

# BROOKLINE 2014

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B R O O K L I N E ,   V E R M O N T   0 5 3 4 5

# Town of Brookline General Information

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Town Office .....	P.O. Box 403
.....	736 Grassy Brook Road
.....	Brookline, Vermont 05345
.....	802-365-4648; FAX: 802-365-4092
.....	Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
.....	First Saturday 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
.....	Or by appointment
Selectboard .....	First and third Wednesday, 7:00 P.M., Town Office
.....	<a href="http://www.brooklinevt.com/selectboard">www.brooklinevt.com/selectboard</a>
Planning Commission .....	First Thursday, 7:30 P.M., Town Office
Brookline Elementary School Board.....	Third Tuesday, 6:30 P.M.
Leland & Gray School Board .....	Second and fourth Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.
Riverside Cemetery .....	\$200 per space. Contact Cemetery Commission.
Health & Sewage Disposal Ordinance .....	See Town Clerk
Highway Regulations .....	See Town Clerk
Dog Ownership .....	See page 24 of this report
Landfill .....	Access permits available at District Scale house
Fire & Rescue.....	9-1-1 or 1-603-352-1100
Fish & Game License.....	See Town Clerk

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The town of Brookline owes so much to the many volunteers who have given of themselves over the years. If you are interested in participating in any of the local groups, serving on a board, or helping out at events, please attend meetings, contact the groups directly, or talk with the Town Clerk.

# Warning for 2015 Brookline Town Meeting

The legal voters of the Town of Brookline are hereby warned to meet in the Multipurpose Room at the Brookline School in the said Town of Brookline on Tuesday, the 3rd of March at 10:00 in the forenoon to transact the following business:

- ARTICLE 1. To elect a moderator.  
ARTICLE 2. To elect a Town Clerk.  
ARTICLE 3. To elect a Town Treasurer.  
ARTICLE 4. To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes.  
ARTICLE 5. To elect all other officers required by law.  
ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town accept the Auditor's Report?  
ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town vote to approve the General and Highway Fund expenditures, net of non-tax budgeted revenues, for the town as follows:  
Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 211,211.00  
Amount of prior year surplus: \$ 11,735.00  
Total amount to be voted on: \$ 222,946.00  
ARTICLE 8. To see what dates the Town will vote to collect taxes?  
ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town voters appropriate \$6,331.00 to be raised by taxes in continuing support of the following organizations?

Organization	FY 15 Approved	FY 16 Requested
American Red Cross – Note 1 .....	\$ 100.00 .....	\$ 250.00
Brattleboro Drop-in Center .....	100.00 .....	100.00
CRT, The Current .....	250.00 .....	250.00
Grace Cottage Foundation .....	300.00 .....	300.00
Green Mtn RSVP .....	150.00 .....	150.00
Green Up Vermont .....	50.00 .....	50.00
Historical Soc. Of Windham Cnty .....	250.00 .....	250.00
L & G Educational Foundation .....	250.00 .....	250.00
Morningside Shelter .....	100.00 .....	100.00
Project Feed the Thousands .....	100.00 .....	100.00
Senior Solutions .....	350.00 .....	350.00
SEVCA .....	465.00 .....	465.00
Townshend Food Bank (new request FY 2016) .....	0.00 .....	100.00
Valley Cares Inc. ....	821.00 .....	821.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance .....	1,000.00 .....	1,000.00
VT Assoc Blind & Visually Impaired .....	100.00 .....	100.00
VT Ctr Independent Living .....	80.00 .....	80.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force - Note 2 .....	0.00 .....	100.00
West River Watershed Alliance .....	110.00 .....	110.00
Windham County Humane Society .....	500.00 .....	500.00
Women's Freedom Center .....	650.00 .....	650.00
Youth Services .....	255.00 .....	255.00
Total Approved/for Approval .....	\$5,981.00 .....	\$6,331.00
PLUS corrections to Note 1 & 2 in FY 2015 .....	250.00 .....	n/a
Total Requested FY 2016 .....	\$6,231.00 .....	\$6,331.00

- ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$8,000.00 to install a cement slab at the town shed for safety and the protection of the nearby waterway.  
ARTICLE 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Brookline authorize the Brookline Select Board to purchase from the Brookline School District the land, premises and facilities known as the Brookline School, located at 624 Grassy Brook Road, Brookline Vermont for nominal consideration of one dollar, subject to the possibility of reverter back to the Brookline School District, should the State of Vermont actively pursue collection of a statutory lien of the property for school construction?  
Voting on the article shall be by voice.  
A copy of the proposed deed from the Brookline Town School District to the Town of Brookline may be examined at the Town Clerk's office in Brookline, Vermont.  
ARTICLE 12. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

*Dated this 14th day of January 2015*

Bernardine Hoard, Dorothy Maggio, Bruce Mello, Michael O'Donnell, James Rogers

# Warning for 2015 Brookline School District Meeting

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The legal voters of the Brookline School District are hereby notified and warned to meet and vote by floor vote at the Brookline School Multipurpose room (Sunnylane Daycare), on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at 11:00a.m. to consider and act upon the following articles:

Article I: To elect a Moderator and Treasurer, as required by law.

Article II: To elect all Brookline School District Officers as required by law for the ensuing year.

School District Director

3 year term (ending 2018)

Article III: To compensate the Directors and Treasurer of the Brookline School District \$200 each.

Article IV: To authorize the School Directors to accept any donations of land, gifts, or monies for school use.

Article V: Shall the voters of the Brookline School District authorize the Brookline Town School District to convey and sell for the nominal fee of \$1.00 the land, premises and facilities known as the Brookline School, 624 Grassy Brook Road, Brookline, Vermont, to Town of Brookline?

The sale is subject to the possibility of a reverter in the event the State of Vermont seeks recapture of State school construction funds.

A copy of the proposed deed from the Brookline Town School District to the Town of Brookline may be examined at the Town Clerk's office in Brookline, Vermont.

Article VI: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated at Brookline, Vermont this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January in the year 2014.

Brookline School Board of Directors:

  
Alecia O'Donnell, Chair

  
Dorothy Maggio, Vice-Chair

  
Sherry Greene, Clerk



# Town Officers Elected

TITLE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Moderator.....	David Y. Parker, Jr. ....	2015
Town Clerk.....	Guy Tanza.....	2015
Treasurer.....	Somara Zwick .....	2015
Delinquent Tax Collector.....	Guy Tanza.....	2015
Selectboard.....	James Rogers (finish 2 year seat) .....	2015
	Michael O'Donnell (2 year seat).....	2016
	Dorothy Maggio (finish 3 year seat) .....	2016
	Bernardine Hoard (elected to finish 3 year seat) .....	2015
	Bruce Mello (3 year seat) .....	2017
Listers.....	Donald Gokey.....	2015
	Doug Wood.....	2016
	Marsha Omand .....	2017
Auditors.....	Heidi Nystrom .....	2015
	Frank Rucker .....	2016
	Kendra Brooks .....	2017
School Directors.....	Sharon Greene .....	2015
	Dorothy Maggio .....	2017
	Alecia O'Donnell.....	2015
School District Treasurer .....	Lisa Rucker .....	2015
LGHUS School Director.....	Lyndall Boal .....	2016
Cemetery Commissioners.....	Penny Harrington .....	2017
	David Allbee.....	2018
	Doug Wellman .....	2019
	Cynthia Nau.....	2015
	Howard Osgood .....	2016
First Constable .....	(Vacant)	
Second Constable .....	(Vacant)	
Trustee of Public Funds .....	Guy Tanza.....	2015
Town Agent .....	Stanley Noga Jr.....	2015
Town Grand Juror .....	David Y. Parker Jr.....	2015
Town Representatives.....	Carolyn Partridge.....	2015
	Matthew Trieber.....	2015
Justice of the Peace.....	Marsha Omand .....	2015
	Cynthia Nau.....	2015
	Pamela Swing.....	2015
	Guy Tanza.....	2015
	Margi Wellman.....	2015

# Town Officers Appointed

TITLE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Assistant Town Clerk .....	Penny Harrington .....	2015
	Gwen Tanza .....	2015
Assistant Treasurer .....	Louise Sirois.....	2015
	Guy Tanza .....	2015
Road Commissioners .....	James Rogers.....	2015
Highway Foreman .....	Mark Bills.....	2015
Health Officer .....	Bernardine Hoard.....	11/30/2016
Assistant Health Officer .....	Vacant .....	2015
Forest Fire Warden.....	Lester D. Rink .....	2015
Deputy Forest Fire Warden.....	Michael W. Winot .....	2015
Town Service Officer .....	Cynthia Nau.....	2015
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber.....	Lester D. Rink .....	2015
Tree Warden .....	Mark Bills.....	2015
Windham Regional Commissioners.....	Cynthia Nau.....	2015
	Guy Tanza .....	2015
Pound Keeper.....	Windham County Humane Society .....	2015
Animal Control Officer .....	Nancy Caldwell.....	2015
Historical Society.....	Cynthia Nau.....	2015
	Doug Wellman .....	2015
	Vacant .....	2015
Emergency Management Coordinator ....	Michael O'Donnell .....	2015
Rescue, Inc. ....	Vacant .....	2015
Town 911 Coordinator .....	Penny Harrington .....	2015
SEVCA.....	Vacant .....	2015
VSP Advisory Board .....	Stanley J. Noga, Jr. ....	2015
WCSWMD (Landfill) .....	Bruce Capponcelli.....	2015
Planning Commission .....	Barbara Bourne .....	2017
	Suzanne d' Corsey.....	2018
	Charlie Ezequelle.....	2015
	Kim Sankey.....	2016
	Vacant .....	2015
Brookline Church Committee	Stanley Noga, Jr., Chair.....	2015
	Bruce Mello Selectboard Liason.....	2015
	Peter Meyer.....	2015
	Helen Samuels.....	2015
	Kerry Bourne .....	2015
	Cynthia Nau.....	2015

# Auditors' Report

**T**HIS AUDITOR'S REPORT is provided in connection with our audit of the financial statements of the Town of Brookline, which comprise the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund as of June 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended. In our opinion the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

We have followed auditing procedures as recommended by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and as required by Vermont Law. Our opinion included the following considerations:

1. The financial statements include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the Town and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
2. Expenses have been appropriately classified and allocated to functions and programs in the financial statements. We have reconciled salary expenses reported in the statements to the IRS 941 report and confirmed tax deposits have been remitted on time.
3. Revenues are appropriately classified within general revenues and contributions to restricted funds.

4. All bank accounts have been reconciled to the Town's general ledger accounting system and inter-fund activity balances have been appropriately classified, reported, and reconciled.
5. We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries that the Treasurer proposed, and confirmed that they have been posted to the general ledger.
6. We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation, claims, or assessments or unasserted claims or assessments that are required to be accrued or disclosed in the financial statements. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices that are currently pending.

In our opinion the Treasurer has suitable skill, knowledge, and experience to maintain and administer the accounting and related fiduciary functions of the Town. The Town is very fortunate to have the capable administrative services of our elected Treasurer and Clerk.

Please note that the Annual Report, prepared by the Town elected Auditors, is for Town business. This year we have removed the outside agency reports from the Annual Report. The outside agency report handouts will be available at Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted by elected auditors: Heidi Nystrom, Kendra Brooks and Frank Rucker

*Dated: January 18, 2015*

Our Brookline E-mail list includes more than one hundred people. This is one of the ways in which we communicate news and announcements of local interest to our community. If you would like to be added to the list, please e-mail Julie Lavorgna at [julielav@sover.net](mailto:julielav@sover.net). (And, please, if your E-mail address has changed, let Julie know.)



# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes, March 4, 2014

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The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Moderator David Parker Jr. David proceeds to read the preamble to the warning

## **TOWN MEETING:**

### **Article 1. To Elect A Moderator**

Dan Seiden nominates David Parker, Jr.; David informs the public that to second a nomination is not required for nominations. No other nominations submitted. David Parker Jr. elected Moderator.

David acknowledges the presence of State Representatives Partridge and Trieber and their desire to address the public.

Doug Wellman motions to suspend the meeting for a presentation from local Legislator Representatives Carolyn Partridge and Matt Trieber. The motion is seconded by Cynthia Nau – All in favor.

## **TOWN MEETING SUSPENDED:**

Carolyn Partridge speaks. Carolyn calls attention to the fact there are handouts available in the back of the room which contain the latest Legislative news along with all contact information. Carolyn comments on the state budget for FY15 and the fact there is a current \$70 million budget gap, but stresses that they have always been able to balance their budget (although not required by Vermont's constitution) by sessions end. On the bright side of things Carolyn, who serves as Chair of the Agriculture and Forest Products Committee points out that continued use of locally produced foods (Farm to Plate Plan) and products has outpaced their predictions and has helped Vermont's job growth and economy substantially. She goes on to state that the Working Lands Enterprise Initiative, which stimulates agricultural and forest based industries with land use grants has also been successful by transitioning more people off of public assistance into employment. Carolyn turns the presentation over to Representative Matt Trieber. Matt, who serves on the Human Services Committee explains that in difficult and challenging times budget cuts seem to be initiated in Human Services. To ameliorate this "benefits cliff" the House Human Services Committee is pursuing legislation that will allow individuals to keep more of their earned money and to pursue savings without negatively affecting their benefit level. They are seeking to create these changes in ways that do not cost additional state tax dollars by making minor benefit level adjustments. Both Carolyn and Matt now ask for questions from the public. Stan Noga Jr. inquires about tax appeals and their associated cost when they reach court levels. Tom Staats mentions there is pending legislation and suggest everyone pay attention to those bills. Carolyn states she will check into the bills status. Tom also asked why Carolyn and Matt did not support a ban on cell phone use. Matt explains that the bill in question does not go far enough in explaining what devices could be considered by definitions. Doug Wellman poses the question as to what budget cuts and tax increases will they support to balance this year's shortfall. Carolyn states she has not heard of any proposed increases other than a hike in property taxes. Tom Staats inquires as to what the state is doing to create better paying jobs in order to keep our youth that we have so heavily invested with education monies from seeking other states for employment. Carolyn says she sees a trend of youth gravitating back to Vermont for its beauty and lifestyle but it is an

# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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ongoing struggle. Margaret Carusona reflects on the still lack of broadband in some locales. Certainly these problems need to be addressed. Next question is from Frank Rucker who points out frustration in regard to the town's possible purchase of the Brookline school. He seeks the support from both Representatives in regard to getting answers to inquiries as to what the town's liabilities might be. Carolyn stated she will look into the matter upon her return to Montpelier. Last question is from Kerry Bourne, in regards to a lack of town zoning, what support does the state offer in regard to development. Carolyn asked if the town has a town plan. Kerry replies yes- Carolyn says the town plan should address those concerns. Concerns of this nature should be handled locally. One quick last question from Stan Noga Jr. in regard to broadband coverage or the lack of it. Both Representatives say Montpelier is aware and trying their best to fulfil the Governor's promise of total state coverage. One very last question from Dan Sieden in regard to cell service, maybe more competition would create a more favorable attempt at solving these ongoing issues. Again the Representatives reiterate, Montpelier is aware and working toward total state coverage. At this point the Representatives thank their audience for the opportunity to have been able to share progress in Montpelier and head off to Athens, VT.

## **Town Meeting Resumed-**

Moderator Parker spends some time reviewing housekeeping items and refers to Roberts Rules of meetings. He thanks Joyce Meehl who upon last minute notification was able arrange for the food during meeting break. He also notes a signup sheet is being circulated and request those in attendance to please sign.

## **Article II: To Elect A Town Clerk**

Cynthia Nau nominates Guy Tanza. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Guy Tanza elected Town Clerk

## **Article III: To Elect A Town Treasurer**

Julie Lavorgna nominates Somara Zwick. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Somara Zwick is elected Town Treasurer.

## **Article IV: To Elect A Collector of Delinquent Taxes**

Marsha Omand nominates Guy Tanza. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Guy Tanza elected Collector of Delinquent Taxes.

## **Article V: To Elect All Other Officers Required By Law**

Moderator Parker refers the public to page 4 in the Annual Report for listings of selectboard members. At this point Selectman Staats announces he has submitted a letter of resignation to the Selectboard . This now creates 5 seats to be voted on.

## **Selectboard:**

1 year term to finish out the remaining 2 year seat just vacated by Tom Staats. This term will expire 2015. Doug Wellman nominated, respectfully declines. Stan Noga Jr. nominates Jim Rogers. No other nominations. Because there are no other nominees for this position a voice vote can be called for. All in favor. James Rogers elected Selectman.

Next is a two year seat currently held by Stan Noga Jr. This term will expire 2016. Frank Rucker nominates Stan Noga Jr. Stan takes this time to thank everyone for having the opportunity to have served and relates to the necessary time needed to fulfil the obligations of being a Selectman. He feels at this time he does not

# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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have that time and declines the nomination for re-election to this term. Lyndall Boal wonders if Archie Clark might consider this term. Archie replies that at this time he will not seek this term and in fact at the conclusion of his current appointment will not have the time to serve any longer. After a number of nominations and declines Jim Rogers nominates Michael O'Donnell who accepts. No other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Michael O'Donnell elected to 2 year term.

By now it is 11:15 a.m. and normally time to suspend the Town portion of the meeting and go to the school portion of the meeting. Doug Wellman makes a motion to continue with the town portion to enable Selectboard elections to be completed. Gary Lavorgna seconds the motion. There is no discussions therefore the motion to continue town portion is voted upon. All in favor- Town meeting continues.

The next is a vacant 3 year seat (with 2 years left due to the resignation of Jason Butterfield) which expires 2016. Sherry Greene nominates Dorothy Maggio. No other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Dorothy Maggio elected to finish out 3 year term.

The following is a 3 year seat to which Bernardine Hoard was appointed to last year. This term expires 2015. State statutes allow an appointee to serve the current year and then run for election for the remainder of the term if they wish to continue to serve. Bernardine is nominated. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Bernardine Hoard is elected to finish out 3 year term.

The last seat available is currently held by Archie Clark who was appointed last year due to the resignation of David Parker Jr. This is a 3 year term which expires 2017. Archie states he will not be available for nomination. Moderator Parker on behalf of the town thanks Mr. Clark for all his continuous years of service to Brookline. Nominations are opened. Kendra Brooks nominated, but declines. Stan Noga Jr. nominates Bruce Mello. No other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Bruce Mello elected to 3 year term. Selectboard elections are completed. Moderator Parker suspends town meeting in order to go to the school board portion of the meeting. The time is 11:25 a.m.

## **Brookline School District 2014 Annual Meeting**

David Parker Jr. reads the preamble to the School Board Portion of Town Meeting.

### **Article I: To elect a Moderator and Treasurer as required by law**

David Parker Jr. nominated for Moderator- no other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. David Parker Jr. elected Brookline School District Moderator.

Dan Seiden nominates Lisa Rucker for School District Treasurer- no other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Lisa Rucker elected Brookline School District Treasurer.

### **Article II: To elect all Brookline School District Officers as required by law**

Alecia O'Donnell makes a brief statement in regard to meeting dates and director duties. Moderator Parker points out that Brookline has approximately 50 students attending NewBrook School and needs representation from Brookline.

Dorothy Maggio is nominated. No other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Dorothy Maggio elected Brookline School District Director for a 3 year term ending 2017.

The next position is to fill a vacant 3 year term having one year left. Dorothy Maggio nominates Sherry Greene. There are no other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Sherry Greene elected Brookline School District Director. Term to end 2015.

# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## **Article III: To compensate the Directors and Treasurer of the Brookline School District \$200 each**

It is moved to compensate the Directors and Treasurer \$200 each. The motion is seconded. Compensation approved.

## **Article IV: To authorize the School Directors to accept any donations of land, gifts, or monies for school use.**

No discussions. Motion moved by Gary Lavorgna and seconded by Cynthia Nau. Approved by voice vote.

## **Article V: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.**

Dan Seiden asks the question of whether Australian ballot can become the way to vote on the Brookline-Newfane Joint Budget. Doug Wellman replies that the Town of Brookline had approved that method in 2009 and it would require the Town of Newfane to agree to that way of voting. Alecia O'Donnell, Brookline School District Director and Lyndall Boal, Leland & Gray School Director reflect back on the Leland & Gray budget vote and possible issues with the Australian ballot form of voting. Kerry Bourne asked the question as to repairs on the Brookline School fence. There appear to be 2 poles broken. This problem will be addressed after the snow melts replies Alecia. Tom Staats thanks the School Board for all their hard work. Doug Wellman makes a motion to adjourn the School Board portion of town meeting and recess for lunch. The motion is seconded and approved by voice vote to recess for lunch and return to the town portion of the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

## **TOWN MEETING RESUMED-Town Portion**

Before the meeting gets underway Moderator Parker takes this opportunity to remind everyone of Julie Lavorgna's sign-up sheet for town e-mail service. David also thanks the Selectboard for their services this past term.

## **COMPLETION OF ARTICLE V: ELECTION OF ALL OTHER TOWN OFFICERS**

### **LISTERS:**

A 3 year term for Town Lister, currently held by Marsha Omand is available.

Cynthia Nau nominates Marsha Omand. No other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Marsha Omand elected for 3 year term ending 2017.

### **AUDITORS:**

One of three seats is available. Joyce Meehl nominates Kendra Brooks. No other nominations. All in favor. Kendra Brooks elected to 3 year term ending 2017.

### **CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS:**

There is one three year seat open. Cynthia Nau nominates Doug Wellman. No other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Doug Wellman elected Cemetery Commissioner for a three year term ending 2017.

# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## **FIRST & SECOND CONSTABLES:**

Doug Wellman makes a motion to have the Selectboard responsible for making appointments to fill these two positions. Tom Staats seconds the motion- There is no discussion- Call for a voice vote. All in favor. The motion is passed.

## **TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS:**

Jim Rogers nominates Guy Tanza. No other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Guy Tanza elected Trustee of Public Funds.

## **TOWN AGENT:**

Stanley Noga Jr. nominated. No other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. Stanley Noga Jr. elected Town Agent.

## **TOWN GRAND JUROR:**

David Parker Jr. nominated by Guy Tanza. No other nominations. Call for a voice vote. All in favor. David Parker Jr. elected Town Grand Juror

## **ARTICLE VI: Shall the town accept the Auditors Report?**

Jim Rogers makes a motion to accept the Auditors Report. David Allbee seconds the motion. Discussion- Frank Rucker takes this time to thank the town officials for their work and points out their report on page 6 of the 2013 town annual report. Archie Clark thanks Dan Meehl and John Reinhardt for their continuous work at getting the Town Annual Report prepared and submitted to the printer in time for circulation to the townspeople. Hearing no further discussions, a voice vote is called for. All in favor. The Town accepts the Auditors Report.

## **Article VII: SHALL THE TOWN VOTE TO APPROVE GENERAL AND HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES OF \$236,156.57 OF WHICH \$186,572.23 BE RAISED BY TAXES AND \$49,584.34 BY PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS?**

Selectboard member Archie Clark moves to change the figures due to adjustments. The revised article shall be read: SHALL THE TOWN VOTE TO APPROVE GENERAL AND HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES OF \$235,552.00 OF WHICH \$185,967.66 SHALL BE RAISED BY TAXES AND 49,584.34 BY PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS? Dan Seiden moves to approve revised figures, Cynthia Nau seconds. Discussion- Doug Wellman voices concerns of increased budget. Both Selectboard member Stanley Noga Jr. and town treasurer Somara Zwick address these concerns. Selectboard member Tom Staats points out the town has the opportunity to apply for available highway grants this spring. No further discussion. Call for voice vote. All in favor. Revised Article VII approved.

## **ARTICLE VIII: TO SEE WHAT DATES THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO COLLECT TAXES.**

Jim Rogers makes a motion to continue existing dates: Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>. Bruce Mello seconds. Some discussion on collection date policy. Discussions ended. Call for a voice vote. All in favor to continue existing dates.

# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## **ARTICLE IX: SHALL THE TOWN VOTERS APPROPRIATE \$6,131.00 TO BE RAISED BY TAXES IN CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS?(SEE LIST PAGE 2 OF 2013 ANNUAL REPORT)**

After a brief discussion a voice vote was called. Majority approved appropriation of \$6,131.00.

## **ARTICLE X: SHALL THE TOWN APPROVE THE SUM OF \$100,000 TO IMPROVE GREER ROAD AND BRIDGE TO MINIMUM STATE STANDARDS FOR CLASS 3 TOWN HIGHWAYS?**

Lee Anne Parker requests to move the motion, Pat Ballou seconds. Discussion begins. Selectboard member Stanley Noga Jr. gives background statement of Greer Road and selectboard decisions back in the 1970s. Tom Staats adds some addition comments in regard to conversations he has had with the agency of transportation (AOT). Many scenarios are presented and questioned in a lengthy discussion. A motion is made to lay the article on the table for another year. That motion was seconded. A voice vote was taken. The voice vote was close and it was requested a paper ballot vote be taken. The results were 16 in favor of laying it on the table for next year and 53 opposed. The motion has been defeated and now we return to Article X for further discussion. After further discussion is closed, a voice vote is called. Article X is defeated unanimously.

## **ARTICLE XI: SHALL THE TOWN VOTE TO PURCHASE THE BROOKLINE CHURCH BUILDING AND LAND FOR THE SUM OF ONE DOLLAR?**

A motion is made to reverse Article XI with Article XII. The motion is seconded by Gary Lavorgna. A voice vote is called. Motion approved.

## **ARTICLE XII: SHALL THE TOWN VOTE TO PURCHASE THE BROOKLINE SCHOOL BUILDING AND LAND FOR THE SUM OF ONE DOLLAR?**

A handout was available to all interested. The motion to move was made by Jim Rogers and seconded by Cynthia Nau. Discussion is opened. Frank Rucker alludes to the fact that the town may be responsible for repayment of a construction state aid loan from 1989. There appear to be conflicting reports from the Town Attorney and the Agency of Education in regard to possible liability. Frank offers an amendment for consideration: Shall the town purchase the school for one dollar, contingent upon Agency of Education waiver of liability due to the state associated with repayment of construction aid. Tina Bills suggest the town add a date to the amendment. After much debate Frank amends his amendment to read: Shall the Town vote to purchase the Brookline school building and land for the sum of one dollar, contingent upon the Agency of Education waiver of liability due to the state, associated with repayment of construction aid. Contingency must be addressed by April 15, 2014. A vote for the amendment is taken by voice. All in favor. A voice vote for article XII is taken with the amendment added. All in favor. Article XII approved with the new amendment.

## **ARTICLE XI: SHALL THE TOWN PURCHASE THE BROOKLINE CHURCH BUILDING AND LAND FOR THE SUM OF ONE DOLLAR?**

Gary Lavorgna moves the motion, Jim Rogers seconds. Discussion begins. Judy Acampora, a member of the church committee expounds on the importance of the town to take ownership of this historical building. Town residents Pat Ballou, Helen Sammuels, Stan Noga Jr. and Gary Lavorgna express opinions of support for the church. Some question as to shared water supply and septic system surface and are addressed by Gary Lavorgna and Stanley Noga Jr. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Article XI is voted yes and approved.



# 2014 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## ARTICLE XIII: TO TRANSACT ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THIS MEETING.

Judy Acampora request that next year a poster be placed in front of the school directing residents to use other entrance for town meeting. Marsha Omand salutes Archie Clark for a job well done this winter season keeping our roads opened and sanded. Barbara Bourne ask for status of the fencing around Riverside cemetery. Cynthia Nau (member of the cemetery commission) explains the removal was due to the deterioration of the old fence and it being unsafe. They are open for suggestions in regard to a new fence and its appearance. Moderator Parker thanks the Sheriffs' Dept. for their appearance and attendance at Selectboard meetings throughout the year. The Vermont Dept. of Taxes has requested Town Clerks to remind residents to file their VT Homestead Declaration each year. There is a motion to adjourn and quickly seconded. 2014 Town Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Guy Tanza, *Town Clerk*  
David Parkert, Jr., *Moderator*

## Listers' Report

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THE BROOKLINE LISTERS remain the same people. Our regular monthly meeting is the last Monday of the month, starting at 6 PM. We do have additional meetings when the need arises. We continue to work at property transfers, site visits, appraisals processed in our MICRO-SOLVE and NEMRC systems, Homestead Declarations monitored, Current Use processed annually, Lister cards updated, Grand List processed, grievances heard and acted upon, and being accessible to people and their needs concerning property.

One grievance has continued to run the gambit, going all the way to the Vt Supreme Court and back to Mr. Norman E. Wright, VT Property Tax Hearing Officer. The party has been informed that his appraisal will stand at that which the Listers calculated. This was completed December 29, 2014. The party has 30 days to register his desire to bring it around again.

Two parties came for grievance hearings, which were settled. A third party wanted his property compared to another he thought was a comparable in town. We did research it and visited both properties and found that the other property was not comparable.

We do attend educational meetings of NEMRC and MICRO-SOLVE plus we are working on the use of APEX, the sketching program.

Our new tax maps from Dibernado are excellent and our computer program to print portions of surveys is excellent, as well. We are making notes to upgrade the maps annually, which will help and be cost effective.

We do thank the people of Brookline for their cooperation as we appraise parcels in town. Our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) and Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) are staying steady: CLA = 104.19% and COD = 6.51%. The CLA has 100% as perfect and the COD should be between 0 and 20% with being close to 0 the best. When below 80% for the CLA and beyond 20%, it is time for a town wide reappraisal. We are still within the parameters and do not need reappraisal for a while.

Thank you again.

Doug Woods, Donald Gokey, Marsha Omand  
*January 12, 2015*

Donald Gokey, Marsha Omand, Doug Woods  
*January 24, 2014*

# Selectboard Report

**T**HIS HAS BEEN a transition year for the Brookline Selectboard with four of the five members new to the team. Bernardine Hoard with less than one year under her belt on the selectboard was unanimously nominated as Chair and as such has developed a strong team approach to the work set before us. The first few meetings of the new board were a bit overwhelming at times because of the number of projects and unfinished business that needed to be addressed. The previous board came to several meetings early on to review the state of the towns' affairs in relation to current and pending grants, road conditions and repairs, the acquisition process of the Historic Church from the Ladies' Benevolent Society, and the anticipated return of our Brookline School from the school district. These were just a few of the pressing responsibilities this new board attended to. Bernardine kept us on track and well-informed when changes occurred.

Jim Rogers, who is the appointed road commissioner, brought his previous experience to the board. Jim stepped in and helped plan for several road improvements. You may have noticed the new paving that was completed on Grassy Brook Road early in the fall. Approximately .8 mile was improved with the black topping and shoulder banking. Jim worked with Mark Bills in identifying what stretches of the road needed attention this year. Even though we have less than 17 miles of roads in town, there is always something to maintain. This year we also repaired the little bridge near Papoose Lane, a large box culvert was replaced at the North end of Grassy Brook Road and a site visit was held to review the condition of Greer Road and its classification. That road is now considered a class 4 road by the State however the town will still need to address the access bridge at that location so as not to land lock the land owners. Jim also contacted Green Mountain Power and had them come in to trim back the trees that jeopardized our power lines in town. Mark Bills worked on removing dangerous trees that were growing in and around the ledges. We realize that more tree work and additional mowings might

need to be done in the coming months to make our town roadways safe and attractive.

Mike O'Donnell accepted his nomination to the selectboard for a term of two years. Mike is our appointed Emergency Management Coordinator. He has been extremely helpful in ensuring that what our select board does is completely transparent to the public we serve. He approaches each task presented in such a way that all members of the board understand the ramifications of the decisions we make and the impact on the community at large. Mike's contributions to the board this year have been very helpful.

Bruce Mello was elected to serve the town for three years as a new board member. He jumped into several committees as a representative for us with both feet. Bruce has been passionate in his desire to serve our community. He communicates well on our behalf and shares what he learns with the board at just about every meeting. Bruce has spent countless hours of his time working with the NewBrook School Energy Committee and is the boards' representative with the Historic Brookline Church Committee.

Dorothy Maggio volunteered to serve on the selectboard at her very first town meeting. She was moved by David Parker's concern that Brookline would not have enough people interested in filling the four open seats on the board. While she is a new full time Brookline resident that retired from teaching in New Jersey in 2013, she has been a homeowner for over 20 years and has spent almost every summer since 1970 enjoying the many friends she has made here in Brookline. Originally she was interested in serving as a school director because of her background in education, but lo and behold she opted into serving the town of Brookline on the selectboard as well because she likes to attend meetings! Dot initially served as the clerk for the board taking minutes of the meetings; however she relinquished the clerk responsibilities to Shannon Meckle so that her time could be spent on learning the roles and responsibility of being a selectboard member. Dot rounds out the five member board with her term expiring in 2016.

# Selectboard Report (cont'd)

The selectboard report would not be complete without mentioning how smoothly Guy Tanza runs the town office. Guy helped this new selectboard tremendously this year by guiding them through the system of reporting information, maintaining transparency and of course videotaping each and every select board meeting so that residents can watch the meetings on FACT TV.

Somara Zwick, our treasurer, came to several meetings to train the board on budget development. She has been able to provide monthly accounts on the progress of the budget expenditures and income. Louise Sirois and Guy work as assistant treasurers and together this team has kept our books in excellent order.

Our town agent Stan Noga tirelessly researches our files when we have a question about past practices. He has also represented the town in Montpelier attending the Supreme Court hearings relating to legal cases that the town has a stake in. Stan also chairs the new Historic Church Committee which is composed of Peter Meyer, Helen Samuels, Kerry Bourne and Cynthia Nau. This

committee has raised almost \$2,000.00 already through donations and the sale of the Brookline Calendar. As you may have noticed that the Church was lit up at night this winter thanks to the efforts of Peter and we are well on our way towards finding grants to make the necessary repairs on this beautiful building.

While we are not perfect we strive to be transparent, accountable and to do what we think is going to be in the best interest of the Town of Brookline. We encourage you to visit our beautiful and informative website [WWW.BROOKLINEVT.COM](http://WWW.BROOKLINEVT.COM) where you can read all committee minutes, view the calendar for meeting dates or check on current ordinances and resources. We meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Please attend a meeting, watch FACT TV or better yet, stop in the Town Office and let us know how we are doing.

Your Selectboard,

Bernardine Hoard, Michael O'Donnell, James Rogers, Bruce Mello and Dorothy Maggio

## Vital Records

### BIRTHS

DATE	NAME OF CHILD	SEX	PARENTS
January 24, 2014	Cooper Russell Eldridge	M	Abigail Russell Eldridge & David Ernest Eldridge
March 26, 2014	Abraham John David DeBlois	M	Nicole Suzanne DeBlois & Nathan Michael Stockstill
June 28, 2014	Aniia Aubree Clarke	F	Dawn Marie Waters & Adam Joseph Clarke
November 22, 2014	Hugo Whitney Madalinski	M	Leigh Marie Branson Madalinski & Max Whitney Madalinski
November 25, 2014	Averyana Alexis-Jean Biddulph	F	Kaleigh Meghan Maskell & Cole Aaron Biddulph

### MARRIAGES

DATE	BRIDE	GROOM	PLACE
May 17, 2014 .....	Vanessa Marie D'Amico.....	John Frederick Janek .....	Tyson (Ludlow), VT
May 17, 2014 .....	Tina Y. Rice.....	Ron Taylor .....	Brattleboro, VT
June 7, 2014.....	Mallory Buxton McDonnell .....	Charles Daniel Ezequelle .....	Proctor, VT

### DEATHS

DATE	NAME	AGE
February 5, 2014.....	Nelson Charles Fontaine, Sr. ....	76 years
May 15, 2014 .....	James Andrew Walsh .....	71 years

# Brookline Estimated Tax Rates (2015–2016)

	Proposed Budget FY2015/2016	Proposed Rates FY 2015/2016	Adopted Rates FY2014/20 15	Adopted Rates FY2013/20 14	Comparison Increase (decrease)	Comparison % change
Municipal Grand List (as billed 2014/15)	701,772					
<b><u>Municipal To Be Voted -Proposed FY 2015/2016 Budget</u></b>						
Town office operations (genl fund)	75,015	0.1069	0.1282	0.0978	-0.02	
Highway fund operations	147,931	0.2108	0.2116	0.1958	0.00	
Total annual operations	222,946	0.3177	0.3398	0.2936	-0.02	-6.51%
<b><u>Special Articles to be voted - FY2015/2016</u></b>						
Gen. Fd - Special Appropriations	6,331	0.0090	0.0090	0.0084	0.00	
Highway - Equipment /Town Shed	8,000	0.0114	0.0000	0.0000	0.01	
Highway - paving & retreatment	-	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.00	
Total Special articles	14,331	0.0204	0.0090	0.0084	0.01	
Total Municipal taxes to be voted	237,277	0.3381	0.3488	0.3020	-0.01	-3.06%
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TO BE RAISED - before exemptions	237,277	0.3381	0.3488	0.3020	-0.01	-3.06%
<b><u>Non-state allowed exemptions to be made up:</u></b>						
Veterans (3000 x 1.3675)(Education)(r (30,000 x .01 x res. Tax rate)	410	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.00	
TOTAL MUNICIPAL RATE to be raised	237,687	0.3387	0.3494	0.3026	-0.01	-3.06%
less Gen fund surplus	(11,735)	-0.0167	-0.0714	0.0000	0.05	
TOTAL MUNICIPAL RATE to be raised	<b>\$ 225,952.61</b>	<b>\$ 0.3220</b>	<b>\$ 0.2780</b>	<b>0.3026</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>15.82%</b>
<b><u>Meeting, voted at School Annual Meetings</u></b>						
Homestead Educ. Rate - per		1.53	\$ 1.3972	1.3556	0.13	9.61%
Non-Residential Educ. Rate - per Brookline/Newfane Jt Board and LGUHS				1.4241		
Brookline/Newfane Jt Board and L&GUHS						
Total Municipal + Homestead Education		1.85	\$ 1.6752	\$ 1.6582	0.18	10.64%

## Highway Fund Balance Analysis as of June 30, 2014

	Paving/ Retreatmnt	Highway Equipment	Bridges /Culverts	Ellen Ware Rd	Undesignated Highway	Total Highway Fund
Balance as of 6/30/2013	\$ 164,000	\$ 29,400	\$ 122,381	\$ 6,461	\$ 155,836	\$ 478,077
Plus:						
2014 Revenues:						
Unrestricted Revenues - Budgeted by Line item	\$ 18,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 9,500	\$ -	\$ 104,026	\$ 135,526
Grants Revenues received - Emergency Grant	\$ 15,276	\$ -	\$ 5,092	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,368
Grants Revenues received - State Highway Aid	\$ 38,761	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,761
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$ 72,037	\$ 4,000	\$ 14,592	\$ -	\$ 104,026	\$ 194,654
Less:						
2014 Expenditures	\$ 34,311	\$ 3,528	\$ 4,856	\$ -	\$ 161,384	\$ 204,079
<b>Balance as of 6/30/2014</b>	<b>\$ 201,726</b>	<b>\$ 29,872</b>	<b>\$ 132,117</b>	<b>\$ 6,461</b>	<b>\$ 98,477</b>	<b>\$ 468,653</b>

### NOTES TO HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE ANALYSIS

- all amounts rounded to nearest \$1  
- Emergency grant approx. 75% paving, 25% culverts/bridges  
- Emergency grant revenues reported are cash receipts as of 6/30/14  
Total grant funds available exceed this amount and may be received in following year

# Brookline Consolidated Balance Sheet FY 2014

	General Fund	Highway	Brookline Church Building	Loan/Rehab	Historical	Reappraisal	Cemetery	Total
<b>Assets</b>								
Cash/MMKT Accounts	\$ 72,838	\$ 472,833		\$ 34,804	\$ 4,583	\$ 17,424	\$ 5,084	\$ 607,565
Investments							\$ 1,605	1,605
Due From Other Funds			31,483	127	56	3,945		35,611
Municipal Revenues Receivable								-
Delinquent Education Taxes Recvble	15,025							15,025
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 87,863</b>	<b>\$ 472,833</b>	<b>\$ 31,483</b>	<b>\$ 34,931</b>	<b>\$ 4,639</b>	<b>\$ 21,368</b>	<b>\$ 6,689</b>	<b>\$ 659,806</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>								
Accounts Payable	5,568							5,568
Performance Bond Payable		2,500						2,500
Payroll Taxes Payable								-
Accrued Wages Payable	3,246							3,246
License fees payable to State	122							122
Property Tax Overpayments Payable	1,023							1,023
Due to Other Funds	33,434	1,680					497	35,611
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>43,394</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>48,070</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>								
Unreserved/Unrestricted	36,286	298,653					5,192	340,131
Reserved and/or Restricted	8,184	170,000	31,483	34,931	4,639	21,368	1,000	271,605
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>44,470</b>	<b>468,653</b>	<b>31,483</b>	<b>34,931</b>	<b>4,639</b>	<b>21,368</b>	<b>6,192</b>	<b>611,737</b>
<b>Total Liability and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 87,863</b>	<b>\$ 472,833</b>	<b>\$ 31,483</b>	<b>\$ 34,931</b>	<b>\$ 4,639</b>	<b>\$ 21,368</b>	<b>\$ 6,689</b>	<b>\$ 659,807</b>
PROOF (assets - liab+fund bal=0)	(0)	-	(0)	-	-	-	-	(0)
<b>Fund Balances as of June 30, 2013</b>	<b>\$ 32,735</b>	<b>\$ 478,077</b>	<b>\$ (0)</b>	<b>\$ 34,663</b>	<b>\$ 4,580</b>	<b>\$ 20,661</b>	<b>\$ 7,295</b>	<b>\$ 578,012</b>
Plus Revenues	140,665	194,654	32,053	268	59	2,932	74	370,705
Less Expenses	(128,931)	(204,079)	(570)	-	-	(2,224)	(1,177)	(336,980)
<b>Fund Balances as of June 30, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 44,470</b>	<b>\$ 468,653</b>	<b>\$ 31,483</b>	<b>\$ 34,931</b>	<b>\$ 4,639</b>	<b>\$ 21,369</b>	<b>\$ 6,192</b>	<b>\$ 611,736</b>

## Notes to Balance Sheet:

- All amounts are rounded to the nearest \$1
- Reserved and/or Restricted fund amounts in the General Fund are for restoration of records and state funds received for listers education
- Reserved and/or Restricted fund amounts in the Highway Fund includes bond revenues received for bridge reconstruction and special amounts voted by the town for paving/retreatment, bridges, equipment, and Ellen Ware Road. See separate schedule.
- Cash donated by the Historic Brookline Church Preservation Committee is held in the Money Market Fund associated with the general fund and is restricted for use by the Brookline Church Building fund as specified by the donor

## Treasurer's Report

THIS PAST YEAR has seen continued improvements in the town treasury operations. Our team consists of a part-time treasurer and two part-time assistant treasurers. Our town clerk, Guy Tanza, acts as assistant treasurer by being the back up bank authorized signatory on all town accounts as well as accepting many cash receipts, both taxes and non-tax revenues, during open office hours. Louise Sirois, who came on board in November 2013, is our town's primary bookkeeper and keeps our financial records in great shape. Together we work as a team to get the job done.

I, as treasurer this past year, have continued to make progress improving our bank relationships and earning potential as well as continuing the implementation of outside audit recommendations. I also resolved all outstanding IRS issues as of the end

of the fiscal year. I have also worked together with Louise to create a procedures manual that documents our accounting and treasury procedures.

My goals for the coming year, if elected, are to improve our investment returns on town funds. We have begun consolidation of smaller bank accounts, as suggested by the outside auditors, which has resulted in a small increase in interest income, but finding better yet safe investments is always on my radar.

Going forward, we will continue to work on behalf of all the townspeople of Brookline Vermont. Many thanks to all Brookline full and part-time residents for your continued support and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted,

Somara Zwick, *Treasurer*

# Town Proposed 2015 Budget

All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise

	FY2014 ADOPTED	FY2014 ACTUAL		FY2015 ADOPTED	FY2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
<b>TOWN OPERATIONS</b>						
<b><u>TOWN OPERATING REVENUES</u></b>						
Current Taxes (Adopted Budgets, Actual, Proposed Budget)	\$ 67,319	28,328		\$ 88,487	\$ 75,015	(13,472)
Current Tax Revenue for Appropriations	5,981	5,981	0	5,981	6,331	350
Education Tax Adjustment - Prior & Current yr (Accrual)	0	-43,030		-		-
Delinquent Taxes	20,000	101,470		15,000	40,000	25,000
Penalties	1,000	6,600		1,000	3,200	2,200
Interest on Taxes	4,000	19,383		1,000	1,500	500
Current Use	8,000	8,829		8,000	337	(7,663)
State Per Parcel Payments	0	343		-	-	-
USA-Deconte Funds - Forest Svc Rev Sharing	140	110		140	100	(40)
Civil Fines	150	87		-		-
Listers Education Grants (Restricted)	0	386		-		-
Clerk Fees (80% Recording + other fees)	4,800	4,614		4,500	4,500	-
Dog License Fees & Fines	700	977		600	600	-
Fishing Hunting License	50	15		25	25	-
Copies	800	1,006		800	800	-
Marriage/Civil Union	0	100		70	90	20
Records Restoration Revenue(20%Recording - Restr'd)	1,200	1,128		1,200	1,200	-
Town Fines/Animal Impound Fees	0	50		-		-
Interest On Investments	200	137		100	100	-
IRS Penalties Refunded (related to yrs 2009 & prior)	0	4,152		-	-	-

All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise

\$ 114,340	140,665		\$ 126,903	\$ 133,798	6,895
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# Town Proposed 2015 Budget (cont'd)

All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise

	FY2014 ADOPTED	FY2014 ACTUAL		FY2015 ADOPTED	FY2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING REVENUES</b>						
<b><u>TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES</u></b>						
Selectboard	2,750	2,750	\$	2,750	\$ 2,750	\$ -
Town Clerk	17,400	18,488		17,400	18,000	600
Treasurer/Tax Collector	2,700	5,122		2,700	3,000	300
Delinquent Tax Collector	2,100	1,960		2,100	3,000	900
Listers	3,200	4,268		3,200	4,200	1,000
Auditors	1,000	885		1,000	1,000	-
Health Officer	0	0		-	-	-
Assistant Town Clerk	3,250	134		3,250	3,250	-
Listers-Reappraisal	0	0		-	-	-
Election Officials	200	50		200	200	-
Assistant Treasurer	6,500	4,011		6,500	6,500	-
Selectboard Clerk	1,500	1,044		1,500	1,500	-
Payroll Taxes - General Fund	3,167	1,729		3,167	3,320	153
Payroll Service Fees	0	444		1,000	1,000	-
Supplies & Postage	6,000	6,815		6,000	6,000	-
Abatements	0	0		-	-	-
IRS Penalties Paid ( re. tax year 2010 )	0	559		-	-	-
Legal Notices	500	757		700	800	100
Seminars & Mileage	1,000	1,795		1,500	1,500	-
Mileage/Travel Reimbursements (re to seminars & animal control)	0	0		-	-	-
Town Office-Electric	900	637		700	1,100	400
Brookline Church Building-electric	0	68			200	200
Town Office-Telephone	1,500	1,490		1,650	1,650	-
Town Office-Fuel	2,500	2,453		2,800	2,800	-

# Town Proposed 2015 Budget (cont'd)

All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise

	FY2014 ADOPTED	FY2014 ACTUAL	FY2015 ADOPTED	FY2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
Brookline Church Building-fuel	0	158		200	200
Computer Servicescs-Maintenance/Support	500	1,044	600	700	100
Fire Alarm	560	275	560	300	(260)
Legal Services	3,000	15,828	12,500	12,500	-
Rescue Services	14,162	14,162	14,162	14,305	143
Fire Department Services	8,000	8,000	8,000	9,000	1,000
Copies	500	408	500	500	-
Copier Contract	1,908	1,841	1,908	1,900	(8)
Town Property Maintenance	800	1,092	800	800	-
Recycling Trash Removal	0	445	600	600	-
Dues-VLCT	1,278	1,351	1,351	1,392	41
Dues-WRC	925	943	943	950	7
NEMRC Software-license & support	2,000	2,161	2,000	2,000	-
WSWMD Landfill Fees	6,360	7,892	6,936	8,000	1,064
Law Enforcement	3,600	3,356	3,800	3,800	-
Insurance/Bonds	4,000	4,075	4,000	4,000	-
Old Cemeterys-Lawn mntc	250	240	300	300	-
County Tax	4,300	3,812	4,300	4,300	-
Animal Impound Expense	0	395	100	100	-
Fire permits/other misc	50	15	50	50	-
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENSE (Before appropriations)</b>	<b>108,360</b>	<b>122,950</b>	<b>121,527</b>	<b>127,467</b>	<b>5,940</b>
 Appropriations (Proposed amounts voted separately)	 5981	 5981	 5981	 6331	 350
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>114,341</b>	<b>128,931</b>	<b>127,508</b>	<b>133,798</b>	<b>6,290</b>
<b>TOWN OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11735</b>	<b>-605</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise

	FY2014 ADOPTED BUDGET year end 6/30/14	FY2014 ACTUAL year end 6/30/14	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET(7/1/14- 6/30/15	FY2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
Appropriations (Proposed amounts voted separately)	5,981	\$ 5,981	\$ 5,981	\$ 6,331	\$ (350)
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>114,341</b>	<b>\$ 128,931</b>	<b>\$ 127,508</b>	<b>\$ 133,798</b>	<b>\$ (6,290)</b>
<b>TOWN OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>11,735</b>	<b>\$ (605)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

# Highway Proposed 2015 Budget

All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise

	FY2014 ADOPTED BUDGET year end 6/30/14	FY2014 ACTUAL year end 6/30/14	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET(7/1/14- 6/30/15	FY2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
<b>HIGHWAY OPERATIONS</b>					
<b><u>HIGHWAY OPERATING REVENUES</u></b>					
Current Taxes	134,767 \$	134,767	\$ 147,065	<b>\$ 147,931</b>	867
State Aid	35,000 \$	38,761	37,000	<b>37,000</b>	-
Highway Grant - FY 2014 Emergency (partial cash receipts)	0 \$	20,368	-		-
Permits Revenue	100 \$	100	100	<b>100</b>	-
Interest on Investments	100 \$	659	300	<b>300</b>	-
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATION REVENUES</b>	169,967 \$	194,654	\$ 184,465	<b>\$ 185,331</b>	\$ 867
<b><u>HIGHWAY OPERATING EXPENDITURES</u></b>					
Summer Salaries and Mileage	14,000 \$	17,471	14,000	<b>15,000</b>	1,000
Summer Employee mileage	0 \$	-			-
Summer Hwy Salaries-Emergency	\$	1,371			
Summer Payroll Tax Exp	1,092 \$	1,346	1,092	<b>1,071</b>	(21)
Summer Contract Svcs/Equip Rental	30,000 \$	35,019	33,000	<b>33,000</b>	-
Highway Contractors - Emergency	\$	5,321			
Summer Hwy Material	21,000 \$	16,726	21,000	<b>21,000</b>	-
Summer Hwy Materials-Emergency	\$	17,371			
Winter Salaries	500 \$	1,722	800	<b>800</b>	-
Winter Payroll Taxes	39 \$	132	61	<b>61</b>	0
Winter Contract Svcs/Equipment	32,000 \$	32,393	33,000	<b>33,000</b>	-
Winter Materials	17,500 \$	16,060	21,000	<b>21,000</b>	-
Town Shed-Electric	385 \$	481	400	<b>450</b>	50
Town Shed Maintenance	1,000 \$	-	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	-
Seminars - Hwy Employees	200 \$	-	200	<b>200</b>	-
Hwy Equip/ Labor-Genl (Roadside Mowing - now incl. in summer co	1,100 \$	2,200	-		-
Insurance-Highway	3,200 \$	3,814	3,800	<b>3,800</b>	-

# Highway Proposed 2015 Budget (cont'd)

	FY2014 ADOPTED BUDGET year end 6/30/14	FY2014 ACTUAL year end 6/30/14	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET(7/1/14- 6/30/15	FY2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
All amounts are shown on a cash basis unless noted otherwise					
Town Equipmnt Fuel/Parts/Mntce	4,000	\$ 3,528	4,000	<b>4,000</b>	-
Road signs	1,500	\$ 1,377	1,800	<b>1,800</b>	-
Culverts	4,500	\$ 2,856	4,500	<b>4,500</b>	-
Paving Retreatment/Lines	18,000	\$ 27,619	25,000	<b>25,000</b>	-
Bridge Maintenance	5,000	\$ 2,000	5,000	<b>5,000</b>	-
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATION EXPENDITURES</b>	155,016	\$ 188,805	\$ 169,653	<b>\$ 170,682</b>	\$ 1,029
<b>HIGHWAY FINANCING EXPENDITURES</b>					
Bond Principal Repayment	10,000	\$ 10,000	10,000	<b>10,000</b>	-
Bond interest	4,951	\$ 5,274	4,812	<b>4,649</b>	(163)
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURES INCLUDING FINANCING, Excluding any specially warned articles</b>	<b>169,967</b>	<b>\$ 204,079</b>	<b>\$ 184,465</b>	<b>\$ 185,331</b>	<b>\$ 866</b>
<b>HIGHWAY FUND SURPLUS (SHORTFALL)</b>	0	\$ (9,424)	\$ (0)	-	\$ 0

## NOTES TO FY2014 HIGHWAY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Funds and related grant receipts related to Beaver Pond flood during FY 2014:

Highway Fund Emergency Expenditures	\$ 24,063
Grant Revenues Cash Received through year end	\$ 20,368

Costs not covered or not reimbursed in FY 2014 paid by existing fund surplus \$ 3,695

### - Bond Principal and Interest

The Town of Brookline issued a General Obligation Bond in the amount of \$200,000 dated December 1, 2010 in order to fund bridge replacement(s). Principal in the amount of \$10,000 is paid annually; interest expense is paid twice yearly. The repayment schedule requires payment on November 15 and May 15 of each year through the year 2030. The unpaid principal balance of the bond as of June 30, 2014 was \$170,000 and accruable interest thru 2030 is \$46,224

## Road Commissioner's Report

THE PAST WAS back to normal with no flooding or major storm drainage. Work was done on last year's flooding with one area left to do next summer. Dangerous trees were cut, as budget was allowed and hope to eliminate more in the future.

Culvert's were replaced on Putney Mountain Rd. with one being a 3'x60'. The box culvert on Grassy

Brook Road was completed this year and was paid for by the state grant.

We were able to do much needed paving on Grassy Brook Rd.

In conclusion, a thanks to Mark for keeping up with the road grading, culvert cleaning, and brush cutting.

James Rogers, *Road Commissioner*

# Brookline Church Preservation Committee

THE BROOKLINE CHURCH Preservation Committee has served the citizens of Brookline, VT, since July of 2014, with the focus of preserving the former Baptist Church and enabling it to serve as a community building with flexibility of use. Ownership of the former Baptist Church building was transferred from The Brookline Baptist Church to the Town of Brookline on March 10, 2014.

The sanctuary (brick) portion of the church was constructed in 1836. The vestry (wooden) portion was constructed in 1896. Over the years, the building has been a venue for weddings, church services, receptions, Christmas bazaars, birthday parties, musical performances, funerals, socials, elementary school graduations, town meetings and other events. For almost 100 years, the Ladies Benevolent Society held an annual dinner in the vestry. During one era, an annual Brookline Mother-Daughter Dinner was held at the building.

The Church Preservation Committee, together with the citizens' spokespeople, the Selectboard, have every intention of maintaining the high standards and goals of former and more recent members of both the Ladies Benevolent Society and the Historic Brookline Church Preservation Initiative, Inc. In an ever-changing world, the building has potential uses that can enable its citizens to socialize, enjoy the arts, practice and/or teach their crafts, provide entertainment, develop friendships, provide services and enrich citizens' lives in a multitude of ways.

Since July 2014, the Committee has accomplished the following:

- Had two meetings with representatives of The Preservation Trust of Vermont
- Obtained a Development Grant of \$250.00 for 50% of the cost of a current building analysis
- Reviewed the analysis for Order of Priorities and Cost Ranges
- Preservation Costs are estimated at about \$200,000.00
- Researched and reviewed a list of grant sources on both state and private source levels—several identified

- Discussed and identified potential uses for the building
- Created a Facebook Page regarding the building to keep people informed
- Attended a seminar sponsored by The Preservation Trust of Vermont regarding identifying grant providers and analysis of their potential, construction management, fundraising and exchanging preservation experiences with other preservation projects from all approaches and points of view
- Inspected up-close the building's needs to better understand formal analysis
- Tree limbs dangerously close to church power lines were trimmed
- Tree and brush roots threatening the vestry foundation have been removed
- Fixed a steeple roof leak and acquired very reasonably approximately 300 slates to lessen future roof repair expenses
- Fundraising over the holidays
- Lights were installed on the church front for the holidays
- Preparing and submitting several grant applications before 02/28/2015
- In process of reaching out to musicians, artisans and others to coordinate their needs for use of such a building

The committee is fortunate to have members with expertise in many areas, with the willingness and energy to give of themselves to enable a more fulfilling community. New members are welcome. The committee commends the wonderful support of the Brookline Selectboard and its Church Committee Liason, Bruce Mello. Bruce has been helpful in providing a very smooth and mutually beneficial dialogue between the Selectboard and the Church Committee so that they easily function as one.

Sincerely,

Brookline Church Preservation Committee  
Peter Meyer, Helen Samuels, Cynthia Nau,  
Kerry Bourne, Stan Noga, Jr.

# Honoring the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society

ON BEHALF OF the citizens of Brookline, the Brookline Selectboard and the Brookline Church Preservation Committee do hereby express their appreciation, thankfulness and respect for members of the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society as well as members of the Brookline Historic Church Preservation Initiative, Inc., who of their own volition strove to preserve the Brookline Church building.

The Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society “was established September 30, 1865 as a support group for the Brookline Baptist Church.” “The stated aim of the society was ‘to help charitable objects’ and ‘to work for the good of the community and the betterment of mankind.’” The adherence to those goals and practices from 1865 to 2014, with membership changes over time, demonstrates the depth of caring and the better qualities of humankind.

In the early years, membership was as high as 93. With the passage of time and societal changes, membership in the Brookline Historic Church numbered in the teens. “For many years, almost from the beginning, the main fundraising event was a supper held on the third Wednesday of July, in conjunction with food, candy and hand-work, the main event of which is the raffle of a hand-made quilt, made by members during the year”. “Men were allowed to join but not vote.” By 1986, membership had dwindled to 12. However, file information of the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society show that between 1970 and 1987, the group still managed to raise and spend about \$10,000.00. As more women were entering the workforce, the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society established both day and night groups. Membership was 24 in 1987. The evening group of 1987 established the Christmas Bazaar held in November of each year when the patchwork quilt was to be raffled. An annual Brookline Mother-Daughter Dinner in May was established for both social and fundraising purposes about 1987. In following years, participation in the Heritage Fall Festival on the Newfane, VT, common began where hand-made items were sold in addition to quilt raffle tickets.

In 1987, the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society along with the remaining church members

decided to begin restoring and preserving the Brookline church building on a greater scale than previously. A matching grant request submitted to The Preservation Trust of Vermont in the amount of \$3,837.00 was approved. Over 1987 and 1988, \$6,673.32 was spent on renovations. The renovations included kitchen cabinet work, floor joist and steeple repair, floor support system repair, slate roof repair, grading and seeding for drainage, stone and masonry work, initial plaster repair, choir loft wall removal and fixing the drywell. In 1988, the Harland Allbee Fund was created by the Allbee family and friends, and the Corrine Manuel Fund was established by the Manuel family and friends. Two of three subsequent grant applications were denied. But, the Society persevered and obtained a \$2,000.00 non-matching grant from The Fund for Vermont’s Third Century.

In 1990, the interior walls and ceilings were washed, plaster repairs completed, repaired/replaced damaged or missing interior trim, painted interior walls and ceilings, exterior of windows glazed and painted and washed and oiled the wood floors. Records, show that over \$13,000.00 was actually spent.

In more recent times, hardpack was placed on the site access south of the church. The rear entry was replaced, plumbing work, electrical work, steeple steps and side entry repairs were performed or orchestrated by the Ladies Benevolent Society in conjunction with the Brookline Historic Church Preservation Initiative, Inc. Men were allowed to join and vote. At the time of transfer of the church property in the spring of 2014, The Ladies Benevolent Society in conjunction with the Historic Brookline Church Preservation Initiative, Inc. donated over \$30,000.00 to the Town of Brookline to be placed into a dedicated account for the benefit of the church building. There is no doubt that this tribute has missed some tasks which were performed by these wonderful people for the benefit of our community.

The names of all the individuals who adhered to the intent and goals of the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society are numerous and can be



## Honoring the Brookline Ladies Benevolent Society (cont'd)

found in the Society's archives in the Brookline Town Office as well as the minutes of the Brookline Historic Church Preservation Initiative, Inc. To list them entails the danger of inadvertently omitting names.

Whatever accolades we could offer would not be enough. May we simply offer from the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU!!

The Brookline Selectboard and The Brookline Church Preservation Committee.

## Delinquent Tax Report as of December 31, 2014

THE FOLLOWING IS a summary of the total amount of taxes owed by the listed individual property owners. It is listed in this format so that it greatly reduces the possibility that someone could deduce the net bill amount and therefore protects the confidentiality of the

information concerning delinquent property owners that receive state property tax adjustment payments. This is mandated by the recent Supreme Court decision and the Legislation from the 2012 session on the disclosure of confidential tax bill information.

Hayes, Joseph P. & Anne F .....	\$1,736.01*
Newell, Timothy .....	516.74
Notman, Edith .....	1,772.66*
TOTALS.....	\$4,025.41

NOTE: The above totals reflect the amount of taxes, interest and penalties due as of December 31, 2014. Following is a yearly breakdown of delinquent taxes, interest and penalties:

	TAXES	INTEREST	PENALTIES	TOTAL
2011-2012	1,721.04	51.62	0.00	1,772.66
2013-2014	1,823.57	283.29	145.89	2,252.75
TOTALS	\$3,544.61	\$334.91	\$145.89	\$4,025.41

\* Paid in Full After December 31, 2014

# Regulations Governing Dog Ownership

**A**LL DOGS or wolf-hybrids six (6) months or older must be licensed by April 1, 2015. Fees are as follows:

Before April 1, 2014:

Spayed/Neutered dog or wolf hybrid ..... 8.00

Unneutered dog or wolf-hybrid ..... 12.00

After April 1, 2014:

Spayed/Neutered dog or wolf hybrid ..... 10.00

Unneutered dog or wolf-hybrid ..... 16.00

These fees include \$4.00 that is sent to the State: \$1.00 goes to the State rabies program and \$3.00 goes to the states spay/Neutering Program.

Any dog not licensed by May 30, 2015 the owner will be charged a \$50.00 fine per animal, according to the Brookline Dog Ordinance. A copy of the ordinance is on file at the Town Office.

Dogs or wolf-hybrids over 3 months of age shall be vaccinated against rabies. The initial vaccination shall be valid for 12 months. Within 9-12 months of the initial vaccination of the animal shall receive a booster that will be valid for 36 months. A copy of the rabies certificate will be given to the Town Clerk upon licensing the animal.

There will be a Rabies Clinic at the NewBrook Fire Department, Route 30, Newfane, VT (date to be determined). All animals must be either on a leash or in a cage.

The following is a summary of the fees collected in 2014 by the Town of Brookline.

	Qty	Town	State	Late Fees	Total
Neutered	50	200.00	200.00	122.00	522.00
Male	12	96.00	48.00	124.00	268.00
Female	14	112.00	56.00	58.00	226.00
Spayed	64	256.00	256.00	160.00	672.00
Total	140	664.00	560.00	464.00	1,688.00

~ RABIES ALERT ~

Rabies is a disease that can kill animals and people.

- Vermont law requires rabies shots for all CATS and DOGS
- Rabies shots help protect pets and pet owners from rabies.
- Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance. Remember, rabid animals have been found in all Vermont counties.

Questions? Call the Vermont Rabies Hotline: 1-800-472-2437

## Brookline Cemetery Commission

**A**T A RECENT meeting of the Commission, the following officers were elected:

Cynthia Nau-Chair

Doug Wellman-Secretary

Howard Osgood-Sexton

The Commission voted to hold meetings in February, April, and September. Meetings will be warned and minutes posted.

We welcome the public to attend meetings and welcome their ideas and suggestions. Areas of concern have been discussed and acted upon as follows:

- Old fence has been disposed of and monies collected in cemetery account.
- Discussion on new fencing and care of is ongoing, a work in progress.
- Noted important to have cemetery mowed in a timely manner, especially over Memorial Day and July 4th.
- Other topics of concern include, spaces available, fees, and cremation plots.

Joining the Vermont Cemetery Association.

Cynthia Nau, Doug Wellman, Howard Osgood, Penny Harrington, David Allbee

# Town Clerk's Report

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**A**S WE ALL know, winters in Vermont can be cold and snowy. Year 2014 certainly was no exception. As usual Archie Clark and his team kept our roads open and safe. Spring arrived late and stayed long. Our normal mud season was kept in check with the expertise of our road foreman, Mark Bills and new Road Commissioner Jim Rogers. Town Meeting day was sunny with temps in the mid-30s. Eighty-two residents braved the fresh air and attended this work of democracy. Four new Select Board members were elected, the purchase of the former Brookline Baptist Church for one dollar was approved and the possible purchase of the former Brookline Elementary School with some contingencies was discussed. As we all know, anytime there are major changes in Select Board members there will be challenges and a learning curve for sure. There certainly was help from former Select Board members and town office staff to make the transition as seamless as possible. From the town clerks perspective things went well. Select Board meetings are filmed and can be viewed on Comcast Cable and also on the town website [www.brooklinevt.com](http://www.brooklinevt.com). For those who may not be aware, our simple but informative town website is totally updated. A visit there can find all the town officials elected and appointed with total contact information. All meeting agendas and meeting minutes may be reviewed. The calendar of events lists meeting dates, times and location. The latest news section on the home page will inform you of things of importance and interest. There are also links to renew your car/truck registration, purchase a hunting license, state government agencies and more. Some of these links will require a printer and credit card but in the long run save you time and effort.

This year our town had five voting events requiring much help and time from our Board of Civil Authority. Thank you to all for making my job that much easier. Elections are important but are also time consuming for the town clerk's office consisting of reports, tallies, more reports, and surveys, as well as many deadlines to meet. Our

town is always in compliance and I admit some days are easier than others. Brookline is a town of 530 residents (2010 census) of which 360 are registered voters. We have almost eighteen miles of roads. There are 337 parcels of land with a combined value of \$70,207,151. Our office processed 35 land transfers, posted 26 parcels of land and recorded 566 pages in our land records. We sold 4 marriage licenses, 12 hunting licenses, registered and licensed 140 dogs, and held a rabies vaccination clinic at the NewBrook Fire Station. We also recorded 5 births and sadly 2 deaths. We have printed 27,906 pages on our two copy/prINTER machines. In June we purchased some used shelving from the Dummerston Town Clerk's office and with the help of Don Gokey (Town Lister) and Gwen Tanza (Assistant Town Clerk) replaced many of our older shelves in the town vault. The end result being a better organized and easier place to work. Late summer our town had installed a new box culvert on Grassy Brook Road and had some much needed paving done. These projects were expensive, thankfully there was grant money (90%) for the culvert.

November 26th, the day before Thanksgiving our town had its first snow storm of the season 15 inches (depending on where you were standing). With a new snow removal contractor in place there may have been some concerns. Mike Fitzpatrick and his company did an excellent job in what could be best described as a challenging storm, and they continue that level of service.

In conclusion: the Town Clerk's office is a very busy place. There are levels of compliance that we take pride in maintaining. We are a small town with limited revenue but there is not a day that we do not monitor phone calls or review emails. I truly enjoy working with everyone, for you are my friends and my neighbors. To all the Committees, Boards, Volunteers, Treasurer, Listers, Auditors - Bravo, job well done.

Best Regards,

Guy Tanza, *Town Clerk*

# NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report

## Introduction

During my first year as the NewBrook Elementary School Principal, I have enjoyed getting to know the students, staff and families that make up our community. As a rule, NewBrook students are resilient, hardworking and curious and their families are supportive and involved in their school life. The school staff is dedicated, child-centered and well-trained. Our staff work together with purpose. I am very thankful for the support that they have offered me and for the relationships that they form and maintain. They are devoted to their jobs and to the children and families that we serve.

I also must show appreciation for my predecessor, Mr. Chris Pratt, whose dedication to the NewBrook community lives on in his technology initiatives, his dedication to the work of the Energy Committee and in his support for positive school climate, effective collaboration and school safety.

Staffing, Professional Development and Curriculum

We began the school year with three new members of our faculty: Ms. Nicole Plympton, our new third grade teacher, Ms. Krista Pulie, our new Physical Education teacher and Mr. Eric Schickedanz, a WCSU special educator. By adjusting our master schedule over the summer, we created weekly common planning time for teachers and a daily flex time to be used for enrichment and intervention in grades 4-6.

This year, the entire faculty attended a two-day literacy workshop focused upon Genre Study. Members of our staff are also taking a yearlong literacy course offered by our Supervisory Union. During our autumn in-service days, our staff attended a two-day workshop on de-escalation techniques called Life Space Crisis Intervention. A district-wide grant paid for the installation of an Automated External Defibrillator at NewBrook and the training of select building staff.

We will be issuing our first WCSU Report Cards in January. A district-wide committee created the report cards. They are standards-based and aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

## Communication and Technology

We are continuing to find new ways to utilize technology to enhance instruction and to support communication. Universal computer access allows teachers to utilize web-based lessons, Gmail communication and age-appropriate, cloud-based editing processes. Hoping to improve communication with our community, we recently launched a NewBrook School Facebook page which is regularly updated with posts that include celebrations, announcements and other important dates.

In the spring, we will be implementing the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) assessment. Vermont joined with a group of other states to develop the next generation of educational tests for Literacy and Mathematics. The SBAC is aligned with the Common Core State Standards, uses the latest computer adaptive testing technologies and will provide a range of summative, interim and formative tools that we will be able to use for a variety of educational purposes.

We have two technology safety trainings planned in February, one for our 4-6th grade students and one for their families and community members.

## School Climate and Enrichment Programs

The staff at NewBrook is dedicated to maintaining a school climate in which all children are comfortable and available to learn. Our school-wide expectations are clear: We are Safe, We are Engaged, We are Respectful. By focusing upon these three simple guiding principles, we all measure our behaviors and attitudes accordingly. At NewBrook, we regularly acknowledge students and teachers for their accomplishments, while providing varied opportunities for parents, families and community members to take part in our programming on a regular basis.

During our monthly All-School Sings, we take the time to acknowledge our students. We read the names of all of the students who have been given Falcon Awards during the month. They are mailed home in recognition of students for their acts of kindness. We also recognize our Student of the Month, chosen by our staff. Each of our specials teachers award students who have been especially engaged in our broad range of enriching

# NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report (cont'd)

opportunities. We even award a classroom with the Golden Plunger, as a thanks for their exceptional tidiness. For staff, our Golden Apple is a peer recognition award that is passed monthly between staff. Parents, guardians and members of the community are welcome to attend our All-School Sings, which are posted outside the school and on our Facebook page.

Over the summer, we enhanced our Educational Support Team process and paperwork, with a goal of making our time together as efficient as possible. We meet weekly in support of children who struggle.

We are continuing to offer our 8 week Winter Sports Program on Wednesdays. We offer ice skating, skiing/snowboarding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and rock climbing.

We are planning Diversity Week in January. This will be a school-wide theme week intended to encourage our students to consider a wide range of issues revolving around human difference in our country.

Our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports work continues. PBIS is a proactive, school-wide, systems approach to improving social and academic competence for all students. We plan school-wide incentives and celebrations for our students and collect behavioral data to allow preemptive decision-making. We also taught our students the specifics of the Bullying & Harassment law in our classrooms this fall.

We have been awarded a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program USDA Grant for the 2014-2015 school year. We are able to provide a fresh fruit or vegetable snack to every student, three days a week, at no cost to families during our morning snack time.

A Twenty First Century Grant funds the majority of our after school program, LAFTER, which is a critical part of our school programming. We offer a snack, guided homework support and a wide variety of activities and programs. LAFTER activities are taught by community members and school staff.

## Energy Committee Update

On October 23, the Brookline and Newfane voters passed two articles that give the Brookline/Newfane Joint Board the ability (1) to enter into a Solar Net Metering Credit Purchase Agreement for up to 20 years and (2) to install a new air-to-air heat pump system financed through a municipal loan of up to \$330,000.

## Community

Our PTOs annual Fit & Fun 5K Run was well-organized and fun. We gave away prizes donated by local businesses and community members while enjoying the beautiful autumn weather.

Our Farm to School Committee planned our first annual Community Farm and Field Day. Our students learned about the origins of our food, composting, vermiculture, and the history of food preservation. They tasted a wide variety of apples, created beautiful art projects and played field games with food (like butternut bowling). Community members volunteered to create an adobe pizza oven behind the school. We celebrated at the end of the day singing together around our new oven.

Our annual Open House and Potluck Dinner was well-attended and solely positive. Staff relayed information about communications, homework and classwork expectations. Teachers shared student work and elaborated on units in progress and curricular information.

The Newfane Fire Department visited NewBrook during Fire Prevention Week. Adult and junior firefighters practiced safety skills with our students and taught them about emergency vehicles and equipment.

Our annual Harvest Celebration and Art Show was a huge success. We packed the multi-purpose room with our students, their families and friends. Our staff made soup, our PTO provided desserts and we listened to live music while featuring our students' art work.

NewBrook students reached out to the community by taking part in a Food Drive for the Townshend Food Shelf and Project Feed the Thousands. Our UNICEF fundraising was a huge success as well.



# NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report (cont'd)

## Closing Statement

Again, I would like to thank the NewBrook community for all of the support I have received as the new Principal. We are proud of all of our accomplishments during the first half of this school year and we will continue to move forward as a school, providing our students with the essential skills for success in today's world. The proposed budget will allow us to deliver our balanced, skill-based curriculum while supporting the essential and enriching initiatives already in place.

Please visit our website ([newbrookschoool.org](http://newbrookschoool.org)) or our Facebook page for regular updates, event

notices and news items. If you can, please join us for one of our monthly All-School Sings to get a flavor for the great things that NewBrook has to offer. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me to set up an appointment if you have any questions or concerns. I have time for you!

The school staff and I are looking forward to a wonderful second semester with the children of Brookline and Newfane. Thank you all for your support as we work with the children that you entrust to us.

Sincerely,  
Scotty Tabachnick, *School Principal*

## Town Employees

### AUDITORS

Heidi Nystrom .....	\$674.63
Frank Rucker .....	\$210.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$884.63</b>

### LISTERS

Donald Gokey .....	\$822.00
Marsha Omand.....	\$2,237.25
Doug Woods.....	\$1,209.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$4,268.25</b>

### SELECTBOARD

Archie Clark .....	\$375.00
Bernardine Hoard .....	\$500.00
Jason Butterfield.....	\$500.00
Stan Noga .....	\$500.00
David Parker.....	\$375.00
Tom Staats .....	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$2,750.00</b>

### SELECTBOARD CLERK

Vicky Butterfield.....	316.00
Shannon Meckle.....	\$240.00
Louise Sirois .....	\$487.50
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$1,043.50</b>

### ELECTION OFFICIAL.....

Penny Harrington.....	\$50.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>

### TOWN CLERK

Guy Tanza .....	\$18,487.76
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$18,487.76</b>

### ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK.....

Penny Harrington.....	\$134.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$134.00</b>

### DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

Guy Tanza .....	\$1,959.82
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$1,959.82</b>

### TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR.....

Somara Zwick.....	\$5,121.85
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$5,121.85</b>

### ASSISTANT TREASURER .....

Vicky Butterfield.....	\$521.96
Louise Sirois .....	\$3,050.00
Guy Tanza .....	\$439.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$4,010.96</b>

### HIGHWAY

Everett A. Bills.....	\$4,566.50
E. Mark Bills.....	\$14,752.50
James Rogers .....	\$55.25
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$19,374.25</b>



# Brookline School Board Report

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**D**EAR BROOKLINE RESIDENTS,  
Greetings from the Brookline School Board and the Brookline Newfane Joint School Board.

This year graced the NewBrook School with new faces;

It was a bitter sweet transition as the school said good bye and Good luck to Principal Chris Pratt as he accepted the position as Superintendant of a neighboring Supervisory Union, and were pleasantly surprised by the quality and amount of new principal candidates. At the end of the interview process which included impute from parents, community members, staff, and the WCSU on the tight run on the last three candidates Principal Scotty Tabachnick was selected to be at the helm.

The School board has also moved thru changes in staff at the school, and the Retirement of Superintendent Steven Johns has been announced for 2016. The process for hiring a new Superintendent is under way and like the Principal interview process community input is desired.

The tide is constantly shifting in the search for alternative school governance structures. Right now the local committee has concluded its study and we are watching state direction.

The Brookline School building has been in on-going discussions to make sure that it stays a town asset at minimal cost to the town.

I would like to thank Dorothy Maggio and Sherri Green for their work on the board. I think that the entire school community appreciated the attention that both towns gave to school decisions and activities this year. The school Board does its best to manage the tasks for you but public input is always needed to guide us in representing you well.

Please read Scotty Tabachnick's Principal report for more on school activities and accomplishments of the 2014 2015 School year.

Thank you for your time and support.

Alecia O'Donnell  
*Brookline School Board Chair*

## Brookline School District Balance Sheet

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	General Fund
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash	\$ 43,539.78
Accounts Receivable	\$ 14,898.88
Total Assets	<u>\$ 58,438.66</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Deferred Revenue	\$ 12,433.00
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 70,963.81
Net Increase/Decrease	\$ (24,958.15)
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	<u><b>\$ 46,005.66</b></u>

# WCSU Superintendent's Report

"How can we afford to sustain and improve the quality of our public school system?"

**T**HIS QUESTION CONTINUES to press our state representatives and local boards. By the time you read this letter the legislature will be considering a number of proposals intended to reduce the local property tax rates. Although no one

can predict the results of future legislation, we can all take pride in our students and our schools as Vermont continues to lead the nation in high-school graduation rates. Highly qualified teachers provide effective instruction for our students in every school.

The ten member districts of the Windham Central Supervisory Union operate eight schools:

School District	School (grade levels)	# of Students	Pays tuition for Grades
Brookline.....	NewBrook Elementary (K-6) .....	122 .....	Pre-K only
Dover .....	Dover School (PK-6) .....	110 .....	7-12
Jamaica.....	Jamaica Village School .....	62 .....	None
Marlboro .....	Marlboro School (K-8) .....	79 .....	Pre-K & 9-12
Newfane.....	NewBrook Elementary (K-6) .....	122 .....	Pre-K only
Stratton .....	None .....	(32) .....	Pre-K through 12
Townshend.....	Townshend Elementary (PK-6) .....	81 .....	None
Wardsboro.....	Wardsboro Central School (PK-6) .....	58 .....	7-12
Windham .....	Windham Elementary (K-6) .....	19 .....	None
LGUM/HSD #34 .....	Leland and Gray Union M/H (7-12) .....	361 .....	Windham Regional Career Center

A few notable developments across the WCSU include:

- For Fall 2015 all WCSU member districts will either provide or support 10 hours/week of Pre-K education for any children 3 and 4 years of age at parent request.
- Our seven largest schools provide federally supported hot meals.
- Schools provide after-school programs supported by a federal 21st Century Grant and partially matching funds from local school budgets.
- A fiber-optic network providing high-speed access to the web now connects all eight schools.
- The 201--2016 Superintendent's Budget is down 1% compared to this year.

Your school's staff and administration work together following your school's Action Plan to improve student learning and achievement. The WCSU provides continuing professional training to improve instruction in all disciplines, with particular attention to reading/writing across the curriculum and mathematics PK-12. Implementation of the Common Core State Standards and reporting on student progress using a standards-based report card for K-6 is a WCSU goal for this school year. The State Board

of Education's more recently adopted Next Generation Science Standards will be our major focus for FY16 and beyond.

The keys to meeting the challenge of providing for our students in coming years are within our reach if school districts continue to "collaborate, share and seek creative solutions" following the Core Values for the WCSU. NewBrook Elementary School is a fine example of collaboration that benefits every student in Brookline and Newfane. NewBrook is under the direction of a Joint Contract School Board combining the school boards of both towns. The Jamaica and Townshend Boards are jointly exploring the possibility of building a new elementary school to serve both communities.

A school budget provides the plan for investing in opportunities for student learning and growth.

The members of your school board carefully considered every detail of their proposed FY16 Budget. Your school board welcomes your opinions and suggestions, weighs them carefully, and makes tough decisions while keeping the needs of all students as their top priority. I urge you to support this work by approving your board's proposed budget for the 2015-2016 school year.

Steven B. John, Ed.D.,  
WCSU Superintendent of Schools

# WCSU Proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Budget

REVENUES	FY14 Actual	FY15 Adopted Budget	FY16 Proposed Budget
Interest Income	\$ 553	\$ 200	\$ 200
Erate Grant	\$ 6,498	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Assessments			
Brookline (combined into NewBrook)			
Dover Assessment	\$ 57,137	\$ 62,576	\$ 81,574
Jamaica Assessment	\$ 51,448	\$ 51,762	\$ 55,108
Marlboro Assessment	\$ 56,473	\$ 69,796	\$ 65,259
NewBrook Assessment	\$ 107,437	\$ 115,330	\$ 115,304
Stratton Assessment	\$ 8,324	\$ 10,897	\$ 11,022
Townshend Assessment	\$ 55,986	\$ 59,935	\$ 66,978
Wardsboro Assessment	\$ 43,126	\$ 47,222	\$ 49,174
Windham Assessment	\$ 10,592	\$ 13,622	\$ 16,956
Leland & Gray UHS Assessment	\$ 252,705	\$ 320,562	\$ 297,586
Total General Fund Assessment .....	\$ 643,228	\$ 751,702	\$ 758,960
Total General Fund Revenues	\$ 650,279	\$ 757,902	\$ 765,160

## EXPENDITURES

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Professional Salaries	\$ 214,794	\$ 219,692	\$ 211,860
Professional Salaries-Tech & PD	\$ -	\$ 76,853	\$ 77,431
Clerical Salaries	\$ 34,250	\$ 35,020	\$ 39,780
Reserve for Salaries & Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Health & Dental Benefits	\$ 41,154	\$ 57,035	\$ 49,019
Fica Benefits	\$ 18,508	\$ 25,365	\$ 25,174
Disability & Life Ins.	\$ 2,844	\$ 10,933	\$ 3,516
Retirement	\$ 6,986	\$ -	\$ 7,466
Workmen's Comp insurance	\$ 2,060	\$ 3,153	\$ 3,291
Unemployment insurance	\$ (1,567)	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
Legal & Professional Services	\$ 3,796	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Audit Services	\$ 6,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Information System Services	\$ 23,105	\$ 22,441	\$ 22,441
Curriculum	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Professional Development	\$ 5,878	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Bond Insurance & Prof. Liability	\$ 6,623	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Telephone	\$ 6,997	\$ 6,270	\$ 6,270
Postage	\$ 1,484	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Advertising	\$ 763	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Travel	\$ 4,853	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Conferences	\$ 3,333	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Supplies	\$ 2,497	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500

## WCSU Proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Budget (cont'd)

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Equipment	\$ 3,341	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Dues	\$ 6,226	\$ 4,400	\$ 4,400
Misc. Expenses	\$ 50	\$ 100	\$ 100
Total Superintendent's Office	\$ 394,475	\$ 514,462	\$ 503,948

### BUSINESS OFFICE

Salaries (A/P, Payroll, Accountant, HR)	\$ 141,128	\$ 139,015	\$ 151,274
Health & Dental Benefits	\$ 46,036	\$ 54,278	\$ 47,573
Fica Benefits	\$ 10,238	\$ 10,635	\$ 11,572
Disability & Life Ins.	\$ 1,289		\$ 1,515
Retirement	\$ 7,026		\$ 7,753
Workmen's Comp insurance	\$ 1,411		\$ 1,513
Unemployment insurance	\$ 2,435	\$ 1,563	\$ 1,563
Professional Services			\$ 500
Equipment Repair	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 800
Bank Fees	\$ 1,593	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Supplies	\$ 2,063	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Equipment	\$ 4,750	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Total Business Office	\$ 217,969	\$ 214,091	\$ 231,863

### BUILDING MAINTENANCE/SERVICES

Property Services - Custodial	\$ 2,919	\$ 3,250	\$ 3,250
Property Services - Maintenance & Repair	\$ 967	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Rent	\$ 14,103	\$ 14,800	\$ 14,800
Electric/Fuel	\$ 8,544	\$ 7,800	\$ 7,800
Equipment	\$ 800	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Total Custodial/Building Maintenance	\$ 27,333	\$ 29,350	\$ 29,350
Total Superintendent Office/Instruction Exp.	\$ 639,777	\$ 757,903	\$ 765,160
GENERAL FUND - SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ 10,502	\$ -	\$ -

# 2016 Proposed Brookline School Budget

	FY14 Actual	FY14 Adopted Budget	FY15 Adopted Budget	FY16 Proposed Budget	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
<b>Revenues - To be updated by AOE</b>						
Interest Income	\$65	\$32	\$34	<b>\$35</b>	\$1	2.9%
Food Service - Local Sales	\$0	\$6,043	\$6,343	<b>\$4,917</b>	-\$1,426	-22.5%
Rent & Misc	\$0	\$161	\$5,074	<b>\$13,100</b>	\$8,026	158.2%
Total Local Revenue	\$65	\$6,236	\$11,451	<b>\$18,052</b>	\$6,601	57.6%
State Aid-Education Spending Grant	\$519,189	\$519,189	\$560,225	<b>\$664,691</b>	\$104,466	18.6%
State Aid-Small Schools Grant	\$13,551	\$17,899	\$0	<b>\$0</b>	\$0	
State Aid-Transportation	\$8,531	\$9,345	\$9,809	<b>\$9,041</b>	-\$768	-7.8%
State Aid - Special Ed Block Grant	\$15,514	\$15,514	\$19,455	<b>\$17,458</b>	-\$1,997	-10.3%
State Aid - Intensive Needs	\$31,337	\$29,618	\$57,001	<b>\$23,322</b>	-\$33,679	-59.1%
State Aid-Extraordinary	\$0	\$0	\$3,383	<b>\$0</b>	-\$3,383	-100.0%
Special Ed Cars & Custody	\$0	\$0	\$13,412	<b>\$0</b>	-\$13,412	-100.0%
State Aid-Special Ed EEE	\$6,986	\$5,682	\$5,964	<b>\$5,499</b>	-\$465	-7.8%
WCSU Sub grant Medicaid	\$0	\$7,024	\$6,766	<b>\$3,888</b>	-\$2,878	-42.5%
WCSU Sub grant Title I	\$0	\$8,748	\$9,464	<b>\$10,175</b>	\$711	7.5%
State Aid-Food Program	\$8,471	\$9,346	\$9,810	<b>\$13,237</b>	\$3,427	34.9%
Total Other Revenue	\$603,579	\$622,365	\$695,289	<b>\$747,311</b>	\$52,022	7.5%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$603,644	\$628,601	\$706,740	<b>\$765,363</b>	\$58,623	8.3%
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Brookline School District Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>	\$0	
Brookline-Newfane Joint Board Assessment	\$461,997	\$628,601	\$734,241	<b>\$765,363</b>	\$31,122	4.2%
Total Expenditures	\$461,997	\$628,601	\$734,241	<b>\$765,363</b>	\$31,122	4.2%
Surplus/(Deficit)						
Prior Year Surplus Applied						
Net						
Fund Balance						
<b>Preliminary Statistics</b>						
Budgeted Grants and Local Revenues		\$109,413	\$162,689	<b>\$100,672</b>	-\$62,017	-38.1%
Local Education Spending		\$519,189	\$571,552	<b>\$664,691</b>	\$93,139	16.3%
Equalized Student AOE		44.50	46.40	<b>47.18</b>	0.78	1.7%
State Excess Spending Threshold		\$15,456	\$16,166	<b>\$17,107</b>	\$941	5.8%
Spending per Equalized Pupil		\$11,667	\$12,317	<b>\$14,088</b>	\$1,771	14.4%
Brookline vs. State Threshold		-\$3,789	-\$3,849	<b>-\$3,019</b>	\$830	-21.6%
Base Education Spending Index		\$9,151	\$9,285	<b>\$9,459</b>	\$174	1.9%
Statewide base property tax rate		\$0.94	\$0.98	<b>\$1.00</b>	\$0.02	2.0%

# 2016 Proposed Brookline School Budget (cont'd)

	FY14 Actual	FY14 Adopted Budget	FY15 Adopted Budget	FY16 Proposed Budget	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
<b>Act 68 Statistics &amp; Tax Impact Estimates</b>						
Est. Equalized Homestead Tax rate (PK-6)		\$1.1985	\$1.3001	<b>\$1.4894</b>	\$0.1893	14.56%
Percent of Brookline Pupils at PK-6		54.41%	58.72%	<b>60.08%</b>	1.36%	2.32%
Portion of Equalized Homestead rate assessed		\$0.06521	\$0.7634	<b>\$0.8948</b>	\$0.1314	17.21%
Common Level of Appraisal		101.12%	104.49%	<b>104.19%</b>	-0.30%	-0.29%
Estimated Actual Tax Rate(PK-6)		\$ 0.6449	\$0.7306	<b>\$0.8588</b>	\$0.1282	17.54%
Income sensitivity base index		1.80%	1.94%	<b>1.94%</b>	0.00%	0.00%
Income sensitivity Percent (PK-6)		1.25%	1.51%	<b>1.74%</b>	0.23%	15.23%
<b>Estimated Combined School Tax Rate Including Leland &amp; Gray</b>						
Provided by Agency of Education			\$1.413	<b>\$1.4733</b>	\$0.0603	4.27%
<b>Estimated Combined Income tax percentage</b>						
Provided by Agency of Education				<b>3.10%</b>		
<b>Estimated School Tax Impact on \$200,00 home &amp; 2 acres - no income sensitivity (PK-12)</b>						
			FY15	FY16		
			\$2,826	<b>\$2,947</b>	\$121	4.28%



District: <b>Brookline</b> County: <b>Windham</b>		<b>T033</b> Windham Central		Statutory calculation. See note at bottom of page	Recommended homestead rate from Tax Commissioner. See note at bottom of page.
				9.459	1.00
<b>Expenditures</b>		<b>FY2013</b>	<b>FY2014</b>	<b>FY2015</b>	<b>FY2016</b>
1.	<b>Budget</b> (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$574,699	\$628,601	\$734,241	\$765,363
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-
4.	<b>Locally adopted or warned budget</b>	\$574,699	\$628,601	\$734,241	\$765,363
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-
7.	<b>Total Budget</b>	\$574,699	\$628,601	\$734,241	\$765,363
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
<b>Revenues</b>					
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$152,816	\$109,412	\$162,689	\$100,672
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-
13.	<b>Offsetting revenues</b>	\$152,816	\$109,412	\$162,689	\$100,672
14.	<b>Education Spending</b>	\$421,883	\$519,189	\$571,552	\$664,691
15.	Equalized Pupils (Act 130 count is by school district)	39.79	44.50	46.40	47.18
16.	<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil</b>	<b>\$10,602.74</b>	<b>\$11,667.17</b>	<b>\$12,317.93</b>	<b>\$14,088.41</b>
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$114.35	-	-	-
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual	\$4.63	-	-	-
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed	-	-	-	-
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils	-	-	-	-
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period	-	-	-	-
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition	NA	-	-	-
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools	-	-	-	-
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015	NA	NA	NA	-
25.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	threshold = \$14,841 \$10,603	threshold = \$15,456 \$11,667	threshold = \$16,166 \$12,318	threshold = \$17,103 \$14,088
26.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment	\$10,603	\$11,667	\$12,318	\$14,088
27.	<b>District spending adjustment</b> (minimum of 100%) (\$14,088 / \$9,459)	121.549% based on \$9,723	127.486% based on \$9,151	132.665% based on \$9,285	148.942% based on \$9,459
<b>Prorating the local tax rate</b>					
28.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate to be prorated (148.942% x \$1.000)	\$1.0818 based on \$0.89	\$1.1985 based on \$0.84	\$1.3001 based on \$0.98	\$1.4894 based on \$1.00
29.	Percent of Brookline equalized pupils not in a union school district	47.57%	54.41%	58.72%	60.08%
30.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (60.08% x \$1.49)	\$0.5146	\$0.6521	\$0.7634	\$0.8948
31.	<b>Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)</b>	92.79%	101.12%	104.49%	104.19%
32.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.8948 / 104.19%)	\$0.5546 based on \$0.89	\$0.6449 based on \$0.84	\$0.7306 based on \$0.98	\$0.8588 based on \$1.00
If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.					
33.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated (148.942% x 1.94%)	2.19% based on 1.60%	2.29% based on 1.80%	2.57% based on 1.94%	2.89% based on 1.94%
34.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (60.08% x 2.89%)	1.04% based on 1.60%	1.25% based on 1.80%	1.51% based on 1.94%	1.74% based on 1.94%
35.	Percent of equalized pupils at Leland & Gray UHSD	52.43%	45.58%	41.28%	39.92%
36.		-	-	-	-
- Following current statute, the base education amount is calculated to be \$9,459. The Tax Commissioner has recommended base tax rates of \$1.00 and \$1.535. The administration also has stated that tax rates could be lower than the recommendations if statewide education spending is held down. - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor. - The base income percentage cap is 1.94%.					

District: **Newfane**  
County: **Windham****T137**  
**Windham Central**Statutory calculation.  
See note at bottom of  
page.Recommended homestead  
rate from Tax  
Commissioner. See note  
at bottom of page.

9,459

1.00

**Expenditures**

		FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	
1.	<b>Budget</b> (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$1,376,014	\$1,321,899	\$1,436,201	\$1,403,371	1.
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-	2.
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-	3.
4.	<b>Locally adopted or warned budget</b>	<b>\$1,376,014</b>	<b>\$1,321,899</b>	<b>\$1,436,201</b>	<b>\$1,403,371</b>	4.
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-	5.
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-	6.
7.	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$1,376,014</b>	<b>\$1,321,899</b>	<b>\$1,436,201</b>	<b>\$1,403,371</b>	7.
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	8.
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	9.

**Revenues**

10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$292,980	\$231,093	\$318,060	\$224,246	10.
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-	11.
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-	12.
13.	<b>Offsetting revenues</b>	<b>\$292,980</b>	<b>\$231,093</b>	<b>\$318,060</b>	<b>\$224,246</b>	13.

14.	<b>Education Spending</b>	<b>\$1,083,034</b>	<b>\$1,090,806</b>	<b>\$1,118,141</b>	<b>\$1,179,125</b>	14.
15.	Equalized Pupils (Act 130 count is by school district)	95.27	93.58	90.76	86.42	15.

16.	<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil</b>	<b>\$11,368.05</b>	<b>\$11,656.40</b>	<b>\$12,319.76</b>	<b>\$13,644.12</b>	16.
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$114.37	-	-	-	17.
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual	\$5.44	-	-	-	18.
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed	-	-	-	-	19.
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils	-	-	-	-	20.
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period	-	-	-	-	21.
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition	-	-	-	-	22.
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools	-	-	-	-	23.
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015	-	-	-	-	24.

25.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	-	25.
26.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment	\$11,368	\$11,656	\$12,320	\$13,644	26.
27.	<b>District spending adjustment</b> (minimum of 100%) <b>(\$13,844 / \$9,459)</b>	<b>130.323%</b> based on \$9,723	<b>127.378%</b> based on \$9,151	<b>132.685%</b> based on \$9,285	<b>144.245%</b> based on \$9,459	27.

**Prorating the local tax rate**

28.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate to be prorated (144.245% x \$1.000)	\$1.1599 based on \$0.89	\$1.1974 based on \$0.94	\$1.3003 based on \$0.98	\$1.4425 based on \$1.00	28.
29.	Percent of Newfane equalized pupils not in a union school district	46.08%	46.27%	45.28%	44.02%	29.
30.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (44.02% x \$1.44)	\$0.5345	\$0.5540	\$0.5888	\$0.6350	30.
31.	<b>Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)</b>	<b>103.95%</b>	<b>100.92%</b>	<b>102.26%</b>	<b>102.45%</b>	31.
32.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.6350 / 102.45%)	\$0.5142 based on \$0.89	\$0.5489 based on \$0.94	\$0.5758 based on \$0.98	\$0.6198 based on \$1.00	32.

If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.

33.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated (144.245% x 1.94%)	2.35% based on 1.80%	2.29% based on 1.80%	2.57% based on 1.94%	2.80% based on 1.94%	33.
34.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (44.02% x 2.80%)	1.08% based on 1.80%	1.06% based on 1.80%	1.16% based on 1.94%	1.23% based on 1.94%	34.
35.	Percent of equalized pupils at Leland & Gray UHSD	53.92%	53.73%	54.72%	55.98%	35.
36.		-	-	-	-	36.

- Following current statute, the base education amount is calculated to be \$9,459. The Tax Commissioner has recommended base tax rates of \$1.00 and \$1.535. The administration also has stated that tax rates could be lower than the recommendations if statewide education spending is held down.  
- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.  
- The base income percentage cap is 1.94%.

District: **Brookline**  
County: **Windham Central**LEA: **T033**  
S.U.: **Windham**

1.	Local budgeted expenditures including any separate articles		765,363	1.
2.	Act 144 expenditures		-	2.
3.	Obligation to a regional technical center school district if any		-	3.
4.	Obligation to repay a deficit per 24 V.S.A. § 1523(b)		-	4.
5.	Obligation to repay difference between allowable and announced tuition		-	5.
6.	Total Expenditures net of Act 144 dollars	(lines 1 + 3 + 4 + 5) - line 2	765,363	6.
7.	Offsetting revenues (do NOT include revcode 3114, the on-behalf payment)		100,672	7.
8.	Act 144 dedicated revenues		-	8.
9.	Act 144 expenditures to raise locally	line 2 - line 8	-	9.
10.	Offsetting revenues less Act 144 revenues	line 7 - (lines 8 + 9)	100,672	10.
11.	Initial Education Spending	line 6 - line 10	664,691	11.
12.	Capital debt hold-harmless aid	line 16, "CDaid" page	-	12.
13.	Education Spending	line 11 - line 12	664,691	13.
14.	Equalized pupils		47.18	14.
15.	Education spending per equalized pupil	line 13 / line 14	14,088.40	15.
<b>Excess Spending Calculation</b>				
16.	NET Eligible FY2016 construction costs, including P&I		-	16.
17.	Borrowing in anticipation of delayed state construction aid due district		-	17.
18.	P&I for approved construction or payment into reserve fund (24 V.S.A. § 2804)		-	18.
19.	Cost of planning the merger of a small school (average grade size ≤ 20 students)		-	19.
20.	SpEd costs, two years prior, in excess of \$50,000 per pupil		-	20.
21.	If tuitioning all students, a deficit due SOLELY to the cost of new students moving in after the budget vote		-	21.
22.	If tuitioning all students and new students move in after census period, student number greater than ADM times average tuition rate		-	22.
23.	Total tuitions if tuitioning all K - 12 students unless electorate has authorized payments greater than average announced tuitions		-	23.
24.	Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015		-	24.
25.	If a district has ≤ 20 equip and tuitions grades K - 12, any excess spending due SOLELY to new special education spending (2007, No. 66, § 12)		-	25.
26.	Total eligible exclusions	Sum of lines 16 - 25	-	26.
27.	Eligible FY2016 exclusions per pupil, including P&I	line 26 / line 14	-	27.
28.	Per pupil figure to use for Excess Spending	line 15 - line 27	14,088.40	28.
29.	Excess spending threshold		17,103	29.
30.	Per pupil spending above the threshold	line 28 - line 29	NA	30.
31.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Spending Adjustment	line 15 + line 30	14,088.40	31.
32.	District spending adjustment	max of 100% or (line 31 / 9,469)	148.942%	32.
33.	Equalized homestead tax rate to be prorated	line 32 x \$1.00	1.4894	33.
34.	Percent of Brookline equalized pupils not in a union school district		60.08%	34.
35.	Portion of equalized homestead tax rate to be assessed by town	lines 33 x line 34	0.8948	35.
36.	Common level of appraisal		104.19%	36.
37.	Estimated actual homestead tax rate of district to be assessed	lines 35 / line 36	0.8588	37.
38.	Equalized homestead rate from Leland and Gray UHSD #34	MANUAL	1.7557	38.
39.	Percent of Brookline equalized pupils at Leland and Gray UHSD #34		39.92%	39.
40.	Prorated equalized rate from Leland and Gray UHSD #34	lines 40 / line 38	0.7009	40.
41.	Estimated actual rate from Leland and Gray UHSD #34 to be assessed	MANUAL	0.6727	41.
42.				42.
43.				43.
44.				44.
45.				45.
46.	Total equalized homestead rate for Brookline	lines 34 + 39 + 43	1.5957	46.
47.	Total estimated actual homestead rate for Brookline	lines 36 + 40 + 44	1.5315	47.
48.	Equalized non-residential tax rate		1.535	48.
49.	Estimated actual non-residential tax rate	lines 48 / line 36	1.4733	49.
50.	Education spending	line 13	664,691	50.
51.	Tech FTE's		-	51.
52.	Base education amount for tech FTE's, paid on behalf of district (This is not a local revenue. It reduces the education spending a district is owed.)	line 51 x 9,469 x 87%	-	52.
53.	Adjusted education spending due the district from Ed Fund	lines 50 - 52	664,691	53.
54.	Amount to raise locally for Act 144	line 9	-	54.
55.	Prorated income cap percentage for Brookline education property tax if eligible	1.94% x 0.00% x 0.00% (lines 32 & 34)	1.74%	55.
56.	Spending adjustment from Leland and Gray UHSD #34	"FY14EstUnion", line 20	175.57%	56.
57.	Prorated income cap percentage from Leland and Gray UHSD #34	1.94% x 39.92% x 175.57%	1.36%	57.
58.		"FY14EstUnion", line 20 (%)		58.
59.				59.
60.	Estimated income cap percentage for Brookline education property tax		3.10%	60.

DO NOT PRINT

ESTIMATES ONLY

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District: **Newfane**  
County: **Windham Central**LEA: **T137**  
S.U.: **Windham**

1.	Local budgeted expenditures including any separate articles		1,403,371	1.
2.	Act 144 expenditures	-		2.
3.	Obligation to a regional technical center school district if any	-		3.
4.	Obligation to repay a deficit per 24 V.S.A. § 1523(b)	-		4.
5.	Obligation to repay difference between allowable and announced tuition	-		5.
6.	Total Expenditures net of Act 144 dollars	(lines 1 + 3 + 4 + 5) - line 2	1,403,371	6.
7.	Offsetting revenues (do NOT include revcode 3114, the on-behalf payment)		224,246	7.
8.	Act 144 dedicated revenues	-		8.
9.	Act 144 expenditures to raise locally	line 2 - line 8		9.
10.	Offsetting revenues less Act 144 revenues	line 7 - (lines 8 + 9)	224,246	10.
11.	Initial Education Spending	line 6 - line 10	1,179,125	11.
12.	Capital debt hold-harmless aid	line 16, "CDeld" page	-	12.
13.	Education Spending	line 11 - line 12	1,179,125	13.
14.	Equalized pupils		86.42	14.
15.	Education spending per equalized pupil	line 13 / line 14	13,644.12	15.

<b>Excess Spending Calculation</b>				
16.	NET Eligible FY2016 construction costs, including P&I	-		16.
17.	Borrowing in anticipation of delayed state construction aid due district	-		17.
18.	P&I for approved construction or payment into reserve fund (24 V.S.A. § 2804)	-		18.
19.	Cost of planning the merger of a small school (average grade size ≤ 20 students)	-		19.
20.	SpEd costs, two years prior, in excess of \$50,000 per pupil	-		20.
21.	If tuitioning all students, a deficit due SOLELY to the cost of new students moving in after the budget vote	-		21.
22.	If tuitioning all students and new students move in after census period, student number greater than ADM times average tuition rate	-		22.
23.	Total tuitions if tuitioning all K - 12 students unless electorate has authorized payments greater than average announced tuitions	-		23.
24.	Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015	-		24.
25.	If a district has ≤ 20 equipup and tuitions grades K - 12, any excess spending due SOLELY to new special education spending (2007, No. 66, § 12)	-		25.
26.	Total eligible exclusions	Sum of lines 16 - 25		26.
27.	Eligible FY2016 exclusions per pupil, including P&I	line 26 / line 14		27.
28.	Per pupil figure to use for Excess Spending	line 15 - line 27	13,644.12	28.
29.	Excess spending threshold		17,103	29.
30.	Per pupil spending above the threshold	line 28 - line 29	NA	30.

31.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Spending Adjustment	line 15 + line 30	13,644.12	31.
32.	District spending adjustment	max of 100% or (line 31 / 9,459)	144.245%	32.
33.	Equalized homestead tax rate to be prorated	line 32 x 1.00	1.4425	33.
34.	Percent of Newfane equalized pupils not in a union school district		44.02%	34.
35.	Portion of equalized homestead tax rate to be assessed by town	lines 33 x line 34	0.6350	35.
36.	Common level of appraisal		102.45%	36.
37.	Estimated actual homestead tax rate of district to be assessed	lines 35 / line 36	0.6198	37.
38.	Equalized homestead rate from Leland and Gray UHSD #34	MANUAL	0.9828	38.
39.	Percent of Newfane equalized pupils at Leland and Gray UHSD #34		65.98%	39.
40.	Prorated equalized rate from Leland and Gray UHSD #34		0.5502	40.
41.	Estimated actual rate from Leland and Gray UHSD #34 to be assessed	lines 40 / line 36	0.5370	41.
42.		MANUAL		42.
43.				43.
44.				44.
45.				45.
46.	Total equalized homestead rate for Newfane	lines 34 + 39 + 43	1.1852	46.
47.	Total estimated actual homestead rate for Newfane	lines 35 + 40 + 44	1.1568	47.
48.	Equalized non-residential tax rate		1.535	48.
49.	Estimated actual non-residential tax rate	lines 49 / line 36	1.4983	49.

50.	Education spending	line 13	1,179,125	50.
51.	Tech FTE's		-	51.
52.	Base education amount for tech FTE's, paid on behalf of district (This is not a local revenue. It reduces the education spending a district is owed.)	line 51 x 9,459 x 87%		52.
53.	Adjusted education spending due the district from Ed Fund	lines 50 - 52	1,179,125	53.
54.	Amount to raise locally for Act 144	line 9		54.

55.	Prorated income cap percentage for Newfane education property tax if eligible	1.94% x 0.00% x 0.00% (lines 32 & 34)	1.23%	55.
56.	Specialty adjustment from Leland and Gray UHSD #34	"FY14EdFund" line 20 175.57%	MANUAL	56.

The 2014 Town Report is dedicated in memory of  
James A. Walsh (March 18, 1943–May 15, 2014), and  
Nelson Fontaine (November 14, 1937, 1916–February 5, 2014).



This year we lost two longtime residents of our community.

Both men were not only devoted husbands and fathers,  
but dedicated civic servants for the town they loved and lived in.

**JAMES A. WALSH** was born on March 18, 1943 and passed away on May 15 at the age of 71. He moved to Brookline after he retired from the Police Department in Bridgeport CT. His life was always about supporting good people with good actions. He was a very active Mason and Shriner and was on the Board of Directors of the Shriners Hospital in Springfield Mass. Here in Brookline, Jim held many appointed and elected positions. Jim was an active member of the Brookline Historical Society.

**NELSON FONTAINE** was born on November 14, 1937 and passed away on February 5, 2014 at the age of 76. Nelson served on the select board for 30 years. Every selectboard meeting is held at the beautiful conference table he made for the town. His magnetic photos can be found on our refrigerators. His family always came first, but the needs of the town weren't far behind. He was our school bus driver, our road commissioner, our hunting buddy, our neighbor, our friend.

These men have demonstrated what it means to be involved and invested in life.  
We are all a little bit better because of them.

Town of Brookline

P.O. Box 403

736 Grassy Brook Road

Brookline, Vermont 05345