

# BROOKLINE 2017

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

# Town of Brookline General Information

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Town Office.....	P.O. Box 403 734 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, 6:30 P.M., Town Office <a href="http://www.brooklinevt.com/selectboard">www.brooklinevt.com/selectboard</a>
Planning Commission .....	Second Wednesday, 7:00 P.M., Town Office
Brookline School Board .....	Second Thursday, 6:00 P.M.
Leland & Gray School Board .....	Second 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 <a href="http://vtfishandwildlife.com/">http://vtfishandwildlife.com/</a>

# Contents

Town General Information .....Inside Cover	Road Commissioner's Report..... 26
Warning for 2018 Brookline	Brookline Preservation Committee..... 27
Town Meeting..... 2	Planning Commission Report ..... 27
Warning for 2018 Brookline	Town Clerk's Report..... 28
School District Meeting..... 3	Delinquent Tax Report as of
Town Officers Elected ..... 4	December 31, 2017 ..... 29
Town Officers Appointed..... 5	Vital Statistics 2017 ..... 30
Auditor's Report ..... 6	Regulations Governing Dog
2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes,	Ownership..... 31
March 7, 2017 ..... 7	WCSU Superintendent's Report ..... 32
Selectboard Report ..... 14	WCSU Proposed 2019 Budget..... 33
Town Operating/Highway Proposed	Special Education Budget ..... 35
2019 Budgets..... 16	Early Essential Education Budget..... 37
Town Employees Compensation..... 20	WCSU Proposed 2019 Assessment..... 39
Brookline Estimated Tax Rates	NewBrook Elementary Principal's
(2018-2019) ..... 21	Report..... 40
Brookline Consolidated Balance Sheet	Brookline School Proposed
FY 2017..... 22	2019 Budget ..... 45
Highway Fund Balance Analysis as of	Brookline School District Balance Sheet.... 46
June 30, 2017 ..... 23	Three Prior Years Comparison/School
Meetinghouse & School Building Funds... 24	Tax Impact..... 47
Treasurer's Report ..... 25	Brookline School Board Report ..... 49
Listers' Report ..... 26	Dedication..... 50

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 2018 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of March at 9:00 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 Auditors' Report?  
ARTICLE 7. Shall the town vote to approve the General and Highway Fund expenditures, net of non-tax budgeted revenues, for the town as follows:  
Amount to be raised by taxes for General Fund: \$143,005  
Amount to be raised by taxes for Highway Fund: \$158,512  
Total Municipal Taxes to be raised \$301,517  
ARTICLE 8. To see what dates the Town will vote to collect taxes?  
ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town voters appropriate \$6,206.00 to be raised by taxes in continuing support of the following organizations?

Organization	FY 2018 Approved	FY 2019 Requested
American Red Cross.....	\$ 250.00 .....	\$ 250.00
CRT-The Current Ct River Transit.....	250.00 .....	125.00
Grace Cottage Foundation.....	300.00.....	300.00
Green-Up Vermont .....	50.00.....	50.00
Groundworks Collaborative (Formerly Brattleboro Drop In Center & Morningside Shelter) .....	300.00.....	300.00
Historical Society of Windham County.....	250.00.....	250.00
Leland & Gray Education Foundation.....	250.00.....	250.00
Moore Free Library.....	225.00.....	250.00
Project Feed the Thousands (For Townshend Food Bank).....	100.00.....	100.00
Senior Solutions.....	500.00.....	500.00
SEVCA.....	465.00.....	465.00
VABVI-VT Assoc. for the Blind .....	100.00.....	100.00
Valley Cares, Inc.....	821.00.....	821.00
Vermont Center for Independent 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.....	500.00.....	500.00
Youth Services.....	255.00.....	255.00
<b>Total All Appropriations Requests To Be Voted</b>	<b>\$6,306.00</b>	<b>\$6,206.00</b>

- ARTICLE 10. Shall the voters appropriate \$100.00 to be raised by taxes in support of Gerda's Equine Rescue?  
ARTICLE 11. 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 12. Shall the Town apply the budget surplus from the 2016-2017 budget in the amount of \$5,456 in the following manner?  
\$2,000 Audit Reserve  
\$2,500 Tax Abatement Reserve  
\$956 Capital Improvement Reserve  
ARTICLE 13. Shall the Town vote to change Town Meeting Day to the Saturday preceding the first Tuesday in March, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2640(b)?  
ARTICLE 14. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Dated this 17th day of January, 2018  
Dorothy Maggio, Bruce Mello, Gwendolyn Tanza, David Jones and Chris Webb

# Warning for 2018 Brookline School District Meeting

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The legal voters of the Brookline School District are hereby notified and warned to meet and vote by floor vote at the Brookline School Multipurpose room (Sunnylane Daycare), on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 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 (2019)
Brookline School District Director	3 year term (ending 2021)
Leland and Gray School District Director	3 year term (ending 2021)

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 13th day of December in the year 2017

Brookline School Board of Directors:



Alecia O'Donnell, Vice-Chair

  
Sherry Greene, Chair

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Erin Zargo, Clerk

# Town Officers Elected

TITLE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Moderator .....	David Y. Parker, Jr.....	2018
Town Clerk .....	Guy Tanza.....	2018
Treasurer .....	Somara Zwick.....	2018
Delinquent Tax Collector.....	Guy Tanza.....	2018
Selectboard.....	Dorothy Maggio ..... elected to 3 yr term.....	2019
	Bruce Mello... ..... elected to 3 yr term.....	2020
	Gwendolyn Tanza..... ..... elected to 3 yr term.....	2018
	David Jones..... ..... elected to 2 yr term .....	2019
	Chris Webb..... ..... appointed to 1 yr term.....	2018
Listers .....	Donald Gokey.....	2018
	Sheila Gokey .....	2019
	Marsha Omand .....	2020
Auditors .....	Heidi Nystrom .....	2018
	Frank Rucker .....	2019
	Kendra Brooks .....	2020
School Directors .....	Sherry Greene .....	2018
	Erin Zargo .....	2019
	Alecia O'Donnell.....	2019
School District Treasurer .....	Samantha Bovat .....	2018
LGHUS School Director.....	Lyndall Boal (Appointed) .....	2018
Cemetery Commissioners .....	Michael W. Winot.....	2022
	Dorothy Maggio (Appointed) .....	2018
	Doug Wellman.....	2019
	Cynthia Nau .....	2020
	Howard Osgood.....	2021
First Constable .....	(Selectboard)	
Second Constable .....	(Selectboard)	
Trustee of Public Funds.....	Guy Tanza.....	2018
Town Agent.....	Guy Tanza.....	2018
Town Grand Juror .....	David Y. Parker, Jr.....	2018
Town State Representatives.....	Carolyn Partridge.....	2019
	Matthew Trieber.....	2019
Justices of the Peace .....	Marsha Omand.....	2019
	Cynthia Nau.....	2019
	Gwendolyn Tanza.....	2019
	Guy Tanza.....	2019
	Marji Wellman.....	2019

# Town Officers Appointed

TITLE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Assistant Town Clerk.....	Gwendolyn Tanza.....	2018
Assistant Treasurer .....	Louise Sirois .....	2018
	Guy Tanza.....	2018
	Marie F. Tattersall .....	2018
Road Commissioner .....	Archie Clark.....	2018
Highway Foreman .....	Mark Bills .....	2018
Health Officer.....	Dorothy Maggio .....	01/01/2018
Assistant Health Officer.....	Gwendolyn Tanza .....	01/01/2018
Forest Fire Warden.....	Lester D. Rink.....	2018
Deputy Forest Fire Warden .....	Michael W. Winot.....	2018
Town Service Officer.....	Cynthia Nau.....	2018
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber.....	Lester D. Rink.....	2018
Tree Warden.....	Mark Bills.....	2018
Windham Regional Commissioners.....	Cynthia Nau.....	2018
	Guy Tanza.....	2018
Pound Keeper.....	Windham County Humane Society.....	2018
Animal Control Officer.....	Nancy Libby.....	2018
Historical Society.....	Cynthia Nau .....	2018
	Doug Wellman.....	2018
	Jack Greene.....	2018
Emergency Mgmt Coordinators .....	Mike Fontaine.....	2018
	Michael W. Winot.....	2018
Rescue, Inc.....	Jorda Daigneault .....	2018
Town 911 Coordinator.....	Guy Tanza.....	2018
SEVCA.....	Vacant.....	2018
WSWMD (Landfill) .....	David Jones.....	2018
Planning Commission.....	Barbara Bourne .....	2022
	Suzanne d' Corsey.....	2018
	Charlie Ezequelle .....	2020
	Tom Kavet, Chairman .....	2019
	Vacant.....	2019
Brookline Meetinghouse Committee.....	Lee Anne Parker.....	2018
	Kerry Bourne.....	2018
	Vacant.....	2018
	Vacant.....	2018
	Vacant.....	2018
	Vacant.....	2018

# Auditors' Report

This auditors' 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, 2017, 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:

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.

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.

Revenues are appropriately classified within general revenues and contributions to restricted funds.

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.

We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries that the Treasurer proposed, and confirmed that they have been posted to the general ledger.

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.

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 20, 2018.

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 [julielavorgna@gmail.com](mailto:julielavorgna@gmail.com). (And, please, if your e-mail address has changed, let Julie know.)

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes, March 7, 2017

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At 10:00 A.M. On a relatively mild and drizzly morning Moderator David Y. Parker, Jr. calls the meeting to order. Moderator Parker reads the preamble to the meeting.

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

Sherry Greene nominates David Y. Parker, Jr. No other nominations submitted. David Y. Parker, Jr. elected Moderator.

Moderator Parker announces it would be appropriate to entertain a motion to suspend the rules of the town meeting so that Vermont State Representatives Carolyn Partridge and Matt Trieber may speak. Moderator Parker also asked that Brookline resident Frank Rucker, business administrator for Windham South East Supervisory Union, be allowed to speak as he has a very short time frame and must get to work. Frank wishes to address ramifications of the proposed unified school district vote by Australian ballot going on today at the Town Office. A motion is made and seconded to suspend the rules of Town Meeting. All in favor. Motion passed.

## **Town Meeting Suspended:**

Both Representatives Carolyn and Matt make short presentations on what is going on in Montpelier and express their goals for this legislative session. They both address their concerns in regard to Federal funding in Vermont and the fact that money is tight everywhere. Matt who serves on the State Appropriation Committee discusses budget issues, while Carolyn, who serves as chairwomen of the House Agriculture & Forest Products Committee, addresses her concerns on a number of agriculture issues. They hold a short question and answer period. They both thank the audience for their time and depart for other speaking engagements.

Frank Rucker now takes the floor and offers his opinion and comments on the proposed Unified School District vote going on today at the Town Office from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm by Australian ballot. He explains the need to pass the vote and also the ramifications of not passing the vote. After a short question and answer period, Frank thanks the audience for having the opportunity to speak and heads off to work.

Moderator Parker then goes over some housekeeping rules and asks that everyone sign the attendance sheet that is being circulated around the room. He mentions the fact that there is a sheet to sign up for Julie Lavorgna's ListServe e-mails for our town and reminds everyone again about the Act 46 Vote that is now going on at the Town Office.

## **TOWN MEETING RESUMED**

## **Article 2. To elect a Town Clerk.**

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

## **Article 3. To elect a Town Treasurer.**

Stan Noga, Jr. nominates Somara Zwick. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Somara Zwick is elected Town Treasurer.

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## **Article 4. To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes.**

Somara Zwick nominates Guy Tanza. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Guy Tanza elected Collector of Delinquent Taxes.

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

There are three Selectboard seats available

### **Selectboard – 2 year term**

Currently held by Stan Noga, Jr. First nomination by Dot Maggio nominating David Jones. Second nomination by Lyndall Boal nominating Stan Noga, Jr. Stan speaks and thanks everyone for the opportunity to serve these past years, but due to work constraints and other personal obligations he declines the nomination. There are no further nominations. The audience applauded and thanks him for his service. A floor vote is called. All in favor. David Jones elected for a two year term. Dave is asked to introduce himself and Dot Maggio mentions the fact that Dave has served the town well in his role as representative to WSWD District and feels he will be an asset to the Selectboard.

**Selectboard** – Three year term currently held by Bruce Mello. Dot Maggio nominates Bruce Mello. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Bruce Mello is elected for a three year term.

**Selectboard** – Three year term with one year left. A seat left vacant due to the resignation of Bernardine Hoard. No nominations, seat left vacant and to be appointed by Selectboard

### **Listers**

A three year term currently held by Marsha Omand. Guy Tanza nominates Marsha Omand. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Marsha Omand elected for a three year term.

### **Auditors**

Three year term currently held by Kendra Brooks. Kendra Brooks nominated. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Kendra Brooks elected for a three year term.

### **Cemetery Commissioners**

A five year term currently held by Michael Winot. Dot Maggio nominates Michael Winot. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Michael Winot elected for a five year term.

### **First Constable & Second Constable**

In the past the selectboard has been responsible for these positions and it was asked that the audience show support for this decision. The audience agrees so the constables will remain the responsibility of the selectboard.

### **Trustee of Public Funds**

Sherry Greene nominates Guy Tanza. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Guy Tanza elected.

### **Town Agent**

Guy Tanza is nominated. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Guy Tanza elected as Town Agent.

### **Town Grand Juror**

Guy Tanza nominates David Y. Parker, Jr. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. David Y. Parker, Jr. elected as Town Grand Juror.

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## TOWN MEETING SUSPENDED

Moderator Parker now addresses the concern of the missing warning for the School District portion of the Town Meeting. It appears an incorrect warning was posted by mistake and Moderator Parker ponders what can be done to correct this error. Many scenarios are discussed. The posting of the warning is questioned and Bernardine offers to fetch the warning from the town office posting area. While Bernardine is retrieving the posting, Moderator Parker asks that the rules of the meeting be suspended in order to allow Scotty Tabachnick, Principal of the NewBrook Elementary School to speak. A motion is made to suspend the rules of the meeting and a vote is taken. All in favor. Meeting Suspended and Principal Scotty Tabachnick speaks.

Principal Tabachnick mentions that his former mentor, Bill Anton, is now his boss (Supervisor of WCSU) and he has a great deal of respect for the way Mr. Anton accomplished things when he was the former principal of the Dover School. He goes on to explain some changes at NewBrook, i.e. Teddy Bear Tea story time that happens in the spring and is now happening once a month. The fact that the children love it and when new parents come in to check out the school they are pleased with this program. He also highlights the skills block model for helping students ruminate and become enriched at the same time in very small groups. He also mentions the solar panel issue with SunEdison that went belly up. He is pleased to report a new vendor has been found and they hope to have the solar panels installed and working by late 2017. The heat pumps that were installed last year are working just as everyone hoped they would and the school building has even heating throughout. Gone is the nasty huge asbestos furnace, along with the heating problems that plagued the school for such a long time. He talks of the 124 student body and the concerns of the community to keep the populations of the school up to justify the expenses and budget figures. He closes by encouraging people to attend school board meetings and to visit him at the school. At this point he thanks everyone for giving him the opportunity to speak and share his concerns for NewBrook School.

A copy of the Brookline School District Warning is delivered and Moderator Parker now asks for a motion to move to the School District portion of the meeting. The motion is made and seconded. A vote is taken on the motion. All in favor to move to the school portion of the meeting.

## BROOKLINE SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Moderator Parker reads the Warning and asks the voters to make a decision as to whether to continue or not due to the omission of the Warning in the Annual Town Report as required. The Warning is read and Moderator Parker informs the voters that at the very minimum there must be a Moderator voted for.

### **Article 1. To elect a Moderator for one year term.**

Stan Noga, Jr. nominates David Parker, Jr. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor.

Elected Moderator Parker reviews the rules of warning a meeting and reads from a document from the VT League of Cities & Towns. "The Warning must be published in the town report and distributed 10 days prior to the meeting." If this is not done then the warning must be placed in the newspapers 5 days prior to the meeting date. Alecia O'Donnell states that WCSU had the responsibility of publishing the warning in the newspapers five days prior to the meeting after a number of revisions. After a number of suggestions and ramifications it has been determined that the meeting has been properly warned by being published in the newspaper within the legal time frame. That information was found and provided by Scotty Tabachnick as told to him by Bill Anton. A motion is requested to be made on whether to continue or discontinue the school portion of the meeting. The motion is made by Sherry Greene and seconded to continue the school board portion of town meeting. A vote is called for and all in favor to continue the school board portion of the meeting. At this point Moderator Parker reiterates the

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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importance of making sure all warnings are properly reviewed before publishing, whether in the town report or newspapers and offers his help in the review process.

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

A two year seat for School Director is available, currently held by Dot Maggio who is not seeking re-election. Sherry Greene nominates Erin Zargo. There are no further nominations. A floor vote is called. All in favor. Erin Zargo elected as School Director for NewBrook Elementary School.

Next is a vacant seat for the Leland & Gray School Board. Bruce Mello is nominated but respectfully declines. Stan Noga, Jr. nominates Sally Fegley, but she respectfully declines. Lyndall Boal, former Director, explains the responsibilities of a board member. No nominations, seat left vacant.

## **Article 3. To compensate the Directors and Treasurer of the Brookline School District \$200.00 each.**

Moved and seconded. A vote is called for. The article is passed with a yes vote.

## **Article 4. To authorize the School District to accept any donations of land, gifts, or Monies for school use.**

Moved by Sherry Greene and seconded. There was no discussion. Vote is called for. All in favor, Article 4 is passed.

## **Article 5. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.**

Moderator Parker reminded everyone that anything discussed would be non-binding.

Sherry Greene is asked by Alecia O'Donnell to give a short presentation about the Act 46 Vote. Sherry refers to an informational sheet on the back table, which she will read aloud to the audience and explains what voting for Act 46 will do for the school and also what happens if the vote is negative or not passed. She goes on to explain the status of the new superboard and its responsibilities if this article is passed today by Australian ballot at the Town Office and in other affected towns. In conclusion, she goes over a letter written by Kim Friedman, former Chair of Newbrook School, titled: 8 reasons to vote positive for the proposed unified school district. Erin Zargo asks to speak in support of the Act 46 vote. She states the importance of the community to support this article. Bruce Mello then speaks to the fact that initially he wasn't totally sure about this attempt to consolidate schools but after a lot of thought and attending so many meetings he realized the importance of a yes vote for this article. At this time Alecia O'Donnell asks to address the audience and she mentions the hard work of those who serve on the boards and how it takes many people working together in our little town to get things accomplished. She mentions the fact that if this Article (46) is not passed the state will dictate who will consolidate and with whom they will consolidate. She further states that they are not totally sure of the economic advantages of consolidation but that is one of the goals. At this point Dot Maggio address concerns of some in regard to school closing etc. She states that the article as designed offers protection against that for at least five years. Alecia closes by saying she is not telling us how to vote, but to be sure to consider all its positive advantages.

Moderator Parker request a motion be made to adjourn the school district portion of the meeting. A motion is made and seconded to adjourn the school district portion of the meeting. A vote is taken. All in favor. The school district portion of the meeting is adjourned.

It is now 12:06 pm and Moderator Parker suggested we take a 30 minutes recess to enjoy lunch and stretch our legs. A vote is called for and taken. All in favor for a 30 minutes recess.

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

## TOWN MEETING PORTION RESUMED

At 12:43 P.M. Moderator Parker calls the meeting to order and town meeting portion resumes.

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

A motion is made and seconded to accept the Auditor's Report, No discussion. Floor vote to accept as written. Auditor's Report accepted.

### **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 \$290,222.00**

A motion is made and seconded to approve a vote on Article 7. Moderator Parker asked for any discussion. Dot Maggio, a member of the Selectboard, requested to address the audience. She mentioned that she has a fact sheet on what a town can do in the event of an error in a warning. She goes on to say that at the six or seven budget meetings held in the past months there was a deficit discovered. After a number of options to reduce the amount of the deficit, it was determined that the money held in the revolving home credit account be applied to help reduce the deficit to \$22,000.00. She mentioned that this deficit is related to extraordinary legal expenses incurred by the town in regard to a tax assessment appeal and the acquisition of the Brookline Elementary School and the Brookline Baptist Church. The town also had to appear in the Vermont Supreme Court on two separate occasions and to answer to a possible United States Supreme Court Appeal. Inadvertantly we left out the \$22,000.00 of the \$290,222 budget that was warned, however, it was included in the Annual Town Report. She is asking that the article be amended to \$310,982 to be raised by taxation to reflect the omission of the \$22,000.00. Sherry Greene so motioned and Stan Noga, Jr. seconded to amend Article 7. The amendment was voted on and passed. Moderator Parker asked to take a vote on the amended Article 7. All in favor and the amended Article 7 passed.

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

Bernardine Hoard makes a motion to continue existing dates of Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> with the stipulation that if the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a Holiday, it would revert to the next day. Seconded by Dot Maggio. No 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 \$6,306.00 to be raised by taxes in continuing support of the following organizations?**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>FY 18 Requested</b>
American Red Cross .....	\$ 250.00
CRT, The Current Ct River Transit.....	250.00
Grace Cottage Foundation.....	300.00
Green-Up Vermont .....	50.00
Groundworks Collaborative: a merge of Brattleboro	
Area Drop In Center & Morningside Shelter.....	300.00
Historical Society of Windham County.....	250.00
Leland & Gray Education Foundation.....	250.00
Moore Free Library.....	225.00
Project Feed the Thousands.....	100.00
Senior Solutions.....	500.00
SEVCA.....	465.00
VABVI-VT Assoc. for the Blind.....	100.00

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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Valley Cares Inc.....	821.00
Vermont Center Independent Living.....	80.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance.....	1,000.00
West River Watershed Alliance .....	110.00
Windham County Humane Society.....	500.00
Women's Freedom Center.....	500.00
Youth Services .....	<u>255.00</u>
<b>Total Requested FY 2018.....</b>	<b>\$6,306.00</b>

Stan Noga, Jr. moves the article and it is seconded by Guy Tanza to appropriate \$6,306.00 to the organizations we currently support. Discussion: Selectboard members Bruce Mello and Dot Maggio discuss the board's decision to help reduce the town's budget there were some adjustments made. Dot also explains the parameters of requesting appropriations. Susan d'Corsey thanks the board and voters for the appropriation to Moore Free Library and explains how some of those funds are used. All in favor, Article 9 passed.

## **Article 10. 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?**

The motion is moved by Bernardine Hoard and seconded by Guy Tanza.  
No discussion. All in Favor Article 10 passed

## **Article 11. Shall the town voters approve the appropriation of up to \$11,000.00 for recycling costs for the fiscal year 2018.**

Moved by Bernardine Hoard and seconded by Dot Maggio

Discussion: David Jones request to address the audience. David who is the town's representative for Windham Solid Waste Management District (WSWMD) gives a brief report on what is going on with that facility. The Windham Solid Waste Management District Board of Supervisors voted to stop running the district's materials-recovery facility (MRF) and providing hauling services as of June 30, 2017, changing how recycling is handled throughout the area. There has been a lot of concerns expressed by membership towns in regard to what they will have to do to stay in compliance with state mandates of recycling. Do we want to contract with local vendors to pick up our recycles or should each resident be responsible to have the recyclables picked up on an individual basis. Based on our historical usage, the town should be able to rent dumpsters and continue to have them picked up by the vendor that the town selects for this type of service for a maximum amount of \$11,000 for the upcoming year. The average \$300,000 property would see an approximate increase of \$46.00 for the year. The cost would be far less than the average individual would have to pay to have someone pick up their recyclables. It is also feared that if we discontinue the use of the dumpsters (bins) it would more than likely increase the amount of roadside dumping. At this point Selectwoman Dot Maggio went on to explain that our cost of membership to WSWMD will go down to \$6,120 for next year, which includes some shutdown costs associated with closing the MRF. However, going forward the town will still have to pay approximately \$5,000 for membership fees which would include services other than picking up recyclables. David goes on to indicate that \$11,000 is a direct number from possible vendors using the worst case scenario of not being able to get dumpsters (availability) from WSWMD. He also states that the fees at the Ferry Road site would rise significantly after June 30th for any recycling. He notes that all towns in the WSWMD area would be voting today at Town Meetings on what they want to do with the loss of the MRF. Lee Anne Parker offered a summarization of the discussion and after a few more concerns are addressed, the discussion is closed and Moderator Parker requests that a vote for Article 11 be taken. The vote is unanimous and Article 11 is approved.

# 2017 Brookline Town Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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## **Article 12. Shall the town voters approve re-consideration of the name of the Brookline Meeting House.**

Dot Maggio moves the motion and seconded by Stan Noga, Jr. Discussion – Helen Samuels states that the process to rename the Baptist Church was approved by a survey requested by the then Church Committee. A survey was taken of the town's people and the final choice was Brookline Meetinghouse. The Committee approved the name change and Helen asked why a change of name is needed again. At this point the author of the article, Bruce Mellow, addressed the approximate 30 people left at this point in the Town Meeting. He states that the Historical Baptist Church Committee when applying for grants realized they would have to change the name of the building to get a better reception for receiving grants. The word Church created less opportunities and, therefore, the Committee created a petition to see what name the town would like to use for this grand building. Approximately 40 people responded and the name most popular was Brookline Meetinghouse. The Committee voted on the new name and it was approved by the Selectboard. Mr. Mello has two concerns in regard to the name selected. He feels not enough town people had the opportunity to vote and secondly the name Brookline Meetinghouse didn't fit the building. He felt that the town meeting would be the place to have reconsideration of the name change and whatever the outcome he will be satisfied. He reflects on the historical history of the church and its endless opportunities as a community center. After a bit of back and forth banter, Moderator Parker requests that the audience return to the germane topic of the article and where it goes from there is anybody's guess. The question is; shall the town voters approve re-consideration of the name of the Brookline Meeting House, as reflected in Article 12. Samantha Bovat calls for a vote to be taken. Article 12 was voted on and defeated

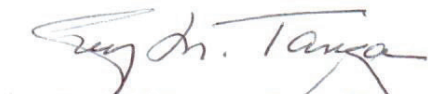
## **Article 13. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.**


Bruce Mello addresses the audience. He does a recap of what the Brookline Meetinghouse has accomplished so far and reflects on grants they have received. He requests more ideas for the Brookline Meetinghouse Committee from the town residents. Committee members Helen Samuels and Lee Anne Parker give a brief report on its membership and going forward some ideas of use for the building (the Brookline Meetinghouse). Dot Maggio mentions the fact that the town Website is the place to review all minutes and goings on in regard to the progress of the Brookline Meetinghouse. As the project evolves, someday the Brookline Meetinghouse will probably evolve into the Brookline Meetinghouse activities committee. Charlie Ezequelle and Barbara Bourne speak regarding the fact that the Brookline Planning Commission of which they are members, are looking for some input of towns' people in regard to renewal energy plans.

In conclusion, Pat Ballou gives her opinion of what the Brookline Meetinghouse can be used for. At this point Moderator Parker makes a motion to adjourn and it is seconded by Bernardine Hoad.

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Guy M. Tanza – Town Clerk

  
David Y. Parker Jr. – Town Moderator

# Selectboard Report

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The members of the Brookline Selectboard have worked hard on the various committees that make our town so special. We might not have a store, a service station, or our own library, but what we do have is fresh air, clean water, good roads, beautiful fields and hills, and a community of residents that take care of each other. Our twice monthly regular meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall building. We welcome all interested parties to come and speak up and share their ideas and visions for the future of our town, keeping an eye on the importance of the town's history and lessons learned.

Dorothy Maggio is the current chair of the Selectboard. Her term expires in 2019. Aside from setting the agenda for the board meetings she also volunteers as the deputy Animal Control Officer, a cemetery commissioner, and is the Town Health Officer. Dot enjoys volunteering to help where needed. She supports the NewBrook Fire Department, the local school systems, Grace Cottage Hospital and the projects to improve the buildings owned by the town, including Sunny Lane Day Care. Originally from New Jersey, where she taught high school, she has owned her home in Brookline for 25 years, spending many summers in Brookline since 1970.

Bruce Mello is the vice-chair of the Selectboard. His term expires in 2020. Bruce works very hard on getting projects done in a timely and cost-effective way. He is a good planner and is very creative and helpful during board discussions. He often leads work bees to complete projects on weekends. When he is not working on town projects, he can be found at his home on Hill Road working in his garden, cutting wood, and tending to his home with his wife Patty.

Gwen Tanza is completing her second year on the Selectboard. Her term expires in 2018. Gwen is the deputy Town Health Officer for Brookline and has attended training sessions with Dot on the importance of the THO and best practices. She is also one of the Town's Justices of the Peace. Besides attending Selectboard meetings, Gwen works alongside her husband Guy as the appointed Assistant Town Clerk. "Great things in business are never done by one person" – a quote by Steve Jobs seems to sum up how

she feels the Town of Brookline runs. Gwen believes that the Town of Brookline is our business and she often comments on how well the people who make up the Selectboard, the office staff, the road crew, and the community contribute.

David Jones is completing his first year on the Selectboard. He was elected to a two-year term which will expire in 2019. Before David decided to run for Selectboard, he was our volunteer representative to the Windham Solid Waste Management District. His work on this committee led us through the difficult process of restructuring recycling management in town. Brookline residents voted at the last Town Meeting to budget for keeping the recycling bins – and he continues to keep us up to date on the changes that come up regarding recycling. He also successfully runs Green Up Day in May. David will act as the recording clerk when needed and has offered to help edit the town report. He often volunteers his weekends to do work bees at the Sunny Lane Day Care building and helps out with fundraising for the Brookline Meetinghouse. When not busy with town duties, David assists his wife Jen with her business, Village Yoga in Newfane.

Chris Webb is also completing his first year on the Selectboard. He will be up for reelection in 2018. Chris and his wife Sara moved to Brookline in 2013 with their young daughter. Their home on Ellen Ware Road was just the kind of place they were looking for to set down roots and raise a family. They now have two young daughters and are enjoying the many benefits of living in a small rural town such as Brookline. Chris would like to be reelected to the Selectboard in March so that he may continue to contribute to our community. As many of our residents know, not everyone who lives in or travels through town honors the speed limit restrictions. Chris was the driving force behind setting up speed limit monitoring on Putney Mountain Road and Ellen Ware Road this past summer. Signs will be installed on both these roads with 25 MPH limits this spring. There has been some discussion about reevaluating the speed limits at several other locations in town. Safety for our bikers, walkers, runners, and horseback riders on our roads is very important. The board is aware that Chris has a theatrical background, and it is

# Selectboard Report (Cont'd)

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hoped that he may help come up with ideas to use the Brookline Meetinghouse as a venue for community theater in the future. Meanwhile, Chris has been a helpful editor for the town report, along with David Jones and the Auditors.

As you read through this town report, you will get a clearer picture of what we were able to accomplish this year. Our Treasurer will show that fiscal responsibility was maintained with no deficit spending this year. Our Auditors will confirm that our books are accurate, up-to-date, and show compliance with accepted accounting principles. Our Listers are keeping our tax maps up to date, and appraisals are ongoing. Our Planning Commission has completed the required Town Plan, which was voted on in January. The Road Commissioner will report on the excellent paving projects completed, line striping, crack filling project, and culvert installments, not to mention the many grants that were applied for and awarded for many of these improvements. And we cannot forget mentioning how well Guy Tanza, our Town Clerk, runs the office. If ever there was a person who exemplifies pride in his job, it is Mr. Tanza. From dog licenses to delinquent tax collections, and serving as our 911 coordinator, Windham Regional Commissioner and a justice of the peace... if you need something done, he is the person to ask!

# Town Operating/Highway Proposed 2018 Budget

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES REPORT PROPOSED FY2019 BUDGET	FY2017 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 ACTUAL	FY2018 ADOPTED BUDGET (7/1/17- 6/30/18)	FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
<b>TOWN OPERATIONS - see notes *</b>					
<b>TOWN OPERATING REVENUES</b>					
* Current Taxes (Adopted Budgets, Actual, Proposed Budget) `	\$ 125,261	\$ 90,652	\$ 165,282	<b>143,005</b>	(22,277)
* Current Tax Revenue for Appropriations	6,931	\$ 6,931	6,306	<b>6,306</b>	-
Education Tax Accrual Adjustment - Prior & Current yr net	-	\$ 770	-	-	-
* Delinquent Taxes	10,000	\$ 35,719	-	-	-
Penalties	800	\$ 3,137	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	-
Interest on Taxes	1,000	\$ 3,131	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	-
Current Use (Hold Harmless Payments)	7,500	\$ 9,389	7,800	<b>8,000</b>	200
State Per Parcel Payments	300	\$ 343	300	<b>300</b>	-
USA-Deconte Funds - Forest Svc Rev Sharing	100	\$ 144	100	<b>100</b>	-
Civil Fines	-	\$ 204	-	-	-
Listers Education Grants (Restricted)	-	\$ -	-	-	-
Clerk Fees (80% Recording + other fees)(see footnotes)	4,000	\$ 4,802	4,800	<b>4,500</b>	(300)
Dog License Fees & Fines	600	\$ 781	560	<b>500</b>	(60)
Fishing Hunting License	25	\$ 5	-	-	-
Copies	900	\$ 1,222	900	<b>900</b>	-
Marriage/Civil Union	50	\$ 60	30	<b>30</b>	-
Birth and Death Certificates	-	\$ 95	-	-	-
Records Restoration Revenue(20% Recording Fees) (see footnotes)	1,000	\$ 1,189	1,200	<b>1,125</b>	(75)
Animal Impound Revenues		\$ 50	-	-	-
Reimbursements - (Education District Election Costs, Other)	-	\$ 1,201	-	-	-
Interest On Investments (Money Mkt Interest)	20	\$ 101	10	<b>10</b>	-
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>158,487</b>	<b>\$ 159,925</b>	<b>189,288</b>	<b>166,776</b>	<b>(22,512)</b>
<b>TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>					
Selectboard	6,550	6,550	6,550	<b>6,550</b>	-
Road Commissioner	-	-	-	<b>500</b>	-
Town Clerk	21,560	22,220	21,560	<b>21,560</b>	-
Treasurer/Tax Collector	5,925	5,609	5,925	<b>5,900</b>	(25)
Delinquent Tax Collector	3,600	1,886	3,600	<b>3,600</b>	-
Listers	4,400	4,153	4,400	<b>4,400</b>	-
Auditors	1,500	659	1,100	<b>1,100</b>	-
Health Officer	-	-	-	-	-
Assistant Town Clerk	6,240	6,010	6,240	<b>6,240</b>	-
Assistant Town Clerk - Records Restoration	-	990	-	-	-
Listers-Reappraisal	-	-	-	-	-
Election Officials	200	566	200	<b>200</b>	-

# Town Operating/Highway Proposed 2018 Budget (cont'd)

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES REPORT PROPOSED FY2019 BUDGET	FY2017 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 ACTUAL	FY2018 ADOPTED BUDGET (7/1/17- 6/30/18)	FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
Assistant Treasurer	7,740	7,786	8,140	<b>8,300</b>	160
Selectboard Clerk	1,500	1,418	1,500	<b>1,875</b>	375
Animal Control Officer	-	-	-	<b>500</b>	500
Payroll Taxes - General Fund (Wages times \$.0765)	4,530	4,373	4,530	<b>4,645</b>	116
Payroll Service Fees	1,100	1,028	1,200	<b>1,200</b>	-
* Supplies & Postage - Town Operations (See notes)	6,000	3,201	4,000	<b>4,000</b>	-
* Supplies & Postage - Town Report Expense	-	-	1,500	<b>1,200</b>	(300)
* Supplies & Postage - Planning Commission Expense	-	-	4,500	<b>500</b>	(4,000)
Abatements	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Notices	800	681	800	<b>800</b>	-
Seminars & Mileage	1,100	1,721	1,500	<b>1,500</b>	-
Town Office-Electric	900	842	1,100	<b>950</b>	(150)
Brookline Church Building-Electric	200	289	250	<b>250</b>	-
Town Office-Telephone	1,500	1,523	1,500	<b>1,500</b>	-
Town Office-Fuel	2,800	2,005	2,500	<b>2,500</b>	-
Brookline Church Building-Fuel	200	-	50	<b>50</b>	-
Computer Services-Maintenance/Support	900	1,214	900	<b>1,200</b>	300
Fire Alarm	300	490	300	<b>490</b>	190
Legal Services	7,500	9,083	5,000	<b>3,500</b>	(1,500)
Rescue Services	14,734	15,654	14,734	<b>15,174</b>	440
Fire Department Services - (Annual Request)	9,000	9,000	9,000	<b>9,000</b>	-
Fire Department Services - (Mutual Aid dues)	8,734	8,984	9,258	<b>9,415</b>	157
Copies (Per copy charge over contract allowance)	500	-	400	<b>400</b>	-
Copier Lease Contract	1,900	1,751	1,350	<b>1,350</b>	-
Town Property Maintenance	800	820	800	<b>800</b>	-
Recycling Trash Removal	600	660	800	<b>600</b>	(200)
Dues-VLCT	1,400	1,535	1,535	<b>1,612</b>	77
Dues-WRC	993	993	1,179	<b>1,196</b>	17
NEMRC Software-license & support	1,900	2,220	2,000	<b>2,100</b>	100
WSWMD Landfill Fees	8,000	6,553	6,120	<b>4,613</b>	(1,507)
Recycling Costs	-	-	11,000	<b>12,000</b>	1,000
Law Enforcement	3,600	3,372	3,600	<b>3,600</b>	-
Insurance/Bonds (Includes Historic Town Bldgs)	5,000	5,963	5,600	<b>5,900</b>	300
Old Cemeterys-Lawn mntc	300	240	300	<b>2,000</b>	1,700
County Tax	4,800	5,194	5,400	<b>5,400</b>	-
Animal Impound Expense	200	300	250	<b>250</b>	-
Audit Reserve Budgeted 2017	2,000	-	-	-	-
Fire permits/other misc	50	-	50	<b>50</b>	-
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENSE (Before Appropriations)</b>	<b>151,556</b>	<b>147,539</b>	<b>\$ 162,221</b>	<b>160,470</b>	<b>(1,751)</b>

# Town Operating/Highway Proposed 2018 Budget (cont'd)

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES REPORT PROPOSED FY2019 BUDGET	FY2017 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 ACTUAL	FY2018 ADOPTED BUDGET (7/1/17- 6/30/18)	FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)																								
Appropriations (Proposed amounts voted separately)	6,931	6,931	\$ 6,306	\$ 6,206	\$ (100)																								
Appropriations (New \$ in FY19, Warned & Voted Separately)	-	-		100	\$ 100																								
<b>TOTAL TOWN OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 158,487</b>	<b>154,470</b>	<b>\$ 168,527</b>	<b>166,776</b>	<b>\$ (1,851)</b>																								
* <b>TOWN OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b> See notes	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>5,456</b>	<b>\$ 20,761</b>	<b>\$ -</b>																									
* <b>NOTES TOWN OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES</b>																													
- All amounts rounded to the nearest \$1																													
- FY2018 Budget Current Tax Revenue included Special articles approved for Recycling and FY2016 Deficit Amount																													
- Clerk Fees/Records Restoration fees: Statute mandates that 20 percent of total recording fees are reserved for Town Records Restoration.																													
<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>- Cash expenditure for Elementary and High School Taxes FY2017</b></td></tr> <tr> <td>Elementary Education Taxes Paid</td><td></td><td>\$ 568,170</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Leland &amp; Gray High School Taxes Paid</td><td></td><td>375,007</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Education Taxes Paid by Brookline</td><td></td><td><b>\$ 943,177</b></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>						<b>- Cash expenditure for Elementary and High School Taxes FY2017</b>						Elementary Education Taxes Paid		\$ 568,170				Leland & Gray High School Taxes Paid		375,007				Total Education Taxes Paid by Brookline		<b>\$ 943,177</b>			
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- FY18 & 19 Supplies Budget increased and detail broken out for Town Report costs and Town Planning budget																													
- FY17 Cash basis delinquent tax revenues collected were \$60,813.51. Per VT Statute, amounts collected within 60 days of 6/30/17 were accrued and counted in FY2017, whereas amounts collected from 7/1/17 through 8/30/2017 were accrued and counted in FY 2016.																													
<b>HIGHWAY OPERATIONS - see notes **</b>																													
<b>HIGHWAY OPERATING REVENUES</b>																													
Current Taxes	153,313	153,313	156,701	<b>158,512</b>	1,811																								
State Aid	37,000	38,440	38,000	<b>38,000</b>	-																								
** Highway Paving Grant	-	175,000	-		-																								
** Highway Better Back Road Grants	-	25,650																											
Permits Revenue	100	105	100	<b>100</b>	-																								
Interest on Investments	300	264	250	<b>200</b>	(50)																								
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATION REVENUES</b>	<b>190,713</b>	<b>392,771</b>	<b>\$ 351,752</b>	<b>196,812</b>	<b>\$ 1,761</b>																								
<b>HIGHWAY OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>																													
Summer Salaries and Mileage (including emergency, special work, etc)	15,500	14,368	15,500	<b>17,230</b>	1,730																								
Summer Payroll Tax Exp	1,186	1,242	1,186	<b>1,318</b>	132																								
** Summer Contract Services and Equipment Rental	35,000	61,463	37,000	<b>39,000</b>	2,000																								
Summer Contract Svcs/Equip Rental - Better Back Roads Grants	-	27,550	-	-	-																								
Summer Hwy Material	21,000	40,676	21,000	<b>21,000</b>	-																								
Winter Salaries and Mileage	800	641	800	<b>800</b>	-																								
Winter Payroll Taxes	61	46	61	<b>61</b>	-																								
Winter Contract Svcs/Equipment	33,000	33,971	33,000	<b>33,000</b>	-																								
Winter Materials	21,000	28,659	21,000	<b>21,000</b>	-																								
Town Shed-Electric	400	346	450	<b>450</b>	-																								
Town Shed Maintenance	1,000	913	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	-																								
Seminars - Hwy Employees	200	-	200	<b>200</b>	-																								
Insurance-Highway	3,800	4,555	4,200	<b>4,200</b>	-																								
Town Equipmnt Fuel\Parts\Mntce	4,000	832	4,000	<b>4,000</b>	-																								
Road signs	1,800	-	1,800	<b>1,800</b>	-																								
Culverts	4,500	7,400	4,500	<b>4,500</b>	-																								

# Town Operating/Highway Proposed 2018 Budget (cont'd)

	FY2017 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY2017 ACTUAL	FY2018 ADOPTED BUDGET (7/1/17- 6/30/18)	FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET	Budget Increase (Decrease)
<b>REVENUE &amp; EXPENDITURES REPORT PROPOSED FY2019 BUDGET</b>					
Paving Retreatment/Lines	28,000	3,791	30,000	<b>30,000</b>	-
** Paving Retreatment/Lines - AOT Grant 1725	-	221,085	-	-	-
** Paving Retreatment - Better Back Road Grant	-	7,835	-	-	-
Bridge Maintenance	5,000	1,000	5,000	<b>3,000</b>	(2,000)
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATION EXPENDITURES</b>	176,247	456,374	\$ 180,697	<b>182,559</b>	\$ 1,862
<b>HIGHWAY FINANCING EXPENDITURES</b>					
** Bond Principal Repayment	10,000	10,000.00	10,000	<b>10,000</b>	-
** Bond interest	4,466	4,724.00	4,354	<b>4,253</b>	(101)
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURES INCLUDING FINANCING, Excluding any specially warned articles</b>	\$ 190,713	471,098	\$ 195,051	<b>196,812</b>	\$ 1,761
<b>HIGHWAY FUND SURPLUS (SHORTFALL)</b>	\$ 0	\$ (78,326)	(0)	\$ -	

**\*\* NOTES TO FY2017 HIGHWAY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**

**- Culvert & Paving Grant Revenues and Expenditures**

Grant Revenues:

Agency of Transportation Paving Grant	175,000.00	
Better Back Roads Grants	25,650.00	
Total Current Year Grant Revenues		200,650.00

Grant Expenditures:

Agency of Transportation Paving Grant	(221,085)	
Better Back Roads Grants (Part of exps paid in FY2016)	(35,385)	
Total Expenditures during year		(256,470.06)

Amount over current year revenue paid from Highway Fund Surplus reserved for these purposes (55,820.06)

**- Summer Contract Services (non-grant) - Additional Detail By Work Category**

Culverts	\$ 32,978
Paving (Asphalt)	17,035
Dirt Road Maintenance	5,940
Tree Removal	2,150
Mowing	3,315
Other	45
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 61,463</u>

**- 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, 2017 was \$140,000 and accruable interest thru 2030 was \$31,852, excluding effect of any Federal sequestration additions.

# Town Employees Compensation

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## TOWN EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION - Cash Basis 07/01/16 - 06/30/17

### AUDITORS

BROOKS, KENDRA	\$	203.13
NYSTROM, HEIDI	\$	318.75
RUCKER, FRANK	\$	137.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>659.38</b>

### LISTERS

GOKEY, DONALD	\$	416.00
GOKEY, SHEILA	\$	1,213.50
OMAND, MARSHA	\$	2,523.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,153.25</b>

### SELECTBOARD

HOARD, BERNARDINE	\$	1,750.00
MAGGIO, DOROTHY	\$	1,200.00
MELLO, BRUCE	\$	1,200.00
NOGA, STANLEY	\$	1,200.00
TANZA, GWEN	\$	1,200.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,550.00</b>

### CLERK OF THE SELECTBOARD

BARUS, PETER	\$	780.00
SIROIS, LOUISE	\$	37.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>817.50</b>

### ELECTION OFFICIALS

TANZA, GUY	\$	296.25
TANZA, GWEN	\$	270.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>566.25</b>

### TOWN CLERK

TANZA, GUY	\$	22,220.15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>22,220.15</b>

### ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

TANZA, GWEN	\$	6,010.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,010.00</b>

### DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

TANZA, GUY	\$	1,886.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,886.13</b>

### TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

ZWICK, SOMARA	\$	5,609.29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,609.29</b>

### ASSISTANT TREASURER

SIROIS, LOUISE	\$	6,246.50
TANZA, GUY	\$	1,155.39
TATTERSALL, MARIE	\$	241.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,401.89</b>

### HIGHWAY

BILLS, EVERETT A	\$	3,791.00
BILLS, EVERETT MARK	\$	13,608.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>17,399.00</b>

# Brookline Estimated Tax Rates (2018-2019)

	Proposed Budget FY/2019	Proposed Rates FY2019	Adopted Rates FY2018*	Adopted Rates FY2017*	FY18 - FY19 Increase (decrease)
Municipal Grand List (as billed FY17-18 Grand List) FY19 estimated	\$ 708,967		\$ 708,040	\$ 715,933	
<u>Operations To Be Voted - Proposed FY 2019 Budget</u>					
Town office operations (General fund)	143,005	0.2017	0.1883	0.1600	0.0134
Highway fund operations	158,512	0.2236	0.2210	0.2141	0.0026
<b>Total annual operations taxes to be warned &amp; voted</b>	<b>\$ 301,517</b>	0.4253	0.4093	0.3741	\$ 0.0160
<u>Special Articles to be voted - FY2019 (FY 18 shown for Adopted )</u>					
Gen. Fd - Appropriations	\$ 6,206	0.0088	0.0537	0.0087	(0.0449)
Gen Fd - New Appropriation Requests	100	0.0001	0.0000	0.0008	0.0001
Subtotal - All Appropriations to be Voted/Voted	6,306	0.0089	0.0537	0.0096	(0.0448)
Town Operating Fund Deficit Refunding Tax	-	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-
Town Op - Fire Dept Mutual Aid Dues (FY19 in Operating budget)	-	-	0.0000	0.0121	-
Town Op - Recycling Services Article (FY19 in Operating budget)	-	-	0.0000	0.0000	-
* Town Op - Reserve for future Audit Article - see note	-	-	0.0000	0.0028	-
Total FY19 Special articles - Town Op & Highway to be voted	6,306	0.0089	0.0537	0.0245	(0.0448)
Total Municipal taxes to be voted	307,823	0.4342	0.4630	0.3987	(0.0288)
Total Municipal taxes to be raised before local exemption	<b>\$ 307,823</b>	0.4342	0.4630	0.3987	(0.0288)
<u>Local Exemption(s)</u>					
Veterans (3000 x TBD)(Education)(not-voted)estimated rate (30,000 x .01 x res. Tax rate estimated)	536	0.0008	0.0008	0.0007	(0.0000)
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAXES/RATE to be raised	308,359	0.4349	0.4638	0.3994	(0.0289)
less Gen fund surplus, if available	-	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAXES/RATE to be raised	<b>\$ 308,359</b>	\$ 0.435	\$ 0.464	\$ 0.399	\$ (0.029)

\* Note: Audit reserve, if voted, from applied 2017 surplus

## Education taxes voted at school district annual meeting for information only:

	Proposed	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
Prorated equalized rates per Brookline/Newfane Joint school	\$ 0.779	\$ 0.840	\$ 0.902
equalized rates LGUHS [Brookline share]	\$ 1.007	\$ 0.824	\$ 0.682
Total Equalized School Property Tax rates			
All grades Pre-k through grade 12	\$ 1.786	\$ 1.664	\$ 1.584
Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	95.18%	94.17%	98.52%
Total CLA adjusted School Property Tax rates	\$ 1.876	\$ 1.767	\$ 1.608

## **Total Municipal & School Homestead Education "Actual" tax rate Estimate Total FY2019 Percent Change from FY 2018**

<b>\$ 2.311</b>	<b>\$ 2.231</b>	<b>\$ 2.007</b>
<b>4%</b>		

Total Non Resident Municipal and CLA adjusted Education property tax rate	\$ 2.146	\$ 2.094	\$ 1.950
Anticipated Income Cap Percent for School Tax on Household Income, if eligible	3.0%	2.8%	2.8%

# Brookline Consolidated Balance Sheet FY 2017

## Town of Brookline Consolidated Balance Sheet For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	General Fund	Highway	Brookline Meetinghouse	Loan/Rehab	Schoolhouse	Reappraisal	School Building	Community Fund	Cemetery	Total
<b>Assets</b>										
Cash held in Separate Bank Accounts	\$ 37,106	\$ 150,192							\$ 5,260	\$ 192,559
Cash held in Money Market - Multi Funds	8,953		24,289	6,685	4,856	28,373	4,157	2,867		80,179
Town Office Cash Drawer	32									32
Due From Other Funds	498	69,332								69,830
Municipal Revenues Receivable	6,282									6,282
State Grants/Federal Revenue Receivable	144	20,000								20,144
Fundraising Revenues Receivable			199							199
Delinquent Education Taxes Receivable	3,954									3,954
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 56,969</b>	<b>\$ 239,525</b>	<b>\$ 24,488</b>	<b>\$ 6,685</b>	<b>\$ 4,856</b>	<b>\$ 28,373</b>	<b>\$ 4,157</b>	<b>\$ 2,867</b>	<b>\$ 5,260</b>	<b>\$ 373,180</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>										
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	1,544	1,332								2,876
License fees payable to State	125									125
Property Tax Overpayments Payable	1,247									1,247
Due to Other Funds	69,333								498	69,831
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 72,249</b>	<b>\$ 1,332</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 498</b>	<b>\$ 74,079</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>										
Unreserved/Unrestricted Funds	(27,165)								3,762	(23,403)
Reserved/Restricted Funds	11,886	238,193	24,488	6,685	4,856	28,373	4,157	2,867	1,000	322,504
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>(15,280)</b>	<b>238,193</b>	<b>24,488</b>	<b>6,685</b>	<b>4,856</b>	<b>28,373</b>	<b>4,157</b>	<b>2,867</b>	<b>4,762</b>	<b>299,101</b>
<b>Total Liability and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 56,969</b>	<b>\$ 239,525</b>	<b>\$ 24,488</b>	<b>\$ 6,685</b>	<b>\$ 4,856</b>	<b>\$ 28,373</b>	<b>\$ 4,157</b>	<b>\$ 2,867</b>	<b>\$ 5,260</b>	<b>\$ 373,180</b>
Fund Percentage of Consolidated Total	15.3%	64.2%	6.6%	1.8%	1.3%	7.6%	1.1%	0.8%	1.4%	100.0%
<b>Fund Balances as of June 30, 2016</b>	<b>\$ (20,735)</b>	<b>\$ 316,519</b>	<b>\$ 40,851</b>	<b>\$ 17,554</b>	<b>\$ 4,850</b>	<b>\$ 25,425</b>	<b>\$ (4,587)</b>	<b>\$ 2,864</b>	<b>\$ 5,795</b>	<b>\$ 388,536</b>
Plus Annual Revenues	159,925	392,771	20,382	1,381	6	2,948	17,667	4	5	595,090
Less Annual Expenses	(154,470)	(471,098)	(36,746)	(12,250)	-	-	(8,924)	-	(1,038)	(684,525)
<b>Fund Balances as of June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ (15,280)</b>	<b>\$ 238,193</b>	<b>\$ 24,487</b>	<b>\$ 6,685</b>	<b>\$ 4,856</b>	<b>\$ 28,373</b>	<b>\$ 4,157</b>	<b>\$ 2,867</b>	<b>\$ 4,763</b>	<b>\$ 299,101</b>

### Notes to Balance Sheet:

- All amounts are rounded to the nearest \$1.00
- Interest income earned on Money Market account - Multi funds is allocated to each fund based on its pro-rata share of monthly balance
- Reserved and/or Restricted fund amounts in the General Fund are for restoration of records, state funds received for listers education and reserve established for independent outside audit
- 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 to use of Highway operations see additional report of Highway Fund Balance detail
- Community Group funds are available for community projects. Application for funds are reviewed by Selectboard
- All Cemetery Funds are restricted to that fund. The amount shown as specifically restricted was set forth by the grantor of those specific monies.
- The amount of \$18,000 in the Loan/Rehab Fund was approved in prior years to be used for restoration of the Brookline Meetinghouse. As of June 30, 2017 \$12,250 was utilized and \$5,750 remained.
- Funding to retire prior year deficit shown in the General Fund was voted at Town Meeting held in March 2017 - not reflected in cumulative deficit as of 6/30/17.

# Highway Fund Balance Analysis as of June 30, 2017

Highway Fund Balance analysis as of June 30, 2017 (Showing Two Year Analysis)

	Paving/ Retreatmnt	Highway Equipment	Grader Repair/Replac ement	Bridges & Culverts	Bond Principal and Interest	Undesignated Highway	Total Highway Fund
Balance as of 6/30/2015	\$ 165,492	\$ 31,724	\$ 2,055	\$ 137,389	\$ -	\$ 78,957	\$ 420,022
Plus:							
2016 Revenues:							
Unrestricted Revenues - Budgeted by Line Item							
Grant Revenues - State Highway Aid	\$ 25,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,875	\$ 9,500		\$ 85,786	\$ 126,161
Grant Revenues - FY2014 Emergency Grant Balance	38,447						38,447
Grant Revenues - Better Back Roads	48,377						48,377
Bond Principal and Interest Budgeted	-	-	-	-	14,649	-	14,649
Total Revenues	\$ 111,823	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,875	\$ 9,500	\$ 14,649	\$ 85,786	\$ 227,633
Less:							
2016 Cash Expenditures	-141,463	-293	0	-43,134	-14,649	(127,191)	(331,136)
<b>Balance as of 6/30/2016</b>	<b>\$ 135,852</b>	<b>\$ 35,431</b>	<b>\$ 3,930</b>	<b>\$ 103,755</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 37,552</b>	<b>\$ 316,519</b>
Plus:							
2017 Revenues:							
Unrestricted Revenues - Budgeted by Line Item							
Grant Revenues - State Highway Aid	28,000	4,000	1,590	9,500		94,867	137,957
Grant Revenues - AOT Paving Grant	38,440						38,440
Grant Revenues - Better Back Roads	175,000						175,000
Grant Revenues - Interest Budgeted	26,650						26,650
Bond Principal and Interest Budgeted	-	-	-	-	14,724	-	14,724
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 268,090</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,590</b>	<b>\$ 9,500</b>	<b>\$ 14,724</b>	<b>\$ 94,867.47</b>	<b>\$ 392,771</b>
Less:							
2017 Cash Expenditures	-257,836	-832		-40,378	-14,724	(157,328)	(471,098)
<b>Balance as of 6/30/2017</b>	<b>\$ 146,106</b>	<b>\$ 38,599</b>	<b>\$ 5,520</b>	<b>\$ 72,877</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (24,909)</b>	<b>\$ 238,192</b>

## NOTES TO HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE ANALYSIS

- all amounts rounded to nearest \$1

- Grader usage hours are now being recorded and an amount of the Highway fund balance is designated for future repair and/or replacement when required; these are designated but not reserved

# 2017 Meetinghouse & School Building Funds

## Brookline Meetinghouse Fund - Revenue and Expenditures as of June 30, 2017

### FISCAL YEAR REVENUES

Donations - Undesignated	\$	2,683
Donations - Windows Restoration		50
Foundation Grants		2,500
Rehab Fund - Town Voted match		12,250
Net Fundraising Revenues:		
Fundraising Sales	\$	2,865
Fundraising Expenditures		(1,048)
Interest earned		35
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>19,334</b>

### FISCAL YEAR EXPENDITURES

Building Maintenance		75
Structural Restoration:		
Windows Restoration		10,350
Steeple/Foundation		25,273
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>35,698</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(16,364)</b>

## Brookline Elementary School Building Fund - Revenue And Expenditures as of June 30, 2017

### FISCAL YEAR REVENUES

Rental Revenues - SLDC	\$	15,000
Other Revenue		2,666
Interest earned		1
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>17,667</b>

### FISCAL YEAR EXPENDITURES

General Repairs and Maintenance		3,252
Water Testing		1,510
Fire Alarm Maintenance		883
Telephone (required for Fire Alarm)		622
Building Insurance		2,120
Town Employee Labor Costs		537
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,924</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,744</b>

# Treasurer's Report

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This past fiscal year was busy as usual, but happily most Town Operations finished the year within budget, or only slightly over, so there was no danger of a fiscal year deficit I am happy to say. We have continued to evaluate and review our financial operating procedures to make sure Town residents can rely on our Town financial records and management.

To that end, I thought I might try to explain briefly just how our Town's financial reports are presented. Interestingly, Vermont statutes do not require any standard presentation; however, they recommended Government accounting standards be used if possible. We have adopted many of these standards. For those reading this who are familiar with accounting and Town Reports, you can stop reading this report now, but for those who want a brief tutorial please read on.

Our Town has two major operating funds for which a budget is prepared annually: Town Operations (the General Fund) and Highway Operations (the Highway Fund). We have other smaller funds that reserve and segregate funds set aside by Town vote or by Statutory mandate. Currently we do not set budgets for these funds, nor do we vote to raise taxes for them (at least while I've served as Treasurer). They are funded by contributions, state grants and/or fees.

Our Town Annual Report includes a Consolidated Balance Sheet which states the fund balance of each fund and the combined total of all Town funds. This is a simplified "snapshot" of what each fund owns (assets) and owes (liabilities) as of the end of each fiscal year. Each fund's revenue and expenses for the year are summarized in the last rows of each column of the report.

A more detailed revenue and expense report is included for the Town Operations and Highway Operations Funds, for which tax revenues are voted. Included in this report is the budget and actual revenues and expenses for the fiscal year ended, the approved current year budget and, finally, the proposed budget to be voted upon at Town Meeting. If there are any special articles for either fund in the budget to be voted, they'll be stated separately.

This year I also included a simple revenue and expense report for our two most active reserve funds – The Brookline Meetinghouse Fund and the Brookline School Building Fund. Although no tax revenues are raised for their direct expenses, there is some town administrative support provided, and some wonderful activity in each, so I thought residents might be interested in more detail on these funds in particular.

The Highway Fund Balance also has a separate detail analysis by category to assist our Road Commissioner in planning and budgeting for future projects, show where monies were designated or reserved, and to help track where funds have been utilized.

I am working on a Schedule of Town Assets – buildings and equipment primarily – and hope to be able to include that in next year's report.

As always, 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 support of all the other Town officials, elected and appointed, and all the Town residents. Thanks to everyone for the continued spirit of cooperation and support for our Brookline.

Respectfully submitted,

Somara Zwick, Treasurer/Current Tax Collector

# Listers' Report

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The Listers Committee has continued to meet and keep abreast of land transfers, Homestead Declarations, Lister Cards, new construction, renovations, current (land) use, and grievances. We continue to meet the last Monday of each month at 5 PM and more often when needed. The Listers can be contacted through the Town Clerk's number 802-365-4648. We do attend State workshops annually to keep abreast of changes. Many of the land transfers are among generations of families.

Sales have tended to be below the Town appraised value, which will lead to the need for a reappraisal in the next few years. 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, and our Coefficient of Dispersion (COD), which measures the average deviation from market value of sold properties from the average Town-wide level of appraisal, are within the acceptable range.

The acceptable range for the CLA is 80% to 100%, with 100% being perfect. The acceptable range for the COD is 0% - 20%. Brookline's CLA is 95.18% and our COD is 12.58%. These are big factors in State Aid to Education.

Our last reappraisal was in 2007, ten years ago. We are in the process of contacting appraisal firms for estimates of cost. Each year we do receive some funds from the State towards reappraisal. In that fund presently is \$28,000, which will help considerably.

We do thank the people of Brookline for their cooperation as we do site visits for appraisals. We do strive to keep property equalized. Again, thank you very much.

Respectfully, Donald Gokey, Sheila Gokey,  
Marsha Omand

# Road Commissioner's Report

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We had another great grant year. The first is a structure grant from VTrans to replace the culvert just before Papoose Road on Grassy Brook that has been settling for years. The second is for the salt/sand shed from the VTrans Municipal assistance program. The third is a grant from the municipal grants-in-aid program to help with some erosion areas along town roads.

Many thanks to the Selectboard, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Windham Regional Commission for their help in acquiring all of these. Our plan is to put these jobs out to bid this winter and do most or all the work next construction season.

Hill Road and Putney Mountain Road saw many improvements this year: some ditching and shoulder widening in the early summer. Three culverts were replaced to prepare for 1.2 miles of new pavement on Hill Road. On Putney Mountain Road, two culverts and about three-tenths of a mile of new pavement were placed. Long-awaited line striping was painted

on these roads in the late fall. Also, a couple of narrow sections of Ellen Ware Road were widened to improve visibility and allow for two cars to pass safely.

This summer, we rented an over-the-rail mower for a week. The plan next year is to rent it for two weeks since we were not able to get to some areas.

We are trying a test section of seal coating on Grassy Brook Road, north of the Town Office. This is an attempt to make the blacktop last longer.

Many dead trees are planned to be removed all over town. Many trees that are in the area of power lines have been or will be removed by Green Mountain Power at no expense to the Town.

Many THANKS to Mark and Everett, our road crew, for their many hours of hard work.

Respectfully,  
Archie Clark (Road Commissioner)

# Brookline Meetinghouse Committee

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Those of you who drive past the Brookline Meetinghouse have been able to watch the continuous improvements to the structure of this grand old church. We are pleased that the project we took on for 2017 has been completed. The steeples were removed to check for soundness, and a collar of copper roofing was fitted around the base posts to block any moisture from entering. The bell tower has a new copper standing seam roof, and new wooden balustrades were built from the re-purposed wood of the Old Scott Bridge. A debt of gratitude is due to Pete Newton Builders and Phoenix Roofing for their expertise and for their ability to synchronize schedules to get this work completed. We wish to acknowledge the many hours of volunteer labor from Bourne Construction without whose generous time this job could not have been completed.

In addition to the Vermont Preservation Trusts \$7,995 award for the balustrade and bell tower renovation, we brought in \$1,800 from our June 23rd Welcome Center fund raiser, more than \$1,400 from public events such as The Strolling of the Heifers, Town Meeting lunch donations, tag sales, the sale of raffle tickets for the lap quilt made by the Women's

Benevolent Society and, not least, generous contributions from local individuals.

Volunteers are the life blood of our success and we have enjoyed the commitment of many. The Meetinghouse Committee is looking for interested people to help pursue the next stage of improvements. There is a fund established to update the kitchen and appliances, and we are investigating upgrading the heating system in the 1898 wooden addition. The foundation of the addition is in need of repair, ADA access is important for community use, and a more permanent parking area is on our wish list for 2018. It is our hope to continue fundraising locally and via organizations interested in the preservation and continued use of our legacy buildings. This will require some additional volunteers with energy and vision. Interested folks should contact the Brookline Selectboard.

The Committee thanks all of those who helped make this year a success: Kerry Bourne, Peter Meyer, Helen Samuels, and Bruce Mello.

Regards,  
Lee Anne Parker

# Brookline Planning Commission

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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 updated the Town Plan for acceptance in January 2018.

The current Planning Commission consists of Chairman Tom Kavet, Secretary Suzanne d'Corsey, Barbara Bourne, and Charles Ezequelle.

# Town Clerk's Report

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It is hard to believe that 2017 has come to an end. One year just seems to roll into the next, but each has its own energy and excitement. To think that just eight years ago our small town was struggling with internet availability, no cell service and a state economy that was in the tank. Fast forward: Comcast ultra-high-speed internet, and they finally lit up the AT&T cell tower in Newfane, giving most residents cell service along with the abilities to use smart devices of all kinds. Our economy is on the upswing and for the most part our town is looking real good.

Last winter was snowy for the most part, especially the later part, but again we were fortunate to have a good snow removal team in Fitzpatrick Trucking & Excavating Co. Our first voting event was that of the Leland & Gray budget vote on February 8th. Followed by a vote on Act 46 for the proposed Unified School District, March 7th, and of course that is the same day as Town Meeting. Both school votes are voted on using the Australian ballot method, which entails setting up voting booths and manning the polling place at the town office from 9AM-7PM. With the Annual Town Meeting being held on March 7th at the former Brookline Elementary School, things got a little hectic to say the least. Also, sandwiched in between these events are the NewBrook Annual Meeting and budget vote, February 15th, which is a hand voting event. As one can see, late winter in the Town Clerk's office can be rather busy. On March 15th we had the annual animal rabies inoculation clinic at the NewBrook Fire Department from 10AM - 1PM.

Finally – Spring arrives and with it the annual kids' Easter Egg Hunt put on by the O'Donnell clan along with many volunteers. It was a delight to watch the children, almost 30 of them, searching for and opening the "hundreds" of plastic eggs to see their rewards. Their expressions are priceless. Another important ritual of Spring is Green Up Day which is always held the first Saturday of May and is a time of socializing as we do our civic duty. There are so many caring residents in our town who take the time to pick up after folks who apparently left their car windows open and had trash just blow out... Thanks again to Archie Clark for letting us load up

his dump truck and for driving it down to Windham Solid Waste Management in Brattleboro and a special thank you to Dave Jones, Brookline Green Up Day Coordinator. May 19th the town met with Wade Masure of Vermont League of Cities & Towns Insurance Co., insurer of all of the town's buildings. With the town now owning additional buildings it was deemed important to review and update the town's needs and requirements for insurance and to be sure we were in compliance with the insurance community.

Late Spring sees our Highway Department kick into high gear with so many needed projects, such as culvert repair and replacement, tree trimming, side road mowing, paving, trucking gravel where needed, road grading, etc. and this is just to name a few. Our Road Commissioner, Archie Clark, and Highway Foreman, E. Mark Bills, are always searching for ways to save the town money via grants and other funding options. As you travel on our roads here in Brookline you can see firsthand the level of their work and commitment to keeping us safe and in compliance with AOT regulations.

July 14th the town held a meeting and site visit for the Inner Fire Project Act 250 Land Use permit on Parker Road. Approximately 30 supporters and non-supporters attended and voiced their concerns. October 27th, with the help of 2WiredGuys, our go-to IT provider, we installed new and complete office computer backup hardware to assure our programs and files are not compromised. While there is no 100% program out there, we are at least making every attempt possible to keep them safe and secure. While on the subject of backup, Gwen (my wife and trusty Assistant Town Clerk) started in February to scan our land record books into the NEMRC Land Records computer module, one page at a time, to be sure that, if there were a catastrophic event in our town office, we would not lose all of the incredible knowledge and information contained in those volumes dating back to the 1700s. There are 39 volumes containing a minimum of 625 pages each to be scanned. The work is tedious and time consuming, but Gwen has already scanned 13 volumes. At some point we will have to bring in a special vendor for the very old volumes, as we cannot detach the pages

# Town Clerk's Report (cont'd)

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as we can with the newer volumes. The town has money set aside for when that procedure is needed.

The town office is, as expected, a very busy place. We have issued 6 marriage licenses, recorded 5 birth certificates, 1 adoption, and sadly 5 death certificates. We have recorded 23 property tax transfers, recorded 579 pages into our town land record books, filed 10 land posting requests and sold 8 Fish & Wildlife licenses. Our printer/copy machine has made 27,357 copies. We keep our website current and updated. All our Selectboard meetings are videotaped and available to view on FACTV and also on YouTube. Check our website: [www.brooklinevt.com](http://www.brooklinevt.com) for links. While we have limited public hours, Tuesday & Thursday 9AM-2PM and the first Saturday of the month from 9AM-Noon, we monitor all emails and phone voicemails on a daily basis and do answer them as promptly as possible. I believe everyone recognizes my car when it is parked at the office, and

they can come in just to say hello, get whatever they need, use the bathroom, send a fax, pay their taxes, or ask a favor. And yes, we do have public WiFi.

At this point I would like to take the opportunity to thank all my coworkers, volunteers and those folks who make a difference in our wonderful small town we call Brookline. Without you, I am sure this would be a far different place. Your sacrifices do not go unnoticed or forgotten but, in fact, are remembered and appreciated by all. I sometimes entertain the thought that the next generation will be born in the form of a shepherd's hook from constantly looking down at their hand-held devices, but not if you live in Brookline, where everyone is standing tall. Thank you all for your help and support.

Regards,  
Guy

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## Delinquent Tax Report as of December 31, 2017

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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.

Nicholson, Margaret K. Revocable Family Trust..... \$6,216.61

Totals \$6,216.61

NOTE: The above totals reflect the amount of taxes, interest and penalties due as of December 31, 2017.

# Vital Records

## BIRTHS/ADOPTIONS

DATE	NAME OF CHILD	SEX	PARENTS
February 7, 2017 .....	Aiden Forest Schaefer .....	M.....	Rebecca Nyoka Schaefer Edward Richard Schaefer
March 1, 2017.....	Anthony Donald Waters, III ....	M.....	Corrin Kahlan Broussard Anthony Donald Waters, II
April 27, 2017 .....	Catherine Mallory Ezequelle ....	F.....	Mallory Buxton McDonnell Ezequelle Charles Daniel Ezequelle
July 26, 2017.....	Alivia Grace Cutts.....	F.....	Alisia Renea Cutts Bradford Robert Cutts
August 3, 2017.....	Vaeda Rae Bartel.....	F.....	Kristen Elizabeth Bartel William Justin Bartel
February 16, 2009 .....	Dezrah Marie Bills .....	F.....	Tina Marie Bills (Adoption) Randy Karl Bills

## MARRIAGES

DATE	BRIDE	GROOM	PLACE
January 20, 2017 .....	Aileen Patricia Hogarty.....	John Anthony Sohl .....	Brookline, VT
May 6, 2017 .....	Sara Jean Elliott .....	Kevin Michael Wiswall .....	Williamsville, VT
July 1, 2017.....	Nicole Marie Lee.....	Adam Garret Hall .....	Brookline, VT
August 11, 2017.....	Jamie Louise Meehl.....	Gabriel Pessoa Monteiro .....	Brookline, VT
September 3, 2017 .....	Samantha Elyse Bufalo .....	Matthew Ryan Klemm .....	Chittenden, VT
September 16, 2017 ....	Kiya R. Labadie .....	Kenneth C. Dowley, IV .....	Newfane, VT

## DEATHS

DATE	NAME	AGE
February 7, 2017 .....	Thomas Anthony Acampora.....	79
October 23, 2017.....	Patricia L. Ballou .....	91
November 13, 2017 .....	Sigrid Erica Blazej.....	86
December 17, 2017 .....	Elizabeth Cutts .....	32
December 29, 2017 .....	Bruce R. Cutts.....	70

# Regulations Governing Dog Ownership

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All dogs or wolf-hybrids six (6) months or older must be licensed by April 1, 2018. Fees are as follows:

<b><u>Before April 1, 2018</u></b>	<b><u>After April 1, 2018:</u></b>
Spayed/Neutered or wolf-hybrid...9.00	Spayed/Neutered or wolf-hybrid...11.00
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, 2018 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 17, 2018 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 2017 by the Town of Brookline.

	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Late Fees</b>	<b>Total</b>
Spayed	60	240.00	300.00	4.00	544.00
Neutered	46	184.00	230.00	12.00	426.00
Male	12	96.00	60.00	12.00	168.00
Female	7	56.00	35.00	0.00	91.00
Total	125	\$576.00	\$625.00	\$28.00	\$1,229.00

## **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

# WCSU Superintendent's Report

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The Windham Central Supervisory Union (WCSU) is growing and changing. The citizens of Brookline, Jamaica, Newfane, and Townshend voted in 2016 to become one school district. This vote created the West River Modified Unified Union Education District (West River MUUED). This district also includes Windham students in grades 7-12. The citizens of Dover and Wardsboro voted in 2016 to create one school district as well, the River Valleys Unified School District (RVUSD). The citizens of Marlboro voted in 2016 to create a stand alone school district under the ACT 49 model. As of this writing, both Windham and Stratton are preparing proposals under ACT 46 to be reviewed by the State Board of Education in consideration of the ACT 46 Statewide plan.

The WCSU is in year two of building a forward thinking team to lead the next generation of high quality student learning. Our Superintendent, Business Manager, and Director of Curriculum are in their second years and are joined by a new Director of Special Education. We welcomed three new principals to our experienced instructional leaders. Our teaching professionals have been engaged in targeted

professional development, deepening their knowledge and building on their existing capacity to create effective student learning opportunities. The entire WCSU team is engaged in student improvement and success.

The WCSU is a partner in three statewide initiatives that will help provide valuable information about how to allocate resources, develop professional acumen, and make strategic long-term instructional decisions.

I encourage everyone to participate in the information sessions for current budgets. I also encourage you to attend the board meetings of the new districts and participate in the creation of our new governance structures. I am confident that the leadership of the individual school boards, the WCSU board, our principals, and the teachers and staff of the WCSU are ready to embrace the challenge of the future.

Thank you for supporting our schools.

William Anton, WCSU Superintendent of Schools

# WCSU Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

	FY 17 Budget	FY 17 Actual (unaudited)	FY 18 Adopted Budget	FY 19 Proposed Budget	\$\$ Variance +/-	% Variance +/-
<b>REVENUES</b>						
Interest Income	\$ 200	\$ 1,364	\$ 200	\$ 500	\$ 300	150%
Erate Income	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	0%
	\$ 6,200	\$ 7,364	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,500	\$ 300	150%
<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>						
DOVER	\$ 83,008	\$ 83,008	\$ 85,518	\$ 82,453	\$ (3,065)	-3.6%
JAMAICA	\$ 62,806	\$ 62,807	\$ 61,304	\$ 60,620	\$ (684)	-1.1%
MARLBORO	\$ 70,919	\$ 70,919	\$ 75,457	\$ 73,587	\$ (1,870)	-2.5%
NEWBROOK	\$ 138,356	\$ 138,356	\$ 145,596	\$ 158,623	\$ 13,027	8.9%
STRATTON	\$ 10,923	\$ 11,022	\$ 11,494	\$ 18,186	\$ 6,692	58.2%
TOWNSHEND	\$ 75,550	\$ 75,551	\$ 78,545	\$ 84,868	\$ 6,323	8.1%
WARDSBORO	\$ 52,794	\$ 52,794	\$ 50,767	\$ 44,455	\$ (6,312)	-12.4%
WINDHAM	\$ 17,294	\$ 17,295	\$ 18,199	\$ 22,227	\$ 4,028	22.1%
LELAND AND GRAY	\$ 289,455	\$ 337,203	\$ 345,645	\$ 334,683	\$ (10,962)	-3.2%
	\$ 801,105	\$ 848,955	\$ 872,525	\$ 879,703	\$ 7,178	0.82%

Account Description	FY17 Adopted Budget	FY 17 Actual (unaudited)	FY18 Proposed Budget	FY 19 Proposed Budget	\$	% Variance +/-	
SU Superintendent	\$ 214,000	\$199,000	\$ 122,500	\$ 127,476	\$ 4,976	4%	1.00
SU Directors of Curriculum/Tech/F	\$ 77,431	\$41,949	\$ 44,430	\$ 58,880	\$ 14,450	33%	0.54
SU Admin Assistant Salary	\$ 41,700	\$41,880	\$ 41,840	\$ 39,429	\$ (2,411)	-6%	0.80
SU Health	\$ 64,273	\$61,278	\$ 47,657	\$ 49,366	\$ 1,709	4%	
SU Dental	\$ 3,982	\$3,982	\$ 2,612	\$ 4,070	\$ 1,458	56%	
SU FICA	\$ 25,485	\$20,874	\$ 15,971	\$ 17,272	\$ 1,301	8%	
SU Life/Disab Insurance	\$ 1,110	\$902	\$ 1,110	\$ 902	\$ (208)	-19%	
SU Municipal Retirement	\$ 7,618	\$6,856	\$ 4,472	\$ 2,851	\$ (1,621)	-36%	
SU Workers Comp	\$ 3,331	\$1,852	\$ 2,088	\$ 2,000	\$ (88)	-4%	
SU Unemployment	\$ 1,050	\$1,050	\$ 1,728	\$ 1,713	\$ (15)	-1%	
SU Professional Services	\$ 6,000	(\$8,597)	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,000	\$ (1,000)	-17%	
SU Information System Services	\$ 22,500	\$26,693	\$ 25,500	\$ 27,000	\$ 1,500	6%	
SU Curriculum Dev	\$ -	\$0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	
SU Professional Development	\$ 8,000	\$3,822	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 4,000	50%	
SU Legal Services	\$ -	\$84	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	
SU Insurance Bond & Prof Liability	\$ 8,000	\$5,160	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -	0%	
SU Telephone/Internet	\$ 7,000	\$8,470	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,500	\$ 1,500	21%	
SU Postage	\$ 3,500	\$2,252	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0%	
SU Advertising	\$ 3,000	\$467	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0%	
SU Travel	\$ 6,000	\$11,024	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,000	33%	
SU Conference Expense	\$ 4,500	\$5,326	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0%	
SU Supplies	\$ 3,500	\$8,715	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,000	\$ 500	14%	
SU Equipment	\$ 3,000	\$4,210	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0%	
SU Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 4,400	\$5,244	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 500	11%	
SU Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	
SU Audit Services	\$ 7,000	\$7,250	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ -	0%	
<b>Subtotal of - SU Admin</b>	<b>\$ 526,480</b>	<b>\$459,743</b>	<b>\$ 373,908</b>	<b>\$ 402,458</b>	<b>\$ 28,550</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>2.34</b>
Business Salary	\$ 132,577	\$189,502	\$ 280,961	\$ 255,067	\$ (25,894)	-9%	4.05
Business Human Resources Salar	\$ 29,500	\$29,890	\$ 49,725	\$ 53,457	\$ 3,732	8%	1.00
Business Health	\$ 51,331	\$57,313	\$ 75,522	\$ 79,040	\$ 3,518	5%	
Business Dental	\$ 3,084	\$2,950	\$ 3,815	\$ 3,815	\$ -	0%	
Business FICA	\$ 12,399	\$16,048	\$ 25,297	\$ 23,602	\$ (1,695)	-7%	
Business Office Life/Disa	\$ 1,538	\$388	\$ 1,323	\$ 926	\$ (397)	-30%	
Business Municipal Retirement	\$ 8,914	\$9,652	\$ 18,188	\$ 16,969	\$ (1,219)	-7%	
Business Workers Comp	\$ 1,621	\$819	\$ 3,307	\$ 2,500	\$ (807)	-24%	
Business Unemployment	\$ 1,312	\$1,312	\$ 2,880	\$ 2,880	\$ -	0%	
Business Equipment Repair	\$ 800	\$0	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ -	0%	
Business Professional Dev	\$ 3,300	\$3,241	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	\$ -	0%	
Business Travel	\$ -	\$0	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%	
Business Conference Expenses	\$ -	\$366	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0%	
Business Supplies	\$ 3,500	\$3,813	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,800	\$ 300	9%	
Business Equipment	\$ 3,000	\$2,777	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0%	
Bank Fees	\$ 1,800	\$0	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ -	0%	
					\$ -	0%	

# WCSU Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget (cont'd)

	FY 17 Budget	FY 17 Actual (unaudited)	FY 18 Adopted Budget	FY 19 Proposed Budget	\$\$ Variance +/-	% Variance +/-	
<b>Subtotal - Business</b>	\$ 254,676	\$318,071	\$ 477,418	\$ 454,956	\$ (22,462)	-4.7%	5.05
Property Services - Custodial	\$ 3,250	\$4,615	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,990	\$ 990	25%	0.10
Property Serv Maint & Repair	\$ 1,500	\$450	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%	
Building Rent	\$ 14,800	\$14,800	\$ 14,800	\$ 14,800	\$ -	0%	
Building Electric	\$ 2,400	\$4,153	\$ 2,400	\$ 3,500	\$ 1,100	46%	
Building Fuel Oil	\$ 4,200	\$1,958	\$ 4,200	\$ 3,500	\$ (700)	-17%	
Building Equipment	\$ -		\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%	
					\$ -	0%	
<b>Subtotal of - Operation &amp; Maintenance</b>	\$ 26,150	\$25,976	\$ 27,400	\$ 28,790	\$ 1,390	5.1%	0.10
<b>Total Superintendent/Business Office</b>	\$ 807,306	\$803,790	\$ 878,726	\$ 886,203	\$ 7,477	0.85%	7.49
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	\$ (1)	\$ 52,529	\$ (1)	\$ -	\$ 1		

# Special Education Budget

117

## FY 19 Combined Special Education Budget Teacher/Related Service and Direct Bill

Act 148 "An act relating to special education" Governor signed on 5/31/2016  
\*\*\*Payment of Special Education Funding to Supervisory Unions\*\*\*

Revenues	FY17 Actual (unaudited)	FY18 Adopted Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$S Variance +/-	% Variance +/-
State Block Grant	\$ 382,215	\$ 378,451	\$ 378,451	\$ -	0.00%
Extraordinary Rev-Combined	\$ 99,675	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Extraordinary Rev-Dover	\$ -	\$ 2,165	\$ 0	\$ (2,165)	-100.00%
Extraordinary Rev-Jamaica	\$ -	\$ 2,503	\$ 0	\$ (2,503)	-100.00%
Extraordinary Rev-Marlboro	\$ -	\$ 43,380	\$ 88,508	\$ 45,128	104.03%
Extraordinary Rev-NewBrook	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,557	\$ 146,557	0.00%
Extraordinary Rev-Townshend	\$ -	\$ 93,210	\$ 96,228	\$ 3,018	3.24%
Extraordinary Rev-Wardsboro	\$ -	\$ 32,089	\$ 120,858	\$ 88,769	276.63%
Extraordinary Rev-LGUHS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
State Placed Rev-Wardsboro	\$ 65,016	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
State Placed Rev-Marlboro	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 66,010	\$ 66,010	0.00%
Intensive Reimbursement Froi	\$ 1,489,216	\$ 1,900,091	\$ 2,083,407	\$ 183,316	9.65%
Total Revenue	\$ 2,036,122	\$ 2,451,889	\$ 3,000,874	\$ 482,975	19.70%

<b>Total Net Cost</b>					
DOVER	\$ 52,324	\$ 190,335	\$ 100,307	\$ (90,028)	-47.30%
JAMAICA	\$ 63,950	\$ 114,488	\$ 122,594	\$ 8,106	7.08%
MARLBORO	\$ 203,554	\$ 238,695	\$ 355,800	\$ 117,105	49.06%
NEWBROOK	\$ 190,162	\$ 211,141	\$ 307,553	\$ 96,412	45.66%
STRATTON	\$ 21,363	\$ 43,935	\$ 40,954	\$ (2,981)	-6.79%
TOWNSHEND	\$ 131,761	\$ 191,981	\$ 244,480	\$ 52,499	27.35%
WARDSBORO	\$ 80,787	\$ 122,094	\$ 117,449	\$ (4,645)	-3.80%
WINDHAM	\$ 11,399	\$ 12,096	\$ 21,852	\$ 9,756	80.66%
LELAND AND GRAY	\$ 389,999	\$ 646,717	\$ 632,464	\$ (14,253)	-2.20%
Total Assessments	\$ 1,145,300	\$ 1,771,482	\$ 1,943,453	\$ 171,971	9.71%
Total Revenue	\$ 3,181,422	\$ 4,223,371	\$ 4,944,327	\$ 654,946	15.51%

Expenses	FY17 Actual (unaudited)	FY18 Adopted Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$S Variance +/-	% Variance +/-	% of Total Special Ed	% of Block Grant	% of local Match	Less Xord	Less SPS	Total Formula Eligible Cost	55%	45%	10% extra
DOVER	\$ 377,239	\$ 418,031	\$ 226,110	\$ (191,921)	-45.91%	4.57%	\$ 17,307	\$ 11,538	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 197,265	\$ 108,496	\$ 88,769	\$ -
JAMAICA	\$ 142,118	\$ 254,056	\$ 276,347	\$ 22,291	8.77%	5.59%	\$ 21,152	\$ 14,102	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 241,093	\$ 132,601	\$ 108,492	\$ -
MARLBORO	\$ 520,491	\$ 612,552	\$ 879,624	\$ 267,072	43.60%	17.79%	\$ 67,329	\$ 44,886	\$ 98,342	\$ -	\$ 669,067	\$ 367,987	\$ 301,080	\$ 9,834
NEWBROOK	\$ 322,540	\$ 458,513	\$ 821,753	\$ 363,240	79.22%	16.62%	\$ 62,899	\$ 41,933	\$ 162,841	\$ -	\$ 554,080	\$ 304,744	\$ 249,336	\$ 16,284
STRATTON	\$ 70,931	\$ 95,408	\$ 92,317	\$ (3,091)	-3.24%	1.87%	\$ 7,066	\$ 4,711	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,540	\$ 44,297	\$ 36,243	\$ -
TOWNSHEND	\$ 261,182	\$ 416,903	\$ 569,382	\$ 152,479	36.57%	11.52%	\$ 43,582	\$ 29,055	\$ 23,172	\$ -	\$ 473,573	\$ 260,465	\$ 213,108	\$ 2,317
WARDSBORO	\$ 306,300	\$ 467,553	\$ 349,107	\$ (118,446)	-25.33%	7.06%	\$ 26,722	\$ 17,814	\$ 106,920	\$ -	\$ 197,651	\$ 108,708	\$ 88,943	\$ 10,692
WINDHAM	\$ 23,717	\$ 26,267	\$ 49,259	\$ 22,992	87.53%	1.00%	\$ 3,770	\$ 2,514	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,975	\$ 23,636	\$ 19,339	\$ -
LELAND AND GRAY	\$ 1,411,716	\$ 1,474,087	\$ 1,680,429	\$ 206,342	14.00%	33.99%	\$ 128,624	\$ 85,749	\$ 134,287	\$ -	\$ 1,331,768	\$ 732,472	\$ 599,296	\$ 13,429
Total Expenses	\$ 3,436,234	\$ 4,223,370	\$ 4,944,327	\$ 720,957	17.07%	100.00%	\$ 378,451	\$ 252,301	\$ 525,562	\$ -	\$ 3,788,013	\$ 2,083,407	\$ 1,704,606	\$ 52,556

Revenues minus expenses \$ (254,812) \$ 1 \$ - \$ (66,011) -6601100%

### FY 19 Extraordinary Rev/Exp Breakout

Town	Expense	Less 50,000	Exp over 50K	90% Revenue	10% Due
NewBrook	\$ 262,841	\$ (100,000)	\$ 162,841	\$ 146,557	\$ 16,284
Townshend	\$ 123,172	\$ (100,000)	\$ 23,172	\$ 20,855	\$ 2,317
Marlboro	\$ 298,342	\$ (200,000)	\$ 98,342	\$ 88,508	\$ 9,834
Wardsboro	\$ 156,920	\$ (50,000)	\$ 106,920	\$ 96,228	\$ 10,692
LGUHS	\$ 334,287	\$ (200,000)	\$ 134,287	\$ 120,858	\$ 13,429
Total	\$ 1,175,562	\$ (650,000)	\$ 525,562	\$ 473,006	\$ 52,556

NOTE: Districts that employ a part-time para will have additional costs on their local budget.  
Expense Allocation Basis: Teacher FTE based on IEP Service requirements

# Special Education Budget (cont'd)

Board Approved 11-15-2017

## FY 19 Combined Special Education Budget Teacher/Related Service and Direct Bill Expense Allocation Basis: Teacher FTE based on IEP Service requirements FY2019 Proposed Budget Based on Service Plan

School	SLP FTE	K-12	PT FTE	K-12	OT FTE	K-12	Instruction FTE	K-6	7-12	combined Total FTE	Admin Alloc(includes Psych) Ratio %
Dover	0.22	0.05	0.05	0	0	0.67	0	0.94	0	0.94	7.18%
Jamaica	0.34	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.52	0	0.95	0.95	0	0.95	7.26%
Marlboro	0.29	0.09	0.09	0.04	1.00	0	1.42	1.42	0	1.42	10.85%
NewBrook	0.70	0.09	0.09	0.14	1.82	0	2.75	2.75	0	2.75	21.01%
Stratton	0.00	0	0.04	0.04	0	0	0.06	0.06	0	0.06	0.46%
Townshend	0.33	0.14	0.14	0.25	1.00	0	1.72	1.72	0	1.72	13.14%
Wardsboro	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.25	0	0.47	0.47	0	0.47	3.59%
Windham	0.04	0	0	0.04	0.18	0	0.26	0.26	0	0.26	1.99%
Leland & Gray UHS	0.88	0.14	0.14	0.25	5.44	4.00	5.27	5.27	4	13.84	100.00%
Total FTE Per Position	2.90	0.61	0.61	0.87	32.18	16.18	15				

Avg Student Per Caseload	29.66	14.23	32.18	15							
Student Count	89	14	28	88	60						
Special Ed by IEP	\$ 310,258	\$ 77,501	\$ 171,058	\$ 531,347	\$ 411,249	\$ 1,501,413					

School	SLP Expense	PT Expense	OT Expense	Instruction Expense	K-6 Instruction Expense	7-12 Instruction Expense	Admin Expense	Total Alloc. Expense	Para,Tuition,Tra nsp Direct Bill	Outside CaseMgt	Total Expenses
Dover	\$ 23,537	\$ 6,353	\$ -	\$ 65,442	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,486	\$ 117,817	\$ 93,887	\$ 14,406	\$ 226,110
Jamaica	\$ 36,375	\$ 6,353	\$ 7,865	\$ 50,791	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,725	\$ 124,108	\$ 145,036	\$ 7,203	\$ 276,347
Marlboro	\$ 31,026	\$ 11,435	\$ 7,865	\$ 97,674	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,968	\$ 181,968	\$ 672,446	\$ 25,210	\$ 879,624
NewBrook	\$ 74,890	\$ 11,435	\$ 27,527	\$ 177,767	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,784	\$ 357,402	\$ 457,148	\$ 7,203	\$ 821,753
Stratton	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,865	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,435	\$ 9,300	\$ 83,017	\$ -	\$ 92,317
Townshend	\$ 35,305	\$ 17,787	\$ 49,155	\$ 97,674	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,145	\$ 241,066	\$ 313,910	\$ 14,406	\$ 569,382
Wardsboro	\$ 10,699	\$ 6,353	\$ 13,763	\$ 24,419	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,243	\$ 66,476	\$ 271,827	\$ 10,804	\$ 349,107
Windham	\$ 4,279	\$ -	\$ 7,865	\$ 17,581	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,220	\$ 35,945	\$ 13,314	\$ -	\$ 49,259
Leland & Gray UHS *	\$ 94,147	\$ 17,787	\$ 49,155	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 411,249	\$ 126,066	\$ 698,404	\$ 960,416	\$ 21,609	\$ 1,680,429
Total Expense Allocation	\$ 310,258	\$ 77,501	\$ 171,058	\$ 531,347	\$ 411,249	\$ 411,249	\$ 331,072	\$ 1,832,485	\$ 3,011,001	\$ 100,841	\$ 4,944,327
Avg Cost per Student	\$ 3,486	\$ 22,161	\$ 11,081	\$ 3,526	\$ 5,171						\$ 24,477
Total Service Plan Count	202										

\* This budget does not include IDEAB Revenue and Expense

# Proposed FY19 Early Essential Education Budget

## FY 19 Proposed Early Essential Education Budget

	FY 17 Budget	FY 17 Actual	FY 18 Approved Budget	FY19 Budget	\$\$ Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>						
EEE Block Grant	\$ -		\$ 69,682	\$ 69,682	\$ -	0%
IDEAB EEE ages 3-6	\$ -		\$ 4,068	\$ 4,401	\$ 333	8%
IDEAB ages 3-22	\$ -		\$ 12,852	\$ 18,594	\$ 5,742	45%
ASSESSMENTS					\$ -	
Dover	\$ 9,632	\$ 9,632	\$ -	\$ 783	\$ 783	0%
Jamaica	\$ 6,452	\$ 6,452	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Marlboro	\$ 8,229	\$ 8,229	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
NewBrook	\$ 14,214	\$ 14,214	\$ -	\$ 15,584	\$ 15,584	0%
Stratton	\$ 1,122	\$ 1,122	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Townshend	\$ 7,762	\$ 7,762	\$ -	\$ 56,565	\$ 56,565	0%
Wardsboro	\$ 5,424	\$ 5,424	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Windham	\$ 1,777	\$ 1,777	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
	\$ 54,612	\$ 54,612	\$ 86,602	\$ 165,609	\$ 79,007	91%
<b>Expenses</b>						
EEE Teacher Salary	\$ 24,406	\$ 27,416	\$ 54,566	\$ 50,154	\$ (4,412)	-8%
EEE Salary/Benefit Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,364	\$ -	\$ (1,364)	-100%
EEE Health	\$ 5,504	\$ 4,636	\$ 7,592	\$ 14,403	\$ 6,811	90%
EEE Dental	\$ -	\$ 233	\$ 382	\$ 374	\$ (8)	-2%
EEE FICA	\$ 2,550	\$ 2,018	\$ 4,279	\$ 3,837	\$ (442)	-10%
EEE Life/Disability Ins	\$ 118	\$ 94	\$ 213	\$ 191	\$ (22)	-10%
EEE Workers Comp	\$ 333	\$ 295	\$ 559	\$ 502	\$ (57)	-10%
EEE Unemployment	\$ 628	\$ 488	\$ 576	\$ 692	\$ 116	20%
EEE Purchased Service	\$ 5,000	\$ 428	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000	\$ (500)	-20%
EEE Teacher Professional Dev	\$ 1,200	\$ 701	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,550	\$ 350	29%
EEE- Office/Therapy Room Rent	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 720	\$ (180)	-20%
EEE Travel	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,968	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	33%
EEE Supplies	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,276	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,300	\$ (200)	-13%
EEE Equipment	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,185	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,000	\$ (200)	-17%
<b>Subtotal of EEE Program</b>	\$ 46,339	\$ 41,638	\$ 78,331	\$ 78,723	\$ 392	0.5%
EEE OT Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,271	\$ 7,672	\$ (599)	-7%
EEE OT Health Benefits	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 791	\$ 791	0%
EEE OTDental Benefits	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 69	\$ 69	0%
EEE OTFica	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 587	\$ 587	0%
EEE OT Life / Disability Ins	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 29	\$ 29	0%
EEE OTRetirement	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 422	\$ 422	0%
<b>Subtotal of EEE OT</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,271	\$ 9,570	\$ 1,299	16%
EEE PT Salary	\$ -	\$ 876		\$ 4,552	\$ 4,552	0%
EEE PTFICA	\$ -	\$ 67		\$ 348	\$ 348	0%
EEE PT Services-Life/Disability Ins	\$ -	\$ 2		\$ 17	\$ 17	0%
EEE PTRetirement	\$ -	\$ 44		\$ 250	\$ 250	0%
EEE PT services unemployment	\$ -	\$ 18		\$ -	\$ -	0%
<b>Subtotal of EEE PT</b>	\$ -	\$ 1,007	\$ -	\$ 5,167	\$ 5,167	0%

# Proposed FY19 Early Essential Education Budget (cont'd)

	FY 17 Budget	FY 17 Actual	FY 18 Approved Budget	FY19 Budget	\$\$ Variance	% Variance
Dover Spec Ed EEE Transportation	-	3,953.81	\$0.00	\$783.00	\$783.00	0%
<b>Subtotal of EEE Dover</b>	-	<b>3,953.81</b>	-	<b>783</b>	<b>783.00</b>	-
Special Ed EEE Newbrook	-	2,206.43	\$0.00	7,609	\$7,609.14	0%
Special Ed EEE Newbrook	-	98.95	\$0.00	582	\$582.10	0%
Special Ed EEE Newbrook	-	51.74	\$0.00	346	\$346.00	0%
Special Ed EEE Newbrook	-	1,261.31			\$0.00	0%
Special Ed EEE Newbrook	-		\$0.00	7,047	\$7,047.00	0%
<b>Subtotal of EEE NewBrook</b>	-	<b>3,618.43</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>15,584</b>	<b>\$15,584.24</b>	<b>0%</b>
Special Education Townshend Tuition	-	-	\$0.00	40,482	\$40,482.00	0%
Special Education Townshend Transport Salary	-	-	\$0.00	6,480	\$6,480.00	0%
Special Education Townshend	-	-	\$0.00	720	\$720.00	0%
Special Education Townshend	-	-	\$0.00	551	\$550.80	0%
Special Education Townshend	-	-	\$0.00	692	\$692.00	0%
Special Education Townshend	-	-	\$0.00	7,640	\$7,640.00	0%
<b>Subtotal of EEE Townshend</b>	-	-	-	<b>56,565</b>	<b>\$6,564.80</b>	-
Total Expense	\$ 46,339	\$ 46,263	\$ 86,602	\$ 165,609	\$ 79,007	91%
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 8,273	\$ 8,349	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

# WCSU Proposed FY19 Assessment

	FY 18	FY 19	FY 19	% of Assessment	W/O Business
	ADM as of 11/16/16	ADM as of 11/9/17	Excluding DOV+MES		Excluding DOV+MES
Dover	102	93	0	11%	0%
Jamaica	64	60	60	7%	9%
Marlboro	90	83	0	10%	0%
NewBrook	152	157	157	19%	23%
Stratton School District	12	18	18	2%	3%
Townshend	82	84	84	10%	13%
Wardsboro	53	44	44	5%	7%
Windham School District	19	22	22	3%	3%
LGUHS School District	311	284	284	34%	42%
	885	845.00	669.00	100%	100%

	FY 18	FY 19	\$\$ Variance	% Variance
Dover	\$ 85,518	\$ 82,453	(3,065)	-3.58%
Jamaica	\$ 61,304	\$ 60,620	(684)	-1.12%
Marlboro	\$ 75,457	\$ 73,587	(1,870)	-2.48%
NewBrook	\$ 145,596	\$ 158,623	13,027	8.95%
Stratton School District	\$ 11,494	\$ 18,186	6,692	58.22%
Townshend	\$ 78,545	\$ 84,868	6,323	8.05%
Wardsboro	\$ 50,767	\$ 44,455	(6,312)	-12.43%
Windham School District	\$ 18,199	\$ 22,227	4,028	22.14%
LGUHS School District	\$ 345,644	\$ 334,683	(10,961)	-3.17%
	\$ 872,524	\$ 879,703	\$ 7,179	

\$ 6,500 Int/Erate  
\$ 886,203 Total obligation

\$ 886,203

(6,500) Interest

(82,786) Payroll cost

(47,747) Direct LGUHS

749,170 Dover/Marlboro Basis

73,587 Marlboro Assessment

82,453 Dover Assessment

593,130

\$ 82,786 Payroll cost

675,916 All other district cost basis

\$ 47,747 Direct LGUHS added to LGUHS only

	FY 18	FY 19	\$ Var	%Var
Salary	\$ 539,456	\$ 534,308	\$ (5,148)	-0.95%
Health/Denta	\$ 129,606	\$ 136,290	\$ 6,684	5.16%
Payroll Bene	\$ 77,164	\$ 72,415	\$ (4,749)	-6.15%
GOE*	\$ 133,300	\$ 143,990	\$ 10,690	8.02%
	\$ 879,526	\$ 887,003	\$ 7,477	0.85%

\*General Operating Expenses

# NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report

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## NewBrook Elementary Principal's Report

December 31, 2017

### Mission

*The mission of NewBrook Elementary School, in partnership with families and the community, is to provide a safe, inclusive and supportive school environment. We strive to encourage our students to grow academically, socially and emotionally while challenging each of them to reach their potential as community members. It is essential for NewBrook Elementary School to continually offer a diverse range of learning opportunities which utilize highly effective and consistent teaching practices and curriculum to assist our students in becoming reflective lifelong learners.*

### Introduction

I have been the principal at NewBrook Elementary School for the past three-and-a-half school years. I love working at NewBrook; our students are thoughtful, kind and fun and their families are supportive and involved in their school life. The members of the NewBrook staff work together with purpose. They enjoy our students and make decisions with the children in mind. I am very thankful for the support and feedback that the school staff have offered me and for the relationships that they form and maintain with one another and with the children and families that we together serve. 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 along the beautiful West River.

### Staffing, Professional Development and Curriculum

We have been very fortunate and have made some excellent **new hires** this year, as follows:

Mr. "Chef Chris" Parker – Food Service Coordinator  
Mr. Ben James – Physical Education (.4 FTE)  
Ms. Marisa Pisani – L'AFTER Coordinator  
Ms. Becca LaPointe – School Nurse (.45 FTE)  
Ms. Trish Clark – Special Education Para-Educator  
Mr. Ryan Cutting – Academic Support Teacher  
Ms. Kelsey Taddei – Academic Support Teacher (.6 FTE)  
Ms. Sarah Shine – Speech and Language Pathologist

We are very proud of our 2017-18 **master schedule**, which we have been refining over the past two school years. Our schedule includes **skills blocks** for all grade levels. We have dedicated these times to intervention and enrichment in which students work together in small groups to serve their individual needs. We utilize a "all hands on deck" approach, which includes the classroom teachers, our special education staff and our instructional support teachers. Vertical teams were created in order to allow staff to best serve our students in our skills blocks, which are clustered in grade bands: K-1, 2, 3-4 and 5-6. The staff have weekly **common planning time**, which is set aside to look at student assessment data and plan for appropriate enrichment and intervention.

Over the past three years, we have been using **Foundations** in our K-3 classrooms. It is a phonics, spelling, and handwriting program developed for universal use in K-3 classrooms. This year, Ms. Jen McKusick, our WCSU Curriculum Coordinator, planned for our collaboration with the WSESU Reading Specialist, Mr. Brian Buettner. In the fall of 2017, Mr. Buettner led our K-3 teachers, our instructional support teachers and our Special Educators in a **Foundations refresher**. He then followed up with **classroom observations** and **debriefing discussions**. These opportunities have been very helpful for all of us.

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

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Our grades 4-6 teachers have implemented the **Megawords** program to teach decoding, spelling and comprehension of multisyllabic words.

Last Spring, our NewBrook Leadership Team recommended the use of the **Engage NY** curriculum throughout our school. So, we planned two days of Engage NY training/guided planning time in late June and have followed up during our faculty meetings to share insights, activities and to answer questions. Other schools throughout the WCSU have followed suit.

Also during the 2017-18 school year, Ms. Jen McKusick planned ongoing **WCSU-wide mathematics trainings** with Lori Silvas and Sandy Stanhope of Cornerstone Mathematics. These trainings dovetail nicely with our Engage NY implementation.

Throughout all of the WCSU schools, we implemented a **Local Common Assessment Program**, which includes SBAC, AIMSWeb Plus, Dibels and TWS-5 spelling assessment on the elementary level. This common data collection will be essential to planning our WCSU-wide professional development moving forward.

The WCSU is taking advantage of the **Integrated Field Review**, sponsored by the Agency of Education. The IFR consists of teams of administrators, teachers and agency staffers who visit schools, interview families, staff and students and then offer specific feedback with school improvement in mind. This experience has been both encouraging and enlightening.

## 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, **G-Mail** 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.

Our use of the **Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium** (SBAC) web-based assessment is one component of our **Local Common Assessment Plan**. 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. Along with these nationally-normed assessments, NewBrook 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.

We are in the process of updating our phone system to be **9-1-1 compliant**. This installation is supported through a grant and we expect to have the update completed by the end of January, 2018.

## 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. We utilize the **Positive Behavior Intervention and Support** (PBIS) model, which is encouraged by the Vermont Agency of Education. 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 proactive decision-making. We also teach our students the specifics of Vermont's progressive Bullying, Hazing & Harassment law in our classrooms every fall.

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

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Our **school-wide expectations** are clear: *We are safe. We are engaged. We are respectful.* By focusing upon these three simple guiding principles, we all measure our behaviors and attitudes accordingly. At NewBrook, we regularly acknowledge students and teachers for their accomplishments, while providing varied opportunities for parents, families and community members to take part in our programming on a regular basis. Before the 2017-18 school year began, we formed a **Tier II PBIS team**. They meet weekly to look at school-wide behavioral data and then have a menu of interventions they developed to work with students who are struggling.

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. *Falcon Awards* are mailed home in recognition of students for their acts of kindness or their academic accomplishments. During our All-School Sings, 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. I give the *Principal's Award* as well, in acknowledgement of student leadership and service to school. 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, on our website and on our Facebook page.

We plan our eight week **Winter Sports Program** on Wednesdays beginning January 10, 2018. 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!

Our Parent/Teacher Organization partially funded a school residency in September of 2017 with Mr. Troy Wonderle, from Circus Smirkus. His week-long school program, which he calls **Wunderle's Big Top Adventures**, culminated with a performance featuring our students and the new skills that they had learned. We had a blast!

In January, we are planning our annual **Diversity Week**, our school-wide theme week intended to encourage our students to consider a wide range of issues surrounding human difference in our country. Our PTO is partially funding a visit from Plymouth State University students during Diversity Week. Their **Tiger Program** now includes a new anti-bullying performance called *I've Got Your Back*. We will have many small-group sessions, run by school staff and guests. Chef Chris is planning to widen our palates with foods from around the world. As we have for the past two years, Diversity Week will culminate with a **student drumming performance** led by a resident musician and educator, Mr. Todd Roach.

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. Thanks to Ms. VanPamelen for all of her efforts to make this wonderful experience happen for our students.

Our **Spelling Bee Team** always participates effectively and competitively in the WCSU spelling bee!

A Twenty-First Century Grant funds the majority of our after school program, **L'AFTER**, 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. **L'AFTER** activities are taught by community members and school staff.

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

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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.

## Community

Our Farm to School Committee planned our third annual **Community Farm and Field Day**. Our students learned about the origins of our food, composting, vermiculture, and the history of food preservation. They tasted a wide variety of foods, created art projects and played field games. 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 two years ago. 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. The people of Brookline and Newfane are excellent cooks!

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 our students' art work.

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

## 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

In February of 2016, we began heating our building with 23 air-to-air heat pump units. These new units also took the edge off of the humid summer air in June.

### Solar Project

After many delays that were beyond our control, Encore Renewable Energy is in the process of installing a solar array behind the tree line on NewBrook property. We will benefit from a \$26,000 annual lease payment, beginning in November of 2017. Upon completion, we will receive a 15% reduction in the market price of our electric as well.

## Kitchen Improvements and Offering

During the summer of 2017, we worked within our budget and capital savings to make **improvements to the school kitchen**. Our goal was to enable us to purchase and process more local foods and to further reduce our non-recyclable waste. Cotton Design, a Newfane company, donated their time to work with us to create a phased plan to expand and improve our kitchen. We are also leasing a small, commercial dishwasher which allows us to use stainless cutlery, further reducing our waste.

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

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For the fourth year in a row we were awarded a **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program USDA Grant** for the 2017-2018 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.

Congratulations to Ms. Bullock, Ms. Sperling, Mr. "Chef Chris" Parker and Ms. "Nurse Becca" LaPointe and our Farm to School Committee. They applied for the **2018 Vermont Farm to School and Child Nutrition Grant** and we were recently informed that we GOT IT! The Agency of Education reports that the applications submitted this year were the most competitive to date! We will receive \$15,000 in funds to invest in further developing and sustaining our Farm to School program. In addition to the funding, the AOE will also provide us with comprehensive coaching, technical assistance and professional development, to make sure that our investments will provide the greatest long-term impact possible.

## Budget Request

The Administration requests **\$2,267,309 for FY19** to continue to create a school experience for every NewBrook student that will result in their academic, social and emotional progress. The request would provide us with the ability to meet the needs of each child while caring for the investments that have been made in the past.

## Closing Statement

Again, I would like to thank the entire NewBrook community for all of the support I have received as your Principal. We are all quite proud of our smooth opening to the 2017-18 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 be appropriately staffed in order to deliver our balanced, skill-based curriculum while supporting the essential and enriching initiatives already in place.

Please visit our website ([newbrookschoool.org](http://newbrookschoool.org)) or our Facebook page for regular updates, event notices and news items. If you can, please join us for one of our monthly All-School Sings to get a flavor for the great things that NewBrook has to offer. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me to set up an appointment if you have any questions or concerns 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



 Like us on FaceBook for updates!

[www.newbrookschoool.org](http://www.newbrookschoool.org)

# 2019 Proposed Brookline School Budget

Board Approved 12-13-2017

## FY 19 Proposed Brookline Budget

Revenue	FY 17 Budget	FY 17 Actual (unaudited)	FY 18 Budget	FY 19 Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
Interest Income	\$ 35	\$ 244	\$ -	\$ 29	\$ (4.00)	-12%
Lease Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,847	\$ 7,847.00	
Transfer from NewBrook	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Sub Grant CFP	\$ 10,419	\$ -	\$ 16,673	\$ -	\$ (16,673.00)	-100%
Sub Grant Medicaid	\$ 4,587	\$ 4,270	\$ 6,846	\$ 6,819	\$ (27.00)	0%
General State Aid	\$ 668,393	\$ 668,392	\$ 664,377	\$ 612,170	\$ (52,206.50)	-8%
Transportation	\$ 10,008	\$ 12,086	\$ 9,339	\$ 8,490	\$ (849.00)	-9%
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
<b>Subtotal of Element: [Prog] 100 - General Instruction</b>	<b>\$ 693,442</b>	<b>\$ 684,992</b>	<b>\$ 697,268</b>	<b>\$ 635,355</b>	<b>\$ (61,913)</b>	<b>-8.9%</b>
Special Ed Intensive Aid	\$ 65,392	\$ 105,017	\$ 5,670	\$ 3,420	\$ (2,250.00)	-40%
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Subtotal of Element: [Prog] 211 - Special Education</b>	<b>\$ 65,392</b>	<b>\$ 105,017</b>	<b>\$ 5,670</b>	<b>\$ 3,420</b>	<b>\$ (2,250)</b>	<b>-40%</b>
Local Food Sales	\$ 4,757	\$ -	\$ 3,739	\$ 3,411	\$ (328.00)	0.00
Sub Grant Federal Food Program	\$ 16,370	\$ 15,934	\$ 11,647	\$ 11,592	\$ (55.00)	0.00
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Subtotal of Element: [Prog] 910 - Food Services</b>	<b>\$ 21,127</b>	<b>\$ 15,934</b>	<b>\$ 15,386</b>	<b>\$ 15,003</b>	<b>\$ (383)</b>	<b>-2%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 779,961</b>	<b>\$ 805,943</b>	<b>\$ 718,324</b>	<b>\$ 653,778</b>	<b>\$ (64,546)</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>

Expenses	FY 17 Budget	FY 17 Actual (unaudited)	FY 18 Budget	FY 19 Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
Assessment NewBrook			\$ -		\$ -	
Transfer to Newbrook	\$ 779,761	\$ 818,749	\$ 718,324	\$ 684,210	\$ (34,114)	-4.7%
<b>Subtotal of Element: [Prog] 100 - General Instruction</b>	<b>\$ 779,761</b>	<b>\$ 818,749</b>	<b>\$ 718,324</b>	<b>\$ 684,210</b>	<b>\$ (34,114)</b>	<b>-5%</b>
	<b>\$ 779,761</b>	<b>\$ 818,749</b>	<b>\$ 718,324</b>	<b>\$ 684,210</b>	<b>\$ (34,114)</b>	<b>-5%</b>
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 200	\$ (12,805)	\$ -	\$ (30,432)	\$ (30,432)	
Applied Fund Balance				\$ 30,432		
FY 17 Ending Fund Balance (unaudited)		\$ 95,334		\$ -		
Fund Balance Unaudited		\$ 82,528		\$ 52,096		

# Brookline School District Balance Sheet

## Balance Sheet Report

Cycle: FY17; Fund Class: <All>; Fund Columns: <All Funds>; Account Code Expression: ([Fund] >= '01') ;  
Balance Date: 6/30/2017; Detail: No

Description	1	2	Total
0101 - Cash	\$ 23,798.33	\$ -	\$ 23,798.33
0105 - Srf Fund Cash Account	\$ -	\$ 483.74	\$ 483.74
0140 - Receivable Governmental	\$ 115,208.79	\$ -	\$ 115,208.79
<b>Subtotal of Account Group: Assets</b>	<b>\$ 139,007.12</b>	<b>\$ 483.74</b>	<b>\$ 139,490.86</b>
0421 - AP Liability	\$ 56,478.67	\$ -	\$ 56,478.67
<b>Subtotal of Account Type: Liability</b>	<b>\$ 56,478.67</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 56,478.67</b>
0703 - Srf Fund Ellison	\$ -	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00
0704 - Srf Fund Playground Maint	\$ -	\$ 379.65	\$ 379.65
0706 - Srf Fund Class Account	\$ -	\$ 14.09	\$ 14.09
0770 - Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$ 95,333.65	\$ -	\$ 95,333.65
Net Increase/Decrease	\$ (12,805.20)	\$ -	\$ (12,805.20)
<b>Subtotal of Account Type: Fund Balance/Retained Earnings</b>	<b>\$ 82,528.45</b>	<b>\$ 483.74</b>	<b>\$ 83,012.19</b>
<b>Subtotal of Account Group: Liabilities/Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 139,007.12</b>	<b>\$ 483.74</b>	<b>\$ 139,490.86</b>

# Three Prior Years Comparison

PRELIMINARY

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by AOE

ESTIMATES  
ONLY

District: <b>Brookline</b> County: <b>Windham</b>		<b>T033</b> <b>Windham Central</b>		Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$9,842 of spending per equalized pupil
				<b>9,842</b>	<b>1.00</b>
				<b>11,862</b>	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income
<b>Expenditures</b>		<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>FY2019</b>
1.	<b>Budget</b> (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$765,777	\$779,961	\$718,324	\$684,210
2.	plus: Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
3.	minus: Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-
4.	<b>Locally adopted or warned budget</b>	<b>\$765,777</b>	<b>\$779,961</b>	<b>\$718,324</b>	<b>\$684,210</b>
5.	plus: Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-
6.	plus: Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-
7.	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$765,777</b>	<b>\$779,961</b>	<b>\$718,324</b>	<b>\$684,210</b>
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
<b>Revenues</b>					
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$114,744	\$111,568	\$53,947	\$72,040
11.	plus: Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-
12.	minus: All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-
13.	<b>Offsetting revenues</b>	<b>\$114,744</b>	<b>\$111,568</b>	<b>\$53,947</b>	<b>\$72,040</b>
14.	<b>Education Spending</b>	<b>\$651,033</b>	<b>\$668,393</b>	<b>\$664,377</b>	<b>\$612,170</b>
15.	Equalized Pupils	47.18	46.02	43.90	40.45
16.	<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil</b>	<b>\$13,798.92</b>	<b>\$14,523.97</b>	<b>\$15,133.87</b>	<b>\$15,133.99</b>
17.	minus: Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	-	-	-	-
18.	minus: Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
19.	minus: Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
20.	minus: Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
21.	minus: Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
22.	minus: Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
23.	minus: Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
24.	minus: Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
25.	Excess spending threshold	threshold = \$17,103 \$17,103.00	Allowable growth \$14,095.60	threshold = \$17,385 \$17,386.00	threshold = \$17,618 \$17,616.00
26.	plus: Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	-
27.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$13,799	\$14,524	\$15,134	\$15,133.99
28.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	145.881% based on \$9.285	149.716% based on \$9.701	148.955% based on yield \$10.160	153.769% based on yield \$9.842
<b>Prorating the local tax rate</b>					
29.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [\$15,133.99 ÷ (\$9,842.00 / \$1.000)]	\$1.4442 based on \$0.99	\$1.4972 based on \$1.00	\$1.4896 based on \$1.00	\$1.5377 based on \$1.00
30.	Percent of Brookline equalized pupils not in a union school district	60.08%	60.24%	56.40%	50.63%
31.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (50.63% x \$1.54)	\$0.8677	\$0.9019	\$0.8401	\$0.7785
32.	<b>Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)</b>	104.19%	98.52%	94.17%	95.18%
33.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.7785 / 95.18%)	\$0.8328 based on \$0.99	\$0.9154 based on \$1.00	\$0.8921 based on \$1.00	\$0.8179 based on \$1.00
<p>If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a <b>PARTIAL</b> homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.</p>					
		2.63% based on 1.80%	2.67% based on 2.00%	2.52% based on 2.00%	2.55% based on 2.00%
34.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$15,133.99 ÷ \$11,862) x 2.00%]				
35.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (50.63% x 2.55%)	1.58% based on 1.80%	1.61% based on 2.00%	1.42% based on 2.00%	1.29% based on 0.60%
36.	Percent of equalized pupils at Leland And Gray UHSD #34	39.92%	39.76%	43.60%	49.37%
37.		-	-	-	-
<p>- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,842 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,862 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.629. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.</p> <p>- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.</p> <p>- The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.</p>					

# Three Prior Years Comparison (cont'd)

PRELIMINARY

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by AOE

ESTIMATES  
ONLY

District: <b>Leland &amp; Gray UHSD</b> County: <b>Windham</b>		<b>U034</b> <b>Windham Central</b>		Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$9,842 of spending per equalized pupil	
				<b>9,842</b>	<b>1.00</b>	
				<b>11,862</b>	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income	
<b>Expenditures</b>		<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>FY2019</b>	
1.	<b>Adopted or warned union district budget</b> (including special programs and full technical center expenditures)	\$7,037,337	\$7,120,218	\$6,307,157	\$6,268,782	1.
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at union district meeting	+	-	-	-	2.
3.	<b>Adopted or warned union district budget plus articles</b>	<b>\$7,037,337</b>	<b>\$7,120,218</b>	<b>\$6,307,157</b>	<b>\$6,268,782</b>	3.
4.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	+	-	-	-	4.
5.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	+	-	-	-	5.
6.	<b>Total Union Budget</b>	<b>\$7,037,337</b>	<b>\$7,120,218</b>	<b>\$6,307,157</b>	<b>\$6,268,782</b>	6.
7.	S.U. assessment (included in union budget) - informational data					7.
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (if included in union expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	8.
<b>Revenues</b>						
9.	Union revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, federal, etc.)	\$1,958,419	\$2,183,162	\$1,129,214	\$1,103,303	9.
10.	<b>Total offsetting union revenues</b>	<b>\$1,958,419</b>	<b>\$2,183,162</b>	<b>\$1,129,214</b>	<b>\$1,103,303</b>	10.
<b>Education Spending</b>		<b>\$5,078,918</b>	<b>\$4,937,056</b>	<b>\$5,177,943</b>	<b>\$5,165,479</b>	11.
12.	Leland & Gray UHSD equalized pupils	309.37	296.59	277.43	267.41	12.
<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil</b>		<b>\$16,416.97</b>	<b>\$16,646.06</b>	<b>\$18,663.96</b>	<b>\$19,316.70</b>	13.
14.	minus Less net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	-\$752.97	-\$773.95	-\$724.40	-\$724.00	14.
15.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per equpup)	-\$14.75	-\$22.97	-\$12.86	-\$13.00	15.
16.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per equpup)	-	-	-	-	16.
17.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per equpup)	-	-	-	-	17.
18.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per equpup)	-	-	-	-	18.
19.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per equpup)	-	-	-	-	19.
20.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per equpup)	-	-	-	-	20.
21.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per equpup)	-	-	-	-	21.
22.	Excess spending threshold	threshold = \$17,103	Allowable growth	threshold = \$17,386	threshold = \$17,816	22.
23.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	+\$17,103.00	+\$16,611.02	+\$17,386.00	+\$17,816.00	23.
24.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$16,417	\$16,646	\$19,205	\$20,080.14	24.
25.	Union spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	173.559%	171.591%	189.022%	204.025%	25.
		based on \$9,285	based on \$9,701	based on yield \$10,160	based on yield \$10,076	
26.	Anticipated equalized union homestead tax rate to be prorated [\$20,080.14 ÷ (\$9,842.00 / \$1,000)]	\$1.7182	\$1.7159	\$1.8902	\$2.0402	26.
		based on \$0.98	based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00	
<b>Prorated homestead union tax rates for members of Leland &amp; Gray UHSD</b>		<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>FY2019</b>	
T033	Brookline	0.6859	0.6822	0.8241	1.0072	49.37%
T104	Jamaica	0.8460	0.9065	0.9245	0.9446	46.30%
T137	Newfane	0.9618	0.9535	1.0041	1.0130	49.65%
T208	Townshend	0.9218	0.9110	0.9999	1.0619	52.05%
T246	Windham	0.8536	0.7073	0.7007	0.7614	37.32%
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
27.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated from Leland & Gray UHSD [(20,080.14 ÷ \$11,862) x 2.00%]	3.12%	3.06%	3.20%	3.39%	27.
		based on 1.60%	based on 2.00%	based on 2.00%	based on 2.00%	
<b>Prorated union income cap percentage for members of Leland &amp; Gray UHSD</b>		<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>FY2019</b>	
T033	Brookline	1.25%	1.22%	1.40%	1.67%	49.37%
T104	Jamaica	1.54%	1.62%	1.57%	1.57%	46.30%
T137	Newfane	1.75%	1.70%	1.70%	1.68%	49.65%
T208	Townshend	1.67%	1.62%	1.69%	1.76%	52.05%
T246	Windham	1.55%	1.26%	1.19%	1.27%	37.32%
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,842 for every \$100 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,862 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1,629. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.  
- 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%.

# Brookline School Board Report

**H**ello to all our residents from the Brookline School Board and Brookline-Newfane Joint Contract Board! 2017 was a very busy year for us! Highlights follow.

## School Board Members - Introduction

We currently have three Brookline School Board members.

**Sherry Greene** - I am the "Chair" of our board and in the last year of my three-year term. I previously filled a one-year incomplete term – so have spent four years total on the School Board. I also served as our town's representative on the Act 46 committee through the beginning of the analysis until the final document was submitted and approved by the state. During 2016, I was the vice chair of our Brookline board. I was elected chair in 2017 and also vice chair in 2017 of the Brookline-Newfane Joint Contract Board. I am an "empty nester." My background is 40 years in Corporate Insurance America. I will not be running for re-election in 2018.

**Alecia O'Donnell** – Alecia is the vice chair of our board and has been an instrumental part of the Brookline School Board since 2012. There's little that goes on in Brookline that Alecia is not aware of. She provides perspective and background information to both Brookline and Newfane on past school items and issues on what happened when and why. Alecia has two young boys. Alecia is also our new "Super Board" town representative for the Act 46 new district. She listens – so you need to talk with her!

**Erin Zargo Shute** – Erin was elected to the Brookline board in 2017 to a new two-year term. Erin is the secretary of our board. She has two young children at NewBrook Elementary School. Erin suffered a serious illness in the fall of 2017 and has been inactive in board affairs since then. While she is recovering, the remainder of her term will probably need to be filled by someone at Town Meeting until the 7/1/2019 "Super Board" is effective. Transitional issues are important. **Please step up, folks especially those with schoolchildren! We need your voices!!!!**

## Act 46

First and foremost, Brookline along with Newfane, Townshend, and Jamaica passed Act 46! Our residents voted overwhelmingly to approve the state's "recommendation" (tongue in cheek!) to consolidate school districts. Brookline worked diligently with a special group of representatives from the other towns (plus Windham and Wardsboro) in late 2016 to finalize a recommendation which was approved at the state level. We will now be the new West River

Educational District as of 7/1/2019. Windham and Wardsboro opted out of our new district. We will have a new "Super Board" consisting of representatives from each town in the new district on 7/1/19. The new "Super Board" is already meeting to address transitional issues and communications. Alecia O'Donnell is Brookline's "Super Board" member. There are still two open "at large" seats available among the four towns. If you're interested, you need to submit a petition with 50 signatures from any of the four towns for a vote. Guy Tanza has the petition forms. It would be great if we could secure another board position – so go for it!!

Meanwhile, our existing Brookline-Newfane Joint Contract Board will work hand in hand with Alecia to insure that transitional issues are handled expeditiously and smoothly during the transitional period.

## Our NewBrook Elementary School & Our Brookline Students

We have a great school, an exceptional Principal in Scotty Tabachnick, wonderful teachers, and an engaged student population. Our new HVAC system keeps the building warm when it needs to be and cool when the temperature rises. Our new solar system components have been delivered and will be installed within the next few months. We have already received our first solar payment on a \$26,000 annual lease. Our kitchen is being refurbished. We have a new Chef who is creative and producing great food for the kids – and they love it! Additional teaching staff has been hired to manage the increase in district Special Education needs.

Our students at NewBrook Elementary School are learning about counting, numbers, math, science, social skills, geography, technology, spelling, history, plants, animals, and how to safely interact with one another. We have a great after school program (L'AFTER). We have a Speech and Language pathologist. We have school incentives, celebrations, Harvest dinners, and art displays. 40 Brookline students attend NewBrook Elementary School and participate to the fullest extent possible. We are so fortunate to have such a progressive school in our community. Our children love their school. Please stop in for a visit and see it firsthand!

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Greene  
Chair, Brookline School Board  
Vice Chair, Brookline-Newfane Joint Contract Board

# Dedication

The 2017 Town Report is dedicated to Sally Cutts as she recovers from her injuries received escaping from her home which caught fire on December 17, 2017. It is difficult to put into words the sorrow that is felt by her Brookline neighbors and friends for Sally as she begins to heal her wounds and deal with the loss of her beloved daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Bruce.

It is during these tragic times that our community draws together. It was not surprising to soon hear of several fundraising efforts being planned to help support Sally and her family as she moves forward -- first healing her body and then healing the wounds created in her heart when Liz and Bruce passed away from injuries sustained in the fire.

Firefighters from eight different companies as well as members of Rescue, Inc. converged on the Papoose Lane homestead that cold Sunday morning. They were too late to save Liz and the home, but members of the firefighting community have put forth a tremendous effort to support Sally with fundraising plans. Neighbors, friends, local artists, restaurants and fellow citizens of Brookline have rallied together

in many ways to provide compassionate, financial assistance and comfort during this difficult time.

Sally and Bruce are well respected members of our town; always ready to help others in physical and spiritual ways. This devoted couple -- truly best friends and soulmates for more than their married 42 years -- raised their family with love and a set of values that has been passed down to their many grandchildren. Unfortunately their youngest granddaughter, Alivia Grace, born just five months earlier this year, will never get to know her Aunt Liz or Grandfather Bruce except through stories she shall hear from her parents and cousins. This was a great loss to the Cutts family and to the town of Brookline.

As we move forward in 2018, the members of the Selectboard wish that the generosity of our community continues to support Sally and her family. We all need to hold our loved ones closer than ever before. We send our condolences and offer our help.

D Maggio  
Selectboard Chair



# Notes

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# Notes



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