FOR 2020

areas. Order forms for the 2021 sale will be available in mid-February at various locations around town, including the Town Office. In past years, Plainfield's proceeds from the Tree and Shrub Sale helped fund our **Street Tree** program, which is used for the planting and maintenance of village trees in the public right of way, or other Conservation Commission projects. Contact us if you live in the village and are interested in having a street tree in front of your home.

- In March the Commission sponsored a talk about the Emerald Ash Borer by Joanne Garten, of the Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation. She gave an overview of her Emerald Ash Borer survey of ash trees in the town right-of-ways and on private property with the possibility of affecting the ROWs. She reported that there are approximately 2100 ash trees that are either in the ROW or could have possible impact on roads. She also gave an introduction to the problem of the EAB. We look forward to hosting more educational presentations this coming year, possibly via Zoom. Commissioners collaborated with the state to hang two EAB traps in town to monitor whether the borers were spreading from known infestations and no borers were detected.
- Several Commission members are helping with Friends of the Winooski River on their Water Wise Woodlands project. This involves working with the Plainfield, Marshfield, and Cabot Conservation Commissions to reach out to private landowners whose forest land is in the Winooski River watershed to encourage best forest land management practices that benefit water quality. If you would like to meet with a forest management expert about your land, the Friend of the Winooski River can arrange this. Please let the Conservation Commission know and we'll put you in touch with the Friends.
- The **Conservation Fund** (a line item in the Selectboard budget) was begun in 2001 and is designed to accumulate over a long period of time to be used to:
 - Purchase resource lands or conservation easements in Plainfield in cooperation with landowners and/or nonprofit organizations,
 - Provide technical assistance to Plainfield landowners seeking conservation easements on their land, and
 - Provide matching funds for larger grants for significant conservation projects, in accordance with the town plan.

The most recent use of Conservation funds by the Town was to provide matching funds in 2019 to the Cross Vermont Trail Association for purchase of a largely wooded and undevelopable parcel off the Recreation Field. The

PLAINFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT FOR 2020

Cross Vermont Trail Association is working to improve this parcel for recreational use and to connect the Village to a future Cross Vermont Trail and a larger regional trail network. Further information about the Conservation Fund is available on the town website or by contacting the Conservation Commission.

We are very grateful to all the partners mentioned above, and all those who work to make Plainfield a wonderful place to live. A very big THANK YOU!

Current commission members can be contacted via email links on the Commission page of the Town of Plainfield Website or by phone:

Sarah Albert, Chair, Treasurer 802-476-0526

Mary Trerice, Secretary 802-454-7334

Becky Atchinson 802 479-4326

Julie Hackbarth 802-522-0744

Rose Paul 802-454-1220

Serena Matt 917-364-1553

2020 CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

Income	
FY19-20 Town Budget	375.00
Expense	
AVCC conference (2 attendees)	80.00
Copying/printing brochure	191.17
Supplies	23.88
Compost for town-owned gardens	89.00
 Total expenses	 384.05
Balance 6/30/20 (returned to General Fund)	(9.05)

Street Tree Reserve Fund	
Balance as of July 1, 2019	8,766.67
Total profit from 2020 Tree Sale: \$1361.46	1,361.46
Income	
Plainfield share of Tree Sale profit	680.73
Interest income	22.17
 Balance On Hand June 30, 2020	 9,469.57

Conservation Fund	
Balance as of July 1, 2019	21,969.53
Income	
Budget	1,500.00
Interest Income	13.89
Expense	
Cross VT Trail Association	3,200.00
 Balance On Hand June 30, 2020	 20,283.42

Town Forest Fund	
Balance as of July 1, 2019	5,406.84
Income	
Interest Income	13.48
 Balance On Hand June 30, 2020	 5,420.32

*N.B. in FY18, \$500 was moved to general fund to pay for contractor, not expended until FY2021

PLAINFIELD E-911

Things Everyone Needs to Know to Be 911 Ready

Help us help you! In an emergency, seconds matter; being prepared can make a difference! Talking through scenarios with other family members can help you Be 911 Ready!

Know when to use 911

Call or text 911 in an emergency: to save a life, stop a crime, or to report a fire. If you or someone else is hurt or very sick, call 911. If you're not sure if your situation is an emergency, err on the side of safety and call 911. The call-taker can assess the event and guide you. Call when you can, text when you can't!

Know your location

Emergency responders can't help you if they don't know where you are. Train yourself to pay attention to where you are. If you're traveling, be able to identify the road, your direction, mile markers, or exits. If you're visiting a friend's house, make a mental note of their address. Make sure everyone in your home knows your street address. Keep your address posted by your phone in case of an emergency.

Know your phone

We can call 911 from a variety of phones these days, which is great in an emergency. However, not all phones and devices provide the 911 call-taker with your location information. Wireline phones will provide your location to the call-taker, but cell and VoIP phones may not. Contact your service provider for more information about the capabilities of your phone.

The Enhanced 911 System is only as good as the information or data behind it. When someone dials 911 from a wireline phone, a screen at the dispatch center displays the address and phone number of the caller's location.

Even with the technology in place for Enhanced 911 service, if the computer system does not contain a "locatable" address – a street address – to which dispatchers can direct emergency responders, the benefits of the Enhanced 911 system are drastically reduced.

Decreasing response time can prevent millions of dollars in property damages due to fire. In medical emergencies, a shorter response time can reduce death rates due to heart attacks, or injuries as well as other life threatening medical emergencies.

Remember that dialing 911 is for emergencies only. If you need to contact the police, fire or ambulance for any other reason, please use the phone numbers listed below.

As usual, if you have experienced any problems using the 911 system, please let me know.

Sandra Ross / Plainfield E-911

State Police: 229-9191 / Fire: 223-5555 / Ambulance: 223-5555

2020 PLAINFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT

2020 has been a very challenging year for the department, as it has for every citizen of the town. Trying to keep our department personnel safe during the COVID-19 pandemic has been our top priority. Thankfully, we have not had any members diagnosed with COVID-19. The fast squad has responded to calls where people later tested positive for COVID-19; our training on personal protection procedures thus far has kept our members safe. As this pandemic continues, we, as a community, need to continue following the states COVID-19 guidelines. Unfortunately, this has meant the department has had to suspend our monthly trainings for the winter months. We are currently doing our trainings/education online.

On a positive note, we were able to have a safe “Thank You” dinner for the department members, and handed out candy during Halloween in a safe manner to help bring some normalcy to the children in our community.

As you all know, the department had to cancel our Annual Chicken Barbecue because of safety concerns. This is the department’s biggest fund raiser of the year, and we rely on the money that is raised to help us purchase much needed equipment to keep up with standards. We were absolutely amazed by the outpouring support that we received from our community. Many people sent in monetary donations, for which we as a department are very grateful.

This year we had an unusual amount of fire calls for people burning without a permit; this is unacceptable. Every time someone burns without a permit where the fire department has been dispatched, it costs the town money, takes members away from their homes or work, and puts people in danger of getting hurt. As a reminder, fires quickly can become out of control from dangerous environmental conditions and many other factors. In the past, we have responded to unpermitted burns, and if the officer in charge has determined it was safe, the burn was allowed to continue. Going forward, if you do decide to take it upon yourself to burn without acquiring a permit, and if the fire department is dispatched, the fire will be extinguished. If you are wanting to still burn, you will need to wait until the following day to call and get a permit (No permits will be issued the day of putting out an unpermitted fire, and there will be no scheduling of a permit while the firefighters are on the premises; it needs to go through the appropriate channels). You can call Andy Hebert (802)322-5016, and or Dennis Blair (802)454-1327 to obtain a permit. If you cannot make contact with the Fire Warden, call Greg Light, at (802)839-8878. Please give at least one day’s request of your planned burn. If you are unable to contact a person, you need to wait until you have obtained the permit.

2020 PLAINFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT

The Fire Department responded to 83 calls this year and the Fast Squad responded to 171 calls. During 2020, the department has continued to update personal protection gear for all members and will continue to make sure every member has what it takes to keep them as safe as possible during an incident.

2021, we have been planning to make major repairs to the fire station building. Just about the entire length of one side of the building and just about the whole back side has rotted off the foundation. We believe from an estimate on the cost of these repairs to be in the neighborhood of \$70,000, with a \$10,000 contingency. The fire department has \$45,000 in the building fund to use towards this project. The town will need to borrow \$35,000 to cover the rest of the cost. I know this is poor timing for the town, but if we keep putting this off, the building will only get worse and cost more money to repair.

As a reminder, please remember to replace the batteries in your smoke and Co2 detectors when you turn the clock back in the fall and ahead in the spring! It is also very important to check the manufacturers date on these alarms (If the alarm is over 10 years old it needs to be replaced and recycled properly. Do not throw these alarms in the trash.) One helpful hint, take a sharpie pen and write the date on the side of the detector so when you look at it every so often you can easily tell if you are in need of replacing the unit. I want to personally thank every volunteer member for their continued support to our department and community. Also, I want to thank you, our entire community, for your continued support to the Plainfield Fire and Rescue Department. It's great to be a part of a community where we all work together making our town a safe place to live.

As always, we are always looking for new members. If you have any interest, please contact Greg Light or Johnathan Matthew.

Stay safe,

Greg Light

Chief of Plainfield Fire and Rescue

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Washington County Sheriff's Department has assisted with public safety within your community for many years. In our Annual Report I normally talk about what the Department has done, County wide, as well as within your community. This year I thought it might be interesting to give you a little history of Washington County and the Sheriff's Department.

In 1810 Jefferson County, Vermont was established. The first Sheriff took office in 1811. At that time Sheriffs served a term of two years. In 1814 the name was changed to Washington County, renaming the County after George Washington. Washington County is approximately 695 square miles and is one of two Counties (Washington and Lamoille) that are not bordered by another State or Canada. Montpelier is the Shire Town and is also the State Capital. The current State House is actual the 3rd, as the first two burned down. In 1820 there were 14,113 people in living in Washington County. The 2019 numbers show 58,409 people now living in the County.

Washington County's first jail was built into the dwelling erected by Montpelier's founder, Jacob Davis, shortly after his arrival as the first settler in 1787. That building was given to the County by his son Thomas Davis and was rebuilt in granite in 1832. Another jail was built in what is now known as Jail House Common, at 24 Elm Street, Montpelier. Completed in 1900, a new Jail and Sheriff's residence was built at its current location, 10 Elm Street, Montpelier. The Sheriff's house is now the Sheriff's Office and the Jail had been remodeled into Probate Court, but now houses the County Offices and Passport office.

There have been 43 Sheriffs since 1811. Three Sheriffs held office for two terms, but their terms were separated by other Sheriffs holding the office. Sheriff Henry Lawson was the longest serving Sheriff, holding office from 1927 to 1953 - 26 years. I have held the office since July of 2004.

My uncle, Harold Potter, held the Office of Sheriff between 1960 and 1968. He left office to become the first director of the Vermont Police Academy, which I have been teaching at for twenty-one years.

The Sheriff's Office currently has six full time Deputies, two office staff members, the Sheriff and many part time Deputies. The Office performs its statutory functions of transporting prisoners, mental health patients and juveniles as well as serving civil process. We also are responsible for security at the Civil Court in Montpelier. The office contracts with 10 towns within the County for motor vehicle patrol as well as performing a multitude of security and traffic details throughout the County. The Sheriffs Department also regularly assists other County law enforcement agencies when needed.

The Sheriff's Office is funded in three ways. First, we receive funds from the

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

County budget which pays for our basic office support and staff. Second, the state pays the salaries of the Sheriff and the two state transport Deputies. Third, all other funding to support the office and pay deputy salaries comes from revenues raised by the Department. Vermont Sheriff's Departments are tasked, by statute, with transporting prisoners and serving civil process, but are given no vehicles or equipment to do so. Thus, Sheriff's Departments must raise revenues in support of the Office, in order to perform State mandated functions.

County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2020 generated 2229 total incident reports, to include 695 Vermont Traffic Citations and 1333 Traffic Warnings.

In the course of our patrol efforts in Plainfield the following Vermont Traffic Complaints, Warning and Incidents were recorded by the Washington County Sheriff's Department while on patrol in your town.

We are proud of the work we do and take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work. Professionally,

W. Samuel Hill, Sheriff

Incident Analysis Report

ORI: VT0120000

Call Type	Count of Inc.	% of Total Inc.
<i>Abandoned Vehicle</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Agency Assist</i>	2	0.92%
<i>Attempt to Locate</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Citizen Assist</i>	2	0.92%
<i>Crash - Non-Reportable</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Directed Patrol</i>	7	3.23%
<i>Motor Vehicle Complaint</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Motorist Assist</i>	2	0.92%
<i>Parking Violation</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Suspicious Person/Circumstance</i>	4	1.84%
<i>Threats/Harassment</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Traffic Hazard</i>	1	0.46%
<i>Traffic Stop</i>	187	86.18%
<i>VIN Verification</i>	6	2.76%

Total: 217

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Ticket Summary Report

ORI: VT0120000 Washington County Sheriff's Department

Civil Other	1		0.54% of all tickets in this report
<u>Count</u>			<u>% of Civil Other Tickets</u>
1		16C - Consuming malt/vinous/spirituous beverage - 1st Offense (under 21)	
Traffic	72		38.92% of all tickets in this report
<u>Count</u>			<u>% of Traffic Tickets</u>
1		BR - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit	1.39%
2		BR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	2.78%
1		DEF - Condition Of Vehicle	1.39%
1		ESA - Unreasonable And Imprudent Speed For Conditions And Hazards	1.39%
4		FYY - Stop Sign	5.56%
4		INC - Operating without proof of financial responsibility	5.56%
4		INS - Operating Without Liability Insurance	5.56%
1		LBR - 11-20 MPH over speed limit - Local	1.39%
4		NL - Operating Without A License	5.56%
2		NR - Persons Required To Register	2.78%
1		OCD - Driver Possessed Open Container	1.39%
2		OCP - Passenger Possessed Open Container	2.78%
4		OSC - Operating After Suspension/Revocation/Refusal	5.56%
1		OWS - Obstructing Windshields	1.39%
1		PER - Permitting Illegal Operation Of A Motor Vehicle	1.39%
1		PNA - Misuse Of Number Plates	1.39%
9		SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	12.50%
13		VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	18.06%
16		VO - Regulations In Municipalities	22.22%

Warning **112** **60.54%** of all tickets in this report

<u>Count</u>	<u>% of Traffic Tickets</u>
1	BR - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit 0.89%
1	CEL - Using Portable Electronic Device - 1st violation 0.89%
17	DEF - Condition Of Vehicle 15.18%
4	DP - Failed To Display Front Registration Plate 3.57%
9	FYY - Stop Sign 8.04%
1	IX4 - Inspection Expired Within 14 Days 0.89%
1	LBR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit-Local 0.89%
1	LK - Lights 0.89%
7	NR - Persons Required To Register 6.25%
1	OMD-Driver Possessing Open Container of Marijuana 0.89%
1	OWS - Obstructing Windshields 0.89%
4	SIG - Signals Required 3.57%
2	SL1 - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit 1.79%
22	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit 19.64%
34	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration 30.36%
4	VO - Regulations In Municipalities 3.57%
2	VSP - Operating without displaying validation sticker on plate 1.79%

Total Tickets 185

PLAINFIELD REVOLVING LOAN FUND ANNUAL REPORT

The Plainfield Revolving Loan Fund PRLF was initially created in 1985 through a grant from the Vermont Community Development Program. It's initial purpose was to improve the condition of historic structures, create housing and improve the vitality of the downtown areas. These funds were to be distributed as low interest loans and paid back to the Town of Plainfield. Once paid back, Plainfield had full discretion as to how to use these funds. By 1997, many of the funds were paid back and the account had over \$70,000. The Selectboard formed a committee to oversee the distribution of these funds by way of loans.

The purposes of the PRLF will be, in no particular order of importance:

Emergency building repairs for eligible borrowers

Job creation, job preservation and enhancement of Plainfield

Improve community-owned facilities

Improve the accessibility of businesses and facilities to people with disabilities

Promote establishment or expansion of business, including agriculture

Promote or increase affordable and safe housing, owner-occupied or rental

Improve appearance of Town of Plainfield

Promote preservation of historic properties

If there are a variety of applications that arrive simultaneously, priority will be given to non-town government projects.

This program is designed to serve the interests of the Town of Plainfield. Therefore, citizens of the town, businesses, non-profit organizations, town government and community organizations are eligible.

The maximum loan is currently set at \$20,000 for all applications except for those submitted by the Town of Plainfield.

Currently there are two loans outstanding

Town of Plainfield	\$16,789.34
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Ending account balance June 30, 2019	\$169,603.13
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For further information on the Plainfield Revolving Loan Fund, you may contact the Town Clerks office.

Linda B. Wells

PLAINFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT

In 2020, the Plainfield Historical Society continued to advance its mission, which is “to collect, preserve, share and create materials that establish or illustrate the history of Plainfield, Vermont.” The PHS has still been looking into securing a grant to begin the long overdue project of having the Old Fire Station building reroofed and structurally stabilized. The collection of town artifacts is currently housed in the upstairs of the town municipal building.

Before the Corona virus hit, the PHS had set up a one-room museum in the upstairs of the municipal building. We hope to have this open again once it is deemed safe to do so.

In December, we produced our 17th annual wall calendar as a fundraiser. The calendar is now available at the Town Clerk’s office, the Plainfield Co-op, the Cutler Library, the Country Bookshop, Plainfield Hardware, and online at our website: plainfieldvthistory.org. We wish to thank our patrons and advertisers for their support of the calendar project the last 17 years.

Bob Fancher has done a great deal of work to get our website up and running. Many pictures have been added, and a very nice early history of Plainfield was penned by Susan Grimaldi. The web address is: plainfieldvthistory.org

The PHS is a volunteer, not for profit association that makes the decisions and carries out the work of the organization. If you would like to learn more about the PHS, our monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Cutler Library at 7 pm.

Officers of the Historical Society for 2020 were President: Dan Gadd; Vice-President: Melinda Vieux; Treasurer/Sales Coordinator: Bev Thomas; Secretary: Dave Ferland; IT coordinator: Bob Fancher. Trustee #1- Sue Jamele; Trustee #2- Dave Strong; Trustee #3- Susan Grimaldi.

2020 RECREATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Despite the many challenges of 2020, the Recreation Committee continued its work of maintaining and improving the Plainfield Rec Field. Highlights of this year included extensive mulching around the trees near the parking lot, moving the sand box area into the toddler play area, dumping and spreading more mulch in the toddler play area, purchasing new swing chains, a new toddler swing and continued painting and repairs at the Skate Park. Also, thanks to the organizing efforts of Jeremy Cushing and many people who donated funds, the basketball court got a total renovation. New courts were poured and painted and new baskets were purchased. Thank you Jeremy and everyone who helped move this project to completion.

In the late spring, the Committee was approached by Twinfield Youth Sports about holding physically distanced basketball clinics at the Rec Field basketball court. After reviewing their safety protocols, we were happy to collaborate with the organizers to help provide safe social and physical activities for youth in our town.

Our beautiful picnic shelter got lots of good use this spring, summer and fall. It is so lovely to see families using the shelter for celebrations and relaxation.

The Recreation Committee is looking for new members to help bring new energy and ideas to the committee. We anticipate lots of fun programming once we move past the crisis stage of the pandemic. If you are interested in serving on the Committee, please contact Linda Wells and she will forward your contact information to the committee.

Respectfully,

Dan Gadd
Ben Youngbaer
Nicholas Hooker
Michael Morlan
Jamie Spector

2021 - 2022 CEMETERY COMMISSION BUDGET

Income	2021-/2022 FY
Sale of Lots	\$3,000
Cemetery Services	\$5,500
Transfer from Investments	\$25,350
Total	\$33,850
Expenses	
Cemetery Mowing	\$15,600
GMP power	\$250
Liability Insurance	\$1,100
Maintenance	\$2,000
Sexton Contract	\$10,000
Sexton Services	\$4,000
Supplies	\$400
Treasurer	\$500
Legal fees	
Total	\$33,850

2019-2020 PLAINFIELD ENERGY COORDINATOR REPORT FROM BOB ATCHINSON

As our Planet Earth and its population and species sinks deeper into Climate Catastrophe, with this year's spin-off of the Corona-Virus pandemic, it is most important that we continue our efforts, individually and collectively, to conserve and use less of the energy resources available, stop the use of all fossil fuels, and replace them with clean energy sources. The Plainfield Energy Team is your resource to go to – whether for weatherization consultation, renewable energy installation, prospectus of grants and incentives for your project, as well as how to make best choices for transportation and planning in this time of impending climate disaster.

In the past year, Jan. 2020 – Feb. 2021, Plainfield Energy Coordinator Bob Atchinson and team member Ed Hutchinson participated in the following:

- **CELEBRATIONS!**

- The Energy Team commends the Water and Waste Water Commission for contracting with Green Lantern Solar for a net-metering agreement to supply all the power for their facilities on Recreation Road and the pump station at the Park and Ride.
- Solar for Twinfield. After many years of energy committee work with assistance from RAMP Energy and the Central VT Climate Action Committee, we are proud to announce that Twinfield Union School, via the supervisory union, has accepted a proposal from Norwich Solar Technologies to cover its entire electrical load. Most of the power will be produced off-site in Barre, however, there will be a solar tracker array installed on the school grounds for educational and student observation purposes. Both of these accomplishment are totally in line with Plainfield's declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2020, and the push toward Net Zero Energy by 2030. As the town moves toward net-zero energy, it is now time to add some more renewables. As Energy Coordinator, I am exploring a couple of models for assisting community members to install solar energy systems at an affordable cost.
- We continued monitoring solar production of the Park & Ride 9.9 kW array. In the past 12 months the array produced 10,271 kWh of electricity. Since commissioning in September of 2015 the array has produced 60,049 gross kWh of electricity, a revenue value of nearly \$11,000.
- Monitored contributions and usage for the EV charging station at Mill St. Park. Charging is by donation for kilowatt hours used, and the donations are used to offset some of the electrical usage on the Mill St. Park meter, including the adjacent bridge lighting. This year, usage and donations are down, due mostly, we reason, that people are driving much less due to the

2019-2020 PLAINFIELD ENERGY COORDINATOR REPORT FROM BOB ATCHINSON

pandemic. Check it out in person, or online at: <https://www.plugshare.com/location/79683>.

- Now that the Municipal building 2nd floor is vacant, our energy team would like to complete some window and door weather-stripping efforts, as well as making a decision on what level of weatherization is appropriate for the third floor of the building, i.e., should it be weatherized to allow for living/working, or just storage space. This work and electrical load assessment are currently on hold, due to Covid 19 issues.
- This year, members of the Plainfield Energy Team attended the annual October Renewable Energy VT conference in Burlington, the Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network (VECAN) conference in December, as well as the Better Buildings by design conferences – all virtually online. The good news is that all sessions were recorded, and we, as attendees can access all recordings via links on the website(s). Please take a look at the program content, and feel free to open the link and view the presentations. If you have difficulty getting the downloads, please let us know, and we will do our best to get you access.
- Bob continued as Plainfield representative on the Central VT Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Using the FLIR infrared camera, Our Energy Team is available upon request to scan your building to identify heat loss, cold penetration, and high moisture areas. **Please take advantage of this service! We can do a drive-by/walk-around of your home without risking social-distancing violations.**
- Attended majority of the combined meetings with the Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee. We invite any and all community members with an interest, an idea, or a passion for reducing the effects of this climate emergency to join us. We meet the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm; look for the Zoom link on Front Porch Forum.

RAMP - Revitalizing All Marshfield and Plainfield: 2021 Update

The RAMP effort (Revitalizing All Marshfield and Plainfield: RAMP - Into the Future) was the result of a collaboration with the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD). A local team in Marshfield and Plainfield applied successfully in 2019 to participate in VCRD's Climate Economy Model Communities Program. The RAMP process kicked off in the spring of 2019 and attracted great participation to a series of meetings at Twinfield. The

2019-2020 PLAINFIELD ENERGY COORDINATOR REPORT FROM BOB ATCHINSON

result of these meetings was the creation of four task forces to push selected priorities forward. Here are some quick updates from each group:

• Energy Task Force accomplishments

- The energy task force efficient wood heating program had at least 12 known subscribers take advantage of the incentives, and the savings are roughly a 33-50% less amount of wood burned with improved community air quality.

Twinfield has taken advantage of their energy-savings project with Efficiency Vermont covering the full \$115,000 cost, with documented results to be reported at the end of the heating season.

- \$10,000 of weatherization for the Town Hall was completed with the thermal envelope much improved.
- Efficiency VT awarded 20 extra home energy assessments as an extension of Button Up. Unfortunately the Covid 19 pandemic has largely curtailed energy assessments and weatherization activities for the time being. We will be approaching Efficiency VT with proposals when the pandemic eases its grip on the construction business.

• Transportation

The final event of the RAMP Transportation task force was an electric vehicle demo day, held in early April, before full pandemic restrictions closed in. We hope to expand on this venture in the future, and please consider the energy teams of Plainfield and Marshfield as expert consultants if you are planning the purchase of a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) or a fully-electric EV, as we have many owner/drivers among us.



The transportation task force organized a hands-on event for community members to check out and learn about electric cars and e-bikes.

2019-2020 PLAINFIELD ENERGY COORDINATOR REPORT FROM BOB ATCHINSON

- **Farm and Food**

The farm and food task force focused successfully over the summer on making the Friday afternoon Plainfield Farmers Market more active. They have also designed and are distributing a survey with the goal of building a comprehensive list of both farmers and food producers as well as larger scale consumers in the area.

- **Village Centers and US Route 2**

This task force celebrated the decision of the community and the Plainfield Select Board in voting to move ahead on the VTrans design for the US-2/ Main Street “blinking light” intersection, and also for accepting a competitive bid for the Main Street pedestrian bridge over the Winooski River, with continuance of the sidewalk to access the Town Hall. Both of these projects will be coordinated, so as not to undo the work of one to complete the other.

Contacts for the RAMP project are below. Please reach out if you would like to take advantage of lessons learned and goals achieved.

- Here is a link to the final RAMP report on the VCRD website: <https://www.vtrural.org/programs/model-communities/report/marshfield-plainfield>
Download the April 2020 Report and Action Plan here: <https://www.vtrural.org/sites/default/files/TheRAMPMCReport.pdf>
- Overall Chairs – Bob Atchinson and Rich Phillips
- Energy Committee – Nick Seifert and Diana Batzel
- Transportation – Bob Atchinson, 802-505-3996 (c), 479-4326 (h) or bo-battwo@gmail.com
- Food and Farm – Kagen Dewey and Elise Magnant
- Village Centers and US 2 – Jamie Spector (Plainfield) and Rich Baker (Marshfield)
- Gratitude to all those who participated in this outstanding project, and to our guide and overseer, Jon Copans from VCRD.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Atchinson, Plainfield Energy Coordinator

2020 TOWN HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

While this year has been notable and health has been on everyone's mind, business in terms of our town health has been remarkably unchanged. In addition to basic THO (Town Health Officer) duties of inspecting rental housing upon request, the THO team helped mitigate several public health hazards including working with homeowners and the water/wastewater team to prevent contamination of waterways by a failed septic system and to plan for effective systems moving forward. Additionally, the THO team helped protect our clean air by educating about the hazards of unsanctioned "burn barrel" burning etc. This year did see one notable issue that has come to the forefront of our town's public health attention: that is progress on our R.A.T.S. project of helping villagers comply with new Vermont laws requiring the Recycling of All Table Scraps while not increasing food and habitat sources for pests in our village (see link on town website).

Every town in Vermont has a state-appointed THO. While health is an individual responsibility, it is helpful to have a "point" person in town when issues arise in the "in-between space" between individuals. According to the state legislature, it is the role of each town's health officer to help mediate and coordinate these "in-between" spaces between individual rights and "the commons". It is our hope here in Plainfield that there need not be any further public health "tragedy" in common or otherwise!

While we are free to do what we want on our private property, there is cause for concern when the actions of one pose a hazard to the well-being of others. Mostly in Plainfield these types of issues arise regarding the disposal (or failure to properly do so) of wastes which can then pollute the soil, water, and air.

Link to THO manual <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/Env_THO_THOManual.pdf>

"Public health" issues can arise when it comes to rental housing. If you are a renter or a landlord and have cause to believe that the actions of either your tenant or your landlord are causing a hazard to the public well-being this may be a cause for contacting the THO.

Links to rental housing codes and resources for landlords and tenants: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/REG_Rental_Housing_Code.pdf>

<<https://accd.vermont.gov/housing/resources-rules/renters-landlords>>

<<https://www.rentalcodes.org/>>

THOs, though unfunded by the state, are specifically instructed to inspect potential public health hazards and function as the "first line of defense" in our communal

2020 TOWN HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

immune systems. THOs are not mediators, but are called on to help properties come into compliance.

Link to forms used by town health officer regarding complaints, etc. <<https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/town-health-officer/forms-town-health-officers>>

R.A.T.S. (recycling all table scraps) coalition

One of the on-going and main public health issues in all towns (and cities) is the management of human relations with “pests” such as rodents. Rats are our neighbors whether we like it or not. However, we can manage our relations with them.

R.A.T.S. (recycling all table scraps) is a new coalition formed in 2020 in Plainfield.

Because of new legislation in Vermont, all table scraps must be diverted from the “garbage” waste streams. While it is undoubtedly good for less organic material to be going into our landfills where it becomes toxic, many people do not know how to recycle their organic matter.

Back-yard composting can be difficult to do on the scale of a single family or an apartment complex. Additionally, even if done well, compost piles in a town or village setting can provide habitat for pests such as rodents. Expecting all residents to hire new private hauling services for food scraps is also not feasible.

As a result, Plainfield residents have discovered an opportunity to get together and solve this challenge! The R.A.T.S. coalition seeks to link together residents in their search for intelligent solutions to the question of what to do with our table scraps. Furthermore, we see the possibility for R.A.T.S. to turn into a valuable resource!

By working together we can recycle all table scraps. We can generate great quality compost to be used in private or village gardens; we can eliminate food sources for pest rodents; we can come together in joyful service to each other; we can have parties to celebrate our successes!

Current R.A.T.S. coalition projects include (but are not limited to): bokashi compost system coordination, installing “compost knox” rodent-proof bin communal bin system, coordinating affordable local hauling services, matchmaking between residents in town and farms seeking food scraps

Golden boot award: Greg Light for “giving the boot” to the most rodent in Plainfield village 2019 & 2020 running totals!

Honorific award: Paula Emery for coming up with the title of R.A.T.S.

CVSWMD FY 2020 REPORT FOR PLAINFIELD



The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Betsy Ziegler represents Plainfield on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates and providing information and resources to our member communities.

In recognition of COVID-19 related fiscal challenges faced by our member municipalities, the CVSWMD Board reduced the FY21 per capita assessment to \$.50 (fifty cents) from \$1.00, beginning on July 1, 2020. The per capita assessment will likely return to the \$1.00 level next year.

In FY20, CVSWMD provided \$10,604 in School Zero Waste and Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Program Grants, and \$1,779 in Green Up Day Grants. The Town of Plainfield received a Green Up Day Grant in the amount of \$229.94. Twinfield Union School received \$713 in School Zero Waste Grant funds to purchase materials to build a modular sorting station. The ECO AmeriCorps member serving with CVSWMD built the sorting station.

Also in FY20, CVSWMD provided \$9,400 in Municipal Services Program grants. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual Municipal Services Program Grant.

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

Residential Composting: CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates.

Outreach and Education: In FY20, CVSWMD provided 21 workshops and webinars on topics such as recycling, composting, safer cleaning, and reducing toxins in the home.

School Programming: Our School Zero Waste Program works with 26 schools in the District, teaching solid waste lessons in classrooms and facilitating the recycling of paint, bulbs, electronics, batteries and more. In FY20, we taught 6 classrooms lessons, made 5 cafeteria visits to support students in separating their lunchtime-generated waste, and provided 10 classroom food waste pails for Twinfield Union School. School Program Coordinators work with maintenance staff and teachers to help schools compost on site and mentor student groups who lead initiatives toward zero waste in their schools.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW): In FY20, CVSWMD provided 5 collection events in which we collected household hazardous waste.

CVSWMD FY 2020 REPORT FOR PLAINFIELD

Two household hazardous waste collection events were held, in nearby Barre Town and Montpelier, in spring and fall.

Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC): The ARCC, at 540 N. Main St. in Barre, is open M, W, F 10:30am-5:30pm and every third Saturday from 9am-1pm. The ARCC is a recycling drop-off for hard-to-recycle materials. *Blue bin recyclables are not accepted at the ARCC.* More info at cvswmd.org/arcc.

In FY20, 220 visitors from Plainfield recycled at the ARCC.

Web Site: CVSWMD posts useful information on what can be recycled, what can be composted, how to dispose of hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, Act 148, details of our special collections, and an A to Z Guide listing disposal options for many materials. For specific questions, call 802-229-9383.

**WARNING FOR TOWN MEETING
PLAINFIELD, VERMONT
APRIL 6, 2021**

The legal voters of the Town of Plainfield are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High Street, on Tuesday, the sixth day of April 2021 between the hours of 9am to 7pm to transact the following business by Australian ballot.

The Plainfield Selectboard will have virtual informational hearings on March 18, 2021 and March 30, 2021, at 6:30pm. The meetings will be published town wide.

- Art. 1 To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year: Moderator, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectboard, Lister, Auditor, Collector of Delinquent Taxes, Cemetery Commissioner, and School Director.
- Art. 2 Shall the Town vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$6,833.06 for the support of Rural Community Transportation Inc. to provide services to residents of the Town of Plainfield?
- Art. 3 Shall the Town of Plainfield appropriate the sum of \$1,499.94 as its share of the ninth year cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Plainfield. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and passenger fares?
- Art.4 Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures for not-for-profit service agencies in the amount of \$14,461 as recommended by the appointed Social Concerns Committee?
- Art. 5 Shall the Town voters authorize an appropriation of \$37,500 to the Cutler Memorial Library to pay for the librarian, a library assistant, and the purchase of materials and services, including those to make the Library accessible to the community?
- Art. 6 For future Town Meetings, shall the Town of Plainfield adopt all budget articles by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A.2680(c)?
- Art. 7 For future Town Meetings, shall the Town of Plainfield vote on all public questions by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A.2680(d)?
- Art. 8 Shall the Town approve \$232,198.00 for the operation of the Water Department for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022?
- Art. 9 Shall the Town approve \$318,323.00 for the operation of the Wastewater Department for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022?
- Art. 10 Shall the Town approve \$1,041,789.00 to operate the Administrative operations, Fire and Rescue Department, and Highway Department of the Town of Plainfield for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022?

**WARNING FOR TOWN MEETING
PLAINFIELD, VERMONT
APRIL 6, 2021**

- Art. 11 Shall the Town of Plainfield authorize the Selectboard to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year?
- Art. 12 Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of public statutes relating to the collection of taxes by the Town Treasurer, (VSA 32 Section 4791) and vote to collect municipal taxes thirty days from mailing and not prior to August 11, 2021 and collect taxes on November 10, 2021 and February 09, 2022, collecting half of the total school taxes on each of those dates?

Alexandra “Sasha” Thayer, Chair

Tammy Farnham

Jim Volz

Plainfield Selectboard, Dated at Plainfield, Vermont February 24, 2021

Attest: Linda B. Wells, Town Clerk

NOTICE TO VOTERS for Town Meeting

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerk's Office by **March 7, 2021**. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **Sample ballots** will be posted by **March 27, 2021**.

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE There is no deadline to register to vote. Plainfield citizens can register prior to Town Meeting Day by visiting the Town Clerk's office or by going online to **olvr.sec.state.vt.us**.

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone email, or online at **mvp.sec.state.vt.us**. **The latest you can request ballots for Town Meeting is 12 noon at the Town Clerk's office Monday, April 5, 2021. (If you authorize any other person who is not a family member to request an absentee ballot for you they must apply in writing or in person.)**

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the Town Clerk's office, by appointment only, before the deadline.
- Voter may take his or her ballots out of the Clerk's office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Town Meeting Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Town Meeting Day.
- If you are sick or disabled before Town Meeting Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM**

The Town frequently looks for qualified individuals to serve on the Boards or Commissions of the town. Periodically, committees are appointed by the Selectboard to work on new projects. If you would like to volunteer in some capacity, please complete this form and return to the town clerks office.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

From the following list, please circle which you may be most interested in.

Conservation Commission

DRB(Development Review Board)

Emergency Management

Energy Committee

Hazard Mitigation

Historical Society

Old Home Days Committee

Planning Commission

Recreation Committee

Revolving Loan Committee

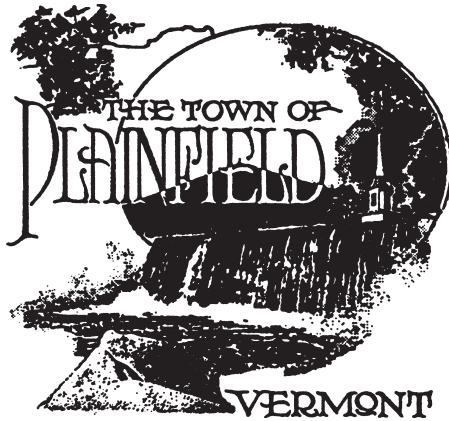
Social Concerns Committee

Water and Wastewater Commission

What previous boards or committees have you served on:

Please bring this form to the clerk's office or mail to Town Clerk, PO Box 217, Plainfield, VT 05667.

NOTES



PLAINFIELD LOGO

(Created by local artist Rick Walsh)

The Plainfield Logo is representative of the past, present and future of this active Vermont community.

The Winooski River was a well traveled waterway of the early Indians, traders and trappers, as well as for their raids on more southern towns. Early settlers coming to the town harnessed the water power for use at the "Mill Privilege" where all early industry was located.

The Church spire is indicative of the various religious societies that have been in town. Five churches were located in the village area in the late 1800s.

Spruce Mountain in the background is a reminder of "potash" the cash crop of the early settlers; later the producer of millions of board feet of lumber for the Batchelder Mill and other wood industries; today recreationists enjoy hiking to the top of the mountain.

For future it is up to us to decide what is essentially good to all in keeping the **Pride of Plainfield** alive.

CORA COPPING
January 1998

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
Plainfield, Vermont 05667

PRSRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 222
Barre, VT



*Old Home Days
Be Back Soon*

We are all in this together!