

Please bring this report with you to

Town Meeting
Monday, February 28, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.
at the Community House

Note: The town portion will be first this year, followed by the school portion.

Pre-Town Meeting Social

Arrive at the Community House any time after 6:30 p.m. for dessert & coffee
and a chance to meet your neighbors prior to the meeting.
Call Barry King at 388-4082 for more information.

Town Meeting Child Care

At the Ripton Elementary School from 6:30 until the meeting ends.
Call the school at 388-2208 for more information.

Vote for town officers and other ballot items

Election Day
Tuesday, March 1, 2011 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
at the town office.

Other dates to remember:

If you want to participate at town meeting and vote on election day
and you are not already on the voter checklist,
register to vote by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 23.

If you want to vote absentee,
request an absentee ballot by 6:00 p.m. Monday, February 28.

See the warning for town meeting and a sample ballot later in this report.

TOWN CALENDAR 2011

FEBRUARY

5 Coffee House
 5 & 19 Recycling
 7 School Board
 8 Planning Commission
 12 Fire & First Response
 14 & 28 Selectboard
28 TOWN MEETING

MARCH

1 ELECTION DAY
 5 Coffee House
 5 & 19 Recycling
 7 School Board
 8 Planning Commission
 12 Fire & First Response
 14 & 28 Selectboard

APRIL

2 Coffee House
 2 & 16 Recycling
 4 School Board
 9 Fire & First Response
 11 & 25 Selectboard
 12 Planning Commission

MAY

2 School Board
 7 Coffee House
7 GREEN UP DAY
 7 & 21 Recycling
 9 & 23 Selectboard
 10 Planning Commission
 14 Fire & First Response

JUNE

4 Coffee House
 4 & 18 Recycling
 6 School Board
 11 Fire & First Response
 13 & 27 Selectboard
 14 Planning Commission

JULY

2 Coffee House
 2 & 16 Recycling
 4 School Board
 9 Fire & First Response
 11 & 25 Selectboard
 12 Planning Commission
30 TOWN PICNIC at Fire Station

AUGUST

1 School Board
 6 & 20 Recycling
 8 & 22 Selectboard
 9 Planning Commission
 13 Fire & First Response

SEPTEMBER

1 TAXES FIRST PAYMENT DUE
 3 Coffee House
 3 & 17 Recycling
 5 School Board
 10 Fire & First Response
 12 & 26 Selectboard
 13 Planning Commission

OCTOBER

1 Coffee House
 1 & 15 Recycling
 3 School Board
 8 Fire & First Response
9 RIPTON RIDGE RUN
 10 & 24 Selectboard
 11 Planning Commission

NOVEMBER

3 TAXES FINAL PAYMENT DUE
4 TAXES DELINQUENT
 5 Coffee House
 5 & 19 Recycling
 7 School Board
 8 Planning Commission
 12 Fire & First Response
 14 & 28 Selectboard

DECEMBER

3 Coffee House
 3 & 17 Recycling
 5 School Board
 10 Fire & First Response
 12 & 26 Selectboard
 13 Planning Commission

JANUARY 2012

2 School Board
 7 Coffee House
 7 & 21 Recycling
 9 & 23 Selectboard
 10 Planning Commission
 14 Fire & First Response

FEBRUARY

4 Coffee House
 4 & 18 Recycling
 6 School Board
 11 Fire & First Response
 13 & 27 Selectboard
 14 Planning Commission

Meeting dates are according to established regular schedules and are subject to change. Check the town website at www.riptonvt.org for the most recent meeting schedule for all boards and commissions, and for any special meetings or events that may come up during the year.

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In Appreciation ~ Hilda Barnard Billings

Hilda Billings is a genuine native of Ripton, verified by her nearly 91 year history with the town. She was born on May 26th, 1920 in the Chipman House to Nina Bean and James Barnard. She remembers the covered bridge over the Middlebury River at the west end of town. She also recalls a night in November 1927 after 9 inches of rain when her family had to evacuate across that bridge because their home just below it had water from the river rise above the window sills. Shortly thereafter, the Barnard family moved to Middlebury on Route 7, across from the little red school house, where Hilda attended school. She returned to Ripton as a bride and spent the winter of 1939 with her husband, Malcolm Billings, taking care of Robert Frost's new home, the Homer Noble Farm. Hilda would remain a lifelong friend of Frost, who would visit when he came back to Ripton, and say goodbye when he left for the winter. Hilda became Postmaster in 1955 and served the Ripton community until her retirement in 1982.



Greeting people daily and catching up with their lives was a good occupational match for Hilda's outgoing character. Using her first quality camera, a Kodak Pony 135, Hilda started discovering and documenting the beautiful and unique wildflowers of our mountain

woodlands. Sharing her slides and note cards with neighbors, community groups and school children was as important to Hilda as the enjoyment she had finding them in Ripton's bogs, woods and meadows. Hilda is one of the few people who remember Ripton the way it was, and who can tell us something of our past. Her interest in the history of Ripton was the catalyst for Ripton's historical presentation at Vermont History Expo 2010, and the revitalization of the Ripton Historical Society. We appreciate all that Hilda has shared of herself and the energy that she still brings to our community.



Hilda eventually took a drawing class (at the suggestion from special friend, Claire Wilson) and learned to render her wildflower subjects in pen and ink.



TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 2 to 6 p.m. / Tue, Wed, Thu: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Closed Fridays and state holidays.
 phone: 388-2266 fax: 388-0012 e-mail: townoffice@riptonvt.org website: www.riptonvt.org

MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are open to the public—you are encouraged to attend and participate.

Selectboard: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office
 School Board: 1st Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at the Ripton School
 Ripton Fire & First Response Department: 2nd Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. at the Fire Station
 Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Adjustment/Historic District Commission:
 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office
 Conservation Commission: Times will be posted

DIRECTORY**ALL EMERGENCIES DIAL 911**

(for Middlebury Ambulance, Ripton Fire & First Response, State Police)

Ripton Elementary School	388-2208	Road Problems: Ron Wimett	388-7346
Ripton Town Office/Town Clerk	388-2266	Dog Problems: Chris Smith	388-0337
Fire Station (non-emergency)	388-4506	Zoning Permits: Ed Hanson	453-3785
Burn Permits: Erik Eriksen	388-3629	Cemetery Info: Bonnie Swan	388-6687

Town Boards/Commissions	Name (term expires)	Phone
Selectboard	Laureen Cox, Chair (11) Ronald Wimett (12) Richard Collitt (13)	388-7820
Board Clerk	Debra Karpak	388-6853
Assistant Board Clerk	Peter Karpak	
Ripton Elementary School Directors	Carol Ford, Chair (12) Michael Hussey (11) Willem Jewett (13) Amy McGlashan (12) Connie Trudeau (11)	388-7804
Union School Director	Jerome Shedd (11)	
Zoning Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission, and Historic District Commission	Warren King, Chair (11) Alison Joseph, Vice Chair (12) Jorene Doria, Secretary (11) George Phinney (11) Charles Billings (13)	388-4082
Zoning Board, Alternate Members	Marlene Harrison (13), James Kater (13) Leonard Tiedemann (13), Amy McGlashan (11)	
Board of Listers	Alison Joseph, Chair (11) Erik Eriksen (13) Bruce Malhotra (12)	388-2266

Town Boards/Commissions	Name (term expires)	Phone
Conservation Commission	Warren King, Chair (12)	388-4082
	Frank Wolf, Treasurer (11)	
	Sally Buteau, Becky Purdum (12)	
	Barry King, Jay Harrington, Martha McCaughin (13)	
	Ned Horning, Nola Kevra (11)	
Justices of the Peace	Anza Armstrong (12)	388-3646
	Joyce Dicianna (12)	388-7895
	Richard "Kim" Kimler (12)	388-0083
	Warren King (12)	388-4082
	Jane Ogilvie (12)	388-3567
Town Officers/Appointees		
Town Clerk/Treasurer	Sally Hoyler (13)	388-2266
Assistant Clerks	Alison Joseph, Joyce Henderson	388-2266
Zoning Administrator	Edmund Hanson	453-3785
Road Commissioner	Ronald Wimett	388-7346
Fire and First Response Chief	Erik Eriksen	388-3629
Animal Control Officer	Chris Smith	388-0337
Town Moderator	Joyce Dicianna (11)	388-7895
Delinquent Tax Collector	Kathleen Sullivan (11)	388-3471
Constable	Chris Smith (11)	388-0337
Town Agent	Chris Smith (11)	388-0337
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Willem Jewett (11)	388-0320
Town Grand Juror	Richard "Kim" Kimler (11)	388-0083
Health Officer	Tim Hanson	388-2266
Town Service Officer	Ceredwyn Alexander	388-7850
Emergency Management Coordinator	Erik Eriksen	388-3629
Fire Wardens	Erik Eriksen	388-3629
	Roland McGlashan	388-7080
Cemetery Sexton	Bonnie Swan	388-6687
Recycling Coordinator	Warren King	388-4082
Regional Planning Delegates	Jeremy Grip; Ted Dunakin, alternate	
Regional Transportation Delegate	Marlene Harrison	
Solid Waste District Delegates	Steve Zwicky; Jay Harrington, alternate	
Addison County Transit Delegate	Susan Prager	
Town Energy Coordinator	Warren King	
Tree Warden	Freeman Allen	
Fence Viewer	Gary Whitman	
Weigher of Coal	Richard Collitt	
Inspector/Lumber, Shingles, & Wood	<i>Open position</i>	

STATE OFFICIALS			
State Representative	Willem Jewett	wjewett@leg.state.vt.us	802-828-2228
State Senator	Claire Ayer	cayer@leg.state.vt.us	802-828-2228
State Senator	Harold Giard	hgiard@leg.state.vt.us	802-828-2228
Governor	Peter Shumlin	www.vermont.gov/governor	800-649-6825
Mail to: State House, 115 State Street, Drawer 33, Montpelier, VT 05633			

Selectboard Report for 2010

Town Infrastructure Improvements

A combination of local projects, National Forest projects, plus the state's reconstruction of Route 125 brought significant improvements to the Town of Ripton and its environs during 2010.

- Flood Mitigation Project:** Grant funding from FEMA and from the state's Clean and Clear initiative covered most of the cost of this project to mitigate further flooding through Ripton's center. During July, the river bank towards Route 125 was armored with large boulders, and a flood chute was developed to slow the water during a flood, as well as to encourage it to flow away from the highway and buildings. Some planting will be done this spring to complete this project.
- Community House:** The building's exterior was painted during the summer and is once again looking good. At the year's end, the furnace failed, necessitating the purchase of a new one from our 2011 budget. Our insurance carrier had notified us that we were not fully covered for liability when the building is rented for a private event, and that renters should provide insurance coverage. We created a new rental contract specifying what is needed, as well as other responsibilities of the renter. Most homeowners' policies will cover your use of this building at no additional cost. If you do not have such a policy, there are programs that provide coverage for single events. The cost varies depending on the type of event, number of people, and – significantly – if alcohol is served. Julie Allen was appointed to handle rentals.
- Town Office:** The entrance to the building was improved with the help of a HAVA (Help America Vote Act) grant, making it more accessible to people with disabilities, and a storm door was added. The roof over an addition on the back of the building had significant leaking and this was replaced. The space within, which had once functioned as a kitchen when the building was the school, will be rehabilitated this year and made into more useable space for the town. In December, the door to the vault ceased to function properly. This door had been moved from the previous town office across the street and no longer provided adequate fire protection, in addition to its new inability to be locked and unlocked. We agreed to use monies from the Town Buildings Fund to replace it. In December, the board voted to include revenue from the rent of the

upstairs of the town office building in the Town Buildings Fund. Bill Pierce continues as the facilities manager, and he is helping us keep up with maintenance and needed repairs for both town buildings.

- National Forest:** TARP (the federal Troubled Assets Relief Program) monies channeled through the National Forest Service provided the town with over \$39,000 for work on the Goshen, Steam Mill, and Brooks Roads. In conjunction with the state, they rebuilt the first bridge on the Goshen Road. It was closed in September, and reopened in mid-November. They also placed a large culvert on Natural Turnpike for Sparks Brook and replaced the bridge that had washed out at the Robert Frost Interpretive Trail. Plans to develop a new, 5-acre, controlled access gravel pit off of FR 59 are slowly progressing. When/if this occurs, gravel would be available to the town on a limited basis and during emergencies. We again received full funding from them for the lands they hold in Ripton: \$53,230.

Town Plan: We held a public hearing and formally adopted the 5-year town plan revision.

Emergency Management: Erik Eriksen was appointed to serve as the Town's Emergency Management Coordinator and a small stipend was included in the budget for his time. Erik is also the Fire Chief for Ripton's Fire Department.

Sand Hill Bridge: The state is planning to replace the Sand Hill Bridge on Route 125 in 2014. Because this bridge is in East Middlebury, they have not been including Ripton during their planning meetings. It came to our attention that part of their planning includes closing the road for the building season that year. The board has communicated its rejection of this closure, and Laurie Cox has met with a group of involved or effected parties to create a menu of options which meet the needs of all concerned as best possible. These have been forwarded to the state, and this project will continue to be monitored.

Community Church: We worked out an agreement with the church committee to share the septic system which serves the Community House with the church. Several years back, before the current school was built, the church had agreed to allow the school to drill a well on church property, and that is now a shared water source.

Delinquent Taxes: A new delinquent tax collector was appointed in July 2010 (Kathleen Sullivan) upon the

Selectboard Report for 2010 (continued)

resignation of the previous official. She established a new, though similar, delinquent tax policy.

Middlebury College: Under the terms of the town's agreement with the college, the town was paid \$71,984 as a gift-in-lieu of taxes as well as a gift-in-kind amount of \$16,000 in goods, services and cash. They also paid direct taxes on taxable properties. There is a full accounting of the college gift-in-kind later in this report.

Coffee House: The town worked out a new agreement with the Ripton Coffee House Committee for their monthly use of the Community House, including permission to schedule winter events in the Community House during the months of January and February.

Town Report: The town report is now available electronically on the town's new website at www.riptonvt.org. Due to the cost of printing and mailing these reports, we are interested in finding out how accessible they are when presented in this way. Please check it out and give your feedback to the selectboard or town clerk.

Auditing: Angolano & Company audited the town's financial records on January 19, 2011, and their certifying letter is included in this report. Copies of the complete audit reports are available for review at the town office.

Roads and Bridges: This year was a busy one, with the state repairing and doing improvements to Route 125 which took longer than most of us wished it had.

Another large project was going on about the same time; this was the replacement of the first bridge on the Goshen Ripton Road. With this bridge we now have a two lane bridge and for the first time in Ripton history a traffic light, although it was only temporary.

Now what happened on the Ripton roads: general maintenance was done on all roads, including grading, the spreading of gravel and culvert work. In anticipation that Ripton road work would be delayed by the Route 125 road work, gravel and materials for the Ripton road work were hauled before the Route 125 project started.

The town received two grants this past year. One from the National Forest Service, which was 100% funded for the amount of \$39,700. The lion's share of this

grant was spent on the Goshen Road. We spread gravel on approximately one mile starting at the Widows Clearing parking lot to the Ripton-Goshen town line. We cut brush and trees to improve line of sight around corners that were in the town right-of-way. We also ditched and widened two areas: one up the hill by Widows Clearing parking on both sides of the road, the other up the hill by Poachers Paradise camp. With the rest of the funding we replaced one culvert on Steam Mill Road, did some ditch work and added some gravel. One other area we did work with this grant was the Brooks Road, by cutting brush and spreading gravel from Route 125 to Brooks Bridge.

Two grants were mentioned; the second one was from Better Back Roads. This was for \$10,000 with a 25% match from the town. This money was spent on the Pearl Lee Road, starting at the intersection of Lincoln Road and Pearl Lee Road. We ditched and rip-rapped approximately 600 feet of the hill and also widened this area. We also ditched and rip-rapped approximately 200 feet in front of Cecil Morse's house. These improvements have really helped with winter plowing on this road.

The grading budget was overspent due to frequent rain storms, which also caused overspending on summer washout work. We had two fairly costly washouts: first on the Goshen Ripton Road (near Pop's Pool); the other was a large culvert on Lincoln Road. The Lincoln Road washout came to \$1,300. The Goshen Road washout came in at \$9,500 and we had Gravel Construction do this work because they had access on that side of the new bridge.

This year (2011) the grant gods blessed us again; we will receive \$76,000 with a 20% town match from section 2 of the Road Structures and Class Two Roads programs. This money will be spent on paving from Route 125 up the Lincoln Road to Jordan Allen's drive and widening a section of the Lincoln Road, from Su White's drive to the intersection of the North Branch Road. The second grant of \$72,000 is from section 1, Structures Grant. The grant will be used to repair bridge #16, which is the first bridge on the Natural Turnpike Road. Repairs will be to the rails, decking and abutments. This grant has a 10% town match.

Last year's paving was not done because of the Route 125 road work and scheduling of contractors. A portion of our paving budget was spent for potholes and culvert repairs. The remainder of the \$15,000 will be used to help offset the Class Two Road Grant paving on Lincoln Road.

Selectboard Budget Narrative for 2010

GENERAL FUND AND ROAD BUDGET

Financial Status: 2010 ended with a total combined fund balance of \$355,910 compared with \$262,089 at the end of 2009. The summary of these funds can be seen on the balance sheets that follow.

General Fund Expenses in 2010: We under spent the general fund budget by \$30,692. This primarily was due to getting the Community House painted for well below the initial estimate. Also, some budgeted maintenance for the town offices was not carried out this year. Efficiency measures undertaken for lighting in town buildings have continued to show significant savings (down by over \$200 for each building since the highest figures in 2004 and 2005), although we expect a rate increase from CVPS this year.

Overall expenses were less than anticipated, but some specific budget lines were overspent. Middlebury College's print shop, which has produced our town report for over 15 years, increased their rates significantly - roughly from \$2,000 to \$3,000. (This year the report has been printed by a private business.) More was paid to the delinquent tax collector because more delinquent taxes were collected, and that impacts what is earned. Lister expenses were up as they are working on the town reappraisal which will continue into 2011. These costs are covered by income from the state which has been accruing in the Reappraisal Fund.

All reimbursements from the summer of 2008 flooding were finalized this year, and we have made the first full payment to the Vermont Bond Bank to cover the town's share of those expenses. As approved by voters at last year's town meeting, an escrow account was set up with the amount of the bond that exceeded what was actually needed, and \$4,000 from that fund was used to reduce the amount needed from taxes. Expenses related to the flood mitigation project have been paid, but we had not received most of the reimbursement by year's end. The Community House was painted on its exterior, and the addition on the back of the town office building was re-roofed. The office entrance's accessibility was also improved, thanks to a HAVA grant.

Road Expenses in 2010: The costs for clearing and repairing roads during and after storms continue to be difficult to predict, and line items relating to that work tended to run high. The paving that was planned could not be done before cold weather set in, so that project will be rolled over and completed in the spring of

2011. The National Forest Service provided funding for significant work, particularly on the Goshen Road, while a Better Back Roads grant allowed for improvements and erosion control on the Pearl Lee Road. Overall the road budget was under spent by \$16,341, almost all due to the lack of paving.

General Fund Expenses for 2011: The budget total for this year is approximately the same as in 2010. Insurance costs are up a bit, and more has been budgeted for assistant town clerk. The latter will allow an average of one 4-hour day a week for work on larger projects and cross-training. The state increased recording fees in 2009 to offset the cost for towns to computerize their records, and our increased income in this area will help to cover these costs. Reappraisal will occur, but much of that cost will actually be covered by existing funds from the state. On-going maintenance and repairs of town buildings will include a new furnace in the Community House, a new door on the vault (paid out of the Town Buildings Fund), and cleaning and repairs in the old "kitchen" space of the town office building. The line for Facilities under the "officers" section will more accurately cover the costs for our regular staff doing maintenance work. In the past, the Town Buildings Fund received the income from the mortgage on the old town office. Since this loan will be paid off in 2014, we agreed to add the rent from the upstairs of the town office, so this fund will have an on-going source of income. The fund can be used to pay for maintenance and repairs to the town buildings.

Road Expenses for 2011: Although the total budget is much higher than in 2010, most areas are level funded. In 2011, two grants from the State will allow for significant work on the Lincoln Road as well as repairing Bridge 16 on the Natural Turnpike. These projects will total \$175,000, thus raising our budget by that amount. The town's share is 20% for the Class 2 (Lincoln Rd.) work and 10% for the bridge work. We will do more resurfacing since the intended paving did not get done in 2010, but a significant share of that will be as a part of the Class 2 Road grant. The amount for road signs is up considerably since the state now has new requirements. Fortunately, they are also providing funding through a grant to cover the cost.

Laureen Cox, Chair
Ronald Wimett
Richard Collitt

Selectboard for the Town of Ripton

Combined Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balances for 2010

	General Fund	Highway Fund	Special Revenue Funds		Capital Project Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Debt Service Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
			Reappraisal Fund	Town Buildings Fund				
REVENUES								
Tax-Based Income	1,118,303	121,278						1,239,581
Other Income	24,420							24,420
Insurance Reimbursement	3,552							3,552
Fed & State Aid, Other Grants	132,470	145,936						278,406
Rent Income	5,325							5,325
Interest	359		16	2	480			857
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,284,429	\$267,214	\$16	\$2	\$480		\$0	\$1,552,141
EXPENDITURES								
General Town Expenses	333,751							333,751
Road Expenses		233,559						233,559
Voted Items	37,112							37,112
Taxes to Schools	793,904							793,904
Loans (Fire Station, Tanker Truck)								
Interest							12,344	12,344
Principal							47,650	47,650
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,164,767	\$233,559	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$59,994	\$1,458,320
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	\$119,662	\$33,655	\$16	\$2	\$480		(\$59,994)	\$93,821
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):								
Transfer From Other Funds	10,281		4,237	2,300	6,500	20,000	59,994	103,312
Transfer To Other Funds	(86,531)	(6,500)	(6,281)			(4,000)		(103,312)
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES	\$43,412	\$27,155	(\$2,028)	\$2,302	\$6,980	\$16,000	\$0	\$93,821
FUND BALANCES, JAN 1, 2010	\$128,557	\$24,842	\$23,838	\$6,399	\$106,702	\$0	0	\$290,338
Correction to Jan.1, 2010 balance*	(\$28,249)							
FUND BALANCES, JAN 1, 2010 revised	\$100,308	\$24,842	\$23,838	\$6,399	\$106,702	\$0	\$0	\$262,089
FUND BALANCES DEC 31, 2010	\$143,720	\$51,997	\$21,810	\$8,701	\$113,682	\$16,000	\$0	\$355,910

*A last minute correction was made in the 2009 audit report but not before town report went to press. The amount of this correction (\$28,249) is the amount of interest the town paid in 2009 on several temporary loans to cover 2008 flood expenses. This number was, at first, incorrectly expressed twice in this spreadsheet. As always, the complete audit report is available for review at the town office.

Capital Budget Statement

The Major Project Fund, established in 1999 to help pay for large road projects, has received annual payments from the town general fund most years since then and had a value at the end of 2010 of \$113,682. At the 2008 town meeting, the town voted to establish a reserve fund entitled Major Building and Equipment Fund, but as yet no monies have been deposited into this fund.

Middlebury College Agreement

The town and Middlebury College are in the eighteenth year of a twenty-year agreement which determines how the college compensates the town for its properties in Ripton. This agreement has three components: straight taxes on some parcels: \$22,942.30 in 2010, a gift-in-lieu of taxes: \$58,741.00 in 2010, and a gift-in-kind sum of \$16,000 in goods and services: \$3,082.96 used in 2010 for production and mailing of the annual report, the remainder received as cash.

Combined Balance Sheet for All Fund Types for 2010

	General Fund	Highway Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
ASSETS						
Current Assets:						
Cash	85,228		30,511	113,682	16,000	245,421
Delinquent Taxes Receivable	55,866					55,866
Delinquent Interest Receivable	4,574					4,574
Accounts Receivable - River Project FEMA	110,489					110,489
Due from Other Funds		51,997				51,997
Total Current Assets	256,157	51,997	30,511	113,682	16,000	468,347
TOTAL ASSETS	\$256,157	\$51,997	\$30,511	\$113,682	\$16,000	\$468,347
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities:						
Due to Other Funds	51,997					51,997
Deferred Revenue (Del Tax/Int Rec'ble)	60,440					60,440
Total Liabilities	112,437					112,437
Fund Balances						
Unreserved	143,720					143,720
Reserved	0	51,997	30,511	113,682	16,000	212,190
Total Fund Balances	143,720	51,997	30,511	113,682	16,000	355,910
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$256,157	\$51,997	\$30,511	\$113,682	\$16,000	\$468,347

Federal and State Financial Assistance Received in 2010 and Estimated for 2011

Federal Assistance	Actual 2010	Estimated 2011
National Forest funds	\$53,230.00	\$52,000.00
HAVA grant (see town clerk's report)	\$3,866.28	\$0.00
GMFS road & bridge repair grant	\$39,266.76	\$0.00
FEMA (river project)	\$0.00	\$110,489.04
Total	\$96,363.04	\$162,489.04
State Assistance	Actual 2010	Estimated 2011
State aid for roads	\$46,438.61	\$40,000.00
Land use reimbursement	\$18,661.00	\$17,000.00
Listers' funding for reappraisal	\$4,237.00	\$4,237.00
Listers' funding for education	\$387.46	\$387.00
VT Clean & Clear grant (river project)	\$10,288.00	\$0.00
Better Backroads Grant	\$7,000.00	\$0.00
Total	\$87,012.07	\$61,624.00

Statement of Town Indebtedness

Short-term debt: No short-term debt was required in 2010. **Long-term debt:** The town continues to pay down long-term loans for the Fire Station and for 2008 flood expenses – detailed below.

Fire Station Loan 2006-2016					
\$176,500.00 at 4.32% interest					
	Payment Date	Principal	Interest	Payment Due	Payment Made
Loan Amount		\$176,500.00			
	5/22/07	\$17,650.00	\$7,624.80	\$25,274.80	\$24,815.22
Add'l Payment 2007	12/22/07	\$8,634.38	\$190.62	\$8,825.00	\$8,825.00
	12/22/08	\$17,650.00	\$6,489.31	\$24,139.31	\$24,235.58
	12/22/09	\$17,650.00	\$5,726.83	\$23,376.83	\$23,545.13
	12/22/10	\$17,650.00	\$4,964.35	\$22,614.35	\$22,781.00
	12/22/11	\$17,650.00	\$4,201.87	\$21,851.87	\$0.00
	12/22/12	\$17,650.00	\$3,439.39	\$21,089.39	\$0.00
	12/22/13	\$17,650.00	\$2,676.91	\$20,326.91	\$0.00
	12/22/14	\$17,650.00	\$1,914.43	\$19,564.43	\$0.00
	12/22/15	\$17,650.00	\$1,151.95	\$18,801.95	\$0.00
	5/22/16	\$9,015.62	\$389.47	\$9,405.09	\$0.00
	Totals	\$176,500.00	\$38,769.97	\$215,269.97	\$104,201.93

Vermont Bond Bank 2010-2019 (for 2008 flood expenses)						
\$275,000 at net 3.047251% interest cost						
	Payment Date	Principal	Coupon	Interest	Payment Due	Payment Made
Loan Amount	7/21/09	\$275,000.00				
	11/15/09		1.391%	\$2,605.02	\$2,605.02	\$2,605.02
	5/15/10			\$3,606.95		
	11/15/10	\$30,000.00	1.391%	\$3,606.95	\$37,213.90	\$37,212.90
	5/15/11			\$3,398.32		
	11/15/11	\$30,000.00	1.691%	\$3,398.32	\$36,796.64	\$0.00
	5/15/12			\$3,144.69		
	11/15/12	\$30,000.00	1.801%	\$3,144.69	\$36,289.38	\$0.00
	5/15/13			\$2,874.56		
	11/15/13	\$30,000.00	2.201%	\$2,874.56	\$35,749.12	\$0.00
	5/15/14			\$2,544.43		
	11/15/14	\$30,000.00	2.651%	\$2,544.43	\$35,088.86	\$0.00
	5/15/15			\$2,146.80		
	11/15/15	\$25,000.00	2.931%	\$2,146.80	\$29,293.60	\$0.00
	5/15/16			\$1,780.44		
	11/15/16	\$25,000.00	3.201%	\$1,780.44	\$28,560.88	\$0.00
	5/15/17			\$1,380.33		
	11/15/17	\$25,000.00	3.491%	\$1,380.33	\$27,760.66	\$0.00
	5/15/18			\$943.97		
	11/15/18	\$25,000.00	3.691%	\$943.97	\$26,887.94	\$0.00
	5/15/19			\$482.61		
	11/15/19	\$25,000.00	3.861%	\$482.61	\$25,965.22	\$0.00
	Totals	\$275,000.00		\$47,211.22	\$322,211.22	\$39,817.92

Ripton Community Coffee House Report

The Ripton Community Coffee House hosted eleven concerts in 2010 averaging about ninety people attending each concert. Four of our featured performers were bands from Vermont, with two of those bands including people from Ripton. We also had more than fifty open mike performers, many of them from Ripton. The organization is completely volunteer-run; above expenses, all money collected at the door goes to the featured performers.

Our refreshment sales continued to be used as fund raisers for area non-profit organizations. In 2010 the beneficiaries included a Ripton resident experiencing health problems, the Ripton Historical Society, the American Cancer Society, Every Child Counts (an African orphanage), Friends of the New Haven Library, the Helen Porter Nursing Home, Middlebury Community Care Coalition and the Middlebury Union High School Student Coalition on Human Rights.

If you are interested in running the refreshment sales to make money for an area non-profit organization, please contact Andrea Chesman at 388-9782.



The Michele Fay Band at the Ripton Community Coffee House

Ripton Cemetery Report

The Ripton Cemetery Association holds 281,078 shares of Alliance Balanced Shares, a stock mutual fund. Value of the 276,187 shares with a net asset value of \$14.78 per share as of December 31, 2010 was \$4,154.73, an increase in value of \$431.33 which is automatically reinvested in the fund. Expenses for 2010 were \$1,315.00 for cemetery grounds maintenance and \$15.00 nonprofit biennial report filing fee.

Cemetery Bank Funds			
Beginning Balance			\$6,385.14
Receipts	Interest on Savings	\$6.19	
	Sale of Plots	\$0.00	
Total Receipts			\$6.19
Expenses (Maintenance & Fees)			(\$1,315.00)
Ending Balance			\$5,076.33

EXPENDITURES 2010 & Budget 2011

OFFICERS	Budget 2010	Actual 2010	Variance	Budget 2011
Selectboard	1,950.00	1,950.00	0.00	1,950.00
Board Clerk	10,816.00	7,870.59	(2,945.41)	10,816.00
Town Clerk	18,034.00	18,034.04	0.04	18,395.00
Treasurer	11,722.00	11,721.94	(0.06)	11,956.00
Assistant Town Clerk	5,000.00	6,332.12	1,332.12	10,000.00
Elections	1,600.00	1,594.20	(5.80)	500.00
BCA Hearings	200.00	90.00	(110.00)	500.00
Delinquent Tax Collector	3,000.00	6,050.50	3,050.50	3,000.00
Listers	5,000.00	5,357.70	357.70	6,000.00
Reappraisal 2010-11	0.00	6,281.12	6,281.12	20,000.00
Lister Training	1,757.00	385.00	(1,372.00)	1,000.00
Planning Commission	750.00	1,300.00	550.00	1,300.00
Zoning Administrator	3,934.00	2,052.00	(1,882.00)	3,102.00
Dog Warden	200.00	431.50	231.50	300.00
Other Officers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Town Report Prep	2,000.00	2,032.18	32.18	2,500.00
Officers Training	550.00	372.17	(177.83)	550.00
Facilities	4,272.00	4,614.50	342.50	7,872.00
Emergency Mngmt Coordinator	300.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
Payroll Taxes	5,400.00	5,864.46	464.46	6,400.00
Total OFFICERS	\$76,485.00	\$82,634.02	\$6,149.02	\$106,441.00
TOWN OFFICE				
Office Supplies	1,000.00	983.14	(16.86)	1,000.00
Office Equipment & Furnishing	300.00	267.39	(32.61)	500.00
Photocopier	1,350.00	1,353.97	3.97	1,360.00
Computer	650.00	608.85	(41.15)	1,175.00
Telephone	1,650.00	1,252.22	(397.78)	1,650.00
Internet Service	1,000.00	800.68	(199.32)	660.00
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	294.00
Postage	1,200.00	1,107.19	(92.81)	1,200.00
Legal Notices	300.00	56.19	(243.81)	300.00
Document Preservation	4,500.00	4,481.15	(18.85)	4,500.00
State Share of Fees	500.00	493.00	(7.00)	500.00
Lister Expenses	500.00	1,272.51	772.51	1,300.00
Planning & Zoning Expenses	1,200.00	1,251.84	51.84	1,300.00
Total TOWN OFFICE	\$14,150.00	\$13,928.13	(\$221.87)	\$15,739.00
INSURANCE				
Health Insurance	4,950.00	5,054.20	104.20	5,844.00
Property Insurance	12,572.00	12,787.00	215.00	14,136.00
Worker's Compensation	1,353.00	1,326.00	(27.00)	1,451.00
Total INSURANCE	\$18,875.00	\$19,167.20	\$292.20	\$21,431.00

EXPENDITURES 2010 & Budget 2011 (continued)

MISCELLANEOUS	Budget 2010	Actual 2010	Variance	Budget 2011
Town Report Print & Mail	2,000.00	3,082.96	1,082.96	1,500.00
Legal Services	10,000.00	3,866.25	(6,133.75)	8,000.00
Audit / Town & School	7,000.00	3,700.00	(3,300.00)	5,000.00
School Generator	960.00	1,174.95	214.95	1,000.00
Recycling	5,000.00	5,176.46	176.46	5,200.00
Gift-in-Kind Non-Town Use	2,000.00	0.00	(2,000.00)	2,000.00
Animal Damage	250.00	0.00	(250.00)	250.00
Pay to Reappraisal Fund	4,294.00	4,237.00	(57.00)	4,237.00
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	150.00	150.00	500.00
HAVA Funds	1,547.00	1,547.01	0.01	0.00
ACRPC Town Plan Revision	2,000.00	738.73	(1,261.27)	0.00
Total MISCELLANEOUS	\$35,051.00	\$23,673.36	(\$11,377.64)	\$27,687.00
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS				
Town Office Fuel	2,700.00	2,431.85	(268.15)	2,430.00
Town Office Electric	900.00	703.51	(196.49)	900.00
Office Maintenance & Repairs	15,100.00	9,685.67	(5,414.33)	17,000.00
Community House Fuel	3,855.00	2,399.33	(1,455.67)	3,470.00
Community House Electric	900.00	663.61	(236.39)	900.00
Comm House Maint & Repairs	37,255.00	18,129.79	(19,125.21)	7,500.00
Pay to Town Buildings Fund	2,300.00	2,300.00	0.00	4,700.00
Public Telephone	645.00	608.54	(36.46)	645.00
Street Lights	1,500.00	1,614.50	114.50	1,650.00
Town Shed	100.00	294.28	194.28	400.00
Total BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	\$65,255.00	\$38,831.08	(\$26,423.92)	\$39,595.00
CONTRACTS & DUES				
Vt League of Cities & Towns	1,257.00	1,257.00	0.00	1,400.00
Regional Planning	610.00	609.12	(0.88)	610.00
Addison County Sheriff	6,500.00	7,056.55	556.55	7,000.00
County Tax	4,200.00	3,845.03	(354.97)	4,200.00
Humane Society	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance	1,176.00	1,176.00	0.00	1,176.00
Tax Map Update	750.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
Miscellaneous Dues	60.00	55.00	(5.00)	60.00
Total CONTRACTS & DUES	\$15,053.00	\$15,248.70	\$195.70	\$15,696.00
REPAYMENT OF LOANS				
Fire Station Loan	22,785.00	22,781.00	(4.00)	21,852.00
Vermont Bond Bank	37,214.00	37,212.90	(1.10)	36,800.00
Total REPAYMENT OF LOANS	\$59,999.00	\$59,993.90	(\$5.10)	\$58,652.00
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$284,868.00	\$253,476.39	(\$31,391.61)	\$285,241.00

EXPENDITURES 2010 & Budget 2011 (continued)

ROADS	Budget 2010	Actual 2010	Variance	Budget 2011
Summer Maintenance	52,100.00	50,765.87	(1,334.13)	58,950.00
Winter Maintenance	100,500.00	87,729.32	(12,770.68)	101,000.00
Sub-Total ROADS	\$152,600.00	\$138,495.19	(\$14,104.81)	\$159,950.00
SUMMER ROADWORK				
Major Roadside Reconstruction	12,500.00	11,059.12	(1,440.88)	12,500.00
Summer Gravel Project	15,000.00	14,146.60	(853.40)	15,000.00
Resurfacing	15,000.00	3,118.50	(11,881.50)	15,000.00
Right-of-Way Mowing	2,600.00	2,795.00	195.00	2,600.00
Major Washouts	0.00	12,955.00	12,955.00	0.00
Major Project Fund	6,500.00	6,500.00	0.00	6,500.00
Better Backroads Grant	12,500.00	11,722.56	(777.44)	0.00
Forest Service Road Project	39,700.00	39,266.76	(433.24)	0.00
VTrans Class 2 Road Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	95,000.00
VTrans Structures Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	80,000.00
Total SUMMER ROADWORK	\$103,800.00	\$101,563.54	(\$2,236.46)	\$226,600.00
ROADS TOTAL	\$256,400.00	\$240,058.73	(\$16,341.27)	\$386,550.00
VOTED ITEMS				
Ripton Fire Department	23,000.00	23,000.00	0.00	31,100.00
Social Service Agencies	14,112.00	14,111.84	(0.16)	14,682.00
Total VOTED ITEMS	\$37,112.00	\$37,111.84	(\$0.16)	\$45,782.00
GRANTS & ONE-TIME PROJECTS				
River Project	190,000.00	142,937.22	(47,062.78)	17,000.00
Voting Access Grant 2010	0.00	3,866.28	3,866.28	0.00
Total GRANTS & ONE-TIME PROJECTS	\$190,000.00	\$146,803.50	(\$43,196.50)	\$17,000.00
SUMMARY				
GENERAL FUND	284,868.00	253,476.39	(31,391.61)	285,241.00
ROADS	256,400.00	240,058.73	(16,341.27)	386,550.00
GENERAL FUND / ROADS TOTAL	\$541,268.00	\$493,535.12	(\$47,732.88)	\$671,791.00
VOTED ITEMS & GRANTS	227,112.00	183,915.34	(43,196.66)	62,782.00
TOTAL TO SPEND	\$768,380.00	\$677,450.46	(\$90,929.54)	\$734,573.00

Comparative Table of Expenditures 2007 through Budget 2011

OFFICERS	Actual 2007	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Selectboard	1,950.00	1,950.00	2,275.00	1,950.00	1,950.00
Board Clerk	5,487.18	8,344.00	12,237.00	7,870.59	10,816.00
Town Clerk	12,500.00	17,680.05	17,680.09	18,034.04	18,395.00
Treasurer	10,000.00	11,491.98	11,492.00	11,721.94	11,956.00
Assistant Town Clerk	3,660.54	3,728.00	4,602.00	6,332.12	10,000.00
Permit Recording 2006-07	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Elections	521.60	1,671.65	536.00	1,594.20	500.00
BCA Hearings	172.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	500.00
Delinquent Tax Collector	3,288.85	2,443.48	3,582.39	6,050.50	3,000.00
Listers	6,024.00	5,590.66	6,968.63	5,357.70	6,000.00
Reappraisal 2010-11	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,281.12	20,000.00
Lister Training	0.00	129.00	65.65	385.00	1,000.00
Planning Commission	750.00	750.00	750.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Zoning Administrator	3,810.00	2,269.50	2,863.50	2,052.00	3,102.00
Dog Warden	165.64	428.61	341.40	431.50	300.00
Town Report Prep	1,997.50	2,012.46	1,993.41	2,032.18	2,500.00
Officers Training	1,587.38	575.41	516.18	372.17	550.00
Facilities	0.00	0.00	1,210.00	4,614.50	7,872.00
Emergency Coordinator	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
Payroll Taxes (Social Security)	4,050.50	5,038.88	5,224.75	5,864.46	6,400.00
Total OFFICERS	\$56,665.19	\$64,103.68	\$72,338.00	\$82,634.02	\$106,441.00
TOWN OFFICE					
Office Supplies	960.60	944.88	1,003.14	983.14	1,000.00
Office Equipment & Furnishing	275.00	0.00	297.96	267.39	500.00
Photocopier	1,275.88	1,270.80	1,352.27	1,353.97	1,360.00
Computer	1,252.80	424.89	707.45	608.85	1,175.00
Telephone	1,636.79	1,592.69	1,635.43	1,252.22	1,650.00
Internet Service	587.67	650.91	1,094.40	800.68	660.00
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	294.00
Postage	1,043.59	1,005.22	1,066.84	1,107.19	1,200.00
Legal Notices	36.75	45.00	315.25	56.19	300.00
Document Preservation	2,169.69	848.00	1,496.19	4,481.15	4,500.00
State Share of Fees	488.00	472.00	459.00	493.00	500.00
Lister Expenses	1,054.80	961.45	739.33	1,272.51	1,300.00
Planning & Zoning Expenses	1,558.08	951.08	1,357.32	1,251.84	1,300.00
Total TOWN OFFICE	\$12,339.65	\$9,166.92	\$11,524.58	\$13,928.13	\$15,739.00
INSURANCE					
Health Insurance	2,977.20	3,823.29	4,809.15	5,054.20	5,844.00
Property Insurance	8,918.75	9,461.00	10,742.25	12,787.00	14,136.00
Workers Compensation	1,492.56	1,448.76	1,219.75	1,326.00	1,451.00
Total INSURANCE	\$13,388.51	\$14,733.05	\$16,771.15	\$19,167.20	\$21,431.00

Comparative Table of Expenditures 2007 through Budget 2011 (continued)

MISCELLANEOUS	Actual 2007	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Town Report Print & Mail	1,799.05	1,837.79	1,963.89	3,082.96	1,500.00
Legal Services	5,717.71	6,457.73	13,434.44	3,866.25	8,000.00
Audit / Town & School	5,500.00	2,800.00	6,500.00	3,700.00	5,000.00
School Generator	1,120.00	1,514.05	1,815.00	1,174.95	1,000.00
Recycling	8,879.00	6,218.22	4,773.00	5,176.46	5,200.00
Gift-in-Kind Non-School Use	0.00	2,041.00	950.00	0.00	2,000.00
Animal Damage	120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Pay To Reappraisal Fund	4,246.50	4,246.00	4,275.00	4,237.00	4,237.00
Misc Appropriations	0.00	100.00	0.00	150.00	500.00
HAVA Funds	1,595.96	569.04	1,793.99	1,547.01	0.00
ACRPC Town Plan Revision	0.00	0.00	0.00	738.73	0.00
Total MISCELLANEOUS	\$28,978.22	\$25,783.83	\$35,505.32	\$23,673.36	\$27,687.00
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS					
Town Office Fuel	2,510.21	3,863.37	1,968.05	2,431.85	2,430.00
Town Office Electric	737.51	730.00	709.94	703.51	900.00
Office Maintenance & Repairs	3,100.27	13,511.78	13,165.50	9,685.67	17,000.00
Community House Fuel	2,952.05	4,593.73	3,479.11	2,399.33	3,470.00
Community House Electric	712.93	790.18	679.37	663.61	900.00
Comm House Maint & Repairs	2,772.57	6,930.93	2,642.44	18,129.79	7,500.00
Town Buildings	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pay to Town Buildings Fund	1,100.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	4,700.00
Public Telephone	694.70	637.45	614.49	608.54	645.00
Street Lights	1,663.31	1,692.81	1,566.32	1,614.50	1,650.00
Town Shed	691.00	410.00	514.93	294.28	400.00
Total BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	\$18,134.55	\$35,460.25	\$27,640.15	\$38,831.08	\$39,595.00
CONTRACTS & DUES					
Vt League of Cities & Towns	969.00	990.00	1,056.00	1,257.00	1,400.00
Regional Planning	558.36	596.40	594.30	609.12	610.00
Addison County Sheriff	4,919.55	5,031.32	6,216.89	7,056.55	7,000.00
County Tax	4,156.76	6,323.69	4,092.56	3,845.03	4,200.00
Humane Society	425.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance	0.00	0.00	1,172.00	1,176.00	1,176.00
Tax Map Update	2,500.00	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
Miscellaneous Dues	69.00	49.00	50.00	55.00	60.00
Total CONTRACTS & DUES	\$13,597.67	\$14,240.41	\$14,431.75	\$15,248.70	\$15,696.00

Comparative Table of Expenditures 2007 through Budget 2011 (continued)

REPAYMENT OF LOANS	Actual 2007	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Fire Station Loan	33,640.22	24,235.58	23,545.13	22,781.00	21,852.00
Tax Anticipation Note Interest	240.42	1,415.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Tanker Truck Loan	5,494.24	5,317.09	3,778.99	0.00	0.00
Flood 2008 Loans	0.00	315.72	25,644.35	0.00	0.00
VMBB Floods 2008	0.00	0.00	2,605.02	37,212.90	36,800.00
Total REPAYMENT OF LOANS	\$39,374.88	\$31,283.79	\$55,573.49	\$59,993.90	\$58,652.00
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$182,478.67	\$194,771.93	\$233,784.44	\$253,476.39	\$285,241.00
ROADS					
Summer Maintenance	38,574.91	33,042.98	49,464.41	50,765.87	58,950.00
Winter Work	88,608.67	121,168.90	94,614.35	87,729.32	101,000.00
Major Roadside Reconstruction	22,442.32	4,973.36	9,010.00	11,059.12	12,500.00
Summer Gravel Project	15,109.12	12,941.44	16,577.27	14,146.60	15,000.00
Resurfacing	19,951.10	0.00	10,980.00	3,118.50	15,000.00
Right-of-Way Mowing	2,730.00	2,540.50	2,437.50	2,795.00	2,600.00
Major Project Fund	0.00	12,000.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
Miscellaneous (including Grants)	10,592.85	9,927.50	9,949.33	63,944.32	175,000.00
Total ROADS	\$198,008.97	\$196,594.68	\$199,532.86	\$240,058.73	\$386,550.00
GENERAL FUND/ROADS TOTAL	\$380,487.64	\$391,366.61	\$433,317.30	\$493,535.12	\$671,791.00



A view of the newly armored riverbank being tested by a high water event October 1, 2010.

REVENUES 2010 & Estimated 2011

SOURCE OF INCOME	Budget 2010	Actual 2010	Variance	Budget 2011
Property Taxes	260,841.00	247,842.60	(12,998.40)	207,312.00
Delinquent Taxes	40,000.00	76,684.84	36,684.84	40,000.00
Delinquent Tax Fees	3,000.00	6,142.70	3,142.70	3,000.00
Delinquent Tax Interest	4,500.00	8,361.22	3,861.22	4,500.00
Delinquent Tax Legal Fees	500.00	0.00	(500.00)	500.00
College Gift-In-Lieu / Town	58,828.00	71,983.69	13,155.69	58,741.00
College Gift-In-Kind	16,000.00	16,000.00	0.00	16,000.00
National Forest Payment	52,000.00	53,230.00	1,230.00	52,000.00
Land Use Compensation	15,000.00	18,661.00	3,661.00	17,000.00
State Aid To Roads	40,000.00	46,438.61	6,438.61	40,000.00
State Funds for Reappraisal	4,294.00	4,237.00	(57.00)	4,237.00
Lister Education Fund	387.00	387.46	0.46	387.00
Interest on Savings	335.00	505.52	170.52	335.00
Interest / Major Project Fund	765.00	479.43	(285.57)	450.00
Interest / Reappraisal Fund	0.00	12.11	12.11	0.00
Interest / Town Buildings Fund	0.00	3.19	3.19	0.00
Recording Fees	3,500.00	5,501.00	2,001.00	5,000.00
Copier & Vault Time	700.00	780.39	80.39	750.00
Dog License Fees	1,100.00	1,000.00	(100.00)	1,000.00
Liquor License Fees	150.00	150.00	0.00	150.00
Zoning Permit Fees	1,500.00	1,050.00	(450.00)	1,000.00
Recycling Fees	3,750.00	3,657.59	(92.41)	3,500.00
Speeding Fines	1,200.00	3,211.50	2,011.50	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	500.00	1,056.03	556.03	500.00
Rent Upstairs Town Office	2,400.00	2,600.00	200.00	2,400.00
Rent Community House	2,200.00	2,725.00	525.00	3,000.00
Old Office Mortgage	2,304.00	2,304.24	0.24	2,304.00
Vtrans Structures Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	76,000.00
Vtrans Class 2 Road Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	72,000.00
Better Backroads Grant	10,000.00	7,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00
MCTUD Traffic Sign Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
Flood 2008 Individuals Payments	7,827.00	7,827.14	0.14	0.00
Fire Dept Share of Insurance	2,802.00	2,802.00	0.00	3,093.00
Road Comm Share of Insurance	750.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
River Project FEMA	159,000.00	0.00	(159,000.00)	110,489.00
River Project VT C&C	31,000.00	10,288.00	(20,712.00)	0.00
Forest Service Road Project	39,700.00	39,266.76	(433.24)	0.00
HAVA Voting Access Grant	0.00	3,866.28	3,866.28	0.00
From Reappraisal Fund	0.00	6,281.12	6,281.12	20,000.00
From Town Bldgs Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,175.00
From Floods 08 Escrow	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
TOTAL TOWN INCOME	\$766,833.00	\$657,086.42	(\$109,746.58)	\$765,573.00

Comparative Table of Revenues 2007 through Estimated 2011

SOURCE OF INCOME	Actual 2007	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Property Taxes	125,495.61	159,818.66	225,984.67	247,842.60	207,312.00
Delinquent Taxes	39,002.95	47,971.53	33,187.66	76,684.84	40,000.00
Delinquent Tax Interest	2,597.15	3,222.16	2,651.38	6,142.70	3,000.00
Delinquent Tax Fees	2,822.52	2,163.91	2,163.09	8,361.22	4,500.00
Delinquent Tax Legal Fees	0.00	67.90	0.00	0.00	500.00
College Gift-In-Lieu / Town	52,478.10	53,437.75	53,546.15	71,983.69	58,741.00
College Gift-In-Kind	12,849.25	27,321.29	15,928.00	16,000.00	16,000.00
National Forest Payment	32,197.00	32,034.00	50,840.00	53,230.00	52,000.00
Land Use Compensation	7,415.00	10,252.00	13,698.00	18,661.00	17,000.00
State Aid To Roads	46,733.76	46,633.47	46,541.20	46,438.61	40,000.00
State Funds for Reappraisal	4,161.00	4,246.50	4,246.50	4,237.00	4,237.00
Lister Education Fund	386.94	387.04	387.47	387.46	387.00
Interest on Savings	3,138.81	4,168.80	667.67	505.52	335.00
Interest / Major Project Fund	2,291.55	2,092.70	1,198.19	479.43	450.00
Interest / Reappraisal Fund	85.81	167.78	77.92	12.11	0.00
Interest / Town Buildings Fund	0.00	2.39	1.98	3.19	0.00
Recording Fees	4,308.60	3,789.25	3,412.50	5,501.00	5,000.00
Copier & Vault Time	682.21	584.81	783.37	780.39	750.00
Dog License Fees	710.00	878.00	940.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Liquor License Fees	150.00	200.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
Zoning Permit Fees	2,707.00	2,375.00	1,301.00	1,050.00	1,000.00
Recycling Fees	2,980.63	3,951.49	3,781.10	3,657.59	3,500.00
Speeding Fines	2,936.50	1,818.00	1,153.63	3,211.50	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	1,602.26	602.48	4,507.84	1,056.03	500.00
Rent Upstairs Town Office	2,400.00	2,600.00	2,400.00	2,600.00	2,400.00
Rent Community House	2,030.00	2,440.00	2,320.00	2,725.00	3,000.00
Old Office Mortgage	2,304.04	2,304.84	2,304.24	2,304.24	2,304.00
Misc Grants Total	104,819.04	9,162.00	7,200.00	60,421.04	263,489.00
From Major Project Fund	0.00	0.00	4,973.36	0.00	0.00
FEMA 2008	0.00	0.00	111,186.83	0.00	0.00
Flood 2008 Individuals Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,827.14	0.00
Fire Dept Share of Insurance	2,762.00	2,915.00	3,114.00	2,802.00	3,093.00
Road Comm Share of Insurance	1,500.00	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
Fire Tanker Loan Unspent	6,353.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
From Reappraisal Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,281.12	20,000.00
From Town Bldgs Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,175.00
From Floods 08 Escrow	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
TOTAL TOWN INCOME	\$469,901.48	\$428,358.75	\$601,397.75	\$657,086.42	\$765,573.00



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Independent Auditors' Report

To The Selectboard
Town of Ripton, Vermont

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of Town of Ripton, Vermont, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. We have also audited the financial statements of each of the Town's nonmajor governmental funds presented as supplementary information in the accompanying combining and individual fund financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Town of Ripton, Vermont's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of Town of Ripton, Vermont, as of December 31, 2010, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each nonmajor governmental fund of Town of Ripton, Vermont, as of December 31, 2010, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 31, 2011 on our consideration of Town of Ripton, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 4 and 24 through 29 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise Town of Ripton, Vermont's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

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January 31, 2011

Ripton Volunteer Fire and First Response

2010 Activity Report	Volunteer Hours
Total emergency or assistance calls: 33	
Medical calls: 21	112.75
Fire calls: 12 (including 7 MVAA)	113
Medical training	500.75
Fire training	523.5
Meetings	175
Community Service Events:	199
Total hours (administrative activities such as paperwork, purchasing, not included)	1,624

ROSTER: 15 total. F = firefighter, FR = first responder, EMT= emergency medical technician

Officers: Erik Eriksen (F), Chief; Roland McGlashan (F), Assistant Chief; Ross Elliott (F), Ed Sullivan (EMT & F), Ceredwyn Alexander (EMT), Eric Warren (F), Captains.

Members: Jay Harrington (F&FR), Marty Kulczyk (F), Kevin Mulholland (MD), Robert Wagner (F), Alison Joseph (Dept. Assistant), Dorothy Gelinas and William Cole (Dispatch), Gwynneth Alexander (cadet), Justin Allen (F/Salisbury)

REPORT: The department purchased a new (1998) rescue rig from the Brandon Rescue Squad for \$5,000 with funds from the Vehicle Replacement Fund. We would like to thank MOUNTAIN SIGNS for their excellent and quick work lettering the vehicle with the RVFD logo. We do not take their expertise and talent for granted. Thank you!

We sponsored Gwynneth Alexander's attendance at the week-long VSFA fire cadet academy last summer. She had a fine time and learned a lot about emergency services. This program is for 14-17 year olds and is highly recommended for any teens remotely interested in the fire and emergency services. An application and information are available at www.vtfirefighters.org.

One of our EMTs, Ceredwyn Alexander, was part of a humanitarian aid trip to Haiti in August, and reports on the trip below.

I went with Vermont Medical Response Team (vmt.org) as part of the seventeenth team sent from Vermont since the earthquake in January 2010. The team was composed of two EMTs, two nurses, one medical resident, and a photographer. While there, the team worked in a field hospital run by J/P HRO (j/phro.org) in Petionville, just outside Port Au Prince. The hospital served a tent city of about 55,000 people.

In the two weeks I was there, the twelve bed hospital, with a staff of about twenty-five (including the Vermont team) served 2,500 patients. Among those patients, we delivered fifteen babies; for five of those births, I was the primary attendant.

Besides providing care, our team provided education, firstly for Haitian student nurses, medical students and allied health professionals. Secondly, we provided health education for individuals, especially women.

The Ripton Fire Department donated 3 stethoscopes, disposable paper supplies, and blood pressure cuffs to the J/P HRO Hospital.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! We pay for medical training, we pay for fire training; all we ask is for your commitment to the department and community.

Erik Eriksen, Chief

Ripton Volunteer Fire and First Response (continued)

2010 Vehicle & Major Equipment Inventory	
Pumper. 1986. KME/International	Ladders. 1 roof, 2-24', 1-8', 1-attic
Tanker. 2005. Freightliner	Chainsaw. Jonsered
Mini-pumper. 1976. Dodge	Fan, positive pressure. SuperVac
First-Response ambulance. 1998. Ford	Fan, ventilation. GE
Pump, portable. Hale HPX400	Thermal Imaging Camera. Cairns Viper
Pump, portable. Hale HP300	Multi-gas Detector & calibration kit. Orion
Portable pond. 1,000 gallon	Air pump. Porter Cable
Portable pond. 2,000 gallon	Defibrillator. Medtronic Lifepak 500 (2)
Generator & light, portable. Honda	Defibrillator. Medtronic Lifepak 1000 (2)
Generator, station. Honda	Defibrillator. Laerdal Heartstart
Generator, portable. Generac	

Assets December 31, 2010	
Vehicle Replacement Fund	24,507.76
Checking	562.26
Savings	6,079.85
	Total Assets: \$31,149.87

RVFD Expenditures 2010 & Proposed Budget 2011: The department stayed within its budget, though costs for some items increased. Training costs were higher than expected because of a general change from local to regional classes. The furnishing and equipment line was under spent in 2010, but is increased for 2011 for construction of gear racks.

RVFD Expenditures 2010 & Proposed Budget 2011				
EXPENSES	Budget 2010	Actual 2010	Variance	Budget 2011
Community Service	150.00	201.92	51.92	200.00
Gear/Tools/Equipment	5,700.00	6,153.16	453.16	6,000.00
Vehicle Repair/Maintenance/Fuel	2,000.00	1,790.84	(209.16)	2,000.00
Administration/Insurance/Dues	6,000.00	5,215.19	(784.81)	6,000.00
Training	700.00	1,586.07	886.07	1,800.00
Dispatch/phone/computer	2,400.00	1,809.05	(590.95)	2,400.00
Electricity	1,100.00	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00
Heat	3,000.00	2,489.83	(510.17)	3,200.00
Furnishing & Equipment	200.00	0.00	(200.00)	2,000.00
Maintenance & Supplies	500.00	251.00	(249.00)	500.00
Mowing - moved to maintenance for 2011	300.00	274.48	(25.52)	0.00
Hydrant plowing	750.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
Security system	2,700.00	2,500.00	(200.00)	0.00
Vehicle Replacement Fund	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	5,500.00
TOTAL	\$31,000.00	\$29,621.54	(\$1,378.46)	\$31,450.00
INCOME				
Carryover from previous year	7,638.43	7,638.43	0.00	6.62
Donations	350.00	345.00	(5.00)	338.00
Interest	11.57	9.95	(1.62)	5.38
Subtotal	\$8,000.00	\$7,993.38	(6.62)	\$350.00
Town Payment	23,000.00	23,000.00	0.00	31,100.00
TOTAL	\$31,000.00	\$30,993.38	(\$6.62)	\$31,450.00

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Website

We now have a town website which is being managed by the town clerk, and so far so good! Please visit it at www.riptonvt.org and get familiar with the information you now have access to when coming to the office is not convenient. There are forms, maps, meeting minutes and much, much more. The cost of maintaining the site is shown in a new budget line; \$294 a year covers the website hosting fee and domain fee. This is *our* site and your input is welcome.

Land Records

Every year, I report that we plan to make headway toward the computerization of land records – a project that has been waiting in the wings since before I took office – and every year I report making baby steps. Well, I really mean it this year! The increase in the 2011 budget for assistant town clerk will help us get this project off the ground.

Beginning in 2010, we are scanning each document that we record so that we will have an image to attach to the electronic record, and this provides one type of backup as well. Microfilming is still the best practice for long-term backup; our latest complete land record volumes were recently microfilmed, so we are up to date with that effort.

We added 630 pages to our records in 2010. Of the 44 property transfers recorded only 10 were sales. The river mitigation project necessitated the town to purchase work easements from 6 property owners which added up to over 30 pages of recording for which the recording fees were waived (the town is exempt from paying fees to itself). Refinancing continued to be a popular activity.

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Property Transfers	44	24	18	18	26	28
# Pages Recorded	630	583	476	648	633	794

Vital Statistics

The US Census Bureau completed the decennial census though we do not yet have a new population figure for our town; it remains estimated to be 586. Five births and two marriages were added to our vital records in 2010. There were four deaths of Ripton citizens, though two were not living here at the time.

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Births	5	9	7	3	4	6	5	6	10	3
Marriages / Civil Marriages	2	3	5	9	10	3	4	7	3	3
Civil Unions	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2
Deaths	4	3	4	1	4	3	4	7	0	0

Records Preservation

As reported last year, we received an estimate in 2009 of over \$5,000 to restore our old vital records and planned to spread the work and cost over two years. Our oldest volumes were restored in 2010 and the results are fantastic; these precious handwritten documents can now be easily handled without causing further damage. The remaining volumes that need attention will be restored in 2011.

I have written a draft records management policy that addresses how public records are created, received and maintained by an agency. Adopting this policy would ensure the integrity of our town's legacy as expressed in the records we produce and preserve. The draft will be reviewed by all town officers and considered for adoption in 2011; a copy is available at the town office for public review.

E-Tax Bills

In 2010 we offered the option of receiving your property tax bill by e-mail (either in lieu of or in addition to USPS mail) and got quite a few takers. It reduces paper-use and postage costs for the town somewhat, but the advantage is primarily for you in that you will have a copy that you won't so easily lose track of – hopefully! If you want to add your name to the e-tax bill list, contact me at townoffice@riptonvt.org.

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report (continued)

Dog Licensing

One hundred and five dogs were licensed in Ripton in 2010. State law requires that all dog owners license any dog over 6 months of age with the town clerk between January 1 and March 31 of every year. Fees are: \$8 for neutered or spayed dogs, \$12 for dogs that are not. We need to have a copy of your dog's rabies vaccination certificate on file to issue the license. If your dog's rabies certification expires later in the year, get your license now based on the current certification and send us a copy of the new one when you get it. Dog licenses issued after the deadline will include a late fee.

Elections

In 2010, we had three elections: town meeting, the fall primary (which due to mid-year state legislation ended up being a summer primary!) and the general. Voter turnout for the primary was higher than usual and turnout for the general a little lower than average for our town. Town meeting election day for 2011 is March 1. See the cover page in this report for important deadlines regarding voting. For further information about elections and election issues, contact the town office during office hours, visit the town website at www.riptonvt.org or the Vermont Secretary of State's website at www.sec.state.vt.us.

Ripton Voter Participation

Town Meeting			State & Federal Elections		
Year	Total Voters	Voted	Election	Total Voters	Voted
2010	446	125(28%)	General 2010	451	291(65%)
2009	433	137 (32%)	Primary 2010	447	167 (37%)
2008	424	269 (63%)	General 2008	444	355 (80%)
2007	424	172 (41%)	Primary 2008	431	48 (11%)
2006	450	110 (24%)	General 2006	453	316 (70%)
2005	436	107 (25%)	Primary 2006	428	92 (21%)
2004	405	152 (38%)	General 2004	444	332 (75%)
2003	410	140 (34%)	Primary 2004	438	87 (20%)
2002	375	138 (37%)	General 2002	412	300 (73%)
2001	390	93 (24%)	Primary 2002	381	71 (19%)
2000	352	174 (49%)	General 2000	385	305 (79%)
			Primary 2000	363	123 (34%)

In 2009 Ripton received a round of funds distributed through the state, originally received via the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) passed in 2003. These "HAVA Funds" (as we call them in our budget) may be requested by town clerks to be used for specific items which improve their ability to use the statewide voter checklist. Up to \$6,000 may be applied for by each town to be spent over a two-year election cycle. We applied for and received \$3,341 for computer hardware and software, computer training, and IT support of which \$1,793 was spent in 2009 and the remaining \$1,547 was available to spend in 2010. We ended up not doing some training that we had applied for, so only \$220 was spent in 2010. The remaining \$1,327 was returned to the state where it goes back into the pot to be available for the same purposes in the future.

Not to be confused with HAVA "funds", Ripton also received a HAVA "grant" in 2010. These monies (up to \$5,000) are applied for in a more formal grant process and may be used to improve accessibility at polling places. Since Ripton uses the town office as a polling place for primary elections (which are federal), and because the town office is considered a polling place for early/absentee voting for all federal elections, we were able to apply for this grant to improve accessibility to the town office. Oddly enough, the town office bathroom is handicap accessible, but the entry door to the office building was not. We received \$3,866 to remedy that by widening the doorway, installing a new door, and rebuilding the ramp to the door to meet accessibility specifications.

Listers' Report

Homestead Declarations - new for 2011: The HS-122 homestead declaration form is no longer filed annually. If you filed a declaration last year, you don't need to file this year. If you declared an outbuilding or percentage of your building as rental or business in 2010, it will remain that way until you file a form changing it. Remember that a percentage of a home used for business is only declared if it is greater than 25%.

Common or certified level of appraisal (CLA): The CLA is the ratio of the grand list (list of property and its value) to its "equalized" 100% value based on a state study of three years of property sales. For 2010 the CLA from April 2007-March 2010 sales is **77.44%**, a decrease of 0.85% from 2009.

Coefficient of dispersion (COD): The COD is a measure of equity based on the same sales as the CLA. CODs of 15% and less are considered good. Ours is **19.11%**, suggesting that some properties are over or undervalued relative to others.

Reappraisal: The CLA dropped more than 27% in the four years between April 2004 and April 2008, resulting in an "Order to Reappraise" from the state. For the reappraisal, we purchased a computer-assisted-mass-appraisal (CAMA) program in 2010 that is used by 187 Vermont towns and supported by the state through frequent updates, customization and training. We will photograph and inspect properties in March, April and May, with a goal of completing the reappraisal in 2011.

Lister education: One lister completed three courses related to the CAMA program in 2010, and two courses related to the grand list program.

Sales Data and Property Transfers: The table on the next page shows sales data from 2007-2009. There were 44 property transfers in 2010, but only 10 of these were sales. Seven of the sales were during March-May, followed by three sales from August-October. The 2010 sales will continue to lower the CLA.

Explanation of the table:

- Location: the street address. If there is no street number, it is because there is no building.
- Acres: the number of acres shown on the town tax maps.
- Category: state defined property designations. S is seasonal, V is vacation, R is residential, MH is mobile home. Letters followed by 1 contain less than six acres; letters followed by 2 have 6 or more acres.
- Seller: the seller listed on the property transfer form.
- Date: month and year of sale.
- Sale price: price reported on the property transfer form.
- Listed value: the property value in the town grand list as of April 1 of that year. However, the value is from the most recent town-wide reappraisal; for most properties this is the value as of April 2004. For properties with construction since 2004, the value is the value as of April 1st of the year of the most recent appraisal notice, but based on April 2004 construction costs and land values.
- Ratio: the ratio of the sales price versus the town's grand list value. Ratios greater than 100% show that a property sold for less than its grand list value, and those less than 100% sold for more than their grand list value.

Listers' Report (continued)

2010 Sales Data							
Location	Acres	Category	Seller	Date	Sale Price	Listed Value	Ratio
2709 Natural Turnpike	0.1	S1	Barrows Est	09/10	31,000	21,600	69.67
2571 North Branch	1.0	S1	Livingston	05/10	75,000	53,200	70.93
935 North Branch Rd	2.3	R1	Caswell	05/10	200,000	171,300	85.65
31 Burnt Hill Rd	3.4	R1	Poole	10/10	215,000	133,800	71.00
1062 North Branch Rd	4.1	R1	Pounds	03/10	240,000	176,000	73.33
2960 Natural Turnpike	10.0	R2	Wilson	05/10	260,000	185,700	71.42
Old Town Rd	10.5	land	Wilson	08/10	40,000	42,400	106.00
254 North Branch Rd	16.0	R2	Posdamer Est	05/10	125,000	112,700	90.16
2189 North Branch Rd	20.0	R2	Bach	05/10	417,500	295,800	70.85
498 Scott Rd	27.4	S2	Maranhas	05/10	180,000	139,000	77.22
2009 Sales Data							
2777 Route 125	1.3	R1	Reichert	08/09	169,000	123,500	73.08
31 Burnt Hill Rd	3.4	R1	And.-Haff.	07/09	189,000	133,800	70.79
2074 Natural Turnpike	10.1	R2	Shadbolt	09/09	199,900	142,500	71.29
2848 Route 125	13.0	R2	Hotte, et al	01/09	267,500	173,000	64.67
353 Billings Farm Rd	13.0	R2	Gallagher	05/09	189,000	185,000	97.88
299 County Crossroad	15.3	R2	McDaniel	04/09	205,000	142,000	69.26
2008 Sales Data							
1361 Route 125	2.0	R1	Lacey,Sturges	07/08	165,000	135,800	82.30
1049 Lincoln Rd	5.5	R1	Clark	06/08	265,000	222,000	83.77
Dugway & N. Branch	7.0	land	Farr	03/08	27,500	27,700	100.73
4120 Lincoln Rd	10.1	land	Manning	03/08	50,000	22,000	44.00
2338 North Branch Rd	10.1	R2	Lemal	10/08	375,000	280,000	74.67
784 Eagles Nest Rd	10.3	V2	McEdward	07/08	200,000	71,500	35.75
299 County Crossroad	15.3	R2	Paczowski	09/08	180,000	142,000	78.89
4443 Lincoln Rd	18.3	MHL	Maynard	05/08	125,000	56,600	45.28
2007 Sales Data							
1411 Route 125	0.3	R1	Shufelt	03/07	160,000	118,700	74.19
Route 125	1.0	land	Punderson	08/07	16,500	18,500	112.12
947 Natural Turnpike	1.1	R1	McClaran	01/07	220,000	137,000	62.27
1169 Route 125	1.1	R1	Dickerson	06/07	185,000	133,000	71.89
21 Murray Lane	2.5	R1	Trask	04/07	192,000	138,100	71.93
77 Old Town Rd	10.4	R2	Beckman	07/07	390,000	368,000	94.36
2189 North Branch Rd	20.0	R2	Lord	08/07	380,000	295,800	77.84

2010 Grand List: The education grand list value increased \$248,700 from 2009 to 2010. The number of parcels increased by 1 to 402, and is expected to decrease in 2011 as contiguous parcels under the same ownership are merged. The category codes for a few properties changed, and the designation V for vacation was changed to S for seasonal in the Form 411, and in the sales data for 2010.

01/25/2011
12:55 pm

Ripton 2010 Billed Grand List
Form 411 - (Town code: 522)
Main District

(Taxable properties only - State and Non-tax status properties are not listed below)

REAL ESTATE Category/Code	Parcel Count	Municipal Listed Value	Homestead Ed Listed Value	Non-Resi Ed. Listed Value	Total Education Listed Value
Residential I R1	115	16,000,200	12,400,500	3,599,700	16,000,200
Residential II R2	122	29,518,500	23,093,400	6,425,100	29,518,500
Mobile Homes-U MHU	2	25,000	3,000	22,000	25,000
Mobile Homes-L MHL	13	761,400	548,100	213,300	761,400
Seasonal I S1	19	964,500	0	964,500	964,500
Seasonal II S2	25	1,831,300	0	1,831,300	1,831,300
Commercial C	17	1,768,600	153,000	1,615,600	1,768,600
Commercial Apts CA	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial I	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities-E UE	1	643,300	0	643,300	643,300
Utilities-O UO	0	0	0	0	0
Farm F	0	0	0	0	0
Other O	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland W	74	4,112,600	332,800	3,779,800	4,112,600
Miscellaneous M	13	415,400	0	415,400	415,400
TOTAL LISTED REAL	401	56,040,800	36,530,800	19,510,000	56,040,800
P.P. Cable	0	0		0	0
P.P. Equipment	0	0			
P.P. Inventory	0	0			
TOTAL LISTED P.P.	0	0		0	0
TOTAL LISTED VALUE		56,040,800	36,530,800	19,510,000	56,040,800
EXEMPTIONS					
Veterans 10K	1	10,000	10,000	0	10,000
Veterans >10K		30,000			
Total Veterans		40,000	10,000	0	10,000
P.P. Contracts	0	0			
Contracts Apprv VEPC	0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	1	284,750			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0	0			
Total Contracts	1	284,750	0	0	0
Farm Stab Apprv VEPC	0	0	0	0	0
Farm Grandfathered	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	0	0			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0	0			
Total FarmStab Contr	0	0	0	0	0
Current Use	36	3,534,600	1,322,100	2,212,500	3,534,600
Special Exemptions	0		0	0	0
Partial Statutory	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total Exemptions		3,859,350	1,332,100	2,212,500	3,544,600
Total Exemptions		3,859,350	1,332,100	2,212,500	3,544,600
TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST		521,814.50			
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			351,987.00	172,975.00	524,962.00
NON-TAX			44 NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411		

Statement of Taxes for 2010

Property Tax Rates for 2010	
Municipal rate (muni)	0.5905
Education homestead rate (HS-ed)	1.8482
Education non-residential rate (NR-ed)	1.7248
Total homestead rate (muni + HS-ed)	2.4387
Total non-residential rate (muni + NR-ed)	2.3153

Tax Calculation		
Grand list (total taxable value of town property)		\$52,181,450
Homestead grandlist*		\$35,168,700
Non-residential grandlist*		\$17,012,750
1% of homestead grand list	\$351,687	
Homestead tax rate	2.4387	
Total Homestead Taxes		\$857,659
1% of non-residential grand list	\$170,128	
Non-residential tax rate	2.3153	
Total Non-Residential Taxes		\$393,896
TOTAL TAXES		\$1,251,555
Total adjustments (credits)	(\$161,824)	
TOTAL TO COLLECT		\$1,089,732
Collected by Nov. due date	\$1,031,682	
Total turned over to Delinquent Tax Collector		\$58,049
<small>*The breakdown of the total grand list into homestead and non-residential in this table varies a little from the breakdown on the Form 411 shown left. This is due to the various times that individuals submit their homestead declarations to the state. The billed property tax total is according to the grandlist as of September 1, 2010. A couple of late-filed homestead declarations occurred after that date, for which we change the grand list but not issue new tax bills.</small>		

Tax Breakdown			
Homestead Taxes	Tax Rate	\$ of Tax Bill	% of Tax Bill
Municipal property tax	0.5905	\$207,671	24%
Education property tax	1.8482	\$649,988	76%
Total		\$857,659	
Non-Residential Taxes	Tax Rate	\$ of Tax Bill	% of Tax Bill
Municipal property tax	0.5905	\$100,460	26%
Education property tax	1.7248	\$293,436	74%
Total		\$393,896	

Percent of taxes billed vs. taxes collected by the November due date									
Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
% Collected	93.8	94.6	95.8	98.0	96.1	93.6	94.4	95.0	94.2

Delinquent Tax Collector's Report

2010 Delinquent Taxes		
Taxes not collected by due date	Collected before Dec 31	Balance Dec 31
\$58,049	\$28,834	\$29,215

Previous Years Delinquent Taxes Collected in 2010	
Tax Year	Collected
2006	\$2,044
2007	\$4,540
2008	\$14,725
2009	\$26,541
Total Collected	\$47,850

Summary Report for Taxes Owed December 31, 2010				
Tax Year	Tax	Penalty	Interest	Total Due
2007	\$4,442	\$355	\$1,223	\$6,020
2008	\$8,934	\$715	\$2,087	\$11,736
2009	\$13,275	\$1,060	\$833	\$15,168
2010	\$29,215	\$2,337	\$431	\$31,984
Total for all years				\$64,908

Delinquent Taxpayer List as of December 31, 2010					
Property Owner	2010	2009	2008	2007	Total
Robert & Dianne Baroz	2,488.04				\$2,488.04 *
Justine Billings (#10008)	1,009.40	135.29			\$1,144.69
Justine Billings (#10062)	672.36				\$672.36
Justine Billings (#10070)	700.39				\$700.39
Lawrence Brodeur		1,876.61	2,437.48	2,029.40	\$6,343.49
David Bralow	19.05				\$19.05 *
Jos Charest/C. Malzac	1,031.19	1,718.51			\$2,749.70
James Daignault	740.65				\$740.65
Bonnie DeGray	1,867.12				\$1,867.12
Jos. & Lisa Durante	3,275.42		3,167.87	415.76	\$6,859.05
Jeremy Grip		4,133.66			\$4,133.66
Malcolm & Barb. Harding	1,120.59				\$1,120.59
Homer Jackson et al	3,144.05				\$3,144.05
George Kirchhoff	1,742.04	646.41	2,058.31	1,982.32	\$6,429.08
Harris Larocque	2,005.15				\$2,005.15
Roger & Debra Larocque	2,490.91	1,701.45			\$4,192.36
W. Manning Life Estate	611.97				\$611.97
Jos. & Bette Matkowski	2,276.74				\$2,276.74
Ian, Brian, John Sr. Peck	1,500.09	1,607.15	228.11		\$3,335.35
John Peck Sr. & Jr.	191.02				\$191.02
Chris/Amber Poploski	19.97	86.17			\$106.14
Wm. & Pamela Randall	2,655.73	1,302.92	3,090.05	1,592.93	\$8,641.63
Kurt & Heidi Stahl	932.13	1,020.47			\$1,952.60
Ronald Stevers	478.80				\$478.80
James Thompson	1,011.08	939.15	753.91		\$2,704.14
Total tax, penalty, and interest due:					\$64,907.82
*Paid in full before the printing of this report.					

Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Historic District Commission

The Planning Commission provides land use planning for the Town, the Zoning Board of Adjustment rules on applications for variances from the Zoning Bylaw and on conditional use applications, and serves as an appeal body for decisions by the Zoning Administrator. The Historic District Commission provides guidance on external changes to properties in the Historic District. The Town Plan, Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, and State statutes guide the decisions of these commissions.

The Planning Commission completed its work on revision of the five-year Town Plan and held a public hearing on the plan revision on 11 May. Following receipt of the plan revision from the Planning Commission, the Ripton Selectboard held a public hearing on it on 26 July and gave its initial approval on the same day. A final hearing and approval by the Selectboard took place on 25 October. The Addison County Regional Planning Commission gave the plan regional approval on 10 November. The Town Plan remains in effect for five years following final Selectboard approval. The Plan and nine accompanying maps are accessible on the Town website at riptonvt.org and in the Town Office.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment approved a Ripton village riverbank erosion mitigation project, and approved erection of a detached accessory dwelling. The Historic District Commission approved a roof replacement and removal of a small barn in the Historic District.

Report of the Ripton Conservation Commission

The Ripton Conservation Commission organized a vernal pool training workshop at the Elementary School on 26 April. The workshop, presented by the Vermont Center for Ecostudies and Arrowwood Environmental, trained 35 citizen scientists from around Addison County to identify and locate vernal pools for a statewide vernal pool atlas. Because they exclude fish that prey on larval amphibians, vernal pools are essential for successful reproduction of several amphibian species.

On 7 June the Ripton Conservation Commission joined forces with the U.S. Forest Service, New England Wildflower Society and the Lincoln Conservation Commission to continue control of wild chervil along the shoulders of the Natural Turnpike. The program's objective is to prevent the spread of chervil northward along the Natural Turnpike into a roadside population of the state-threatened Jacob's ladder in South Lincoln. After three years of control it is not clear if the program will succeed, although far fewer chervil plants were flowering along the Natural Turnpike than in 2009.

The Conservation Commission responded to an Act 250 environmental impact statement prepared by Phelps Engineering for Middlebury College for a project to replace the antiquated and leaky water main between the covered reservoir on the Steam Mill Road and the Bread Loaf Campus. Following a site visit, the Conservation Commission recommended ways to minimize environmental damage across four Class II wetlands along the route of the pipe, and encouraged Middlebury College cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service.

Report of the Ripton Energy Coordinator

The Ripton Energy Assistance Program (REAP) can provide dry, split firewood for residents in need by calling Mac Cox at 388-7820. REAP financial assistance with fuel oil or propane is available for Ripton residents who register with HOPE (formerly ACCAG) at 388-3608.

Following up on Ripton's involvement in the Vermont Community Energy Mobilization Project in 2009, which led to installation of free energy-saving equipment in 60 of Ripton's 200 year-round homes, four households had energy audits in 2010, followed by comprehensive energy saving retrofits based on the recommendations of the energy auditors. All four households took advantage of significant rebates offered by Efficiency Vermont for the energy audits and follow-up energy-saving work. Call Warren King at 388-4082 to get started on your energy savings.

**TOWN OF RIPTON
YEAR-END ZONING REPORT
CALENDAR YEAR 2010**

The numbers and the distribution by type of the zoning applications that were received and processed in calendar year (CY) 2010 can be summarized as follows:

<i>New dwellings</i>	
<i>Permanent/seasonal houses</i>	0
<i>Camps</i>	0
<i>Apartments</i>	1
<i>Mobile homes</i>	0
<i>Replacements</i>	1
<i>Renovations/additions</i>	4
<i>Accessory outbuildings</i>	4
<i>Exempt agricultural outbuildings</i>	0
<i>Ponds/dams/other land development</i>	0
<i>Temporary uses</i>	0
<i>Signs</i>	0
<i>Subdivisions</i>	
<i>Single-lot</i>	0
<i>Multiple lot</i>	0
<i>Boundary adjustments</i>	0
<i>Planned unit developments (PUDs)</i>	0
<i>Renewals of permit</i>	0
<i>Conditional uses</i>	1
<i>Certificates of occupancy</i>	5
<i>Verifications of compliance</i>	7
<i>Notices of Violation</i>	0
<i>Hearing applications</i>	
<i>Zoning Board of Adjustment</i>	
<i>Conditional uses</i>	2
<i>Variances</i>	0
<i>Appeals</i>	0
<i>Planning Commission</i>	
<i>Subdivisions/PUDs</i>	0
<i>Site plan reviews</i>	0
<i>Historic District Commission</i>	
<i>Historic District developments</i>	2

Eleven permit applications were received and processed during the year, including **two** requests for hearings before the Zoning Board of Adjustment for conditional-use approvals, and **two** before the Historic District Commission for a roof replacement and the demolition of a derelict outbuilding on Historic District properties. The applications also included **seven** requests for verification of the compliance of the applicants' property with the provisions of the Town's zoning regulations and sewage ordinance.

Eighteen zoning permits and other written instruments were issued during the calendar year from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010. The direct costs associated with the administration and enforcement of the Town's zoning and subdivision bylaws involved a total invoiced cost of **\$2,741.95** for the Administrative Officer's services, charged against a total of **\$1,340.00** in permit application fees that were assessed and collected, resulting in a net direct cost of administration of **\$1,401.95** for the calendar year.

These figures do not include the costs incurred in warning and convening hearings before the Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment, nor do they include attorneys' fees, when and if the Town elects to retain their services (as, for instance, to pursue litigation in zoning violation cases).

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. Hanson, Administrative Officer, 3 January 2011.

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753 www.acrpc.org Phone: 802.388.3141 Fax: 802.388.0038

Annual Report –Year End June 30, 2010

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following technical assistance and planning to the region during its 2010 fiscal year:

Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping

- Assisted member municipalities creating, adopting and regionally approving their municipal plans.
- Assisted member municipalities creating and adopting local regulations implementing their municipal plan.
- Provided data and mapping products to support on-going municipal planning activities.
- Provided technical assistance to municipal officials concerning regulations relating to municipal government.
- Represented the region in the Act 250 process and at the Public Service Board in Section 248 hearings.

Educational Meetings and Grants

- Hosted an educational workshop series in conjunction with VLCT, presented at the Town Officers Educational Conferences (TOEC) and hosted monthly public meetings on a wide variety of planning topics.
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to help them secure grant funding.
- Hosted a monthly Educational Series on locally available renewable energy and conservation options.

Emergency Planning

- Worked with Addison County’s Emergency Planning Committee and Vermont Emergency Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning efforts, including developing Basic Emergency Operations Plans.
- Presented a “Local Officials Guide to Post-Disaster Financial Recovery” to municipal clerks and treasurers.
- Assisted the Town of Ripton in procuring federal funds for a major mitigation project in the village area.
- Established a “Local Emergency Managers Roundtable” to provide a venue for coordination among members.
- Worked with Vermont Emergency Management to exercise statewide disaster plans.
- Working with UVM Extension to encourage bio-security within the dairy community.
- Conducted geomorphic assessments of rivers and helped communities incorporate the results into plans.

Energy Planning:

- Assist Towns in implementing energy conservation and renewable energy planning, programs and projects.
- Promote regional and statewide educational programs and grant opportunities.
- Collaborate with other organizations to organize a regional Green Energy Expo.
- Produce the “Addison County Pellet Market Feasibility Study”

Transportation Planning

- supported the Addison County Transportation Advisory Committee’s work on structures and regional priorities.
- Supported Addison County Transit Resources by providing funding and technical support.
- Worked with municipalities to produce highway structures inventories of all local roads in the region.
- Performed traffic counts and safety inventories on unsignalized intersections for several municipalities.
- Assisted Towns with enhancement, park and ride and stormwater grants.
- Developed Access Management Plans for several towns.
- Sponsored town transportation studies and Supported municipal capital budget development

Natural Resources Planning

- Implemented a program to assess Brownfields within the region.
- The Natural Resource Committee is updating the Natural Resource section of the Regional Plan
- Actively support the efforts of the Addison County Watershed Collaborative.
- obtained a Forest Stewardship grant to assist municipalities and landowners.

Addison	Bridport	Bristol	Cornwall	Ferrisburgh	Goshen	Leicester
Lincoln	Middlebury	Monkton	New Haven	Orwell	Panton	Ripton
Salisbury	Shoreham	Starksboro	Vergennes	Waltham	Weybridge	Whiting



Recycling Report

Recycling and trash drop-off is from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on the first and third Saturdays of each month at the town shed on Peddlers Bridge Road. The recycling charge is \$3 per load; trash disposal is \$3-4 per bag. Please take advantage of these services. Remember: burning household waste in burn barrels is illegal; the fumes pose a serious danger to downwind neighbors and violators are subject to a fine.

The following may be recycled in the big red roll-off:

- * Clean metal food or beverage containers, preferably flattened, labels OK
- * Aluminum foil, pie and baking tins
- * Glass bottles and jars, no caps
- * Plastic containers and lids with a triangular recycling symbol (any number 1-7)
- * Mixed paper, including newspaper, magazines, catalogs, boxboard, paperback and telephone books, white or colored office paper, junk mail, construction paper, paper towels, unrecusable paper bags and egg cartons, paper-lined (no plastic liner) grain sacks, wrapping paper (except metallized paper)

Into the brown dumpster outside the shed:

- * Corrugated cardboard only, flattened

Elsewhere in the shed:

- * Books
- * Hazardous household batteries: lithium, nickel-cadmium, nickel metal hydride, sealed lead acid and button. Alkaline batteries are not hazardous waste and should be put in the trash. Check carefully that you are not throwing away a hazardous battery. If in doubt, bring it in.
- * Redeemable cans and bottles (proceeds go to Friends of the Ripton School)
- * Plastic shopping bags (#2 in the triangle)
- * Clean brown paper bags, whole cardboard egg cartons
- * Styrofoam packing peanuts (no blocks, chunks or sheets)
- * Scrap metal of all shapes and sizes

We will have to reject:

- * Any container with food residue
- * Plastic containers without the recycling symbol
- * Bottle and jar caps
- * Sheet glass, dishware, goblets and drinking glasses, Pyrex, light bulbs
- * Coated cardboard milk or juice containers, waxed, carbon or metallized paper, ribbon, plastic-lined grain sacks
- * Car batteries (take to the transfer station on Route 7 South, Middlebury)
- * Fluorescent bulbs (contain trace amounts of mercury, take to transfer station)
- * Motor oil containers

In 2010 the average number of households using the recycling center each drop-off was 50.8, an increase from 45.9 in 2009. More residents are using the recycling center during hours when it is not officially open for business. If you wish to drop off materials when the center is not open, please obtain the recycling coordinator's approval beforehand, and bring your \$3 fee to the town clerk or to the next recycling drop-off.

Under assumptions similar to those made since 1994, Ripton's total waste stream in 2010 was 220.76 tons, an increase from 216.62 tons in 2009. Recyclable waste comprised 48.63 percent of the total, slightly lower than 50.2 percent in 2009, but still a highly satisfactory percentage.

Ripton's residents support recycling through their use of the service and their willingness to volunteer three hours every three years to keep it running. Contact the town clerk (388-2266) or Barry or Warren King (388-4082) if you would like to help.

Green Up Day In 2011 Green Up Day is Saturday, May 7th. Contact Steve Zwicky (388-2301) or Warren King (388-4082) to find out how you can participate.

In January the recycling coordinator became a recycling committee with the addition of three members:
David Konopke 388-4296 Steve Zwicky 388-2301
Barry King 388-4082 Warren King 388-4082



ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 19 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Pantton, Ripton, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors composed of one representative and one alternate from each of the member municipalities. The Board meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission Office, 14 Seminary Street, in Middlebury. The public is invited to attend.

District Mission

To seek environmentally sound & cost effective solutions for:

1. Promoting **waste reduction**
2. Promoting **pollution prevention**
3. Maximizing **diversion** of waste through reuse, recycling and composting
4. Providing for **disposal** of remaining wastes

District Office and Transfer Station

Telephone: (802) 388-2333

Fax: (802) 388-0271

Website: www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org

E-mail: acswmd@acswmd.org

Transfer Station Hours:

M-F, 7 AM–3 PM & Sat, 9 AM–1 PM

Office Hours: M-F, 8 AM–4 PM

HazWaste Center Hours (as of 1/1/11): M-F, 8 AM–Noon & Sat, 9 AM–Noon

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are located at 1223 Rt. 7 So. in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and transfers it to out-of-District disposal facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off a variety of other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. The District HazWaste Center will now be open **six days a week** in 2011. The ***Reuse It or Lose It!*** program accepts reusable household goods and building materials. A complete list of acceptable items and prices is posted on the District's website.

2010 News Highlights

The District is the first community to reach the State's 50% goal for diverting solid waste from disposal! In 2010, District staff completed an Implementation Report to analyze current data regarding the District's progress in achieving its mission. The Report shows that a "pay-as-you-throw" pricing system and the "single stream" collection of recyclables have resulted in a 50% diversion rate in the District in 2009. The District also achieved the highest recycling rate - 7 lbs/per capita - for Electronic Waste (E-Waste). The 2009 data confirms that member municipalities have achieved a 99% beneficial use rate for biosolids.

Illegal burning and dumping complaints have declined by 30% since October 2009. The District continued to serve as county coordinator and to provide free disposal of the 22 tons of waste collected on Green Up Day this year. The District began a new service in 2010, offering free waste audits to local businesses.

2011 Budget

The District's 2011 Annual Budget is \$2,410,761, a 1.9% increase. The Board maintained the \$125/ton tipping fee for Municipal Solid Waste and Construction & Demolition Debris at its Transfer Station. Several other fees were reduced effective 1/1/11. Covered E-Waste (computers, peripherals & TVs) under the new state law will be accepted at no charge beginning on 7/1/11. There will be no assessments to member municipalities in 2011. For a copy of the full Implementation Report, 2010 Annual Report and/or District rate sheet, please call the District, or visit the District website.

Green Mountain National Forest 2010 Report for Town Meeting Day

We are proud that the Green Mountain National Forest is part of Vermont and part of your town. It is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous green space in the state. Our desire is to achieve quality public land management under the sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of the people—people in your town as well as all the visitors who come every year. Below is a brief summary of what happened to your National Forest during fiscal year 2010:

Land Acquisition

The Forest grew by 54 acres through the acquisition of 1 parcel of land in the Town of **Goshen**. The National Forest is now approximately 398,000.00 acres, more or less.

Heritage Program

In partnership with the Vermont Archaeological Society (VAS), Green Mountain Club, and UVM's Consulting Archaeology Program, the Forest sponsored a prehistoric excavation in **Mt Tabor** and **Wallingford** at Little Rock Pond during July and early August. Over 90 person days were volunteered by VAS members as we recovered quartzite artifacts deposited thousands years ago. The project was in anticipation of the construction of a new trail shelter which was erected over Labor Day weekend.

ARRA funding underwrote the rehabilitation of the Stratton Mountain Fire Lookout Tower in the town of **Stratton**. New steps, roof, railings and paint will help preserve the more than 75 year old Tower.

Engineering

The engineers had quite an active year in 2010 with Forest Road resurfacing, fish passage culvert designs and construction, several bridge constructions, and trail maintenance. In **Chittenden**, Lefferts Pond Dam was reconstructed and at the **Stratton** Mountain fire tower, Texas Falls (**Hancock**), Robert Frost Trail (**Ripton**), and Falls of Lana, vault toilet reconstruction & decommissioning was accomplished.

Recreation Programs

Along with the continuous support and hard work of numerous volunteers and organizations, the Recreation, Trails & Wilderness Management staff had a successful year maintaining public recreation opportunities and wilderness areas. Several of the Forest Service partners, such as: **Vermont Association of Snow Travelers** (VAST), the **Green Mountain Club** (GMC), the **Catamount Trail Association** (CTA), **Vermont Youth Conservation Corp** (VYCC), the **Moosalamoo Association**, and the **Vermont Mountain Bike Association** (VMBA) and many more, continue to help us provide a quality recreation experience in alignment with an environmental stewardship ethic. We wish to thank these organizations and the town volunteers who helped us.

Fisheries Habitat Improvement Completed or Scheduled in 2010

Much of the work accomplished last year was done through cooperative efforts between the GMNF and other Federal and state agencies, NGOs and private citizens including volunteers with a shared goal of enhancing or restoring fish populations and habitat in streams and ponds throughout the Forest. Accomplishments included: fish stocking in the towns of **South Wallingford, Mt. Tabor, Peru, Rochester, Sunderland, and Stratton**; youth fishing derby in Rochester with over 150 participants; stocking Atlantic salmon fry into 13 streams totaling over 80 miles in the towns of **Granville, Hancock, Rochester, Pittsfield, Stockbridge, Bethel, Peru, Londonderry, Weston, Landgrove and Mt. Tabor**; restored fish habitat in about one-half mile of the Batten Kill in **Arlington**, one-half mile of Greendale Brook and one-quarter mile of Jenny Coolidge Brook in **Weston**, one mile of Sparks Brook in Ripton, one mile of Townsend Brook in **Pittsfield**, one-quarter of Joe Smith Brook and one half-mile of Bingo Brook in **Rochester**. Thanks to all the volunteers and Partners.

Forest Vegetation Management

FY 2010 Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) and Reforestation Accomplishments included: Stewardship Contracts, including with the National Wild Turkey Federation in **Winhall and Peru**; two timber sale contracts, one in **Winhall** and another in **Ripton**; completed an environmental analysis for the Upper White River project in

Hancock/Granville; Completed about 1,000 acres of forest inventory and migrated legacy plot data representing roughly 350,000 acres of National Forest; coordinated invasive insect surveys and control efforts through a "Don't Move" firewood program; site preparation for natural tree regeneration for reforestation after harvest; and provided maple tapping opportunities to 5 individual permits in the towns of **Lincoln, Stockbridge, Pomfret and Mt. Tabor.**

Environmental Planning

In Fiscal year 2010, the Environmental Planning team completed thirty-seven National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decision and analysis documents for projects on the GMNF.

Watershed Improvement

Several projects implemented in FY2010 contributed to watershed improvement. They were in **Readsboro, Dover and Somers**. These watershed improvement projects were varied, including non-native invasive species (NNIS) control, dump clean-up, fisheries habitat improvement, flood damage repair, erosion and sediment control, revegetation of bare soil areas, and stream channel restoration.

Forest Ecosystem Monitoring

Five new monitoring plots were established as part of our Long-term Ecosystem Monitoring project, a joint effort with the Forest Service Northern Research Station in Durham, N.H. Plots were established on the north half of the Forest in the Towns of **Leicester, Rochester, Salisbury, and Lincoln.**

Essex High School triumphed in the Vermont Envirothon

Essex High School won the **Vermont Envirothon** and represented Vermont at the **North American Canon Envirothon** in Fresno, California.

Grantwriting Workshops Attended by 18 Towns Surrounding GMNF

During the past year, 81 people participated in free Grantwriting Workshops offered by the Green Mountain National Forest. Fifty of the participants came from the following Forest-impacted towns: **Arlington, Bennington, Brandon, Bristol, Dorset, Dover, Granville, Landgrove, Lincoln, Leicester, Londonderry, Manchester, Middlebury, Peru, Pittsfield, Rochester, Rutland, Shaftsbury, Starksboro, Sunderland, Wardsboro and Wilmington.**

Forest Service Offices in Vermont: Offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm

Rutland —Forest Headquarters Phone: 802-747-6700	Manchester —Ranger Station Phone: 802-362-2307
Rochester —Ranger Station Phone: 802-767-4261	Middlebury —Ranger Station Phone: 802-388-4362

That's our town report for 2010. Together, we can maintain and improve this valuable green treasure.

Contacts:

Alex Sienkiewicz, District Ranger, South Half -- Manchester Ranger District 802-362-2307	Greg Smith, District Ranger, North Half -- Rochester & Middlebury Ranger Districts 802-767-4777
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COLLEEN MADRID
Forest Supervisor
802-747-6704

Summaries of Town Ordinances

Regulations Related to Roads and Trails

- Special Regulations Governing Obstructions to Highways: Effective October 1973. Regulates the construction of driveways that join town roads.
- Special Regulation as to Speed of Motor Vehicles: Effective October 1973.
- Speed Ordinance: Effective December 1989. Sets a 35 mph speed limit on all town roads.
- Speed Ordinance: Effective January 1999. The town's speed limit for Route 125 is identical to the speed limit set by the State.
- Trails Ordinance: Effective November 2004. Regulates the use of town trails for the general good of the town.
- Stop Sign Ordinance: Effective November 2009. Regulates the operation and use of motor vehicles at intersections controlled by stop signs.

Health and Sewage Ordinances

- Health Ordinance: Effective November 1983. Sets standards for septic systems.
- Sewage Ordinance: Effective April 1989. Updates the 1983 Health Ordinance. Revised 2005. (Beginning July 1, 2007, sewage permits must be applied for directly from the State of Vermont.)

Flood Related Ordinances

- Flood Hazard Ordinance: Effective September 1985. Protects public health and safety from the hazards of flooding and is required for eligibility for Federal Flood Insurance.
- Flood Plain Ordinance: Effective May 1990. Revises the 1985 Ordinance.
- Flood Erosion Hazard Overlay District: Effective October 2009. Controls development within areas depicted on the most current Fluvial Erosion Hazard (FEH) maps.

Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances

- Zoning Ordinance: Effective March 1989. Regulates development. Historic district added in 1995. Revised 2003. Revised 2006.
- Subdivision regulations: Effective March 2003. Revised 2006.

Other Ordinances:

- Open Container Ordinance: Effective February 1988. Regulates alcohol consumption in public places.
- Dog Ordinance: Effective November 1993. Dogs running loose and causing a nuisance may be controlled by the town.
- Junk Ordinance: Effective July 2005. Regulates the outdoor storage of junk and junk vehicles. Revised 2006.

Complete copies of all ordinances are available at the town office or at www.riptonvt.org.

Permit Information

Zoning and Sewage permits are required prior to any land development or change of use.

Contact the zoning administrator. (Beginning July 1, 2007, sewage permits must be applied for directly from the State of Vermont. The zoning administrator or town office can provide information about this process.)

Access/Driveway permits are required before altering or building a driveway that connects to a town road.

Contact the selectboard clerk.

Permits for burning brush are required when there is no snow cover. Contact the fire warden. (Burning trash is illegal at all times.)

2011 Funding Requests

The following organizations request town funds. These requests are voted by Australian ballot on town meeting election day, March 1, 2011. For each organization, its name, amount requested, 2010 service provided to citizens of Ripton if available, and mission are stated. Full descriptions, reports, and contact information for all agencies are available at the town office.

Addison County Court Diversion & Community Justice Projects, Inc. Request: \$170. Ripton residents served: 4. Mission: Court Diversion provides a restorative justice response to low level crime and underage drinking. Those who participate in the Court Diversion program or the Teen Alcohol Safety Program have a chance to take responsibility for their actions, connect with the community in a positive way and learn from the experience. A recidivism study shows that 93% of Court Diversion clients were not rearrested.

Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. Request: \$583. Ripton service: 450 visits to patients. Mission: to provide high quality, comprehensive health care to residents of Addison County regardless of their ability to pay.

Addison County Humane Society. Request: \$750.00. Ripton service: 5 animals adopted by residents of Ripton, 4 strays taken in and 1 animal surrendered by a Ripton resident. The cost of care for these animals was \$2,375. Mission: to improve the lives of homeless animals.

Addison County Parent/Child Center. Request: \$600. Ripton residents served: 15. Mission: to provide education to families and assure that our community is one in which all children get off to the right start with the opportunity to grow up healthy, happy, and productive.

Addison Central Teens (ACT). Request: \$1,500. Ripton teens served: 11 who made 363 visits. Mission: provide a safe and welcoming place for teens to socialize after school and throughout the year.

Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR). Request: \$1,355. Provided 1,500 rides to or from Ripton last year; in past 4 years provided more than 4,400 free trips for Ripton residents. Mission: to enhance the economic, social and environmental health of the region by providing safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable public transportation.

Champlain Valley Agency on Aging (CVAA). Request: \$750. Residents served: 13 with 6 participating in the Meals on Wheels Program, and 5 who worked with a case manager. Mission: help people age with independence and dignity by providing vital services that allow elders to remain in their homes.

Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC). Request: \$1,200. Service: 8,974 hours of service to Ripton residents with mental health, substance abuse, or developmental disability needs. Mission: promote stable and safe communities by helping people live emotionally healthy and satisfying lives.

Elderly Services, Inc. Request: \$600. Service: Ripton residents received 1,486 hours of care, 557 meals, and 516 van rides, equal to a cost of \$22,285. Mission: committed to providing the best care possible. That means supporting families in caring for their elderly relatives, catering to individual needs, promoting a sense of caring fellowship; and providing high-quality programs to help elders live safe and satisfying lives in their own homes and communities.

Green Up Vermont. Request: \$50. Serves all. Mission: Vermont's spring clean-up, May 7th this year.

HOPE Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects. Request: \$2,750. Served: 52, provided 513 meals to Ripton households from Sept. 2009-Sept. 2010. Mission: to reduce the effects of poverty in Addison County by providing low-income residents with opportunities for becoming more self-reliant through emergency, basic and enrichment programs delivered in an environment of recognition and respect.

2011 Funding Requests (continued)

Hospice Volunteer Services. Request: \$400. Served: 1 hospice patient. Facilitated discussions at MUHS that included Ripton students; 4 residents are active volunteers. Mission: to provide terminally ill people and their loved ones with physical and emotional support; train and coordinate placement of hospice volunteers; offer services to those who are grieving and promote a healthy community understanding of death, dying, grief and loss.

John W. Graham Emergency Shelter. Request: \$1,400. Provided nearly 5,000 bed nights of food, shelter and hope to more than 150 Addison County residents in 2010, helped 180 people find permanent housing, and assisted 15 families to prevent them from becoming homeless. Mission: serve Addison County's homeless families and individuals, and prevent homelessness.

Mary Johnson Children's Center, Inc. Request: \$350. Locations in Middlebury and East Middlebury (and summers at the Ripton School for the Bread Loaf School of English) offer pre-school care and services to area children.

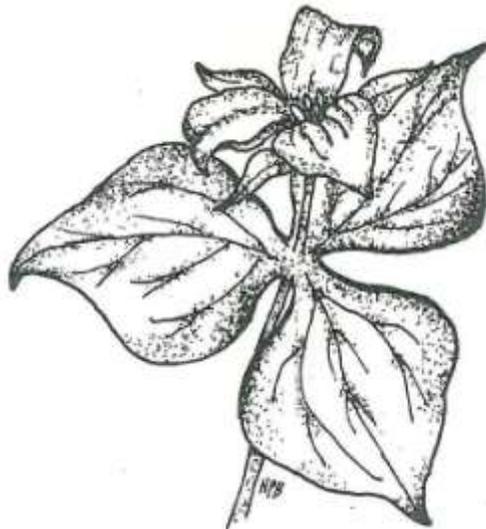
Open Door Clinic. Request: \$500. Served: 11 Ripton citizens used the clinic for 38 visits and case management services. Mission: provide free health care to low-income, uninsured, and under-insured town residents.

Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District. Request: \$48.84. Service: paid half the cost for 2 Ripton students to attend Green Mountain Conservation Camp, sponsored a high school Envirothon team, included 2 Ripton residents in the Farm*A*Syst Program, and worked with 1 Ripton landowner to apply conservation practices. Mission: to furnish free technical assistance to landowners in order to bring about proper land use and treatment.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Request: \$375. Service: Ripton residents used RSVP's free income tax return preparation services, community meals sites, services by volunteer drivers, and Toys for Tots; RSVP served any Ripton resident who was helped by a local service organization. Mission: recruit, place, train and support volunteers in non-profits organizations.

Vermont Adult Learning. Request: \$300.00. Served: 6 Ripton residents. Mission: to help adults achieve their educational goals through free, confidential programs.

WomenSafe, Inc. Request: \$1,000. Served: at least 7 Ripton residents. Mission: works toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change.



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 1, 2010**

The legal voters of the Town of Ripton met at the Ripton Community House on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 8:30 p.m. to act upon articles one through five of the 2010 Town Warning. Approximately 80 people attended.

Moderator Joyce Dicianna called the meeting to order at 8:36 p.m.

Article 1: Will the Town vote the sum of **\$731,268** to pay General Fund and Road expenses for the ensuing year, and pay outstanding orders or obligations of the Town, with interest, the tax rate on the 2010 Grand List to be determined by the Selectboard, divided as follows:

Roads:	\$256,400.00
General Fund:	<u>\$474,868.00</u>
Total:	\$731,268.00

Article 1 was moved by Carol Ford and seconded by Marlene (Mar) Harrison. Discussion followed.

Selectboard Chair, Laureen (Laurie) Cox, reviewed the greatest expenses for 2010: bond payment and Community House painting. This is the first year a full bond amount for 2008 flood reconstruction expense is due, and is further explained in Article 4. The exterior of the Community House is scheduled for painting this summer.

Robert Wagner asked how the cost of painting the Community House compares with the \$17,000 cost of painting the School. Ms. Cox explained that the estimate used in the Town budget was not compared with the School's painting costs. Bill Ford pointed out the many differences between the two buildings such as age, siding material, and height, and added that the current economy is great for hiring contractors and competitive bids are expected. Bill Pierce, Facilities Coordinator, will solicit bids for the Town, and until bids are received the cost is roughly estimated.

Charles Billings asked if any of the \$275,000 bond fund amount is leftover. Laurie Cox answered, yes, and is addressed by Article 4.

Michael Seligmann inquired why the cost of legal services is again twice the yearly budgeted amount. Though several legal issues may face the town in a year, Ms Cox cited an ongoing issue and appeals relative to the Junk Ordinance, and a commitment to enforcing Town ordinances, as reasons.

Discussion turned to roads. Bryan Alexander questioned if a Better Backroads Program grant is approved. Ronald Wimett responded that we will probably get this \$10,000 grant and pay its \$2,500 match, though the money may not appear until next year. No work will begin until the grant is approved. Mr. Wimett described an old agreement between the Town and USFS for \$1,000 annually for road work. When shown documentation about this, the USFS agreed to fund work on the Goshen Road, Steam Mill Road, and a Forest Road off of Brooks Road, not off the Goshen Road as stated on page 9 of Town Report. Ms. Cox added that on a per capita basis Ripton may be a "gold town" in TARP (Troubled Asset Relief Program) funds with funding for the first bridge on the Goshen Road, flood mitigation, and Route 125 paving. Rebecca Purdum asked if repair of the road surface on Natural Turnpike is included. Mr. Wimett explained it is not, and that the road's recent bumpiness is seasonal. The road will be posted for the muddy months. Marlene Harrison asked what is wrong with the bridge on the Goshen Road and commented that the road surface is not great. Ms. Cox and Mr. Wimett described scouring of supports beneath the bridge, and frequent need for fill.

The Moderator called the question. Article 1 was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 2: Will the Town vote the sum of \$23,000 to Ripton Fire and Rescue to help pay Fire Department and First Response expenses for the year?

Article 2 was moved by Barbara King and seconded by Joyce Henderson.

Chief Erik Eriksen asked for questions, and explained that the budget includes \$2,700 for a security system. Last summer windows were broken and the parking lot needed grading because of people doing donuts in the parking area, and this system is to prevent such vandalism. He stated the need for volunteers in all areas, that there are currently only 2 medical people, but there are many things to be done. Mar Harrison suggested a sign-up sheet, and Chief Eriksen directed people to see Roland McGlashan. Edmund (Ed) Sullivan mentioned training is available. Rob Wagner spoke about an upcoming class he is taking despite fear of fires and smoke. He commented that dealing with fire is more process than bravado; that many hands are needed at the station, and the terrifying part is a very small part of the work involved. Marty Kulczyk cited the need for help with traffic control, cleaning, and the opportunities – such as driving antiques.

Charles Billings stated that insurance on homes in Ripton is high due to a lack of hydrants and asked if there are new procedures or equipment to achieve a better fire rating. Erik Eriksen thought not, unless we had another department closer than Middlebury, and commented on our mutual aid agreements with Salisbury, Hancock, and Middlebury. He added that water towers and underground tanks may help, and will get back to Mr. Billings about whether or not they would change rates. Mar Harrison asked about ponds, and was told they help. Jay Harrington suggested sprinkler systems.

Joyce Henderson asked for explanation of the vehicle replacement fund payments. Laurie Cox explained the fund jump-started with a large payment its first year and that subsequently the payment is split with the Major Project Fund. Ms. Cox asked if the Department is still using its old vehicles. Erik Eriksen responded yes, but that purchase of an ambulance from the Brandon Rescue Squad is expected, and he is still looking for a mini-pumper.

Millard (Mac) Cox asked if we get Ripton when we call 911. Erik Eriksen responded that a 911 call made here is first directed to Porter Hospital dispatch, next Ripton first-response is notified. He noted there can be a lag time and gave an example of a 7-minute gap between the ambulance dispatch and the call to Ripton. Mr. Eriksen confirmed to call 911 when we want Ripton to respond.

The Moderator called the question. Article 2 was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 3: Will the Town have current property taxes collected by the Treasurer, with a tax due date of Thursday, November 4, 2010?

Article 3 was moved by Richard Ruane and seconded by Erik Eriksen.

Bonnie DeGray asked why delinquent tax payers are listed in Town Report this year, while they had not been in the last few Town Reports. Laurie Cox explained that the Selectboard decided to include the list because it was growing, and its inclusion seemed to help in the past. The goal is not to make people feel bad, but to help people. It only burdens homeowners if the delinquent amount builds.

The Moderator called the question. Article 3 was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 4: Will the Town vote to have the Treasurer establish an escrow account with \$20,000.00 that was bonded in excess of the amount needed to repay the road repair loans for the 2008 flood, said amount to be used to reduce the bond payments for the first five years by \$4,000.00 per year?

Article 4 was moved by Ed Sullivan and seconded by Erik Eriksen.

Ms. Cox explained that when the Board determined the bond amount, actual costs, reimbursement, and payments from private property owners that reduced the amount needed were not known. The bond, which was \$20,000 greater than needed after payments were received, may not be paid ahead of time. This Article is to permit that we

set aside the excess borrowed and use \$4,000 of it per year for five years to mitigate the payment burden, and put the money back towards that for which it was borrowed.

The Moderator called the question. Article 4 was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 5: Any other business proper to come before this meeting.

Article 5 was moved by Carol Ford and seconded by Ed Sullivan.

- a. **Bill Ford Recognition:** Laurie Cox recognized Bill Ford's probable record 23 ½ years of service as Chair of the Ripton Selectboard. Mr. Ford stepped down from the Board September 1, 2009. He was presented with a rocking chair with a plaque, and the Meeting responded with applause. Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their support, and complemented the meeting as a great town with good municipal officials. "It works," he said.
- b. **Warren King Recognition:** Ms. Cox asked those pinch-hitting for Warren King, who was absent, to speak, and recognized his 20 years of service as Recycling Coordinator. Michael Seligmann asked for a straw vote to rename the Recycling/Town Shed the Kingdome. Laurie Cox said that if the sign is made, it'll be hung.
- c. **Town Plan:** Alison Joseph Dickinson reported that the Town Plan is updated every five years, and the Planning Commission's current revision is nearly done. Maps were shown to illustrate recommendations for future zoning changes such as from a 25-acre to 10-acre district at the east of Maiden Lane to Reichert Lane; from a 10-acre to a 5-acre district on the west side of the Lincoln Road near the School; and from a 10-acre to a 25-acre district at the Wagon Wheel trail, and some new Conservation District areas. Two public hearings, one by the Planning Commission and one by the Selectboard, will be held before the plan is complete. The Town Plan proposes changes to guide future zoning decisions. Changes to zoning regulations are a different process and are not currently underway.
- d. **REAP and Home Energy** (Ripton Energy Alternatives Program): Mac Cox described this fuel support program for Ripton residents. Eligibility for oil, propane, or firewood delivery is determined through HOPE (formerly ACCAG, in Middlebury), though questions may be directed to Mac. Visits for home energy improvements and information about energy audits and efficiency rebates are available for all residents by contacting Warren King at 388-4082.
- e. **Town issues/info/news:** Andrea Chesman remarked upon the trend of increasingly tame Town Meetings, and the problem of keeping the public aware of issues throughout the year. She wondered if Selectboard meeting minutes could be posted electronically to allow more convenient reading than at the bulletin board in the Ripton Country Store. Laurie Cox did not see any reason not to post the Minutes online. Joyce Dicianna added that citizens may bring items to be added to the Town Meeting agenda and warning.
- f. **Route 125:** Though looking forward to a smoother Route 125 after the 2010 repaving project is complete, Bill McKibben asked if anything may be done to slow truck traffic. Laurie Cox reported on the Selectboard's attempts to address this issue, and the effectiveness of direct citizen input in achieving results. Bill Ford and Ron Wimett added detail about online mapping and the effectiveness of signs. Mar Harrison asked about log trucks and was told by the assembly that those would stay.
- g. **Thanks for road maintenance:** Marty Kulczyk recognized and thanked all those who worked on and cleared the roads, especially as early in the morning as they do.
- h. **Community House use in winter:** Eric Warren initiated discussion of winter use of the Community House, noting the importance of the building to the community. Laurie Cox responded that the building

is extremely expensive to heat, and cited ongoing furnace problems and freezing pipes. Ron Wimett explained that the pipes are drained and the heat is kept at a low temperature to protect the paint. He noted the large, single-pane glass windows as a problem and that the Board looked into getting drapes, but it all boils down to money. The possibility of grants was discussed with Mac Cox speaking in favor, and Michael Seligmann asking if an energy audit has been done. The Board reported that an audit was done in the 1980's, and Bill Ford added that the walls were insulated then. Charles Billings estimated window replacement at \$30-50,000. Exterior glazing and drapes were further discussed. Andrea Chesman asked if the cost per day of additional expense of opening the building could be calculated and a renter pay that amount. Laurie Cox and Ron Wimett thought this possible, and that they would err on the high side. Ross Elliot asked if anyone looked into radiant heat, and suggested federal funding such as currently available for schools. Ms. Cox mentioned that grants had been sought for energy projects and that this building is less likely than a school to win a grant award. Erik Warren stated his concern that the Ripton Community Coffee House is not able to be here; an important aspect of the community for him is to come out and be here at the Community House. Laurie Cox questioned if it is best to push up the heat for one night in an old building. Ross Elliot added that it is a *community* house. Ms. Cox said the Board does its best to make responsible decisions, but that if people want to spend the money, the Board could think about this. Bill Pierce stated that the building is only closed for two months. Charles Billings suggested a meter on the furnace to see what the cost of turning it up is, and allowing the Coffee House to pay the difference. Alison Joseph asked what the thermostat setting is when the building is closed. Bill Pierce answered 50-55 degrees. Joyce Dicianna commented on the great amount of interest in this topic, and that like minds could work together to look into it. Laurie Cox announced that renters now must provide insurance for private use. She added that this may make the building less usable and was not the Board's choice but is due to the Town's insurer, VLCT. Charles Billings asked if renters may get a rider on their homeowner's policy for coverage, and for clarification about community vs. private use, and the Coffee House. Ms. Cox answered that her insurer will issue coverage though she did not propose all types of rental possibilities, and that the Coffee House is a quasi-branch of Town business and is covered under its rental agreement with the Town. Ross Elliot asked if other insurance companies were considered. Laurie Cox said yes, and that all towns are dealing with this. Mr. Elliot inquired about the alcohol policy. Ms. Cox responded that alcohol is prohibited outside the building, per the Town's Open Container Ordinance, but is allowed inside if approved by the Selectboard. Rob Wagner invited all to a potluck he is hosting at the Community House on April 10th, and said having insurance coverage was an easy process.

The Moderator asked if there was any more business. There was not. Movement to adjourn was made by Erik Eriksen and seconded by Richard Ruane. With a unanimous voice vote, Town Meeting of March 1, 2010 adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Joyce Dicianna announced that the meeting would reconvene at 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at the Town Offices to vote by Australian ballot on election of Town officers and Articles 1-2 of the 2010 Town of Ripton Warning.

Joyce Dicianna, Town Moderator

Sally Hoyler, Town Clerk

Ripton Selectboard

Laurie Cox, Chair

Ronald Wimett

Richard Collitt

WARNING**TOWN OF RIPTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING****FEBRUARY 28, 2011 AT 7:30 pm**

The legal voters of the Town of Ripton are warned to meet at the Community House in Ripton on Monday, February 28, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. to transact the following business:

Article 1: Will the Town vote the sum of **\$671,791.00** to pay General Fund and Road expenses for the ensuing year, and pay outstanding orders or obligations of the Town, with interest, the tax rate on the 2011 Grand List to be determined by the Selectboard, divided as follows:

Roads, Including Winter Work	\$ 386,550.00
General Fund Costs	\$ 285,241.00
Total	\$ 671,791.00

Article 2: Will the Town vote the sum of \$31,100 to Ripton Fire and Rescue to help pay Fire Department and First Response expenses for the year?

Article 3: Will the Town have current property taxes collected by the Treasurer, with a tax due date of Thursday, November 3, 2011?

Article 4: Will the Town vote to add two additional selectboard members to bring the selectboard to five members with the two new members to serve terms of two years with one initial term to be one year so that the two year terms will be staggered?

Article 5: Any other business proper to come before this meeting.

The Meeting will recess until 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 1, 2011 to act upon the following articles by Australian Ballot.

Polls in the Ripton Town Office will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Article 1: To elect the following officers:

Town Moderator for a one year term	Selector for a three year term
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a one year term	Constable for a one year term
Town Agent for a one year term	Town Grand Juror for a one year term
Agent to Convey Real Estate for a one year term	Lister for a three year term

Article 2: To approve or disapprove the following allocations from the General Fund. The total amount to be allocated is **\$14,681.84**.

Addison County Court Diversion & Community Justice Projects	\$ 170.00
Addison County Home Health and Hospice	\$ 583.00
Addison County Humane Society	\$ 750.00
Addison County Parent Child Center	\$ 600.00
Addison County Teens (ACT)	\$ 1,500.00
Addison County Transit Resources	\$ 1,355.00
Champlain Valley Agency on Aging	\$ 750.00
Counseling Service of Addison County	\$ 1,200.00
Elderly Services	\$ 600.00
Green Up Vermont	\$ 50.00
Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE, formerly ACCAG)	\$ 2,750.00
Hospice Volunteer Services	\$ 400.00
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter	\$ 1,400.00
Mary Johnson Child Center	\$ 350.00
Open Door Clinic	\$ 500.00
Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 48.84
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	\$ 375.00
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 300.00
WomenSafe, Inc.	\$ 1,000.00
Total	\$14,681.84

Lauren Cox

Ronald Wimett

Richard Collitt

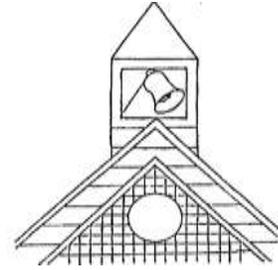
Selectboard for the Town of Ripton
January 25, 2011

ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT RIPTON, VERMONT MARCH 1, 2011

Instructions to voters: To vote for a person whose name is on the ballot, mark a cross (X) in the square to the right of that person's name. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write the person's name on the blank line in the appropriate block.

<p>Moderator (Town & School) for a 1 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Joyce Dicianna..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Lister for a 3 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Alison Joseph..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Selector for a 3 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Laureen Cox..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Kathleen Sullivan..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>UD#3 School Director for a 3 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Jerome Shedd..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Town Agent for a 1 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Chris Smith..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Agent to Convey Real Estate for a 1 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Willem Jewett..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Grand Juror for a 1 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Richard "Kim" Kimler..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Constable for a 1 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Chris Smith..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>School Director for a 3 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Connie Trudeau..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>School Director for a 2 year term. Vote for not more than one.</p> <p>Michael Hussey..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

RIPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



This year has been marked by a number of additions to our Ripton School community. We have two new teachers and a learning specialist who have brought new energy and talents to the school. We have also had a number of new students join our school. In addition to our new preschool class, we have enrolled six new students over the course of the year, so even with anticipated declining enrollment we were able to hold steady and meet our forecast of 45 students for this school year. The Ripton School continues to thrive offering a unique and vibrant program with many special offerings in the arts, outdoor education, individualized attention, and democratic principles. We continue to be vigilant about evaluating our expenses and aligning our staff numbers with student needs. In the current year, this will mean a .80 FTE reduction in paraprofessional staff to meet changing case loads. The next few years will be marked by a focus on long range planning and analysis looking at how to ensure that the Ripton School continues to thrive and support our community in the years to come in an economically viable way.

Highlights

We continue to use many creative ways to focus on language and literacy development at Ripton Elementary School. Students are routinely engaged in multiple language and literacy opportunities. We continue to use the arts as a way to develop student's critical thinking skills and as another way to understand new information and communicate ideas. We are continually working on ways for students to have joyful and meaningful reading and writing experiences. In addition to literacy blocks and workshops throughout the day, we all read after lunch. On Wednesday afternoons students and teachers gather for a weekly All School Read to share our reading experience. Teachers routinely engage their students in a multi-faceted approach to literacy instruction providing each student with creative and engaging ways to develop their language skills. The "Foundations" program continues to be used for literacy skill building in grades K-3.

We continue to use our integrated theme studies as a way for students to explore new topics in a natural way. We work as a team to develop interdisciplinary learning opportunities. This fall we studied Vermont. Teachers create developmentally appropriate theme studies ranging from our beginning primary unit students studying the Lake Champlain Basin to a study of the Long Trail by the intermediate unit. Our students explored the concept of a watershed and how everyone can play an active role in keeping our lake and streams clean. Students explored local history and developed topographic maps and wrote books about the Green Mountains. In this way, our teachers provided place-based learning opportunities for our students to make meaningful connections to their local environment. We culminated our fall study with a presentation night to share our projects with parents and the local community. In December, students engaged in a short study of Winter Solstice. Students learned why the days are shorter this time of year and how this connects to everything from nature's cycles to religious and winter traditions. We culminated this study with a Solstice celebration that incorporated a planetarium, shadow art, candle making, a community celebration of the return of the light, and a wildlife tree.

All School Meeting continues to be an important part of our curriculum where fifth and sixth grade students are given the opportunity to run the meeting and incorporate student driven activities into the

meeting. This weekly ritual allows students to expand their language and literacy skills and social development as they participate actively in community life.

We are currently involved in an integrated theme study of motion, forces, and energy. You can see students put ideas into action with new pulleys and ramps being created throughout the school. In February, we will have a series of events to celebrate literacy, starting with a special guest, Vermont author, Natalie Kinsey-Warnock. We will also be participating in a series of events including: All School Read and Literature Circles for a selected book, Dress Up as Your Favorite Book Character Day, and Poem in Your Pocket day.

We continue to use the Bridges Math program for grades K-5. This elementary Math program has been selected by a number of schools throughout the state as it provides a unique blend of problem solving and skill building. The Bridges curriculum helps students develop their understanding of math concepts through the combination of whole-group, small-group and independent activities. Through exploration of math manipulatives where they can see, touch, and sketch out their ideas to test their reasoning, students are able to more fully understand and develop their mathematical thinking skills.

Middlebury College students play an important role at Ripton Elementary School. Each Friday, a number of Middlebury College hockey players serve as mentors for our students. Mentors work one-on-one with students, reading with students, getting to know them, and acting as role models. We also have regularly had student teachers work with our students as part of the Midd Arts program, bringing ideas from their classroom seminar to our students connecting the arts with all areas of learning. We greatly appreciate the energy and talent these students bring to our school.

We would like to thank FORS and all of our community members who support our outstanding school with tax dollars, gifts, time, and energy. The Ripton Ridge Run, Thanksgiving Feast, and Community Garden are a few excellent examples of the generous support we receive from our local community. We are fortunate to live in a community that supports quality education for all its children.

The Staff and School Board of the Ripton Elementary School



Making the most of a long snowy winter.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Marta Beede	Principal
Melissa Kittell	PreK and Kindergarten
Charlotte Holmquist	Grades 1 and 2
Susan Ogilvie	Grades 3 and 4
Charles McCarthy	Grades 5 and 6
Alysia Duncanson	Learning Specialist
Cathy Clarke	Physical Education
Terry Close	Speech/Language Pathologist
Linda Kautzman	Library/Media Director
Christine Jenkins*	Art
Sarah Metcalf*	Music
Wendy Whaley-Sauder*	Guidance Counselor
Barbara Thompson-Snow*	Nurse
Jorene Doria	Special Education Paraprofessional
Sarah Harrison Lynn	Classroom and Speech/Language Paraprofessional and First Aid Designee
Nancy Whittemore	Classroom and Title I Paraprofessional
Kathleen Angier	Meals Program Director
Wendy Leeds	Administrative Assistant
Roger Larocque	Custodian
Marty Whittemore	Bus Driver

*Shared ACSU Personnel



Thanks to local volunteers for knitting hats, mittens, and scarves.

**RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
2010-2011 PreK-12 ENROLLMENT**

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Molly Allen
Kaylee Dutton
Baxter Harrington
Will Maheu
Eric Poploski

KINDERGARTEN

Audrey Dutton
Clyde Malhotra
Jacob Terrien
Jack Trudeau

GRADE 1

Alyza Alger
Mollee Codding
Phoebe Hussey
Natalie Steadman
Henry Swan

GRADE 2

Camille Malhotra

GRADE 3

Kyle Booska
Wren Colwell
Timothy Goettelmann
Rosemary Maheu
Katelyn Warner

GRADE 4

Tristan Durante
Nanja Horning
Justin Jackson
Wesley Miller
Ethan Poploski
Joshua Randall
Harley Williams

GRADE 5

Ella Beattie
Treed Brooks
Alyson Chione
John David Goettelmann
Scherina Havens
Thomas Hussey
Abigail Jewett
Emma Jones
Kayli Manning
Andre Trudeau

GRADE 6

Owain Alexander
Nick Beattie
Ryan Cook
Bryce Kowalczyk
Sully Swearingen
Hannah Williams
Claire Wulfman

GRADE 7

Keith Charbonneau
Sebastian Durante
Harlee Gero
Justin Seguin
Jesse Trudeau
Dylan Warner

GRADE 8

Jordan Codding
Jennifer Cyr
Jessica Cyr
Alec Jones
Brendan Mulholland
Meghan Mulholland

GRADE 9

Justina Baker
Jacob Codding
Jeffrey Cook
Naina Horning
Peter Manning

GRADE 10

Gwynneth Alexander
Lydia Allen
Nathan Billings
Hannah Osborne
Ashley Smith
Katelyn Williams
Nathaniel Wulfman

GRADE 11

Grace Carter
Britta Clark
Michelle DeRosier
Yibekal Lacey
Peter Lewis
Cody McGlashan
Malcolm Mulholland
Eben Schumacher
Austin Wyrocki
Miles Zwicky

GRADE 12

Kyle Charbonneau
Benjamin Cook
Kelsey McGlashan
Sean Mulholland
Samantha Seguin

FRIENDS OF RIPTON SCHOOL

Friends of the Ripton School (FORS) is a group of volunteers who work together to make the Ripton Elementary School the best it can be. We organize fundraising and other events at the school and in the community. This past year FORS fully or partially funded a variety of activities and events including: a week of artist in residency on South America, 5/6 class trip, 5/6 week at Keewaydin, items for the Community Garden, chairs for the library, teacher supplies, field trips, Ripton Summer Day Camp, and the opportunity to ski cross country and downhill.

FORS mission statement: The Friends of Ripton School provide the Ripton Elementary School support through volunteering and funding to enhance and enrich the school environment by facilitating academic programs, extracurricular activities, events, and materials, which are designed to meet the expectations and changing needs of the school throughout and beyond the academic school year.

FORS meets bi-monthly to plan events, approve funding requests, and discuss a variety of issues. Members are typically parents of Ripton Elementary School students, **however, we cordially invite any interested community member to join us.** We know Ripton is rich with diversely talented people who might be interested in spending time at the school, and we welcome your interest and involvement at any level. Some examples of participation have included; the community garden, pottery, reading a story, helping at recess, driving for field trips, cooking, art projects, singing, dancing, and teaching martial arts. The school belongs to the community, and we warmly invite you to experience the happenings at Ripton Elementary. **Also, FORS greatly appreciates and thanks all those involved in the Ripton Ridge Run** (see report on the Ridge Run below contributed by Barry King).

For more information contact FORS chairperson, Lisa Whitman, at wht78vette@hotmail.com or 388-0147. For a weekly calendar of school events via email, contact Wendy Leeds at wleeds@acsu.k12.vt.us.

Ripton Ridge Run report: The Ripton Ridge Run is the major fund-raiser for FORS. In 2010, the 23rd annual Ridge Run, the event raised over \$5700. The Ridge Run is truly a community affair. Dozens of Ripton adults and students were among the 200 people who ran or walked in the event, including Jennifer Cyr who won the Women's 5K. Dozens more Ripton residents volunteered their time to make the day a success. In addition to parents, teachers and students (from Ripton Elementary and North Branch Schools,) over 60 adult volunteers helped out. There is always a need for more people to assist, either beforehand or on race day. Contact Barry King at 388-4082 or talk with Wendy Leeds at school for information about volunteering or participating in this year's event, Sunday, October 9, 2011.



Physical education, fun, community, and fundraising abound in FORS's annual Ripton Ridge Run.

ADDISON CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

**Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury ID#4, Ripton, Salisbury,
Shoreham, Weybridge, and Union District #3**

Financing public schools in the State of Vermont is a common topic of discussion. Up until the passage of Act 60 in 1997, this topic was predominately a local discussion that culminates with the voters deciding whether to support the budget the school board places before them for consideration or whether to send the board back to draft a new budget. After the passage of Act 60, the state government developed interest in the outcome. This is because Act 60 actually shifted the property tax from a local tax to a state tax. The state is responsible for ensuring that the funds needed for supporting voter-approved budgets are available. In addition to property taxes, the state uses the following revenues sources to this end: Nonresidential Education Property Tax, a portion of the Sales and Use Tax, a portion of the Purchase and Use Tax, State Lottery, Medicaid Reimbursements, Vermont Yankee, and a transfer of funds from the State's general fund.

The Vermont Legislature has enacted several pieces of legislation since the passing of Act 60 in an effort to control education spending. During the 2010 session, the Legislature passed Act 146: Challenges for Change. While this act contains implications across state government, for education it meant a reduction of \$23,000,000 in state education spending. The legislation asked school boards to voluntarily reduce their 2011-2012 net education spending (budgeted expenditures minus non-property tax revenue). Each supervisory union was given a reduction target to be reached by the supervisory union and its member school districts.

All supervisory unions and school districts were required to report their progress in reaching these targets on December 15, 2010. The results turned out to be well short of the \$23,000,000. The report showed reductions in total to be \$4,051,604 with a few schools yet to report. The state reached less than 20% of its goal through the voluntary reductions effort. The Addison Central Supervisory Union and its member districts were able to identify \$341,875 in reductions which is little over 8% of the total savings found. While we did not meet the reduction targets asked of us, our efforts to do so exceeded the efforts of most supervisory unions in the state by a rather substantial margin.

The 2010 Vermont Legislature also passed Act 153: Voluntary School Merger. This legislation offers incentives to school districts to come together and form what the legislation refers to as Regional Education Districts (REDs). When the topic of school merger comes up, there is a tendency to envision a consolidation of schools, leaving some school buildings vacant. That is not the focus of this legislation. This legislation is focused on the governance aspect of public schools by consolidating school boards not school buildings. As a matter of fact, if a group of school districts chose to form a RED, the closing of schools is prohibited during the first four years the RED is in existence. Naturally, after that period a school building might be closed or its use altered. For example, a school building might be used to form a magnet school specializing in a specific discipline (The arts for example).

This legislation requires certain steps from all school boards. All school boards are required to discuss and consider the possibility of forming a RED with other school districts. The Addison Central Supervisory Union began this discussion at its June 2010 board meeting. Out of that discussion came an exploratory committee which recommended a study committee for the purposes of studying the advisability of forming a RED. The school board of each ACSU town school district has voted to have representation on the study committee. Once formed, the study committee reports to the Vermont Commissioner of Education. A formal report will eventually be submitted to the commissioner who will present the report to the State Board of Education for approval. While these are some of the steps in the

process, a Regional Education District cannot be formed without the consent of the voters residing in the towns to be served by the RED.

The study committee is currently examining how best to involve the communities in the process for determining next steps. The committee strongly believes that community involvement is essential if the interests of the people are to be represented in the findings submitted to the commissioner. You can find out more about the activities of the ACSU Study Committee at its website: acsustudycommittee.org.

In closing, I want to thank our communities for supporting the education of its children. They are our future leaders and decision makers. How well they perform what is required of them as adults will largely depend on how well we prepare them as children.

Wm. Lee Sease,
Superintendent of Schools



The 3rd and 4th graders visit our Vermont State House in Montpelier.

**RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
INDEBTEDNESS STATEMENT**

<u>Date & Amount of Original Bond</u>	<u>Indebtedness July 1, 2011</u>	<u>Principal Payment 2011-12</u>	<u>Interest Payment 2011-12</u>	<u>Balance of Unpaid Principal June 20, 2012</u>
Water Disinfection Planning - 2007 \$4,341	\$4,341	\$0	\$0	\$4,341
Water Disinfection Construction – 2008 Water Disinfection \$9,721	\$9,721	\$0	\$0	\$9,721

*Water disinfection planning and construction loans are anticipated to be forgiven by the Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT REVENUES – FY 2009-2010

Medicaid money is available each year as a reimbursement for some school-based services provided to students eligible for special education. The amount of money in any given fiscal year varies widely and is very difficult to project due to this variation. Because of this, the Addison Central Supervisory Union utilizes funds generated from the previous fiscal year. For example, the Medicaid money utilized in FY2010 was generated during the 2008–2009 school year.

For FY2010, ACSU spent \$162,657.12 in Medicaid money on the following: .5 FTE Medicaid Clerk, a portion of a .9 FTE integration consultant, a portion of a .6 FTE English as a Second Language Teacher, transportation and facilities maintenance for the ACSU early education program, some summer services, along with other services (i.e. tutoring) for at-risk students throughout the supervisory union. Various courses, conferences, in-service training, supplies, materials, and travel reimbursement were also included in the overall expenditures.

**RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
2011-12 ESTIMATED FINANCE**

	Budget 2010-11	Proposed 2011-12	Change
<u>Estimated Education Spending:</u>			
Elementary Budget	763,567	\$722,946	-5.32%
Special Article - Pre-School Equipment		10,000	
Special Article - To Capital Improvement Reserve	15,000	27,962	
Special Article - Playing Field Fencing Barrier	940	-	
Total Estimated Expenditures	\$779,507	\$760,908	
Less Anticipated Receipts			
Special Education Block Grant	14,581	12,989	
Special Education Intensive Reimbursement	16,452	17,362	
Small Schools Grant	63,552	61,256	
Interest Income	600	350	
Transportation Aid	12,816	10,779	
U. S. Forestry	22,742	20,264	
E-rate Reimbursement	3,000	2,500	
Town Audit Reimbursement	2,835	3,000	
Tuition	21,000	10,500	
Security Lights Project Balance	940	-	
Prior Year Fund Balance	31,740	37,962	
Total Estimated Receipts	(190,258)	(176,962)	
Estimated Education Spending	\$589,249	\$583,946	
<u>Tax Rate Estimates</u>			
Equalized Pupils*	42.98	40.42	
Estimated Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$13,710	\$14,447	
Est. Excess Spending Penalty Above Average Statewide	0.00	0.00	
Total Estimated Education Spending Per Pupil	\$13,710	\$14,447	5.38%
Adjustment for Spending above \$8,544/\$8,544 Base Per Pupil	160.46%	169.09%	
Base Homestead Equalized Tax Rate**	\$0.86	\$0.870	
Adjusted Total/Elementary Estimated Homestead Tax Rate, Equalized	\$1.380	\$1.471	6.60%
% Elementary pupils	45.83%	44.66%	
Estimated Elementary Component of Homestead Tax Rate, Equalized	\$0.632	\$0.657	
Adjusted Secondary Estimated Homestead Tax Rate, Equalized	\$1.503	\$1.466	-2.46%
% Secondary pupils	54.17%	55.34%	
Estimated Secondary Component of Homestead Tax Rate, Equalized	\$0.814	\$0.811	
Estimated Total Homestead Tax Rate, Equalized***	\$1.447	\$1.468	1.50%
Estimated Common Level of Appraisal****	78.27%	77.44%	-1.06%
Estimated Homestead Tax Rate*****	\$1.848	\$1.896	2.58%
Base Non-Residential Equalized Tax Rate**	\$1.35	\$1.350	
Estimated Non Residential Tax Rate	\$1.725	\$1.743	1.07%

* Equalized pupils are pre-kindergarten to Grade 6 average daily membership averaged over two years and weighted for poverty factors, and English proficiency.

** As recommended by Tax Commissioner and pending legislative action.

*** Under Act 130, effective in FY 2008-09, elementary and secondary schools calculate spending per pupil and equalized education tax rates separately and are pro-rated by % of equalized pupils to towns.

**** Common Level of Appraisal, as determined by the state, adjusts for property values reported at less than fair market value.

***** Tax rate is estimated per \$100 of equalized value. One cent on tax rate equals approx. \$10 on \$100,000 value.

**RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED 2011-12 BUDGET**

	BUDGET 2009-10	ACTUAL 2009-10	BUDGET 2010-11	PROPOSED 2011-2012	Change
1100 REGULAR PROGRAMS					
110 Salaries - Teachers	197,382	197,495	199,123	184,000	(1)
112 Salaries - Aides	40,480	32,547	32,167	12,404	(2)
115 Salary - Spanish	0	0	0	10,000	(3)
118 Early Separation	10,379	10,379	10,379	10,379	(4)
120 Substitutes	2,500	3,478	2,500	3,000	
210 Health Insurance	60,415	58,119	59,022	43,814	(5)
220 Social Security	19,182	17,061	18,679	16,813	
230 Life Insurance	262	213	255	243	
240 Municipal Retirement	1,619	1,392	1,287	496	
270 Course Reimbursement	3,000	1,207	3,000	3,000	
280 Dental Insurance	1,692	1,685	1,680	1,648	
290 Disability Insurance	663	560	656	572	
320 Professional Services	500	48	500	500	
321 Pre-K Contracted Services	2,452	1,227	1,275	0	
430 Repair & Maintenance	3,200	2,295	3,200	2,500	
610 Supplies	3,800	3,592	4,000	4,000	
640 Books & Periodicals	1,500	374	1,500	1,500	
650 A.V. Materials	200	67	200	200	
660 Manipulatives	1,200	30	1,200	800	
730 Equipment	200	0	200	200	
800 Field Trips	600	1,029	600	1,000	
1100 Total	\$351,226	\$332,799	\$341,423	\$297,070	-13%
1190 SHARED PERSONNEL					
320 Shared Personnel	25,667	25,405	26,724	27,975	(6)
1190 Total	\$25,667	\$25,405	\$26,724	\$27,975	
1200 SPECIAL EDUCATION					
110 Salary - Teacher	0	11,040	15,129	11,904	(7)
112 Salaries - Aides	16,605	32,471	23,423	27,832	(8)

(1) This represents the salaries of four classroom teachers and one .2 special area teacher.

(2) This represents the salaries of .61 classroom assistants, down from 1.6 in 2010-2011.

(3) This represents all costs of a .2 teacher of Spanish language.

(4) This is the last of three payments for the early retirement of a teacher.

(5) Health insurance rates are projected at a 3% increase.

(6) This represents all costs of .41 special area teachers.

(7) This represents the salary of a .3 special educator.

(8) This represents the salaries of 1.39 special education assistants, up from 1.2 in 2010-2011.

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET PROPOSED		Change
	2009-10	2009-10	2010-11	2011-2012	
210 Health Insurance	5,076	10,505	7,401	8,703	
220 Social Security	1,270	3,329	2,949	3,040	
230 Life	0	14	18	18	
240 Municipal Retirement	664	1,299	937	1,113	
270 Course Reimbursement	200	0	200	200	
290 Disability	0	35	50	39	
320 Shared Personnel	24,888	0	0	0	
321 Contracted Services	700	0	700	0	
338 EEE Tuition	6,997	6,997	8,522	5,927	(9)
580 Travel	0	0	0	100	
610 Supplies	300	253	300	200	
1200 Total	\$56,700	\$65,943	\$59,629	\$59,076	-0.9%
2100 SUPPORT SERVICES - REGULAR					
322 Contracted Speech Service	2,450	1,925	2,250	2,000	
330 Psychological Services	300	0	200	200	
331 Occupational Therapy	300	166	600	200	
332 Physical Therapy	300	225	1,500	200	
2100 Total	\$3,350	\$2,316	\$4,550	\$2,600	-42.9%
2105 SUPPORT SERVICES - SPECIAL					
322 Contracted Speech Services	4,550	5,188	4,550	4,550	
330 Psychological Services	300	0	200	200	
331 Occupational Therapy	300	1,024	300	1,000	
332 Physical Therapy	300	263	700	500	
2105 Total	\$5,450	\$6,474	\$5,750	\$6,250	8.7%
2120 GUIDANCE					
320 Shared Personnel	25,026	24,745	25,502	25,985	(10)
2120 Total	\$25,026	\$24,745	\$25,502	\$25,985	1.9%
2130 HEALTH					
270 Course Reimbursement	0	45	0	0	
320 Shared Personnel	14,214	13,845	14,199	13,647	(11)
430 Equipment Repair	0	0	70	0	
580 Travel	0	0	0	0	
640 Books	0	0	0	0	
730 Equipment	50	0	50	50	
2130 Total	\$14,264	\$13,890	\$14,319	\$13,697	-4.3%

(9) This represents the cost of services provided outside of the Ripton School for at-risk students ages 3 & 4.

(10) This represents all costs of a .3 guidance counselor.

(11) This represents all costs of a .2 nurse.

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET PROPOSED		Change
	2009-10	2009-10	2010-11	2011-2012	
2220 MEDIA SERVICE					
110 Salary	19,304	19,200	19,595	19,987	(12)
210 Health Insurance	6,020	6,020	6,291	6,387	
220 Social Security	1,477	1,469	1,499	1,529	
230 Life Insurance	25	24	24	24	
270 Course Reimbursement	200	0	200	100	
280 Dental Insurance	0	160	168	165	
290 Disability Insurance	65	61	65	66	
430 Equipment Repair	100	0	50	0	
580 Travel	0	29	0	50	
610 Supplies	200	0	200	100	
640 Books & Periodicals	1,600	1,470	1,600	1,600	
650 A.V. Materials	200	13	200	200	
730 Equipment	100	0	50	50	
810 Dues and Fees	0	100	100	100	
2220 Total	\$29,291	\$28,545	\$30,042	\$30,358	1.1%
2250 TECHNOLOGY					
321 Vermont Data Consortium	300	0	0	0	
430 Equipment Repair	200	0	200	200	
530 Internet Access	1,000	3,977	1,750	4,000	(13)
600 Filtering Device	200	0	100	0	
670 Software	200	12	200	0	
730 Equipment	3,000	2,223	3,000	3,000	
2250 Total	\$4,900	\$6,212	\$5,250	\$7,200	37.1%
2310 BOARD OF EDUCATION					
119 Board Salaries	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	
220 Social Security	103	103	103	103	
250 Workers' Compensation	2,618	2,322	2,508	2,630	
260 Unemployment	200	2,992	200	3,112	
310 Payroll Service	1,400	1,483	1,442	1,513	
360 Legal Fees	521	580	200	200	
370 Audit	2,700	2,700	2,835	3,000	
810 Dues & Fees	850	700	850	850	
890 Publicity	0	0	0	0	
891 Miscellaneous	200	2,337	200	200	
2310 Total	\$9,942	\$14,568	\$9,688	\$12,958	33.7%

(12) This represents the salary of a .4 school librarian.

(13) Internet access and telephone are provided through the Ripton Broadband Cooperative.

	BUDGET 2009-10	ACTUAL 2009-10	BUDGET 2010-11	PROPOSED 2011-2012	Change
2313 TREASURER					
110 Salary	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	
220 Social Security	84	84	84	84	
610 Supplies	0	0	50	50	
2313 Total	\$1,184	\$1,184	\$1,234	\$1,234	0.0%
2320 ASSESSMENT					
331 Administration	30,090	30,090	32,765	32,677	
333 Prof. Dev./Student Assessm	739	739	731	702	
334 Technical Support	8,660	8,660	10,157	10,761	
335 Student Information System	507	507	534	301	
336 Insurance Pool	91	91	94	96	
337 Advertising Assessment	1,182	1,182	1,256	441	
339 Special Education	3,491	3,491	3,303	3,169	
2320 Total	\$44,760	\$44,760	\$48,840	\$48,147	-1.4%
2410 PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE					
110 Salary- Principal	43,035	42,595	43,447	44,316	(14)
111 Salary - Secretary	18,187	18,240	18,703	19,077	
210 Health Insurance	12,638	5,201	9,748	9,896	
220 Social Security	4,684	4,626	4,754	4,850	
230 Life Insurance	217	169	215	219	
240 Municipal Retirement	727	730	748	763	
245 Administrative Retirement	430	0	434	443	
270 Course Reimbursement	500	200	1,260	1,600	
280 Dental Insurance	252	(20)	252	247	
290 Disability Insurance	145	136	143	146	
295 Volunteer Criminal Check F	100	0	100	50	
530 Communications/Postage	600	442	500	500	
580 Faculty/Staff Travel	150	32	500	500	
610 Supplies	70	0	100	100	
640 Books & Periodicals	40	45	100	50	
810 Dues & Fees	275	534	275	500	
2410 Total	\$82,050	\$72,928	\$81,280	\$83,257	2.4%
2600 MAINTENANCE					
110 Salary	30,579	31,358	31,201	25,056	(15)
112 Water Testing	0	600	0	0	
210 Health Insurance	5,902	6,781	6,167	6,261	

(14) This represents the salary of a .6 principal.

(15) This represents the salary of a new full-time custodian, replacing our current custodian who is retiring.

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET PROPOSED		Change
	2009-10	2009-10	2010-11	2011-2012	
220 Social Security	2,339	2,405	2,387	1,917	
240 Municipal Retirement	1,223	1,224	1,248	1,002	
331 E-Rate Contracted Svc	0	177	180	180	
340 Water Testing	1,200	409	1,200	500	
421 Disposal Services	350	237	350	300	
422 Snow Plowing	3,200	2,704	3,300	3,000	
424 Lawn Mowing	3,200	3,275	3,200	3,200	
430 Repairs & Maintenance	2,500	3,707	2,500	3,700	
490 Contract Services	200	48	200	100	
521 Property/Liability Insurance	4,523	3,965	4,283	4,378	
522 Volunteer Insurance	207	207	217	225	
530 Communication/Telephone	2,000	524	2,000	500	(16)
610 Supplies	5,000	4,184	4,500	4,500	
622 Electricity	11,000	9,902	10,090	10,497	
623 Propane	11,000	8,385	6,500	8,400	
730 Equipment	200	60	100	60	
810 Dues & Fees	150	165	0	150	
2600 Total	\$84,774	\$80,316	\$79,623	\$73,926	-7.2%
2700 TRANSPORTATION					
510 Contracted Services	19,031	20,009	20,673	21,175	
511 Fuel Surcharge	1,964	68	1,539	1,539	
519 Field Trips	0	0	500	500	
2700 Total	\$20,995	\$20,077	\$22,712	\$23,214	2.2%
5100 DEBT SERVICE					
830 Interest	1,200	1,200	0	0	
910 Principal	40,000	17,343	0	0	
5100 Total	\$41,200	\$18,543	\$0	\$0	
5310 FOOD SERVICE					
930 Food Service Subsidy	6,500	14,269	7,000	10,000	
5310 Total	\$6,500	\$14,269	\$7,000	\$10,000	42.9%
GRAND TOTAL	\$807,279	\$772,974	\$763,567	\$722,946	-5.3%

(16) Internet access and telephone are provided through the Ripton Broadband Cooperative.

RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
2009-10 FUND BALANCE REPORT

GENERAL FUND REVENUES:

Education Spending Revenue from Town and State	642,104.00	
Education Spending Revenue from State - Stimulus	22,657.00	
State Aid - Small Schools Grant	79,607.00	
State Aid - Transportation	12,372.00	
State Aid - Special Education - Block Grant	16,850.00	
State Aid - Special Education - Intensive & Extraordinary	13,599.00	
U.S. Forestry	20,263.50	
Interest Income	328.97	
From Capital Reserve for Painting per vote	3,530.00	
Regular Education Tuition	19,000.00	
Rental	3,900.00	
Miscellaneous Income	<u>1,358.77</u>	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE		\$835,570.24

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

Regular Programs	332,798.77	
Shared Personnel	25,405.00	
Special Education	65,942.96	
Support Services	8,789.50	
Guidance	24,745.00	
Health Services	13,890.00	
Media Services	28,545.23	
Technology	6,211.63	
Board of Education	14,568.49	
Treasurer	1,184.16	
ACSU Assessments	44,760.00	
Principal's Office	72,928.35	
Operations & Maintenance	80,316.08	
Transportation	20,076.53	
Debt Service	41,200.00	
Food Service	14,268.79	
FY 2008-09 Board Encumbrance for Furnishings, Prof/Cur Dev.	4,947.49	
Interior/Exterior Painting balance to Capital Reserve voted 3/09	3,530.00	
FY 2008-09 Fund Balance to Capital Reserve voted 3/10	15,000.00	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES		(819,107.98)

Excess Revenue over Expenditures	16,462.26
Beginning Balance July 1, 2009	<u>38,239.87</u>

UNRESERVED GENERAL FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2010 **\$54,702.13**

Less Reserve:

For FY 2010-11 Tax Reduction	\$16,739.87
------------------------------	-------------

Adjusted General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance at June 30, 2010 **\$37,962.26**

RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
2009-10 FUND BALANCE REPORT - Continued

<u>ENTERPRISE FUND</u>	<u>Beg. Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>End. Balance</u>
Food Service Program	\$500.00	\$35,956.60	(\$35,956.60)	\$500.00

<u>CAPITAL PROJECT FUND</u>	<u>Beg. Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>End. Balance</u>
Capital Reserve*	\$50,093.57	\$29,897.98	\$0.00	\$79,991.55
Energy Conservation - Voted 3/5/07	11,367.98	0.00	(11,367.98)	0.00
Efficiency Vermont Rebate	2,788.02	0.00	0.00	2,788.02
Playing Field	0.00	3,325.00	0.00	3,325.00
Vt. Water Construction Loan	0.00	(9.17)	9.17	0.00
Playing Fields - voted 3/09	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
Security Lights	0.00	939.69	(939.69)	0.00
Playing Field Fence - voted 3/10	0.00	939.69	0.00	939.69
Totals	\$64,249.57	\$35,493.19	(\$12,298.50)	\$87,444.26

<u>SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</u>	<u>Beg. Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>End. Balance</u>
Library Fund	\$663.88	\$149.50	(\$346.55)	\$466.83
NC FCU Educator	15.57	0.00	0.00	15.57
FORS Summer Program	0.00	7,000.00	(7,000.00)	0.00
Essential Early Education	0.00	6,825.00	(6,825.00)	0.00
ACSU IDEA - B	0.00	678.20	(678.20)	0.00
ACSU Consolidated Federal	0.00	5,988.39	(5,988.39)	0.00
VAC Artist in Residence	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)	0.00
ACSU CFP ARRA SWP	0.00	2,988.12	(2,988.12)	0.00
Artist in Residence Donation	851.13	1,751.00	(1,500.00)	1,102.13
VT Stars Award	1,150.00	0	0	1,150.00
Total	\$2,680.58	\$26,880.21	(\$26,826.26)	\$2,734.53

* Requires voter authorization to spend funds

<u>DEBT FUND</u>	<u>Beg. Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>End. Balance</u>
Vt. Water Planning Loan	\$4,340.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,340.70
Vt. Water Construction Loan	9,721.13	0.00	(9.17)	9,711.96
USDA Bond	40,000.00	0.00	(40,000.00)	0.00
Total	\$54,061.83	\$0.00	(\$40,009.17)	\$14,052.66

ANGOLANO & COMPANY
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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LOCATED AT:
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DAVID H. ANGOLANO, CPA
 HEATHER L. ANGOLANO, CPA

Independent Auditors' Report

To The School Board
 Ripton School District

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Ripton School District, Vermont, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010, which collectively comprise the Ripton District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. We have also audited the financial statements of each of the School District's nonmajor governmental and fiduciary funds presented as supplementary information in the accompanying combining and individual fund financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Ripton School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Ripton School District, Vermont, as of June 30, 2010, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each nonmajor governmental and fiduciary fund of Ripton School District, as of June 30, 2010, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report on our consideration of Ripton School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information on page 5 and 33 through 38 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise Ripton School District's basic financial statements. The combining and individual non-major fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Angolano & Company
Shelburne, Vermont
Firm Registration Number 92-0000141



Intermediate unit studies biodiversity in the classroom.

**ADDISON CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION
PROPOSED 2011-2012 BUDGET**

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>	<u>2009-10</u> <u>Spent</u>	<u>2010-11</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2011-12</u> <u>Proposed</u>
Salaries	686,176	704,582	688,174
Health Insurance	91,694	102,438	105,263
Social Security	51,287	52,704	51,123
Life Insurance	2,693	2,853	2,786
Retirement	19,361	28,636	28,130
Workers Compensation	3,816	4,106	4,155
Unemployment	0	1,612	1,676
Dental	9,664	10,440	11,306
Disability	2,188	2,305	2,251
Inservice	625	1,100	1,100
Audit	2,511	2,566	2,830
Professional Services	15,193	5,315	5,315
Technology Support	4,259	4,761	5,044
Legal	4,780	2,500	2,500
Payroll Service	4,339	4,611	4,685
CO Equipment Repairs	866	1,400	1,400
Copier Lease	5,785	6,784	6,285
Postage Meter Rental	1,084	1,025	1,514
Telephone	8,337	6,889	8,671
Postage	3,424	6,500	4,000
ACSU Schools Report	693	1,000	500
Star Awards	1,079	1,300	0
Staff Mileage Reimbursement	6,526	7,361	7,582
Superintendent-Overnight Stays	693	1,500	750
Office Supplies	11,050	16,288	14,000
Books	1,564	1,500	1,500
Supplies-H1N1	2,062	0	0
Central Office Software	0	1,000	1,000
Central Office Equipment	5,086	5,000	5,000
Conferences & Dues	9,124	10,195	9,500
Finance Overtime for Acctg. Software	2,111	0	1,563
Finance Temporary Acctg. Assistant	2,201	0	1,438
Social Security	330	0	230
Finance Professional Services	4,200	4,350	4,400
Finance Accounting System Support	9,236	12,410	18,226
Finance Supplies	98	0	0
Finance Office Software	30	12,500	10,154
Finance Office Equipment	6,475	8,309	8,307

**ADDISON CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION
PROPOSED 2011-12 BUDGET**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Finance-Software Training/Conferences	0	0	3,968
Technology Professional Services	3,659	4,000	3,000
Technology Equipment Repairs	988	1,000	1,000
Technology Supplies/Replacement Parts	3,625	2,500	2,500
Technology Office Software	3,836	2,000	2,000
Technology Books and Periodicals	158	1,000	1,000
Technology Server/ Networking Equip.	6,229	12,000	10,000
Technology Conferences	1,004	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous	1,668	2,565	2,000
Contingency	0	1,000	1,000
Total Administrative	1,001,804	1,062,905	1,049,826
 <u>MAINTENANCE</u>			
Salary	7,850	0	0
Social Security	601	0	0
Purchased Services	1,148	12,461	12,260
Monitoring System	162	177	182
Water & Sewer	530	886	913
Trash Removal	1,067	1,416	0
Maintenance	6,881	500	1,500
Building Upgrade	0	7,000	5,000
Building Rent	4,000	4,000	4,000
Property/Liability Insurance	2,481	2,605	2,580
Supplies	1,690	0	0
Furniture/Equipment	0	589	607
Electricity	8,758	8,946	9,108
Total Maintenance	35,168	38,580	\$36,150
 GRAND TOTAL	 \$1,036,972	 \$1,101,485	 \$1,085,976

PROPOSED 2011-12 REVENUE

Prior Year Fund Balance	40,000	40,000
Grant Administration Fees	18,000	18,000
AS400 Budget Use/Setup Revenue		3,631
Assessments	1,043,485	1,024,345
 GRAND TOTAL	 \$1,101,485	 \$1,085,976

**ADDISON CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION
SPECIAL EDUCATION
PROPOSED 2011-2012 BUDGET**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Salaries	220,598	219,866	235,264
Health Insurance	31,164	32,085	39,741
Social Security	16,552	16,820	17,998
Life Insurance	770	897	960
Retirement	2,879	7,157	2,953
Workers Compensation	2,101	1,378	2,182
Unemployment	175	5,584	500
Dental	3,816	3,907	4,494
Disability	682	725	775
Professional Services	2,726	3,047	3,228
Audit	1,362	1,309	1,535
Payroll Services	1,967	2,067	2,100
Legal	256	1,500	1,000
Equipment Repair	2,610	3,110	2,610
Liability Insurance	864	552	899
Advertising	70	500	150
Mileage Reimbursement	4,012	5,726	5,000
Office Supplies/Software	11,041	9,000	10,000
Equipment	3,090	2,000	1,000
Conferences & Dues	7,884	4,000	4,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$314,619	\$321,230	\$336,389

PROPOSED 2011-12 REVENUE

Prior Year Fund Balance	3,000	20,000
Grants & Administration Fees*	213,054	217,040
Assessments	105,176	99,349
GRAND TOTAL	\$321,230	\$336,389

*IDEIA-B, Title 1, Diversified Occupations,
Early Childhood/EEI Grant, Regional I-Team Grant, etc.

**ESTIMATED ACSU ASSESSMENTS
BASED ON PROPOSED 2011-12 BUDGET**

	Professional Count	% of ACSU Budget	2011-12 ACSU Assessment	2010-11 ACSU Assessment	ACSU Incr/(decr)	2011-12 Special Ed Assessment	2010-11 Special Ed Assessment	Special Ed Incr/(decr)	Total Assess Incr/(dec)
Bridport	13.70	6.82%	\$69,860	\$67,305	\$2,555	\$6,776	\$6,784	(\$8)	\$2,547
Cornwall	12.05	6.00%	\$61,461	\$61,670	(\$209)	\$5,961	\$6,216	(\$255)	(\$464)
ID#4	42.29	21.05%	\$215,625	\$210,784	\$4,841	\$20,913	\$21,246	(\$333)	\$4,508
UD#3-MUHS	58.85	29.30%	\$300,132	\$300,837	(\$705)	\$29,109	\$30,321	(\$1,212)	(\$1,917)
UD#3-MUMS	33.30	16.58%	\$169,836	\$187,097	(\$17,261)	\$16,472	\$18,858	(\$2,386)	(\$19,647)
Ripton	6.40	3.19%	\$32,677	\$32,765	(\$88)	\$3,169	\$3,303	(\$134)	(\$222)
Salisbury	12.15	6.05%	\$61,973	\$65,009	(\$3,036)	\$6,011	\$6,552	(\$541)	(\$3,577)
Shoreham	12.51	6.23%	\$63,817	\$63,235	\$582	\$6,189	\$6,374	(\$185)	\$397
Weybridge	9.60	4.78%	\$48,964	\$54,783	(\$5,819)	\$4,749	\$5,522	(\$773)	(\$6,592)
TOTALS	200.85	100.00%	\$1,024,345	\$1,043,485	(\$19,140)	\$99,349	\$105,176	(\$5,827)	(\$24,967)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING**MARCH 1, 2010**

The legal voters of the Town of Ripton met at the Community House in Ripton on Monday, March 1, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. to act upon Articles 1-4 of the 2010 School Warning. Approximately 80 people attended.

Moderator Joyce Dicianna called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. After welcoming all, reviewing procedures and reading an invocation, the Moderator gave the floor to Representative Willem Jewett.

Representative Jewett stated he was here for questions, and proceeded with a broad sketch of goings on in Montpelier. He described more and bigger issues than he had ever seen, including the budget, Vermont Yankee, school finance and governance, courts, transportation, and insurance. The legislature will act, but it is tough work. In the last couple of years \$450 million was squeezed out of the budget, with an additional \$150 million to be eliminated this year. There is less talk of protecting the neediest, because we know we're not, and a sense that people want a balanced budget. Rep. Jewett wanted to hear from voters to learn different opinions and ideas, and gave an example of budget-cutting: eliminating transportation of dialysis patients. Good news is in transportation – especially here in Ripton with paving scheduled for Route 125 and the northernmost bridge on the Goshen Road to be replaced.

Edmund Sullivan asked about the budget process. Are there untouchable items or sacred cows? In this new era what insights can you give us? Rep. Jewett responded that for eight years they balanced the budget. The problem isn't overspending. Revenues tanked, though seem to be stabilized. As for sacred cows, he didn't know of any - if transportation for dialysis is cut, seems not. Jerome Shedd asked for a reason not to look at the revenue side, such as raising tax rates. Rep. Jewett responded not seeing support for tax increases. Mr. Shedd said he is willing to pay. Michael Connors asked if we can go after multinational companies that don't pay livable wages or contribute revenue to Vermont. Rep. Jewett described a Blue Ribbon Commission looking at the existing tax base and where/how to revise the tax code.

Nola Kevra heard talk about consolidating schools, about numbers not kids, and asked if we should be concerned about our school being closed. Rep. Jewett does not expect a school consolidation mandate.

Robert Wagner shared information from a study by UVM's Gund Institute for Ecological Economics which was presented to the House Ways and Means Committee. The study reports that 1.2 billion a year in revenue is taken tax-free from Vermont by companies such as Nestle and Perrier. Mr. Wagner continued that Vermont should not be a banana republic for resource extraction, the sacred cow is corporate America, and asked why the study was ignored. Rep. Jewett, not a member of the Ways and Means Committee, was not familiar with the study.

Bonnie DeGray asked about the Current Use program, and a moratorium on enrollment. Rep. Jewett gave an overview of the program, describing its intent to keep taxes reasonable for those who use land for forestry and farming. Last year a goal of reducing the cost of the program by 1.6 million was set. Over the summer several groups reached consensus on a proposal for reform and cost saving. The House approved parts of that proposal, and a one-year moratorium on new enrollments. The bill moved to the Senate where it will likely be figured out by a conference committee.

Moderator Joyce Dicianna, read the School Warning at 7:50 p.m.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the voters of the Town School District will approve the sum of **\$763,567** to defray current expenses of the Town School District for the ensuing school year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations.

Article 1 was moved by Barbara King and seconded by Lauren Cox. Discussion of Article 1 followed.

School Board Chair, Carol Ford, thanked the thirty-plus people who attended the January Budget Hearing. She reflected that the Board sometimes works in a vacuum but people came, the Board listened and changed the budget accordingly. There are no new initiatives in the budget, and one paraprofessional is eliminated. That decision was hard because everyone contributes to the School, and it means that in the last five years the number of paraprofessionals decreased from 5.8 to 2.8 positions.

Charles Billings acknowledged the hard work done by the School Board to keep budget numbers down, but feared that a drop in student numbers and state aid will increase taxes, such as with last year's 9-10% increase. Mr. Billings analysis of our real estate taxes over the last fifteen years shows taxes double every 9-10 years. He cautioned that this is not sustainable; eventually people are unable to pay. Ms. Ford sympathized but stated that the thing the School Board can do is set the School budget. The tax rate depends on many variables, as shown on page 62 of the Town Report. Mr. Billings recognized the limits of the Board's control over the tax rate, but stated that at a town level we need to do something so as not to see doubling every ten years. Mr. Jewett referred to p. 62 to show that the Board did its work and that this year the common level of appraisal (cla) did not change much, so is not driving the tax rate. Mr. Billings asked if the General Fund is included, are we level from last year? Discussion continued about the respective Boards who prepare budgets independent of one another. Mr. Jewett noted that this is the first year that the homestead tax rate increased, and that what happens in Montpelier, and with the tax rate, happens after this meeting.

Carol Ford provided answers to questions asked at the Budget Hearing about student to teacher ratios and per pupil cost comparisons. Based on data from two years ago, the School's student to teacher ratio was 9.8 students per 1 teacher. District-wide 8.9 students:1 teacher was the lowest ratio, 11.3:1 the highest. In the seven elementary schools of the ACSU District, only one has a higher per pupil cost than Ripton this year; next year four will be higher. Susan Hanson asked the range of per pupil cost. In ACSU \$14,306 is the high, \$12,399 the low, and Ripton is \$14,186.

Mr. Jewett remarked that the budget is just a one-year plan, and that the Board is talking about long-range planning. The twenty-year construction bond is paid, and the Board wants to be sure we are still teaching our children in the next twenty years. Those who attended the budget hearing were thanked, and asked to continue to participate. A sign-up sheet was passed among the Meeting.

The Moderator called the question. Article 1 passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the voters of the Town School District will authorize the Board of Directors to place **\$15,000** from the FY 08 Unreserved Fund Balance (of \$31,740) into the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.

Article 2 was moved by Barbara King and seconded by Edmund Sullivan.

Of the \$31,740 unreserved fund balance, \$16,740 is used to reduce taxes, and \$15,000 proposed for addition to this fund. Mr. Billings asked about anticipated capital improvements during the next 3-5 years,

and the total fund balance. Ms. Ford thought the 20-year-old roof is likely the next big capital expense, and referred voters to the \$50,093 fund balance on page 70.

The Moderator called the question. Article 2 was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the voters of the Town School District will authorize the Board of Directors to use **\$940** from the Security Light project balance (total of \$940) for the playing field fencing barrier project.

Article 3 was moved by Barbara King and seconded by Edmund Sullivan.

Michael Hussey reminded voters of last year's discussion about the playing fields and the problem of damage by joy-riders. Security cameras, as approved last year, are part of a monitoring solution, but a proposed light on the flagpole proved too expensive. After evaluating options for preventing damage, the Board proposes a split-rail fence, with a materials cost of \$990, which volunteers can install. Installation by a contractor is estimated at \$3,500. Mr. Hussey expects the fence to take care of 90% of the problem, and noted that the fields will be ready for play by fall and a plan exists for parking during the Ridge Run. Nola Kevra's question about growing beans the fence was answered with an enthusiastic yes.

The Moderator called the question. Article 3 was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 4: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Ms. Ford thanked the assembly for its wonderful support of the School. Bonnie DeGray thanked the School Board for listening to the Town and being responsive.

Moderator Joyce Dicianna announced that the Meeting would reconvene Tuesday, March 2, 2010, in the Ripton Town Office to vote by Australian Ballot on Articles 5 through 7 of the 2010 School District Warning.

Joyce Dicianna, Moderator

Sally Hoyler, Town Clerk

Ripton School Directors

Carol Ford, Chair

Michael Hussey

Willem Jewett

Amy McGlashan

Connie Trudeau

WARNING
ANNUAL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2011

The legal voters of the Ripton Town School District are hereby warned to meet at the Community House in said Ripton on Monday, February 28, 2011, at 7:30 P.M. to transact the following business:

- ARTICLE 1:** To see if the voters of the Town School District will approve the sum of **\$722,946** to defray current expenses of the Town School District for the ensuing school year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations.
- ARTICLE 2:** To see if the voters of the Town School District will authorize the Board of Directors to place **\$27,962** from the FY 2010 Unreserved Fund Balance (of \$37,962) into the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.
- ARTICLE 3:** To see if the voters of the Town School District will authorize the Board of Directors to use up to **\$10,000** from the FY 2010 Unreserved Fund Balance (of \$37,962) for pre-school playground equipment.
- ARTICLE 4:** To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Upon completion of the transaction of the aforesaid business, or upon adjournment of the aforesaid meeting for any other purpose, said meeting shall be reconvened on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, in the Ripton Town Office for the following business of the Town School District by Australian Ballot.

Polls will be Open 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

- ARTICLE 5:** To elect a Moderator for the Town School District for a term of one year.
- ARTICLE 6:** To elect one School Director for the Town School District for a term of three years.
- ARTICLE 7:** To elect one School Director for the Town School District for a term of two years.
- ARTICLE 8:** To elect one School Director for Union District No. 3 for a term of three years.

RIPTON SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Carol Ford, Chair
Michael Hussey
Willem Jewett
Amy McGlashan
Connie Trudeau