

BROOKLINE 2015

A · N · N · U · A · L R · E · P · O · R · T



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

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 www.brooklinevt.com/selectboard
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
Landfill	Access permits available at District Scale House
Fire & Rescue.....	9-1-1 or 1-603-352-1100
Fish & Game License.....	See Town Clerk or online at http://vtfishandwildlife.com/

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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 2016 Brookline Town Meeting

The legal voters of the Town of Brookline are hereby warned to meet in the Multipurpose Room at the Brookline School building in the said Town of Brookline on Tuesday, the 1st 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:
 Total Municipal Taxes to be raised \$ 267,840.00
- 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 16 Approved	FY 17 Requested
American Red Cross	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
CRT, The Current Ct River Tranit	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
Groundworks Collaborative: a merge of Brattleboro		
Area Drop In Center & Morningside Shelter.....	200.00	200.00
Historical Society of Windham County	250.00	250.00
Leland & Gray Education Foundation	250.00	250.00
Project Feed the Thousands.....	100.00	100.00
Senior Solutions	350.00	350.00
SEVCA.....	465.00	465.00
Townshend Food Bank.....	100.00	100.00
VABVI-VT Assoc for the Blind	100.00	100.00
VACD	100.00	100.00
Valley Cares Inc.	821.00	821.00
Vermont Center Lndependent Living	80.00	80.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance.....	1,000.00	1,000.00
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 Requested FY 2016.....	\$6,331.00.....	\$6,331.00

- ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town voters approve a new appropriation in the amount of \$200 for the Moore Free Library?
- ARTICLE 11. Shall the Town voters approve an increase of \$100.00 in appropriation for Groundworks Collaborative which merged Brattleboro Area Drop in Center & Morningside Shelter?
- ARTICLE 12. Shall the Town voters approve an increase of \$300.00 in appropriation for Senior Solutions?
- ARTICLE 13. Shall the Town re-appropriate the \$8,000.00 from the previous town meeting(Article 10) to be used for a new salt/sand shed?
- ARTICLE 14. Shall the Town voters approve raising \$2,000.00 in reserve per year in anticipation of an outside audit of all town financial records every 4 years?
- ARTICLE 15. Shall the Town voters approve \$8,734 for the NewBrook Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Dues?
- ARTICLE 16. Shall the voters of the Town of Brookline vote to collect its current taxes by its Town Treasurer pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791?
- ARTICLE 17. Shall the Town voters approve the spending up to \$36,210.00 from existing reserved funds on needed renovations on the Historic Church Community Center?
- ARTICLE 18. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Dated this 23th day of January 2016

Bernardine Hoard, Dorothy Maggio, Bruce Mello, Stanley Noga Jr., Michael O'Donnell

Warning for 2016 Brookline School District Meeting

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 1, 2016, at 11:00 A.M to consider and act upon the following articles:

Article I: To elect a Moderator for one year term.

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

Brookline School District Treasurer	1 year term (2017)
Brookline School District Director	3 year term (ending 2019)
Leland and Gray School District Director	3 year term (ending 2019)

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.

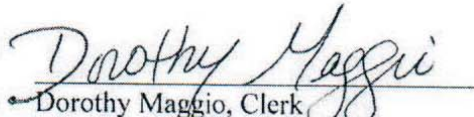
Article V: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated at Brookline, Vermont this 25th day of January in the year 2016.

Brookline School Board of Directors:


Alecia O'Donnell, Chair


Sherry Greene, Vice-Chair


Dorothy Maggio, Clerk

Town Officers Elected

TITLE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Moderator.....	David Y. Parker, Jr.....	2016
Town Clerk.....	Guy Tanza.....	2016
Treasurer.....	Somara Zwick.....	2016
Delinquent Tax Collector.....	Guy Tanza.....	2016
Selectboard.....	Stanley E. Noga, Jr.....elected to 2 yr term	2017
	Michael O'Donnell... elected to 2 yr term.....	2016
	Dorothy Maggio.....elected to finish 3 yr Vacant term..	2016
	Bernardine Hoard ..elected to 3 yr term	2018
	Bruce Mello.....elected to 3 yr term.....	2017
Listers.....	Donald Gokey.....	2018
	Shelia Gokey (Appointed to finish 3 yr term).....	2016
	Marsha Omand.....	2017
Auditors.....	Heidi Nystrom.....	2018
	Frank Rucker.....	2016
	Kendra Brooks.....	2017
School Directors.....	Sharon Greene.....	2018
	Dorothy Maggio.....	2017
	Alecia O'Donnell.....	2016
School District Treasurer.....	Samantha Bovat.....	2018
LGHUS School Director.....	Lyndall Boal.....	2016
Cemetery Commissioners.....	Mike Winot elected to finish 5 yr term.....	2017
	Doug Wellman.....	2019
	Cynthia Nau.....	2020
	Howard Osgood.....	2016
	Vacant.....	
First Constable.....	(Selectboard)	
Second Constable.....	(Selectboard)	
Trustee of Public Funds.....	Guy Tanza.....	2016
Town Agent.....	Guy Tanza.....	2016
Town Grand Juror.....	David Y. Parker Jr.....	2016
Town State Representatives.....	Carolyn Partridge.....	2017
	Matthew Trieber.....	2017
Justice of the Peace.....	Marsha Omand.....	2017
	Cynthia Nau.....	2017
	Gwen Tanza.....	2017
	Guy Tanza.....	2017
	Margi Wellman.....	2017

Town Officers Appointed

TITLE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Assistant Town Clerk	Gwen Tanza.....	2016
Assistant Treasurer	Louise Sirois.....	2016
	Guy Tanza.....	2016
Road Commissioners	Archie Clark.....	2016
Highway Foreman.....	Mark Bills.....	2016
Health Officer.....	Bernardine Hoard.....	11/30/2016
Assistant Health Officer.....	Dorothy Maggio.....	2016
Forest Fire Warden.....	Lester D. Rink.....	2016
Deputy Forest Fire Warden.....	Michael W. Winot	2016
Town Service Officer.....	Cynthia Nau.....	2016
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber.....	Lester D. Rink.....	2016
Tree Warden.....	Mark Bills.....	2016
Windham Regional Commissioners....	Cynthia Nau.....	2016
	Guy Tanza.....	2016
Pound Keeper.....	Windham County Humane Society.....	2016
Animal Control Officer.....	Nancy Caldwell.....	2016
Historical Society.....	Cynthia Nau.....	2016
	Doug Wellman.....	2016
	Jack Greene.....	2016
Emergency Mgmt Coordinator.....	Michael O'Donnell.....	2016
Rescue, Inc.....	Vacant	2016
Town 911 Coordinator.....	Guy Tanza.....	2016
SEVCA.....	Vacant.....	2016
WCSWMD (Landfill).....	David Jones.....	2016
Planning Commission.....	Charlie Ezequelle.....	2020
	Suzanne d' Corsey.....	2018
	Barbara Bourne.....	2017
	Thomas E. Kavet.....	2016
	Vacant.....	2019
Brookline Church Committee.....	Stanley E. Noga, Jr.....	2016
	Bruce Mello.....	2016
	Peter Meyer, Chairman.....	2016
	Helen Samuels.....	2016
	Kerry Bourne.....	2016
	Cynthia Nau.....	2016
	Mark Bills.....	2016

Auditors' Report

THIS 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 Funds as of June 30, 2015, 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.
- 7) To comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles that apply to Government Wide Activities and the Statement of Net Position, the Auditors have asked the Treasurer to provide a statement of fixed assets with related information on depreciation, book value, and long term debt. We expect to have this information available in the near term and will include it in next year's Town Report.

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.

Respectfully submitted by elected auditors: Heidi Nystrom, Kendra Brooks and Frank Rucker
Dated: January 18, 2016

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. (And, please, if your E-mail address has changed, let Julie know.)

2015 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes, March 3, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Moderator David.Y. Parker, Jr. Moderator Parker reads the preamble to the warning.

Article 1. To elect a Moderator

Stan Noga nominates David Y. Parker, Jr. No other nominations were submitted. David Y. Parker, Jr. elected Moderator.

Moderator Parker acknowledges that Vermont State Representatives Carolyn Partridge and Matt Trieber have arrived and asks for a motion to suspend the rules of the town meeting so that the representatives may speak. A motion is made to suspend the rules of the meeting by Cynthia Nau and seconded by Sherry Greene. All in favor.

Town Meeting Suspended:

Carolyn Partridge speaks. Her first topic was to address the concerns of the community in regard to the possible payback of a state construction aid grant to the Brookline Elementary School during 1988/89. She wanted to assure everyone that she talked to the Chairperson of the House of Institutions and Corrections Committee, Alice Emmons. Alice replied that with money being so tight right now there is no appetite for forgiving any debts at this point. Carolyn further indicates that the legislation needs to understand that as schools consolidate, they needed to be rewarded and that is the argument that she has made. She then goes on to discuss the state water quality and about her article in the Reformer each week and how the EPA is basically breathing down the neck of the State of Vermont in regard to water quality, especially in the shallow water areas of Lake Champlain, and what the cost implication could be regarding the clean-up in the lakes and sewer treatment plants. Discussed the guidelines for the state agricultural community regarding the use of land and water for large and small farms and the new requirements. Briefly discussed the House Education Bill which is very similar in many ways as last year, but this year seems to be a more thoughtful process. Carolyn turns the presentation over to Representative Matt Trieber who serves on the Appropriations Committee. He discussed the challenges the state is having with its budget and that the spending is far outpacing the revenue projections. He comments on ideas of how ending some programs (although unfavorable with some folks) have been discussed and that he and Carolyn are focused on getting to a balanced and sustainable budget which is the type of budget they both support. After that lovely note, he asked if there were any questions. Norm Solomon raised a question about the H35 Farm Certification Act and Carolyn, who serves as Chair of the Agricultural and Forest Products Committee, comments that she thought a definition of smaller homestead farm would probably not come into the farm certification act. There was a discussion regarding programs that may be cut. A lengthy discussion was addressed regarding the consolidation of schools, whether we would have to pay back the \$137,000 construction aid that was given in 1988-1989. The representatives were asked to make some kind of motion to have the debt resolved. Carolyn indicated they would continue to try. There were questions and discussions regarding budgets, taxes and how programs are evaluated, the impact taxes have on small business, and how close does the state work with the State of New York on the water quality issue, etc. Carolyn and Matt thanked their audience for the opportunity to have been able to speak and share progress in Montpelier before heading off to Athens, VT.

Moderator Parker then goes over some housekeeping rules and mentions there are handouts containing latest Legislative news and contact information etc. on the table at the back of the room.

TOWN MEETING RESUMED

Article 2. To elect a Town Clerk

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

Article 3. To elect a Town Treasurer

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

2015 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Article 4. To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes.

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

Article 5. To elect all other officers required by law.

Selectboard – 2 year term

Tom Staats nominates Stanley J. Noga Jr.

Michael Winot nominates James Rogers - By state law we have to go to a paper ballot.

Results of the vote:

Stanley Noga	45	
James Rogers	<u>17</u>	Stanley J. Noga Jr. elected
Total	62	

Selectboard – 3 year term

Sherry Greene nominates Bernardine Hoard. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor Bernardine Hoard is elected

Listers

Marsha Omand nominates Donald Gokey. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor Donald Gokey is elected

Auditors

Archie Clark nominates Heidi Nystrom. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor Heidi Nystrom is elected

Cynthia Nau motioned to suspend town portion of meeting and to go to the school portion, seconded by Michael O'Donnell - So voted

TOWN MEETING SUSPENDED

BROOKLINE SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Moderator Parker reads the preamble to the School Board Portion of Town Meeting

Article 1. To elect a Moderator and Treasurer, as required by law.

Archie Clark nominates David Y. Parker Jr. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. David Y. Parker, Jr. elected Moderator.

Lisa Rucker nominates Samantha Bovat. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Samantha Bovat elected Treasurer.

Article 2. To elect all Brookline School District Officers as required by law for the ensuing year.

Moderator Parker indicates it appears two positions for School Director are up for vote, however, school director Alecia O'Donnell indicates that it is actually just for one seat, as there was a mix up on terms. Terms need to be staggered and that she has one year left. Stan Noga nominates Sherry Greene. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor. Sherry Greene elected.

Article 3. To compensate the Directors and Treasurer of the Brookline School District \$200 each.

Cynthia Nau so motions and Patricia Ballou seconded. No discussion and motion passed.

2015 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Article 4. To authorize the School Directors to accept any donations of land, gifts, or monies for school use. James Rogers so motions and Cynthia Nau seconded. Lyndall Boal brings up the question that if there is a donation and there are expenses, who pays. Alecia O'Donnell indicates that it says we are allowed to accept it, doesn't mean they have to. Lyndall Boal then asks do you then look at the pros and cons and Alecia indicates as best they could and the meetings are always open to the public for concerns, etc. and research would be done. It is further noted that the Board is not mandated to accept any donations of land, gifts, or monies Motion voted and passed.

Article 5. 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 possibly of a reverter in the event the State of Vermont seeks recapture of State school construction funds.

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

James Rogers has moved the article and seconded by Cynthia Nau Opened for discussion. Alecia O'Donnell first wanted to clarify that we have to vote as a town that you want to sell it and later you will have to vote as a town to buy it. Moderator Parker then reads the accompanying statements regarding the sale which contains a reverter clause. Norm Solomon then asks if there is a reverter then does that mean the sale is null and void. Alecia indicated that without a reverter clause it would not be done and then went into further detail regarding the legality, their discussions with different agencies, lawyers, multiple times with the state representatives and the fact no one seems to want to put anything in writing in regard to the state construction aid grant possible payback issue. Stanley Noga, Jr., comments about all the confusion and about the e-mail that Dorothy Maggio received from the Attorney General's office indicating the tentative agreement that the town had with the Agency of Education (AOE) was not valid as the AOE had no business issuing such an agreement. He went on further to indicate that if you look in the past, this type of issue has always been voted on by the legislation in January of each year. He commented on the statute that indicate the state is only entitled to 30% of the sale. So if the amount is for a dollar the state gets 30 cents. So if the citizens are interested in pursuing it, make your intentions and feelings known and it seems to me that we want to pursue this. He then asked if Dorothy Maggio had interaction with the senior attorney, Garrett Baxter, of the VLCT. She indicated that he indicated the votes are "non-binding" votes. Alecia O'Donnell spoke further on the school boards perspective on this article. Alecia O'Donnell spoke on the topic of the consolidation of schools, whether it was going to happen or not. She also touched on the topic if the joint board of Brookline and Newfane would consolidate into one and that as long as we have people that are willing to serve that is a good thing. At this point it was asked to be brought back to the article in question. Peter Libby states that as he understood it this is a non-binding vote. Moderator Parker indicated that was his understanding. Peter Libby indicated in which case he calls the question and it was seconded. All in favor. There again was further discussion as to whether this was a binding or non-binding vote and it was indicated that some votes pertaining to property are non-binding votes. According to an email from Attorney Garrett Baxter of the VLCT this vote was "non-binding", and is an attempt to gather information to determine the intent of the town. Patricia Ballou asked if the word non-binding could be added to the article. Doug Wellman pointed out that the motion had already been called, so the article went to vote. All in favor. Article 5 passed.

Article 6. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Moderator Parker indicated that while we were conducting the other business that he noticed the Principal of the NewBrook Elementary School had come in. Moderator Parker introduces Scotty Tabachnick and invites him to address the audience. The principal gave a brief talk, indicating he really enjoys his job and working with all the students and families in the two towns. He indicated there were 42 children from Brookline of the 126, so Brookline is roughly 1/3 of the population. He invites all to come to Our School Sing and to visit the Website or if you need to you can contact him directly either through the website, telephone or e-mail. After apologizing for being late he commented that next year he hoped to favor the Brookline community as first stop. The community thanked him

2015 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

for coming. Moderator Parker then asked if there was any further business and a reminder that anything brought up would not be binding. Marsha Omand pointed out that in the town report it was dated 2014, not 2015. The Moderator indicated to make the change in the booklets.

Alecia O'Donnell spoke and wanted to make sure that they are representing Brookline well. Sherry, Dot and she have really tried to make sure that the Brookline community has a voice and they do. It is wonderful to continue to build a community and school that both towns are proud of and that is happening. She wanted to be sure that the Town of Brookline is heard and if there were any topics needing to be voiced more strongly, please feel free to give them a call or an e-mail. Moderator Parker asks if there was anything else to be brought up on this portion. James Rogers moves to adjourn this portion of the meeting and return to the town portion of the meeting, was seconded. All in favor.

Moderator Parker indicates it is 11:50, and a decision to take a 15 minute recess is made before continuing with the town portion of the meeting.

Moderator Parker makes few announcements before continuing the meeting and also indicates there is a Spaghetti Dinner March 8th 4:00 pm at the NewBrook Fire Department to benefit Don Brooks McCormick who is a cancer patient, there will also be a raffle and other things. If you have questions contact Tom Brooks.

TOWN MEETING PORTION RESUMED

Completion of Article 5. To elect all other officers required by law.

Cemetery Commissioners

Moderator Parker indicated that he was notified that morning that Penny Harrington had tendered her resignation due to health reasons, therefore, there would be two positions open. After discussion, nominations for Penny Harrington's position, term ending 2017 were asked for. Stanley Noga, Jr., nominated Michael Winot. Cynthia Nau nominated Paul Dutton. Michael was asked if he wish to serve in that position. His reply is yes and at this point Paul Dutton request his name be removed as a candidate, leaving just one nomination. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor, Michael Winot elected.

Nominations for a 5 year term seat currently held by Cynthia Nau are requested. Marsha Omand nominates Cynthia Nau. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor, Cynthia Nau re-elected.

First and Second Constable

In the past we have chosen to have the selectboard serve in that capacity and we do have the Sherriff's Department on hand. Would the town like to continue that practice, or would you rather vote someone into these two positions. James Rogers moves that we continue the way we have in the past X number of years. Seconded by Sherry Greene. Moved and seconded, no discussion. All in favor – Continue as in the past.

Trustee of Public Funds

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

Town Agent

Currently held by Stanley Noga, Jr. Moderator Parker indicates that since Stan has been elected to the Selectboard, he is no longer eligible to be the Town Agent. Stan Noga nominates Guy Tanza. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor Guy Tanza elected.

Town Grand Juror

Currently held by David Y. Parker, Jr. Cynthia Nau nominates David Parker, Jr. There are no other nominations. A voice vote is called for. All in favor, David Y. Parker, Jr. re-elected.

Article 6. Shall the Town accept the Auditor's Report?

Michael O'Donnell has moved to accept the report. Seconded by Archie Clark No discussion. All in favor.

2015 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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

Motion to approve the total amount of \$222,946.00 by Dorothy Maggio. Seconded by Guy Tanza. Any discussion? Dot Maggio indicates the amount asked for is slightly less than last year, so we are basically looking at a flat budget, not looking to increase the amount above what we had last year. No other comments – All in favor. Approved the amount of \$222,946.00 for Article 7

Article 8. To see what dates the Town will vote to collect taxes.

Dot Maggio makes a motion to continue existing dates of Feb. 15th, May 15th, Aug. 15th, and Nov. 15th. Seconded by Somara Zwick. Discussion: Somara states that when the tax due dates falls on a Saturday or Sunday, then it would go to that following Monday, if that too is a holiday then it is on the next business day. No other discussion. All in favor. Tax collection to continue on same schedule as has been done in the past.

Article 9. Shall the Town voters appropriate \$6,331.00 to be raised in continuing support of the following organizations?

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

Doug Wellman asked someone on the Selectboard to explain the VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force request. Moderator Parker indicated we need a motion and second to go into discussion. Lyndall Boal moved the motion and was seconded by Leeanne Parker. Doug Wellman indicated that in the past new items were traditionally voted on separately before being included in the big list. Discussion followed regarding various issues of grants for dry fire hydrants, funds matched by the town, etc. It was explained by Somara this item was not new it was inadvertently left off the list last year and it was actually a typographical error for the zero last year in the town report. It was not approved, the Selectboard gave a special disbursement decision during the early part of last year because the request was received so late. There was further discussion regarding the grants, about the original request for the \$100 by the VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force. Doug Wellman asked if they were a state agency and if they are a state agency he felt it would be more appropriate for the request to be handled out of the normal town budget. Dorothy Maggio indicated that it did not appear to be a state agency, it was on their own stationery and was for the Vermont

2015 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Association for Conservation Districts VACD. (The Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1995 formed to conduct educational, scientific, charitable work concerning conservation, maintenance, improvement and development and use of land, soil, water, trees, vegetation, fish and wildlife and other natural resources in Vermont.) Michael O'Donnell indicated he could not tell if it was a state agency. No further discussion. Vote called for. All in favor, Article 9 passed.

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 water way.

James Rogers moves the motion, seconded by Leeanne Parker. James Rogers comments on what peaked his interest on this was last spring the grader had a small leak and Mark was working on it trying to find a bucket to catch the leak and working in the mud. He felt a cement slab would protect the nearby brook, provide moisture protection and the fact that crawling round on the floor to grease the grader it would be easier with a crawler. If the grader has a slow leak on the slab you would see it, if it was parked out on the ground you wouldn't see it and realize it was leaking, etc. Archie Clark had some concerns regarding the size, does it include gravel, how far from the water is it, what is stored in the town garage, does this include frost protection, stone, and so on. Comments were made on needing legitimate estimates to justify voting on this amount. Stanley Noga, Jr. stated the selectboard has a purchase policy of \$7,000 and you need to ideally get three bids and asked had the bidding process been done. Rogers indicated it had not and that he just wanted to throw it out to the town to see if they would go along with it and how much money there would be able to spend. Doug Wellman then stated that this is a request for the board to use the funds for a specific purpose and that it is no different than when they came to us in the past asking for \$25,000 for paving. It is put in a fund for a specific purpose. If it goes over that specific amount then the selectboard would have to ask the voters to approve the additional funds. He indicated the town garage is going to need work at some point and he thought the cement slab was a good idea and needed to be voted. Further discussion was made asking if they could amend the article. James Rogers said he didn't think it needs to be so sophisticated, we need a slab. Town Treasurer, Somara Zwick commented on the fact that Doug Wellman pretty much summed up the gist of it. That if funds are appropriated for a certain item, this is tracked and it would be put into a specific column for that specific purpose only. Paul Dutton asked how close to the waterway was the building and it was indicated approx. 70 feet. Paul Dutton then indicated that with that distance he felt comfortable and if the shed was really close to the creek then the shed needs to be designed quite professionally. Paul Madalinski asked if the \$8,000 was reflected in the \$222,000 or is it extra. Somara indicated it was additional. No other comments. All in favor. Article 10 passed.

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.

Moderator Parker points out that it does not have to be only voted on by voice, but in fact, if 7 people want a paper ballot vote we have to do that, as state law takes precedence. He further states that most of this has been discussed in general during the school board portion of the meeting. Sherry Greene moved to vote, Guy Tanza seconded. Jack Greene asked if anyone knew the cost of the maintenance on this building. Selectman Bruce Mello indicates no, because they had received some figures from Windham Supervisory Union that seemed to be in kind of conflict with each other, so they are looking at that. They (the Selectboard) are also contemplating before the purchase of that building to look at the building in its entirety to understand what they are getting into and right now there is no exact figure or conclusion. Selectboard member Dot Maggio indicates they have been working with the district and school directors trying to establish the cost and maintenance and are looking to get a consensus or understanding from the town in regard to continue moving in the direction of purchasing the school. There was a discussion about the lease the daycare center has, how much space do they use, their contract renewal, etc. Part of the discussion

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was regarding the reverter clause and repayment of the construction grant of \$137,000, as well as lengthy remarks on whether the question was binding or non-binding. It was pointed out that there has been an extreme amount of time spent with the lawyers, back and forth with different parties and still no conclusion. It was further commented on that the article being voted on was not to: yes, to buy the school, we are saying we are giving the option for them (The Selectboard) to make the decision. Stan Noga indicated when he followed it up with a lawyer that he thought the point he thinks that would be helpful to everyone is that the selectboard does not need this vote or anyone's opinion about how they want to consummate it. They have the legal right to do it regardless of what is done and said here today. It is purely in their ballpark as to what they ultimately do, but certainly are sensitive to the town's feelings. Samantha Bovat indicated the state is not going to give them any decision unless the town votes on it today. If we do not move forward as a town legally they are not going to "in theory" tell us whether or not we have to pay back that money. So in order to get to the end question of whether we owe this money we have to authorize the selectboard to go ahead with it. There was discussion on whether or not the town could be a landlord. Guy Tanza commented on the question of the town being in the landlord business is that it is a twofold thing. Number one: other towns, for instance Brattleboro, are in a landlord business and the other thing is that the town cannot be in a competitive landlord business, part of the language in that statute says that if you are going to compete against someone else, for instance: building buildings for profit then you cannot be in the landlord business. If you are going to use the building for some of your use or most of your use that is allowable as to what he had read in the email from VLCT. He said he spoke to Garrett Baxter an attorney at VLCT, so yes, there are some not total understandings but it has been like that for the last year and the selectboard has worked diligently to try and clear up these issues. Part of it was the forbearance clause that we had (with the AOE) right up to a month ago and then it just evaporated because the Attorney General said the Agency of Education could not do that and it pushed the school board and selectboard right back to square one. So basically what I think this vote is for, is to give the selectboard the needed leverage to negotiate certain contractual agreements and to also show that the town is interested in assuming this building. Michael O'Donnell asked to move the question. Seconded by Scott Bovat. Asked if all were in favor to stop debate and go to vote. All were in favor Article 11 passed.

Article 12. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Moderator Parker again states that anything voted here is not binding under this article. Stan Noga spoke and indicated that the town voted to allow the town to involve itself in ownership of the church and he proposed a motion to read as follows: Shall the citizens of Brookline in a non-binding vote recommend that the Brookline Selectboard vote to place the revolving loan money into the dedicated church renovation funding account. He goes on further to discuss the funds that the church has currently, which came mostly from the Lady's Benevolent Society, the research he made regarding the release of the funds from the revolving loan money that has sat in this fund since the 1980's, how these funds would help in any applications for grants in the future. He discussed the appraisal of the building and gave an overview of the amount of work that was needed for the church. He said that the dollar amount that they have right now really ties and restricts the hands of the citizens of this town if they want to do something with the building. Moderator Parker reads motion - Shall the citizens of Brookline in a non-binding vote recommend that the Brookline Selectboard vote to place the revolving loan money into the dedicated church renovation funding account." Open for discussion. Doug Wellman comments again that this is a non-binding and the money is controlled by the selectboard and should be discussed at a selectboard meeting and what is voted on today is only a recommendation and he didn't feel this was necessary as the selectboard has the powers that be. Bruce Mello spoke and indicated the selectboard were all in agreement that they wanted to hear what was wanted from the town so they could base their decision and make their recommendations accordingly. He then commented at length on his opinion of the church being preserved, at the excellent job that the Church Committee was doing, what it was probably going to cost to address some of the issues and hope they could move forward with approval. Helen Samuels then commented it would demonstrate that the community has delegated money for this and it will help so much as they go out to get grants. Guy Tanza then spoke and said he would like to carry on with what Doug was saying. The \$35,000 is a considerable amount of money and at this point the town is going to need some money for legal wrangling with the school and so forth and to pigeon hole that money for the church at this point is premature. We need to see what the school was going to cost, what mechanics in the school that may have to be if we just had the \$35,000 in a money market account and maybe making some interest, in his opinion that would be the direction to go. When we get a firm grip on what the school is going to cost us and so on and so forth, then at that point then maybe a better decision could be made. Stanley Noga, Jr. then again commented on the procedures for applying for grants. That he assumed when the community voted 62 or 73 to 1 it kind of left him with the

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impression that there was an interest in doing something with the building. If that is not the case then this is a great time to bring it up and make it known so that they know if they are wasting their time or if they are back to doing something constructive. Doug Wellman spoke again and said he didn't think it should be painted as a yes or no for what you want the money to go the church, he plans on voting no, because he wants to let the selectboard evaluate the potential uses for that money and to decide for themselves where it should go. James Rogers asked to move the question. Moderator Parker said to take to a vote and reminds it is non-binding, it is a vote of intent. The motion is read by Moderator Parker: **Shall the citizens of Brookline in a non-binding vote recommend that the Brookline Selectboard vote to place the revolving loan money into the dedicated church renovation funding account.** The motion is passed by a majority vote.

The Moderator asked if there was anything else. Somara Zwick just gave a friendly reminder that if you hadn't paid your taxes in February that you may want to do so because after May 15th the nasty 8% penalty gets added on so please remind your neighbors. Guy Tanza reminded everyone that there is the annual rabies inoculation clinic at the NewBrook Fire Department Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm. He also indicated the Department of Taxes had asked him to remind everyone that you have to file a homestead declaration every year. Since they do not mail out the forms any longer, you can go to the town website and scroll down to VT Dept of Taxes and you can download all the forms needed. Sherry Green indicated you can also go to VT.gov. Also note that the town office will not be open this 1st Saturday of the month since he would be at the clinic.

Moderator Parker also thanked the Fitzpatrick's for the good job they did on keeping our roads clear this year. It was moved by James Rogers to adjourn and seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 1:27 pm

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

Listers' Report

THE BROOKLINE LISTERS continue in the same mode: meeting the last Monday of each month at 7 PM with additional meetings and time at the office, as needed. Sheila Gokey did replace Doug Woods, as Lister Doug Woods did move out of town. We, also, attend NEMRC and MICRO-SOLVE educational meetings that pertain to Listing. Also, we are increasing our knowledge of the APEX sketching system.

Brookline has a total of 343 parcels that make our town. We continue to work at appraising the parcels, property transfers, site visits, Homestead Declarations monitored, Grievances heard and acted upon, Current Use processed annually, Lister cards updated, Grand List processed, and being accessible to people and their needs concerning property.

We did have five grievances this past June and did act upon them all. Our ongoing grievance with a particular property owner has come to a halt, finally, with the State still upholding our Listers' findings of three years ago.

We are in the process of our first annual updating of our tax maps with DiBernardo Associates,

surveyors, of Bellows Falls. Notes have been taken throughout the year for changes.

Our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), which provides us a town wide comparison of our total listed value to the State's estimate of total fair market value, and our Coefficient of Dispersion (COD), which measures the average deviation from market value of sold properties from the average townwide level of appraisal, are within the acceptable range. The acceptable range for the CLA is 80% to 100% with 100% being perfect and Brookline's is 98.52%. The acceptable range for COD is 0% to 20% with 0% being the best and Brookline's is 10%. When our CLA is below 80% and the COD is above 20% a new townwide reappraisal will need to be done. We are within range presently.

We do thank the people of Brookline for their cooperation as we do appraisals of property, new homes, renovations, sheds, other buildings, etc. We strive to keep property equalized. Again, thank you very much.

Donald Gokey, Sheila Gokey, Marsha Omand
January 17, 2016

Selectboard Report

BROOKLINE VERMONT IS a very special place to live. We have much to be thankful for... our wholesome family and community centered town is proud of our beautiful mountains and hills, our clean river, brooks and streams, our lovely farms and fields, and our historic buildings. Your Selectboard members worked very hard this year to maintain what we have with an eye looking to the future while remembering our past.

MEMBERS OF THE SELECTBOARD.

Bernardine Hoard is the chair of the Selectboard. It has been under her direction that this board has gladly served the residents of Brookline. Bernardine is a very busy woman. She has been available to each of us fielding questions, hearing complaints, planning for emergencies, and running our regular meetings, special meetings and town meetings. Bernardine knows our town and our children. She is a full time Brookline ambassador.

Dorothy Maggio is the vice chair of the Selectboard. She has learned much about the working of the municipal side of Brookline in her two years on the board. Dot looks forward to her continued involvement with the Selectboard if so elected this year for a new term.

Bruce Mello continues to work hard at meeting the needs of the town both in terms of saving money and encouraging activities that will further enhance the use of our resources. Bruce is a WORKER. He is out and about checking on buildings, boilers, bridges as well as being on several committees including the Historic Church Community center.

Stan Noga brings his expertise in research and contracts to our board. With the recent acquisition of both the Historic Church building and the return of ownership of the Brookline school building, Stan has diligently provided accurate and detailed information to the board regarding property lines, inspections, and grant writing. Stan is not a new comer to the Selectboard as he has been elected several times in the past. His experience has real value.

Michael O'Donnell is our Emergency Management Officer. He worked on our emergency plans and updated information required in reports. As

a member of the Newfane Road Crew and New-Brook Fire Department, Mike had the knowledge to assist the Selectboard in making decisions about road and bridge repairs. We wish him well with his new job.

TOWN HALL

Right across the road from the historic round school house is our town hall. We are so very lucky to have Guy Tanza as our Town Clerk. As you know, he wears many hats... he is our delinquent tax collector, the trustee of public funds, our Town Agent, one of our Justices of the Peace, our assistant treasurer and our representative to the Windham Regional Commission to name a few. Our website is kept up to date, our deeds are recorded, and our Selectboard meetings are videoed by Guy as well.

Somara Zwick is our town treasurer. She provides timely reports on our financial situation throughout the year and works very hard on our budget development. Louise Sirois and Guy work closely on all matters relating to our budget.

SUMMARY OF FY 2015-2016

This year we have seen the final repairs done on the Wellman Bridge, the instillation of culverts on Putney Mountain and Hill Roads, the reclassification of Greer Road, the Windmill trail head improvements after logging, the transfer of the Brookline School building back to town, repairs to the slate roof of the Church, the widening of Ellen Ware Road, new roadside signage, tree and brush removal, cold patching of potholes, a successful Green Up Day, an open house weekend for our historic buildings, successful fundraising activities by our church committee, and a wedding,

We look forward to paving more of our roads this year, repairing the roof, foundation and windows of our historic community center, making the Brookline School building more energy efficient and self-supporting. We hope to be better prepared in emergency situations and of course we will try to fiscally responsible and transparent in all we do.

Please come to our meetings. Check out our website. Send us suggestions. Stop in and tell us how we are doing.

Vital Records

BIRTHS

DATE	NAME OF CHILD	SEX	PARENTS
February 17, 2015	Austen Torden Geir Wandahl-Anderson.....	M.....	Brett Wandahl Anderson Jahari Lee Charlebois-Anderson
March 9, 2015.....	Nalani Salvia Amareece Webb	F	Christian Jon Webb Sara Elizabeth Webb
March 11, 2015.....	Olive Marie Grindlay	F	Jeffrey Craig Grindlay Melinda May Boulrice
March 14, 2015.....	Owen Charles Ezequelle.....	M.....	Charles Daniel Ezequelle Mallory Buxton McDonnell Ezequelle
April 24, 2015.....	Zoey Grace Staats.....	F	William George Staats, IV Lauren Elizabeth Staats
July 2, 2015.....	Liam Steven Morse.....	M.....	Taylor Anthony Morse Colby Virginia White
August 23, 2015.....	Jessep Berger	M	Jennings Carson Berger Theresa Leigh Davison Berger
December 2, 2015.....	Jonas Abel Masters	M	Michael Joseph Masters Melissa Masters

MARRIAGES

DATE	BRIDE	GROOM	PLACE
February 14, 2015	Molly Margaret Bischoff.....	Daniel Christian Meehl	Newfane, VT
June 27, 2015.....	Jorda Daigneault.....	Samuel Arthur Fisher	Brookline, VT
August 15, 2015.....	Rebecca Bray Tirrell.....	Joshua Peter Doyle	Putney, VT

DEATHS

DATE	NAME	AGE
April 22, 2015	David Gerald Allbee.....	76
August 6, 2015.....	Arthur E. Wellman.....	77
August 22, 2015.....	Trevor S. Farrell	21
November 17, 2015	Jeanne Marion.....	67
December 8, 2015.....	Dorothy May Chabot	79

Brookline Estimated Tax Rates (2016–2017)

	Proposed Budget FY2016/2017	Proposed Rates FY2016/2017	Adopted Rates FY2015/2016	Adopted Rates FY2014/2015	Increase (decrease)
Municipal Grand List (working Grand List as of 01/05/2016)	\$ 725,182				
Operations To Be Voted - Proposed FY 2016/2017 Budget					
Town office operations (General fund)	114,527	0.1579	0.1069	0.1282	0.0510
Highway fund operations	153,313	0.2114	0.2108	0.2116	0.0006
Total annual operations taxes to be warned & voted	\$ 267,840	0.3693	0.3177	0.3398	\$ 0.0516
Special Articles to be voted - FY2016/2017					
Gen. Fd - Appropriations	6,331	0.0087	0.0090	0.0090	(0.0003)
Gen Fd - New Appropriation Requests	600	0.0008			0.0008
Subtotal - All Appropriations, if total Approved	6,931	0.0096	0.0090	0.0090	0.0006
Gen Fd - Fire Dept Mutual Aid Dues Increase	8,734	0.0120			0.0120
Highway - Equipment /Town Shed (not new fy 2017)	-	-	0.0114	0.0000	(0.0114)
Total Special articles - General & Highway	15,665	0.0216	0.0204	0.0090	0.0122
Total Municipal taxes to be voted	283,505	0.3909	0.3381	0.3488	0.0528
Total Municipal taxes to be raised before local exemption	283,505	0.3909	0.3381	0.3488	0.0528
Local Exemption(s)					
Veterans (3000 x 1.4911)(Education)(not-voted) (30,000 x .01 x res. Tax rate)	444	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0000
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAXES/RATE to be raised less Gen fund surplus, if available	283,949 -	0.3916 0.0000	0.3387 -0.0167	0.3494 -0.0714	0.0529 0.0167
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAXES/RATE to be raised	\$ 283,949	\$ 0.3916	\$ 0.3220	\$ 0.2780	\$ 0.0696
<i>Education Taxes voted at School District Annual meetings - For information only</i>					
Homestead Educ. Rate		\$ 1.6383	\$ 1.4911	\$ 1.3972	\$ 0.15
Rates per Brookline/Newfane Jt Board and L&GUHS					
Total Municipal + Homestead Education		\$ 2.0299	\$ 1.8131	\$ 1.6752	\$ 0.2168
Total Municipal + Non-Resident Education		\$ 1.8649	\$ 1.7953	\$ 1.7279	\$ 0.0696

Highway Fund Balance Analysis as of June 30, 2015

	Paving/ Retreatmnt	Highway Equipment	Grader Usage	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
Total Revenues	\$ 72,037	\$ 4,000		\$ 14,592	\$ -	\$ 104,026	\$ 194,654
Less:							
2014 Expenditures	\$ 34,311	\$ 3,528		\$ 4,856	\$ -	\$ 161,384	\$ 204,079
Balance as of 6/30/2014	\$ 201,726	\$ 29,872	\$ 2,055	\$ 132,117	\$ 6,461	\$ 98,477	\$ 468,653
Plus:							
2015 Revenues:							
Unrestricted Revenues - Budgeted by Line item	25,000	4,000		9,500	-	112,322	150,822
Grants Revenues received - Culverts Grant				61,088	-	-	61,088
Grants Revenues received - State Highway Aid	38,476	-		-	-	-	38,476
Grants Revenues received - State Forest Svc						1,500	1,500
Reimbursements received - Property Owner	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	1,500
Total Revenues	\$ 63,476	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 70,588	\$ -	\$ 112,322	\$ 250,386
Less:							
2015 Cash Expenditures	99,711	2,148	-	65,316	-	131,842	299,016
Balance as of 6/30/2015	\$ 165,492	\$ 31,724	\$ 2,055	\$ 137,389	\$ 6,461	\$ 78,957	\$ 420,022

NOTES TO HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE ANALYSIS

- all amounts rounded to nearest \$1
- Emergency expense in this year approx. 50% paving, 50% culverts/bridges
- Remaining Grant funds received in December 2015 (fiscal yr. 2016) and will be reported in future

Brookline Consolidated Balance Sheet FY 2015

Town of Brookline Consolidated Balance Sheet For the Year Ended June 30, 2015

	General Fund	Highway	Church Building/Comm unity Center	Loan/Rehab	Historical	Reappraisal	Cemetery	Total
Assets								
Cash held in Separate Bank Accounts	\$ 6,070	\$ 352,056					\$ 6,419	\$ 364,545
Cash held in Money Market - Multi Funds	7,448		34,790	\$ 33,205	\$ 4,774	\$ 23,949		104,166.40
Town Office Cash Drawer	32							32.10
Due From Other Funds		68,875						68,875
Due from School District (LGUHS)	4,323							4,323
Municipal Revenues Receivable	64,705							64,705
Delinquent Education Taxes Receivable	6,174							6,174
Prepaid Expenses	972							972
Total Assets	\$ 89,724	\$ 420,932	\$ 34,790	\$ 33,205	\$ 4,774	\$ 23,949	\$ 6,419	\$ 613,793
Liabilities								
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	3,903	909						4,812
Performance Bond Payable								-
License fees payable to State	75							75
Property Tax Overpayments Payable	2,610							2,610
Due to School District (Brookline)	14,234							14,234
Due to Other Funds	68,875							68,875
Total Liabilities	\$ 89,698	\$ 909	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,606
Fund Balances								
Unreserved/Unrestricted	(9,578)			33,205			5,419	29,046
Reserved/Restricted	9,605	420,023	34,790		4,774	23,949	1,000	494,142
Total Fund Balances	27	420,023	34,790	33,205	4,774	23,949	6,419	523,188
Total Liability and Fund Balances	\$ 89,725	\$ 420,932	\$ 34,790	\$ 33,205	\$ 4,774	\$ 23,949	\$ 6,419	\$ 613,794
PROOF (assets - liab+fund bal=0)	(1)	-	-	-	(0)	-	-	(1)
Fund Balances as of June 30, 2014	\$ 44,470	\$ 468,653	\$ 31,483	\$ 34,931	\$ 4,639	\$ 21,369	\$ 6,192	\$ 611,736
Plus Annual Revenues	89,551	250,386	5,792	675	135	2,581	941	350,061
Less Annual Expenses	(133,993)	(299,016)	(2,485)	(2,400)	-	-	(715)	(438,610)
Fund Balances as of June 30, 2015	\$ 27	\$ 420,023	\$ 34,790	\$ 33,205	\$ 4,774	\$ 23,950	\$ 6,419	\$ 523,187

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. All Highway funds are restricted for use of Highway operations.
- Cash donated by the Historic Brookline Church Preservation Committee (formerly Ladies Benevolence) 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
- All Cemetery funds are restricted to that fund. The amount shown specifically restricted was the amount specified by an outside donor.
- Community Group -- Committee Managed Fund
 - The fund is held in a separate bank account. Monies earned are from food provided at Bingo held at the Newbrook Fire & Rescue and interest earned.
 - Scholarships are awarded to Brookline residents who apply to the committee. Accounting is managed by the committee, subject to the authority of the Town Selectboard.
 - A summary of Account Activity is provided as follows:

Treasurer's Report

EACH YEAR at Town Meeting we are more than halfway through the current fiscal year, and are reporting on the financial year that ended about eight months prior to meeting day. So this year, I thought I would try to comment both on the past year financial issues as well as try to say a few things about the current year's financial status.

On the plus side, in revenues, property tax delinquencies for the past year were much smaller than in prior years, and this trend for the current year looks good. Our highway department received significant funds from the State of Vermont Transportation Department that paid for ninety percent of necessary culvert replacement and repairs during the year. Damage caused by the Greer Beaver Pond flood in the 2014 year end continued to be repaired during the year, but the final work was not completed until this past fall, so the balance of the grant awarded for that work was not received until December 2015 and will be reported in the FY2016 financial reports. One new "Better Back Roads" grant was approved in the current year, and another is in process.

The Historic Church Building Committee has done a remarkable job of fundraising in a short period of time, which I consider another high point. Although their outside grant applications have not yet yielded "fruit," I believe they have laid the groundwork for future successes. The local support by town members has been demonstrated by the funds already donated, and the time of volunteers. Finally, the Historical Society got approval to change the purpose of a grant that was awarded

to them in the past years, and we will be taking care of the details to obtain the funds for necessary repairs on the Round Schoolhouse.

As for challenges, one of the biggest ones to our town continue to be legal fee expenditures and the additional hours required by the town office staff related to these matters. With the addition of the Historical Church Building last year and the Brookline School Building in July we have additional administrative responsibilities and will need to make some major improvements to the school building in the future which will require funding. So far we have only budgeted operating expenses for utilities for the Church Building, so the tax impact has been minimal. In the highway fund, we will need to repair or replace the town's salt and sand shed, but the Road Commissioner and Road Foreman are looking for grants available to do so. The Selectboard is always working to find ways to support these expenses without adding significantly to the tax burden.

So to wrap up, there is a lot going on. I can't end without saying again that as Town Treasurer and as the Collector of Current Taxes, I am very fortunate to have the never-failing support of the other Town officials, elected and appointed. I have especially thank Assistant Treasurers, Louise Sirois and Guy Tanza for all their help. Without everyone and our cooperative spirit this job would be a whole lot harder.

Respectfully submitted,
Somara Zwick, *Treasurer/Current Tax Collector*

Town Proposed 2017 Budget

Town Revenue & Expenditure Report; Proposed Budget	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL	Variance - Budget v Actual (over) under budget	FY2016 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
TOWN OPERATIONS						
TOWN OPERATING REVENUES: * See notes						
Current Taxes (Adopted Budgets, Proposed Budget)	38,903	\$ 25,634	13,268	\$ 71,067	\$ 114,527	43,460
Current Tax Revenue for Appropriations	5,981	5,981	-	\$ 6,331	\$ 6,931	600
Education Tax Accrual Adj. - Prior & Current yr net	-	(8,851)	-			-
Delinquent Taxes	15,000	29,793	(14,793)	40,000	10,000	(30,000)
Penalties	1,000	6,543	(5,543)	3,200	800	(2,400)
Interest on Taxes	1,000	11,136	(10,136)	1,500	1,000	(500)
Current Use	8,000	8,789	(789)	337	7,500	7,163
State Per Parcel Payments	-	334	(334)	-	300	300
USA-Deconte Funds - Forest Svc Rev Sharing	140	250	(110)	100	100	-
Civil Fines	-	401	(401)			-
Listers Education Grants (Restricted)	-	386	(386)			-
Clerk Fees (80% Recording + other fees)	4,500	4,234	266	4,500	4,000	(500)
Dog License Fees & Fines	600	1,284	(684)	600	600	-
Fishing Hunting License	25	47	(22)	25	25	-
Copies	800	1,146	(346)	800	900	100
Marriage/Civil Union	70	30	40	90	50	(40)
Records Restoration Revenue(20%Recording - Restr'd)	1,200	1,034	166	1,200	1,000	(200)
Town Fines/Animal Impound Fees	-	50	(50)	-		-
Reimbursements - LGUHS Election Costs	-	360				
Other Income - Transfer in		900				
Interest On Investments	100	70	30	100	20	(80)
TOTAL TOWN OPERATING REVENUES	77,319	89,551	(19,823)	133,798	147,753	(6,895)
TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES						
Selectboard	2,750	2,750	-	2,750	6,550	3,800
Town Clerk	17,400	19,664	(2,264)	18,000	21,560	3,560
Treasurer/Tax Collector	2,700	4,037	(1,337)	3,000	5,925	2,925
Delinquent Tax Collector	2,100	1,993	107	3,000	3,600	600
Listers	3,200	3,760	(560)	4,200	4,400	200
Auditors	1,000	1,439	(439)	1,000	1,500	500
Assistant Town Clerk	3,250	2,625	625	3,250	6,240	2,990
Listers-Reappraisal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Election Officials	200	50	150	200	200	-
Assistant Treasurer	6,500	6,924	(424)	6,500	7,740	1,240
Selectboard Clerk	1,500	1,350	150	1,500	1,500	-
Animal Control Ofc.(Extraordinary svs/Emergency)	-	117	(117)	-	-	-
Payroll Taxes - General Fund	3,167	3,177	(10)	3,320	4,530	1,210
Payroll Service Fees	1,000	1,134	(134)	1,000	1,100	100
Supplies & Postage	6,000	5,338	663	6,000	6,000	-

Town Proposed 2017 Budget (cont'd)

Town Revenue & Expenditure Report; Proposed Budget	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL	Variance - Budget v Actual (over) under budget	FY2016 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
Legal Notices	700	824	(124)	800	800	-
Seminars & Mileage	1,500	738	762	1,500	1,100	(400)
Town Office-Electric	700	824	(124)	1,100	900	(200)
Brookline Church Building-Electric	-	254	(254)	200	200	-
Town Office-Telephone	1,650	1,482	168	1,650	1,500	(150)
Town Office-Fuel	2,800	2,506	294	2,800	2,800	-
Brookline Church Building-Fuel	-	-	-	200	200	-
Computer Services-Maintenance/Support	600	1,064	(464)	700	900	200
Fire Alarm	560	502	58	300	300	-
Legal Services	12,500	14,418	(1,918)	12,500	7,500	(5,000)
Rescue Services	14,162	14,162	0	14,305	14,734	429
Fire Department Services - see notes	8,000	8,000	-	9,000	9,000	-
Copies	500	494	6	500	500	-
Copier Contract	1,908	1,841	67	1,900	1,900	-
Town Property Maintenance	800	785	15	800	800	-
Recycling Trash Removal	600	810	(210)	600	600	-
Dues-VLCT	1,351	1,392	(41)	1,392	1,400	8
Dues-WRC	943	964	(21)	950	993	43
NEMRC Software-license & support	2,000	1,851	149	2,000	1,900	(100)
WSWMD Landfill Fees	6,936	6,936	0	8,000	8,000	-
Law Enforcement	3,800	3,600	200	3,800	3,600	(200)
Insurance/Bonds	4,000	4,984	(984)	4,000	5,000	1,000
Old Cemeterys-Lawn mntc	300	240	60	300	300	-
County Tax	4,300	4,663	(363)	4,300	4,800	500
Animal Impound Expense	100	200	(100)	100	200	100
Fire permits/other misc	50	21	29	50	50	-
TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENSE (Before Appropriations)	121,527	127,912	(6,385)	\$ 127,467	140,822	13,355
Appropriations (Proposed amounts voted separately)	5,981	6,081	(100)	\$ 6,331	6,331	\$ -
Appropriations (New \$ in FY17, Warned & Voted Separately)					600	
TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$ 127,508	\$ 133,993	\$ (6,485)	\$ 133,798	\$ 147,753	\$ 13,355
TOWN OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) See notes	\$ (50,189)	\$ (44,443)	\$ (13,338)	\$ 0	-	

NOTES TOWN OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

- All amounts rounded to the nearest \$1
- Fire Department Services Proposed Budget figure does not include separately warned FY2017 requested increase

- Cash expenditure for Elementary and High School Taxes FY2015

Elementary Education Taxes Paid	\$ 477,624
Leland & Gray High School Taxes Paid	335,739
Total Education Taxes Paid by Brookline	\$ 813,363

Highway Proposed 2017 Budget

Town Revenue & Expenditure Report; Proposed Budget	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL	Variance - Budget v Actual (over) under budget	FY2016 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
HIGHWAY OPERATIONS						
<u>HIGHWAY OPERATING REVENUES</u>						
Current Taxes	147,065	147,065	(0)	\$ 140,144	153,313	13,168
State Aid	37,000	38,476	(1,476)	37,000	37,000	-
Highway Grant - Culvert Grant	-	61,088	(61,088)			-
State Forest Emergency Fire Grant	-	1,500				-
Fire Expense Reimbursement from Property Owner	-	1,500				-
Permits Revenue	100	130	(30)	100	100	-
Interest on Investments	300	627	(327)	300	300	-
TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATION REVENUES	184,465	250,386	(62,922)	\$ 177,544	\$ 190,713	\$ 13,168
<u>HIGHWAY OPERATING EXPENDITURES</u>						
Summer Salaries and Mileage	14,000	13,297	703	15,000	15,500	500
Summer Employee mileage	-	0	-			-
Summer Hwy Salaries-Emergency	-	242	(242)			-
Summer Payroll Tax Exp	1,092	924	168	1,071	1,186	115
Summer Contract Svcs/Equip Rental (incr. for work req)	33,000	15,775	17,225	33,000	35,000	2,000
Highway Emergency - Additional Fire Dept Svcs	-	3,000	(3,000)			-
Highway Contractors - Emergency 0099	-	5,785	(5,785)			-
Summer Hwy Material	21,000	22,392	(1,392)	21,000	21,000	-
Summer Hwy Materials-Emergency	-	1,806	(1,806)			-
Winter Salaries	800	798	2	800	800	-
Winter Payroll Taxes	61	61	(0)	61	61	-
Winter Contract Svcs/Equipment	33,000	32,793	207	33,000	33,000	-
Winter Materials	21,000	26,926	(5,926)	21,000	21,000	-
Town Shed-Electric	400	355	45	450	400	(50)
Town Shed Maintenance	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	-
Seminars - Hwy Employees	200	-	200	200	200	-
Insurance-Highway	3,800	3,415	385	3,800	3,800	-
Town Equipmnt Fuel/Parts\Mntce	4,000	2,148	1,852	4,000	4,000	-
Road signs	1,800	-	1,800	1,800	1,800	-
Culverts	4,500	59,900	(55,400)	4,500	4,500	-
Paving Retreatment/Lines	25,000	94,294	(69,294)	25,000	28,000	3,000
Bridge Maintenance	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	5,000	-
TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATION EXPENDITURES	169,653	283,912		\$ 170,682	\$ 176,247	\$ 5,565
<u>HIGHWAY FINANCING EXPENDITURES</u>						
Bond Principal Repayment	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-
Bond interest	4,812	5,104	(292)	4,649	4,466	(183)
TOTAL HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURES INCLUDING FINANCING, Excluding any specially	\$ 184,465	\$ 299,016	\$ (292)	\$ 185,331	\$ 190,713	\$ 5,381
HIGHWAY FUND SURPLUS (SHORTFALL)	\$ (0)	\$ (48,630)		\$ (7,787)	-	

Highway Proposed 2017 Budget (cont'd)

Town Revenue & Expenditure Report; Proposed Budget	FY2015 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL	Variance - Budget v Actual (over under budget)	FY2016 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
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NOTES TO FY2015 HIGHWAY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

- Culvert & Paving Expenditures and Grant Revenues						
Grant Revenues	\$	61,088				
Budgeted Tax Rev for Culverts and Paving		29,500				
Total Current year revenue available:			90,588			
Culvert Expenditures		59,900				
Paving Expenditures		94,294				
Total Expenditures during year			154,194			
Amount over current year revenue paid from Highway						
Fund Surplus reserved for these purposes			\$ (63,606)			

- 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, 2015 was \$160,000 and accruable interest thru 2030 is \$41,412, excluding effect of any Federal sequestration additions.

Road Commissioner's Report

THE YEAR STARTED with some grant writing, unfortunately we were denied both a structures grant for a culvert replacement project and a class 2 highway grant for a paving project on Grassy Brook Road.

A Better Back Roads grant was approved to do some slope stabilization work along Parker Road. This will be done in the spring of 2016.

The Putney Mountain Road project that has been a work in progress for about three years now has moved to the next phase. With the culverts replaced and some drainage work done, the road is ready to be ground and repaved. This is a costly process but in the long term it will save a lot of dollars in future paving and repairs.

The repairs to the Bridge #5 (next to Wellman's) were completed, finishing the repairs caused by the 2013 beaver dam failure. This work was funded by a 90% Emergency Highway Grant and 10% from the Highway budget.

This fall work was done on Ellen Ware Road, some ledge was removed from the hump in the road, and the road was widened in one area. This was done to improve visibility, safety and make room for snow. This work was paid in part by "The Ellen Ware Road Fund" which will be eliminated.

Looking forward: In November Mark noticed the rear of the sand salt shed was pushed out, deteriorated to the point that something must be done soon. This is constructed of native untreated wood, in the wet sand and salt and is 40+ years old. It has really served the Town well, but it's time has come to replace it. We opted to not add anything in this years budget as there is grants available and we feel the building is not in danger of immediate collapse.

In closing I would like to thank Mark and Everett Bills for all the work they do, to keep our roads in good repair with the limited resources we have.

Respectfully Submitted
Archie Clark, *Road Commissioner*

Brookline Church Preservation Committee

The Brookline Church Preservation Committee has made considerable progress during 2015 toward our goal of restoring the Historic Brookline Church and ultimately creating a town community center.

We are very fortunate to have worked with Jan Lewandoski, a highly regarded expert on the preservation and restoration of historic structures in Vermont. Although Mr. Lewandoski had very kind words for the remarkable condition of the building, he focused our attention on the critical repairs that he felt should be addressed.

Following Mr. Lewandoski's recommendations, some of our priorities have been the heavy timber steeple framing repair, belfry roof repair, vestibule post improvements and first floor framing and interior supports. We applied for a \$36,000 matching State grant in October but recently received notice that we were not chosen to receive funding. Although this news was disappointing to say the least, it hasn't slowed the progress several other projects.

Repairs to the building during calendar year 2015 totaled about \$2,850. The north slope of the slate roof was damaged when an ice dam slid off, taking about 20 pieces of slate with it. A contractor replaced all loose or missing slate from the damaged areas along with the rotted sheathing underneath. The sheathing was replaced with reclaimed, weathered hemlock boards. This made the repair nearly invisible from the inside of the attic.

Despite this expenditure the repair fund is larger now than ever. This is thanks to several successful fundraisers and private donations which totaled about \$9000 in 2015. The existing repair fund is currently around \$38,000.

More than \$6000 in donations were received from our community during our "Sponsor a Window

Repair" fundraiser where 100% of donations will go directly to the restoration of the windows in the building's sanctuary.

While a lot of time and energy has gone into the larger projects, we also addressed improvements and repairs that could be accomplished at little or no cost. We mowed the lawn, cared for the property, cut brush and pulled stumps to increase the size of the lawn, hosted a wedding ceremony, illuminated the steeple for the Holidays, recharged fire extinguishers for safety, cleaned the sanctuary, reinforced the sanctuary floor, installed temporary lighting in the attic, installed a work platform in the attic to assist with repairs, acquired 250 spare Guilford slates for future roof repairs and maintained our Facebook page "Historic Brookline VT Church Renovations".

During Columbus Day weekend, we held a very successful open house in conjunction with the Round Schoolhouse. More than 100 people stopped by to tour Brookline's historic gems.

We have been hard at work identifying additional funding sources and applying for more grants in hopes of hitting the ground running in 2016. Community involvement is so important during a major restoration project like this one. Many hands make light work. Whether you prefer to donate toward a specific project that's meaningful to you or you would like to donate your time on a Saturday afternoon, we welcome your involvement.

How do you envision the building being used? We value your ideas and welcome your comments, suggestions and participation.

Brookline Church Preservation Committee: Mark E. Bills, Kerry Bourne, Bruce Mello, Peter Meyer, Cynthia Nau, Stanley Noga, Jr, Helen Samuels

Brookline Planning Commission

THE BROOKLINE PLANNING Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the town office. Notices, agendas and minutes of the meetings are posted at the town office and on the town web site.

The Planning Commission is seeking citizen involvement with their current task of developing and distributing a town wide survey. The information gathered in

the survey will be used in the next Town Plan update due in January 2018.

The current Planning Commission consists of returning members Barbara Bourne, Suzanne d'Corsey, Charles Ezequelle. We have welcomed Tom Kavet with the duties of the chair. Past secretary Kim Sankey decided to step away from the commission. Her past efforts are very much appreciated.

Delinquent Tax Report as of December 31, 2015

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.

Childs, Craig W.	\$1,135.21
Merrill, Ken	749.37
Newell, Timothy.....	1,589.07
Saunders, Monime L.....	2,628.80
TOTALS.....	\$6,102.45

NOTE: The above totals reflect the amount of taxes, interest and penalties due as of December 31, 2015. Following is a yearly breakdown of delinquent taxes, interest and penalties:

	TAXES	INTEREST	PENALTIES	TOTAL
2014-2015	\$5,167.67	\$643.01	\$291.77	\$6,102.45

Regulations Governing Dog Ownership

ALL DOGS OR wolf-hybrids six (6) months or older must be licensed by April 1, 2016. Fees are as follows:

Before April 1, 2016:

Spayed/Neutered or wolf-hybrid.....	9.00
Spayed/Neutered or wolf-hybrid.....	11.00

After April 1, 2016:

Unneutered dog or wolf-hybrid.....	13.00
Unneutered dog or wolf-hybrid.....	17.00

These fees include \$5.00 that is sent to the State: \$1.00 goes to the State Rabies Program and \$4.00 goes to the States Spay/Neutering Program.

Any dog not licensed by May 30, 2016 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 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 on Saturday, March 19, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All animals must be either on a leash or in a cage.

The following is a summary of the fees collected in 2015 by the Town of Brookline.

	Qty	Town	State	Late Fees	Total
Spayed	62	248.00	248.00	12.00	508.00
Female	13	104.00	52.00	12.00	168.00
Male	14	112.00	56.00	20.00	188.00
Neutered	50	200.00	200.00	18.00	418.00
Total	139	\$664.00	\$556.00	\$62.00	1282.00

~ 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

Town Clerk's Report

A RECORD SNOW season fueled by several nor'easters in 2014-2015 is still fresh in the minds of many of us as we gaze out our windows and look at 2 inches of frozen slush. We were very fortunate to have an extremely capable snow removal team in Fitzpatrick Excavating to keep our roads safe and passable. Town Meeting Day was held on a clear but cold day with no snow falling and attended by seventy three residents along with a few visitors. The meeting was taped/filmed and received over eleven hundred visits on the town website www.brooklinevt.com. While some towns may have discontinued their websites due to newly revised open meeting laws, our town's website is fully functional and well maintained. We also have a town listserv maintained by Julie Lavorgna. Anyone wishing to be added please contact Julie at julielav@sover.net. Just because we are a small town, there is no reason for anyone to not be fully informed and aware of what is going on 7/24/365 thanks to many volunteered hours of work.

When Spring finally arrived, somewhat late, but to the joy of many who had the beginning signs of cabin fever, our town held the annual Easter Egg hunt. Thanks to the O'Donnell family for organizing the event this year. More than thirty children had the time of their life searching for and collecting eggs which, when opened contained surprises and gifts. These gifts were made possible by the Brookline Community Group (thank you Joyce and Bruce Meehl, Archie and Lauri Clark). Our next Spring ritual was that of Green Up Day (thank you John and Lynn Reinhardt). So many "workers" showed up to enjoy fresh coffee, juices and Lynn Reinhardt's homemade cinnamon buns. After coffee, Lynn, who is the Town Green Up Day coordinator, assigned the areas to be cleaned up. Many, many bags of trash were collected, once again enough to fill Archie Clark's dump truck, which he kindly donates for use every year to haul the trash to the Windham Solid Waste Collection facility in Brattleboro.

As always the Town Office is a busy place and this year was no exception. The Vermont's Secretary of State Office has launched a new "My Voter Page" website and required mandatory training of all Town Clerks. For Brookline, the training was held at the Equinox Hotel in Manchester, VT over a four day (9A.M.-4P.M.) period this past June. The training was intense but it assures all town clerks understand the new elections procedures and responsibilities of those involved. It was also a time to network with other town clerks and help to solve problems we all share. I have also attended workshops/seminars in Rutland, Montpelier, Lake Morey and Brattleboro to further my education and assure our town is up to date and in compliance with ever changing legislation and procedures.

As Town Agent, I traveled to The Vermont Supreme Court in Montpelier for a hearing on an ongoing property tax assessment appeal. Our very capable and hardworking Selectboard has dealt with a number of important issues including but not limited to, the purchase of the former Brookline School and the former Baptist Church, as well as Greer Road issues. As the person behind the camera, I get to see firsthand how they serve our town with their due diligence and administrative qualities to keep our town going in the right direction. We (our town) have the distinct fortune of having committees and Boards along with many volunteers working in harmony with the Selectboard to help keep our town a great place to call home. The Town Listers, another department I get to work with, have done an outstanding job and through their combined efforts enjoy a CLA (common level of appraisal) of 98% which is by no means an easy thing to achieve.

The town's 18.33 miles of road are the responsibility of our road commissioner Archie Clark and road foreman Mark Bills. Along with replacing culverts, arranging paving projects and trimming trees, not to mention filling out and applying for permits and grant funding, under mountains of

Town Clerk's Report (cont'd)

paperwork, they also have that most difficult job of dealing with "MUD SEASON". With the record breaking cold winter we had just experienced everybody was a little nervous, to say the least. But with hard work, tons of gravel, more gravel and a little help from Mother Nature and more gravel they were able to keep things well under control. Great job guys! With only one phone number (365-4648) for our town, I get to answer 99% of the calls and when things get a little crazy out there, we hear about it.

As mentioned we are a busy office. The two printers have made over 22,000 copies, scanned 498 documents for land records and received/sent 214 faxes. We average 35 emails and 14 phone calls every day which we monitor and reply to on a daily basis. Mail is picked up and date stamped Monday through Saturday excluding holidays. Our office has recorded 8 births, has issued 3 Marriage licenses, sold 34 Fish & Wildlife licenses, issued 14 Highway Excess Weight Permits, sold 139 dog licenses and notarized 6 documents. Sadly, very sadly we recorded 5 deaths. This for sure is my most difficult task as town clerk. I make these recordings after the office is closed and I am by myself. It affords me the opportunity to have my own private thoughts and reflections of these friends and neighbors of our town. My condolences to all those families.

It would be remiss of me not to mention my good natured and most hard working colleagues, Gwen Tanza, Somara Zwick, and Louise Sirois.

Gwen is our Assistant Town Clerk and brings thirty-five years of administrative experience in the insurance community. Her incredible keyboard and computer skills take a lot of pressure off me in the daily routines required. Somara, as you all know, or should know, is our Town Treasurer and Tax Collector. Along with years of experience in the financial world, she brings to the table years of education (CPA), tons of tax law understanding and the remarkable ability to handle all things fiduciary. Along with the very capable and dependable Assistant Town Treasurer, Louise Sirois, they keep our town in total compliance and record keeping in all things money. Their required reports, spreadsheets, tax forms, check warrants, payment schedules can be very complexing, but they get it done right the first time. Any errors in their work could prove to be very costly, but their level of expertise and discipline eliminates that possibility. It is my pleasure to work alongside these folks.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all of you for your support in allowing me to be Brookline's Town Clerk. I truly enjoy what I do and look forward to continuing. I honestly believe the town is in a good spot at this time, due to the hard work performed by all our Elected and Appointed town officials along with the many volunteers who make Brookline the great town it is. As my friend Vinny Linguine would say - "Never jump off a winning horse."

Regards,
Guy Tanza, *Town Clerk*

Town Employees

TOWN EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION - Gross Wages Fiscal year ended June 30, 2015

AUDITORS	Kendra Brooks	\$ 509.25		TOWN CLERK	
	Heidi Nystrom	\$ 582.75		Guy Tanza	\$ 19,664.01
	Frank Rucker	\$ 346.50		TOTAL	\$ 19,664.01
	TOTAL	\$ 1,438.50		ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK	
LISTERS	Donald Gokey	\$ 501.00		Gwendolyn Tanza	\$ 2,625.00
	Marsha Omand	\$ 2,340.50		TOTAL	\$ 2,625.00
	Doug Woods	\$ 918.00		DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	
	TOTAL	\$ 3,759.50		Guy Tanza	\$ 1,993.25
SELECTBOARD	Bernardine Hoard	\$ 750.00		TOTAL	\$ 1,993.25
	Dorothy Maggio	\$ 500.00		TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR	
	Bruce Mello	\$ 500.00		Somara Zwick	\$ 4,036.80
	Michael O'Donnell	\$ 500.00		TOTAL	\$ 4,036.80
	James Rogers	\$ 500.00		ASSISTANT TREASURER	
	TOTAL	\$ 2,750.00		Louise Sirois	\$ 6,279.00
SELECTBOARD CLERK	Shannon Meckle	\$ 1,200.00		Guy Tanza	\$ 645.42
	Louise Sirois	\$ 150.00		TOTAL	\$ 6,924.42
	TOTAL	\$ 1,350.00		HIGHWAY	
ELECTION OFFICIAL	Penny Harrington	\$ 50.00		Everett A. Bills	\$ 4,471.00
	TOTAL	\$ 50.00		E. Mark Bills	\$ 9,009.00
				TOTAL	\$ 13,480.00
				ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	
				Nancy Caldwell	\$ 117.00
				TOTAL	\$ 117.00

NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report

Introduction

During my first two years 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, our 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. They work together with purpose. I am very thankful for the support that they have offered me in my first two years and for the relationships that they form and maintain with one another and with the children and families that we serve together. They are devoted to their jobs and to our students. I feel very lucky to be working in a school and supervisory union that attracts such high quality and student-centered staff. I also am thankful for the opportunity to work in the wild and beautiful West River Valley.

Staffing, Professional Development and Curriculum

We have four new members of our school staff this year: Ms. Sarah Kenney, our new administrative assistant, Ms. Susan Daigneault, our new classroom support para-educator, Mr. Jason Gragen, our new fourth and fifth grade mathematics and science teacher and Ms. Amanda Paradis, our new sixth grade mathematics and science teacher.

Due to a large incoming Kindergarten class of 25 children, we choose to group some of our kindergarteners with our first graders in a K-1 classroom. There are currently 23 kindergarteners at NewBrook and five of them are in the K-1. In the same way, our large sixth grade (26 students) are shared by two teachers, one who teaches science and math and the other who teaches English/language arts.

Our master schedule includes weekly common planning time for teachers and a daily flex time to be used for enrichment and intervention in grades 4-6.

We will be issuing our WCSU Report Cards in January. A district-wide committee created the report cards last year and we have continued to refine them in response to feedback. The report cards are standards-based and aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

Communication and Technology

We are continuing to find new ways to utilize technology in order to enhance instruction and to support communication. Universal computer access (1:1 computing) allows teachers to utilize web-based lessons and software, Gmail communication and age-appropriate, cloud-based editing processes. Hoping to improve communication with our community, we continue to update the NewBrook School website and FaceBook page regularly with posts that include celebrations, announcements, photos and other important dates.

Last spring, we assessed our students for the first time using the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) web-based assessment. Vermont joined with a group of other states to develop the next generation of educational tests for both 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. This Fall, we gave the interim SBAC assessment to our students for the first time. This formative data, along with other local and nationally normed assessments, are used as a tool to inform smaller groupings and to track each student's progress. Our staff regularly offer our students a wide array of ways that they can show what they have learned, appealing to our broad group of learners.

We are planning two technology safety trainings this spring, one for our 4-6th grade students and one in the evening 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

NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report (cont'd)

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 or their academic accomplishments. 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 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.

Our Educational Support Team is a voluntary committee whose goal is to support struggling students, their families and their teachers. We meet weekly to create immediately actionable plans, to pair students with outside supports and to brainstorm and share practices.

We offer our 8 week Winter Sports Program on Wednesdays beginning after the new year. We offer ice skating in Brattleboro, skiing/snowboarding at Stratton, cross-country skiing at Grafton and snowshoeing and rock climbing at NewBrook. Children who take part in the Stratton program receive a season lift pass at Stratton and ALL NewBrook students are eligible for a free season pass at Mount Snow!

We are planning our annual 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 fifth graders spend a week at Keewaydin Environmental Education Center (KEEC) every spring. This five day, four night trip is paid for with local funds. KEEC offers hands-on, experiential learning in a variety of natural habitats, all within only a few miles of their campus in Salisbury, Vermont.

Our sixth graders fund raise all year to pay for their Sixth Grade Trip, which is a two night three day educational experience in beautiful Montreal.

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 pre-emptive decision-making. We also taught our students the specifics of the Bullying, Hazing & Harassment law in our classrooms this fall.

Our Spelling Bee Team, consisting of four 6th graders and three 5th graders were the winners of our WCSU Spelling Bee and then went on to come in 3rd place at the state spelling bee!

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 educational and enriching activities and programming. LAFTER activities are taught by community members and school staff.

Community

Our Farm to School Committee planned our second annual Community Farm and Field Day on October 16. 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 art projects and played field games with food (like butternut bowling). Our students played a waste-sorting relay race with a member of the Windham Solid Waste Management District staff. Community members volunteered to bake pizzas in the adobe pizza oven that we built last year. We celebrated at the end of the day singing together.

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.

Our annual Harvest Celebration and Art Show was very well-attended and super-fun. 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

NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report (cont'd)

our students' art work. The Principal's Soup was not made of principal!

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.

Energy Committee Update

On October 23, 2014, 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." Our progress is as follows: HVAC Project Over the summer, ARC Mechanical installed 23 air-to-air heat pump units and the necessary piping, control wiring and electric. In November, ARC Mechanical installed 4 condenser units, two to the south of the building and two to the east of the building. In late November and early December, ARC Mechanical installed two fresh air units on the eastern slope of our roof line. In December, FairPoint Communications installed the utility poles necessary to bring 3-phase power to our building. Then Green Mountain Power was able to wire the poles and install the necessary transformers. In January, we expect ARC Mechanical's electrical contractor to complete the connection of the 3-phase power to our new electrical box. We hope to be heating our building with these new units as early as February. Solar Project The contract with SunEdison was signed on October 2. The land surveyors have been out to survey the site. The environmental surveyors completed their assessment and reported no pertinent issues. A SunEdison contractor has visited the site to complete a solar site review.

Kitchen Improvements and Offering

We are in the process of developing a kitchen facility improvement plan. We hope to work within our budget to make the kitchen improvements necessary to enable us to purchase and process more local foods and to further reduce our non-recyclable waste. We are collaborating with a local design company who is working with us to create a phased plan to expand

and improve our kitchen. We are considering leasing a small, commercial dishwasher and purchasing an additional prep sink and prep table.

For the second year in a row we were awarded a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program USDA Grant for the 2015-2016 school year. This money allows us to provide a daily fresh fruit and vegetable snack to every student, at no cost to families during our morning snack time. We serve breakfast and lunch as well.

2016-17 Budget

The proposed budget balances many considerations. We maintain our current programming while accommodating a 7.9% increase in health insurance rates. The proposed budget also reflects an increase in Special Education spending for our building. Thanks to the members of our board for the time they put into the creation of this sensible, fiscally sound and student-centered budget.

Closing Statement

Again, I would like to thank the NewBrook community for all of the support I have received as your Principal. We are all quite proud of our smooth opening to the 2015-16 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) 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 or if you would like to tour the building. 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*

WCSU Superintendent's Report

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

This question continues to press our state representatives and local boards for action. The latest development is the passage of Act 46: Unification to Achieve Sustainable Governance. Although under review by the Legislature in 2016, at this time Act 46 includes "allowable spending growth" recommendations for each school district. Your school budget that can exceed this recommendation with voter approval, but approval would result in a two for one penalty on any "excess spending". The goal of these allowable growth recommendations is to limit increased education spending statewide at 2%. See <http://education.vermont.gov/laws/2015/act-46> for more information on Act 46.

The WCSU Board has received a \$5000 Act 46 Exploratory Study Grant from the AOE to assist our ten school districts in considering what options should be explored to meet the requirements of Act 46. Any changes in school governance must be duly warned and approved by the town's voters.

The ten School Districts of the Windham Central Supervisory Union operate eight schools:

School District	School (grade levels)	# of Students (12/15/15)	Pays tuition for Grades
Brookline	NewBrook Elementary (K-6)	129	Pre-K only
Dover	Dover School (PK - 6)	103	7-12
Jamaica	Jamaica Village School	63	None
Marlboro	Marlboro School (K-8)	81	Pre-K & 9-12
Newfane	NewBrook Elementary (K-6)	129	Pre-K only
Stratton	No school - All grades by tuition	(32)	Pre-K through 12
Townshend	Townshend Elementary (PK-6)	73	None
Wardsboro	Wardsboro Central School (PK-6)	57	7-12
Windham	Windham Elementary (K-6)	18	Pre-K only
LGUM/HSD #34	Leland and Gray Union Middle and High School (7-12)	318	Windham Regional Career Center

A few notable developments across the WCSU include:

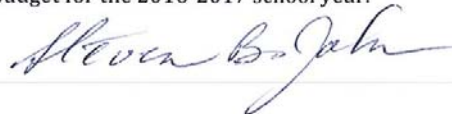
- Implementation of the *Common Core State Standards* and reporting on student progress using a standards-based report card for K-6.
- Beginning last Fall all WCSU member districts either provide or pay tuition for 10 hours/week of Pre-K education for any child 3 and 4 years of age at parent request.
- All schools (Windham excepted) provide a healthy breakfast and lunch supported locally and by the National School Lunch Program.
- Schools provide after-school programs supported by a 21st Century Grant and partially matching funds from local school budgets.
- Led by Dover and NewBrook with solar panels on campus, all WCSU schools have net metering agreements for solar energy to reduce power costs beginning late 2016.
- The 2016-2017 Superintendent's Budget is up 4.78% reflecting a 7.9% increase in health insurance premiums and 11.1 % in Special Education.

Vermonters are proud of our students and our schools as we continue to lead the nation in high-school graduation rates. Highly qualified teachers provide effective instruction for our students in every school in the WCSU. The standards based SBAC (Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium) tests were administered for the first time last spring. Next year, educators and parents will be able to gauge a student's individual achievement and growth by these tests in mathematic and English.

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. The State Board of Education's recently adopted *Next Generation Science Standards* will be an increasing focus for FY17 and beyond.

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 FY17 Budget. Your school board welcomes your opinions and suggestions to find the means to meet the needs of *all* students. I urge you to approve your board's proposed budget for the 2016-2017 school year.

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



WCSU Proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget

	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted Budget	FY 2017 Proposed budget
REVENUES			
Interest Income	\$ 469	\$ 200	\$ 200
Erate Grant	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
ASSESSMENTS			
Dover	\$ 62,576	\$ 81,574	\$ 83,008
Jamaica	\$ 51,762	\$ 55,108	\$ 62,806
Marlboro	\$ 69,795	\$ 65,259	\$ 70,919
Newbrook	\$ 115,329	\$ 115,304	\$ 138,356
Stratton	\$ 10,987	\$ 11,022	\$ 10,923
Townshend	\$ 59,935	\$ 66,978	\$ 75,550
Wardsboro	\$ 47,221	\$ 49,174	\$ 52,794
Windham	\$ 13,624	\$ 16,956	\$ 17,294
Leland & Gray	\$ 320,566	\$ 297,586	\$ 289,455
Total SU Administrative Revenues	\$ 751,795	\$ 758,961	\$ 801,104

	FY 15 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted Budget	FY 2017 Proposed Budget
WCSU ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES			
Superintendent/CFO Salary	\$ 204,569	\$ 211,860	\$ 214,000
SU Director of Technology	\$ 71,701	\$ 77,431	\$ 77,431
SU Admin Assistant Salary	\$ 39,628	\$ 39,780	\$ 41,700
SU Health	\$ 47,674	\$ 49,019	\$ 64,273
SU Dental	\$ 4,895	\$ -	\$ 3,982
SU FICA	\$ 22,932	\$ 25,174	\$ 25,485
SU Life/Disab Insurance	\$ 151	\$ 3,516	\$ 1,110
SU Municipal Retirement	\$ 6,634	\$ 7,466	\$ 7,618
SU Workers Comp	\$ 3,117	\$ 3,291	\$ 3,331
SU Unemployment	\$ 3,028	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,050
SU Professional Services (E.G. legal)	\$ 980	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
SU Information System Services	\$ 20,369	\$ 22,441	\$ 22,500
SU Curriculum Dev	\$ 100	\$ 1,000	\$ -
SU Professional Development	\$ 7,624	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000
SU Insurance Bond & Prof Liability	\$ 16,333	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
SU Telephone	\$ 8,193	\$ 6,270	\$ 7,000
SU Postage	\$ 3,554	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
SU Advertising	\$ 1,604	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
SU Travel	\$ 5,690	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
SU Conference Expense	\$ 4,519	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,500
SU Supplies	\$ 3,372	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
SU Equipment	\$ 3,107	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,000
SU Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 4,597	\$ 4,400	\$ 4,400

WCSU Proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget (cont'd)

SU Miscellaneous	\$ 2,706	\$ 100	\$ 100
SU Audit Services	\$ 15,839	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,000
	\$ 502,917	\$ 503,948	\$ 526,479
BUSINESS OFFICE			
Business Office Salary	\$ 123,383	\$ 121,774	\$ 132,577
Business Office H R Salary	\$ 33,200	\$ 29,500	\$ 29,500
Business Health	\$ 40,583	\$ 47,573	\$ 51,331
Business Dental	\$ 3,207	\$ -	\$ 3,084
Business FICA	\$ 11,215	\$ 11,572	\$ 12,399
Business Office-Life/Disability Ins	\$ 609	\$ 1,515	\$ 1,538
Business Municipal Retirement	\$ 7,760	\$ 7,753	\$ 8,914
Business Workers Comp	\$ 829	\$ 1,513	\$ 1,621
Business Unemployment	\$ 1,967	\$ 1,562	\$ 1,312
Business Equipment Repair	\$ 104	\$ 800	\$ 800
Business Office Professional Dev	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,300
Business Office Supplies	\$ 1,447	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Business Office Equipment	\$ 3,229	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Bank Fees	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Total Business Office Expense	\$ 229,033	\$ 231,862	\$ 254,676
BUILDING EXPENSES			
Property Services - Custodial	\$ 3,852	\$ 3,250	\$ 3,250
Property Serv Maint & Repair	\$ 519	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Building Rent	\$ 14,800	\$ 14,800	\$ 14,800
Building Electric	\$ 3,202	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,400
Building Fuel Oil	\$ 4,268	\$ 5,400	\$ 4,200
Building Equipment	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -
Total Building Expense	\$ 26,641	\$ 29,350	\$ 26,150
Total Superintendent's Office	\$ 758,590	\$ 765,160	\$ 807,304

2017 Proposed Brookline School Budget

	FY15 Actual	FY15 Adopted Budget	FY16 Adopted Budget	FY 17 Proposed Budget	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Revenues - To be updated by AOE						
Interest Income	\$73	\$34	\$35	\$35	\$0.00	0.00%
Food Service - Local Sales	\$0	\$6,343	\$4,917	\$4,757	-\$160.00	-3.25%
Rent & Misc	\$0	\$5,074	\$13,100	\$0	-\$13,100.00	-100.00%
Total Local Revenue	\$73	\$11,451	\$18,052	\$4,792	-\$13,260.00	-73.45%
State Aid-Education Spending Grant	\$557,318	\$560,225	\$664,691	\$668,393	\$3,702.00	0.56%
State Aid-Small Schools Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	
State Aid-Transportation	\$9,018	\$9,809	\$9,041	\$10,008	\$967.00	10.70%
State Aid - Special Ed Block Grant	\$18,958	\$19,455	\$17,458	\$17,096	-\$362.00	-2.07%
State Aid - Intensive Needs	\$51,784	\$57,001	\$23,322	\$42,271	\$18,949.00	81.25%
State Aid-Extraordinary	\$0	\$3,383	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	
Special Ed State Placed	\$0	\$13,412	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	
State Aid-Special Ed EEE	\$9,024	\$5,964	\$5,499	\$6,025	\$526.00	9.57%
WCSU Sub grant Medicaid	\$0	\$6,766	\$3,888	\$4,587	\$699.00	17.98%
WCSU Sub grant Title I	\$0	\$9,464	\$10,175	\$10,419	\$244.00	2.40%
State Aid-Food Program	\$12,793	\$9,810	\$13,237	\$16,370	\$3,133.00	23.67%
Total Other Revenue	\$658,895	\$695,289	\$747,311	\$775,169	\$27,858.00	3.73%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$658,968	\$706,740	\$765,363	\$779,961	\$14,598.00	1.91%
Expenditures						
Brookline School District Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Brookline-Newfane Joint Board Assessment	\$461,997	\$734,241	\$765,363	\$779,961	\$14,598.00	1.91%
Total Expenditures	\$461,997	\$734,241	\$765,363	\$779,961	\$14,598.00	1.91%
Surplus/(Deficit)						
Prior Year Surplus Applied						
Net						
Fund Balance						
Preliminary Statistics						
Budgeted Grants and Local Revenues		\$109,413	\$100,672	\$111,568	\$10,896.00	10.82%
Local Education Spending		\$519,189	\$664,691	\$668,393	\$3,702.00	0.56%
Equalized Student AOE		44.50	47.18	46.02	-\$1.16	-2.46%
State Excess Spending Threshold		\$15,456	\$17,107	\$14,096	-\$3,011.00	-17.60%
Spending per Equalized Pupil		\$11,667	\$14,088	\$14,524	\$435.97	3.09%
Brookline vs. State Threshold		-\$3,789	-\$3,019	\$428	\$3,446.97	-114.18%
Base Education Spending Index		\$9,151	\$9,459	N/A		0.00%
Property Tax Yield per \$1.00 of Tax Rate				\$9,870		

2017 Proposed Brookline School Budget (cont'd)

Statewide base property tax rate	\$0.94	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	0.00%
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Act 68 Statistics & Tax Impact Estimates

Est. Equalized Homestead Tax rate (PK-6)	\$1.1985	\$1.4894	\$1.5149	\$0.03	1.71%
Percent of Brookline Pupils at PK-6	54.41%	60.08%	60.28%	0.20%	0.33%
Portion of Equalized Homestead rate assessed	\$0.06521	\$0.8948	\$0.9132	\$0.02	2.06%
Common Level of Appraisal	101.12%	104.19%	98.52%	-5.67%	-5.44%
Estimated Actual Tax Rate(PK-6)	\$ 0.6449	\$0.8588	\$0.9269	\$0.0681	7.93%
Income sensitivity base index	1.80%	1.94%	2.70%	\$0.01	39.18%
Income sensitivity Percent (PK-6)	1.25%	1.74%	1.63%	\$0.00	-6.32%

Estimated Combined School Tax Rate Including Leland & Gray

Provided by Agency of Education		\$1.4733	\$1.5961	\$0.12	8.34%
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Estimated Combined Income tax percentage

Provided by Agency of Education		3.10%	2.81%	-0.29%	-9.35%
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Estimated School Tax Impact on \$200,000 home & 2 acres - no income sensitivity (PK-12)

	FY16	FY17			
	\$2,947.00	\$3,192		\$245.20	8.32%

Three Prior Years Comparison

PRELIMINARY

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by AOE

ESTIMATES ONLY

District: Leland & Gray UHSD County: Windham		U034 Windham Central		Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$9,870 of spending per equalized pupil
				9,870	1.00
				11,065	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income
Expenditures		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
1.	Adopted or warned union district budget (including special programs and full technical center expenditures)	\$6,811,076	\$7,018,185	\$7,037,337	\$7,120,218
2.	<i>plus</i> Sum of separately warned articles passed at union district meeting	-	-	-	-
3.	Adopted or warned union district budget plus articles	\$6,811,076	\$7,018,185	\$7,037,337	\$7,120,218
4.	<i>plus</i> Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-
5.	<i>plus</i> Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-
6.	Total Union Budget	\$6,811,076	\$7,018,185	\$7,037,337	\$7,120,218
7.	S.U. assessment (included in union budget) - informational data	-	-	-	\$280,091
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (if included in union expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
Revenues					
9.	Union revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, federal, etc.)	\$1,924,474	\$1,960,375	\$1,958,419	\$2,261,999
10.	Total offsetting union revenues	\$1,924,474	\$1,960,375	\$1,958,419	\$2,261,999
11.	Education Spending	\$4,886,602	\$5,057,810	\$5,078,918	\$4,858,219
12.	Leland & Gray UHSD equalized pupils	318.43	316.38	309.37	296.53
13.	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$15,345.92	\$15,986.50	\$16,416.97	\$16,383.57
14.	<i>minus</i> Less net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$769.00	\$755.41	\$752.97	NA
15.	<i>minus</i> Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	\$28.69	\$2.72	\$14.75	NA
16.	<i>minus</i> Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA
17.	<i>minus</i> Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA
18.	<i>minus</i> Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA
19.	<i>minus</i> Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA
20.	<i>minus</i> Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	NA
21.	<i>minus</i> Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	NA	NA	NA	NA
22.	Allowable growth per pupil spending threshold (secs. 37 & 38, Act 46, 2015)	threshold = \$15,456 NA	threshold = \$16,166 NA	threshold = \$17,103 NA	Threshold \$16,611.02
23.	<i>plus</i> Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	-
24.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$15,346	\$15,987	\$16,417	\$16,383.57
25.	Union spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	167.697% <small>based on \$9,151</small>	172.176% <small>based on \$9,285</small>	173.559% <small>based on \$9,285</small>	NA <small>based on \$9,870</small>
26.	Anticipated equalized union homestead tax rate to be prorated [\$16,383.57 ÷ (\$9,870.00 / \$1,000)]	\$1.5764 <small>based on \$0.94</small>	\$1.6873 <small>based on \$0.98</small>	\$1.7182 <small>based on \$0.98</small>	\$1.6599 <small>based on \$1.00</small>

Three Prior Years Comparison (cont'd)

Prorated homestead union tax rates for members of Leland & Gray UHSD

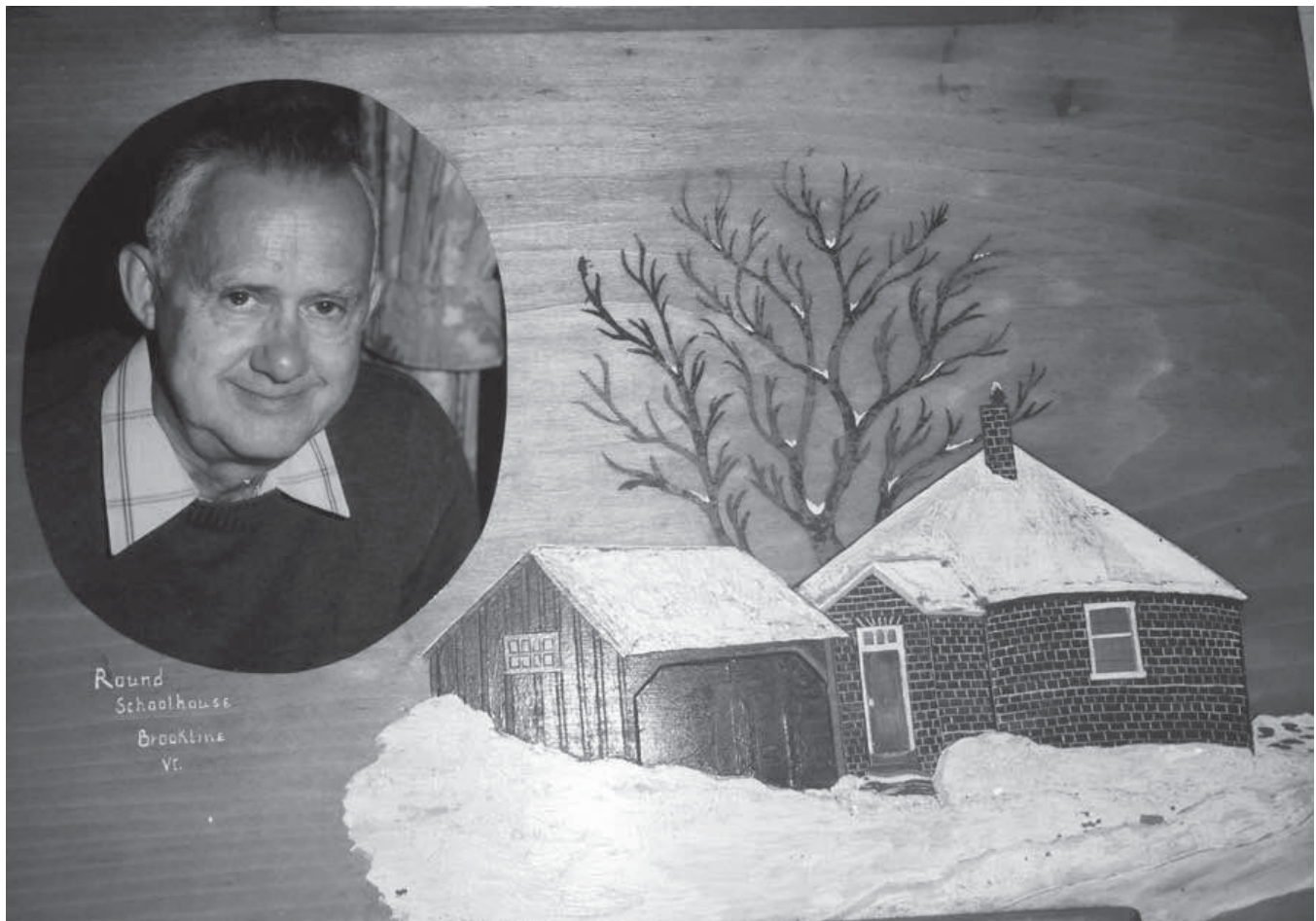
		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	
T033	Brookline	0.7187	0.6965	0.6859	0.6593	39.72%
T104	Jamaica	0.8172	0.8462	0.8460	0.8766	52.81%
T137	Newfane	0.8470	0.9233	0.9618	0.9224	55.57%
T208	Townshend	0.7945	0.9219	0.9218	0.8812	53.09%
T246	Windham	0.8093	0.9071	0.8536	0.6842	41.22%
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

27. Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated from Leland & Gray UHSD 3.02% 3.10% 3.12% 2.96% 27.
[($\$16,383.57 \div \$11,065$) x 2.00%] based on 1.80%

Prorated union income cap percentage for members of Leland & Gray UHSD

		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	
T033	Brookline	1.38%	1.28%	1.25%	1.18%	39.72%
T104	Jamaica	1.57%	1.55%	1.54%	1.56%	52.81%
T137	Newfane	1.62%	1.70%	1.75%	1.64%	55.57%
T208	Townshend	1.52%	1.69%	1.67%	1.57%	53.09%
T246	Windham	1.55%	1.67%	1.55%	1.22%	41.22%
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,955 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,157 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.538. New and updated data have changed the proposed property yield to \$9,870 and the income yield to \$11,065.
 - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
 - The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.



In Memory of Arthur E. Wellman

THE BROOKLINE SELECTBOARD would like to honor the memory of Arthur E. Wellman who passed away at home on August 6 of this year. Mr. Wellman was a lifelong resident of Brookline... actually his family was one of the original settlers of our little town. Art Wellman was a very hard worker all of his life as well as a dedicated family man. His wife of 57 years can surely attest to his devotion. Betty and Art loved being outdoors; whether it was going to NASCAR races, hiking the Long Trail, the Appalachian Trail or just working in their

beautiful rose garden, the couple enjoyed living in Vermont. Art was an active member of the Brookline Historical Society where he was instrumental in the project to restore the Round Schoolhouse. He was also a Justice of the Peace for many years and a member of many other committees. The Wellman family continues to be supportive of our community and while the loss of Art is deeply felt here in Brookline, his family carries forth the Wellman tradition of service, loyalty and commitment.

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