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2002

2002 ANNUAL REPORTS



for the
**TOWN of
BENNINGTON
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

THANK YOU, LESTER ...



Lester received this Certificate of Appreciation from the Selectmen (left to right: Joe Cuddemi, Jim Cleary and Terry Schnare)

Since the 1970's when we threw household trash onto a heap to the Transfer Station as we know it today, one figure has been a constant in Bennington ... Lester Foote.

In July Lester opted for retirement. His years of conscientious and devoted service have been recognized by the Selectmen and they are pleased to add a public expression of their appreciation in this 2002 Town Report.

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

TOWN OFFICERS

of

BENNINGTON, NH

for the Year Ending December 31, 2002

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Cover Photo courtesy of the Bennington Planning Board

TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR

John J. Cronin, III

Term Expires 2003

SELECTMEN

James W. Cleary

Term Expires 2004

Terry D. Schnare, Chairman

Term Expires 2003

Joseph C. Cuddemi

Term Expires 2005

TOWN CLERK

Debra Belcher

Term Expires 2003

TOWN TREASURER

Joyce L. Miner

Term Expires 2003

TAX COLLECTOR

Denise P. French

Appointed

ROAD AGENT

David Blanchard

Appointed

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Michelle Hautanen

Term Expires 2004

Elisabeth A. Shingler

Term Expires 2005

Carrie Whittemore

Term Expires 2003

FOREST FIRE WARDENS

Appointed by Selectmen

Mark Chase, Warden

Brett French, Deputy (Resigned)

Keith Nason, Deputy

Steve Pacsay, Deputy

Allan Wilson, Deputy

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Joseph MacGregor

Term Expires 2003

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Appointed by Moderator

Robyn Manley, Chairman
Harvey Goodwin

Lucien Lizotte
Brent Paradise

Scott Sweeney

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

Appointed by Selectmen

Joseph Cuddemi

Phil Germain

Donald Parker, Sr.

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Dawn A. Bond
Darlene McKenney
Victoria L. Turner

Term Expires 2008
Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2006

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Roy Johnson, Chairman
Francesco Carrara
Mae Lizotte

Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2003

OFFICER OF HEALTH/WELFARE

Barbara Huntley

Appointed

CHIEF OF POLICE

C. Stephen Campbell

Appointed

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

William B. Reid

Appointed

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Philip Traxler
Jill Young
Charles E. Zabriskie, Jr.

Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2003
Term Expires 2004

PLANNING BOARD

Peter Eppig, Chairman	Term Expires 2004
Catriona D.M. Beck	Term Expires 2004
James Cleary, ex-officio	Term Expires 2003
Phil Germain	Term Expires 2003
Letitia A. Rice	Term Expires 2005
Joseph Eisenberg (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005
Michelle Stahl (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005
Terry Shields (deceased)	

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

David Beck, Chairman	Term Expires 2004
Francesco Carrara	Term Expires 2003
Barbara Goodwin	Term Expires 2005
Peter Martel	Term Expires 2004
John Tyler	Term Expires 2005
James Trow (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005
Judy Heddy (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Chester D. Heinzman, Jr.	Appointed
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Appointed by Selectmen

Jonathan Manley, Chairman	Term Expires 2003
Bruce Edes	Term Expires 2003
Joseph MacGregor	Term Expires 2003
Dennis McKenney	Term Expires 2003
Letitia Rice	Term Expires 2003
Terry Schnare	Term Expires 2003

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

Appointed by Selectmen

Joseph Cuddemi	Peter Eppig	John French
Philip Germain	Harvey Goodwin	Roy Johnson
	Joseph MacGregor, Chairman	

WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Roy Johnson	Term Expires 2004
John French	Term Expires 2003
Glenn Wilson	Term Expires 2005

NEWHALL PARK BOARD

Appointed by Selectmen

Joyce Desaulniers	Term Expires 2003
David Parker	Term Expires 2003
Brian Whittemore	Term Expires 2003
Cilla Roberts, Alternate	Term Expires 2003

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Allan Wilson, Chief	Term Expires 2003
Mark Chase, First Deputy	Term Expires 2003
Keith Nason, Second Deputy	Term Expires 2003

RECREATION COMMISSION

Appointed by Selectmen

Valerie Germain	Dotti Zabriskie	Wanda Grant
Phil Germain, Co-Chairman		Sfa Whittemore, Co-Chairman

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Appointed by Selectmen

Terry Schnare	Richard Verney
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HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Appointed by Selectmen

David Blanchard	C. Stephen Campbell
John Cronin	William Reid

TOWN WARRANT
The State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bennington in the County of Hillsborough in said State, qualified to vote: You are hereby notified to meet at the Pierce School on Tuesday, the fourth of February, next at seven o'clock in the evening, and then at the Fire Station on Tuesday, the eleventh day of March, next at eight o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

Note: The casting of absentee ballots will begin at 1 p.m. The polls will close at 7 p.m.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
2. Shall the Town amend Article VII c. of the Bennington Zoning Ordinance to require a minimum of four (4) acres and three hundred (300) feet of frontage in the Rural Agricultural District for a lot to be developed or built upon? (Note: The current minimum requirements are two (2) acres and two hundred (200) feet of frontage.)
3. Shall the Town add to the Bennington Zoning Ordinance the following section dealing with unsafe structures?
 “No owner or occupant of land shall permit buildings ruined by fire or natural causes to be left indefinitely. Said ruins shall be made safe within thirty (30) days after the date of the original damage or destruction. Within one year, the owner shall remove the ruins and grade the area to clear ground level or shall begin to rebuild or replace the structure in conformance with this ordinance.”
4. Shall the Town amend Article XV B. g. of the Bennington Zoning Ordinance. to eliminate the following:
 “g. The use proposed is a permitted one” (Note: Town Counsel advises that this sentence is superfluous.)?
5. Shall the Town change the office of the Town Clerk from its current one-year term to a three-year term, as permitted under RSA 41:16-b?
6. Shall the Town vote to suggest that no street be changed to a one-way street without the permission of a majority of property owners who live on it?
 (This is a Petitioned Warrant Article)
7. Shall the Town vote to suggest that any new construction or addition must meet with all zoning and setbacks of property line (laws) with no exceptions, including Town buildings?
 (This is a Petitioned Warrant Article)

8. Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the Warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling nine hundred sixty-seven thousand eight hundred sixty-one dollars (\$967,861)? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be one million eighty thousand one hundred fifty-five dollars (\$1,080,155), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law or the governing body may hold one Special Meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

Note: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.

9. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

10. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) to be added to the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

11. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

12. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

13. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Library Capital Reserve Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

14. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Sewer Department Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

15. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Rescue Van Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

16. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Mower Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

17. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

18. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Bridge Expendable Trust Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

19. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Town Building Expendable Trust Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

20. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

21. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$26,500) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to act as agents for that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

22. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

23. Shall the Town authorize the GEP Dodge Library Board of Trustees to accept and expend, without further action by the Town, until rescinded by vote of the Townspeople, gifts of personal property other than money in accordance with RSA 202-A:4(d)?

24. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Library's Capital Reserve Fund to read; (1) for the repair or replacement of library equipment and for making renovations and improvements to the GEP Dodge Library and (2) to designate the GEP Dodge Library Trustees as agents to carry out the object of this article?

(Requires two-thirds majority vote for approval)

25. Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Capital Reserve Funds listed below, the balances of which have either been transferred or entirely disbursed by action of previous Town Meetings?

- Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund
- Water Pump Replacement Capital Reserve Fund
- Septic Lagoon Capital Reserve Fund
- Recycling Building Capital Reserve Fund
- Used Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund
- Legal Reserve Capital Reserve Fund

26. Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five-year lease agreement for the purpose of replacing Fire Department radio equipment (mobile, portables and pagers) and raise and appropriate the sum of eight thousand two hundred and ten dollars (\$8,210) first year's payment for that purpose.

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

27. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand two hundred dollars (\$4,200) for continued gravestone repair work and tree cutting at the Evergreen and Sunnyside Cemeteries?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

28. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand six hundred dollars (\$3,600) for the replacement of computer equipment and software for the GEP Dodge Library.

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

29. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand six hundred and thirty dollars (\$6,630) for the purchase of computer software and hardware required to maintain taxation and accounting services?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

30. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450) as its share of year 2003 programming for Project LIFT, which provides literacy services and materials to Bennington citizens over 16 years of age?

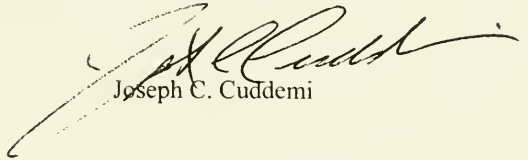
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

Given under our hands and seal this twenty-first day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand and three.



Terry D. Schnare

James W. Cleary



Joseph C. Cuddemi

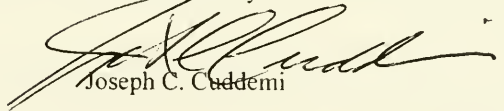
Board of Selectmen,
Bennington, New Hampshire

a true copy of Warrant - Attest



Terry D. Schnare

James W. Cleary



Joseph C. Cuddemi

SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

When the last of the State's agencies joined the Bennington and Frankestown Planning Boards in stamping their final okays to the application of Peak Resorts Inc, Bennington's Story-of-the-Year was official.

After thirteen years of disuse, the Crotched Mountain Ski Area is on its way to a new life.

There are a few questions which only time and ski market response will answer, but the Peak Resorts investors have come; they have investigated, planned, communicated, compromised, committed ... and prevailed.

Impacts on the community? There will almost certainly be more traffic; some of it downtown, and lights on the Mountain during the three-month ski season may be a problem to some residents, but we must balance these concerns off against the project's upsides – removal of a decaying Lodge and other structural eyesores, the addition of the Area to future tax rolls, the creation of job opportunities, the collateral effects on Area business places, the increases, already apparent, in Frankestown Road property values ... all together constitute a plus for Bennington and neighboring towns. This community did not go into an economic tailspin with closure of the Mountain in 1989. Prudent management by a lot of people stayed the Town's course. A successful Ski Area should provide another stabilizing ingredient.

As much as the vast majority of our citizens support and welcome business ventures such as Peak Resorts, someone must make a hard and impassionate assessment of how the efforts stack up against our Zoning Ordinance and other "permitting" procedures. That task falls primarily to the Planning Board. We extend our thanks to the leadership and members of that Board for the time and effort they have devoted to this assignment; for their diligence and their sense of fair play. We especially recognize the scope of this contribution in 2002, a year in which that Board is deeply involved in the time-consuming chore of rewriting the Town's Master Plan.

Although it is far from a new subject, the State's struggle with education funding moved closer to legislative confrontation this year. The so-called "donor towns" have announced plans for filing bills in the upcoming Legislative Session which they assert would return equity to our tax structure. These efforts at the State level have potential direct implications to the people of Bennington and other communities which have relatively high enrollments and limited property resources.

A parallel movement has been proposed by donor towns within the Conval School District. There, the effort is directed toward amendment of the Formula set by the School Board in 1996 whereby costs are assessed against each town based 50% on that town's school population and 50% on its equalized evaluation.

It took many years of reasoned persuasion, led significantly by Bennington volunteers, to bring about the present Formula. A reversion to the former 75/25 distribution; that is, cost to each town based on seventy-five percent enrollment and twenty-five percent evaluation would work sharply to the disadvantage of our taxpayers. As your Selectmen, we will pursue a course of action which supports the principle of taxpayer equity whether dealing with the State House or distribution of costs among Conval member communities.

Bennington's streetlights have been a source of public scrutiny for the past eight years. A volunteer Street Light Committee, the Selectmen, the Planning Board and, by petition, the general public have all taken positions on the type, strength, number and location of the Town's light fixtures. Over the course of the past three years, the Selectmen have made changes. In each case, our intent has been to provide adequate, acceptable illumination consistent with public safety and at the lowest cost to the taxpayers.

Following a two-week test this summer, a substantial number of the Town's lights were changed to metal halite with half-dome globes. Despite the satisfactory result of that two-week test, the change drew opposition from a limited number of residents; glare cited as the principle cause. In the months since, many changes have been made in location and angle of lights and the type of globes used. Those changes, to include flat shields, should reduce the concern over glare. The Selectmen view street lighting as a work in progress. We welcome constructive citizen input.

We have reported to you, almost annually, on housing starts as a measure of Bennington's growth. The number of stick-built houses was actually down this year from the record year 2002. And yet, the signs of growth were seldom more evident. Rental units are almost non-existent: low-income housing a wish. Investors, realtors and those simply interested in owning a piece of country land were at the Town Hall door almost daily this summer.

The Greater Boston ripple effect, rather than plateauing, may get a new spurt of energy in the next decade. Plans were announced this fall for doubling the width of I-93 from Salem to Manchester. While that may sound too far away to involve Bennington, history says no. A section of the Report of the Bartlett Center Forum, November 22 said of that project's secondary growth impact ... "while new business development may take place primarily in the dozen or so towns immediately adjacent to the I-93 project, residential and associated service industry development will impact a much larger area. Taking the northern end of the project in Manchester as a starting point, an hour's commute ... reaches west along secondary roads to Hillsborough, Antrim, Hancock and beyond. Every town in these areas is almost certain to see new development directly associated with the I-93 project."

Master Planning is timely.

Negotiations on Bennington's cablevision contract are a year older; reportedly close to completion. They have been delayed by the bankruptcy of Adelphia. All of the member communities of the Monadnock Area Cable Consortium have taken steps to protect subscriber interests and insure continued programming. We would like to pronounce that the Consortium goals have been attained. They have not. The absence of competition in this field has given Adelphia an effectively unassailable position during negotiations. Citizens can be assured that the Towns have been skillfully and energetically represented and that the final package is the best effort possible.

We again give thanks and praise to Catriona Beck and Jim Dodge for their able and dedicated representation on the Consortium.

The need for volunteers, in Bennington as elsewhere, never ceases. We're encouraged by the number of residents who have shown interest in project activity such as Recreation and the Master Plan. We never have enough. We urge any citizen seeking a challenge and an opportunity to let the Staff at the Town Hall know of your interest (588-2189).

We would like to acknowledge here, again, the contributions of the many residents who serve the Town as volunteers on committees, boards and commissions; those who provide the drive which makes a success of such programs as Recreation, school functions and patriotic observances. We also extend our thanks to the staff/employees of the Town for the day-to-day work that they do.

Terry

Jim

Joe

BUDGET OF THE TOWN/CITY

OF: Bennington, New Hampshire

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003

or Fiscal Year From _____ to _____

IMPORTANT:

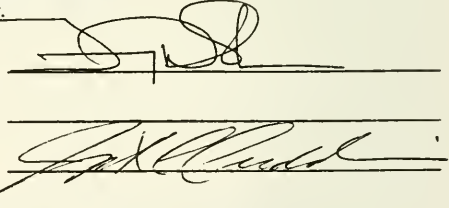
Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

1. Use this form to list the entire budget in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the town clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below.

This is to certify that this budget was posted with the warrant on January 21, 2003.

GOVERNING BODY (SELECTMEN)

Please sign in ink.



THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE TOWN WARRANT

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
 COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
 MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU
 P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
 (603)271-3397

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acc't. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	Appropriations Ensuing FY (RECOMMENDED)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (NOT RECOMMENDED)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4130-4139	Executive		71889	69629	72269	
4140-4149	Election,Reg & Vital Statistics		15883	15342	21530	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		44700	46384	46446	
4152	Revaluation of Property					
4153	Legal Expense		8000	7146	7000	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		100494	101709	116372	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		7791	8123	8250	
4194	General Government Buildings		11800	12780	11235	
4195	Cemeteries		2550	2591	2550	
4196	Insurance		14500	13283	14500	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.					
4199	Other General Government(Contingency)		3000	5450	4000	
PUBLIC SAFETY			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4210-4214	Police		120885	125264	130692	
4215-4219	Ambulance		7500	7500	7500	
4220-4229	Fire		44703	44289	40950	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		750	1640	750	
4290-4298	Emergency Management					
4299	Other (Incl. Communications)					
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4301-4309	Airport Operations					
HIGHWAYS & STREETS			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4311	Administration					
4312	Highways & Streets		170490	164168	176907	
4313	Bridges					
4316	Street Lighting		9300	7954	7800	
4319	Other					
SANITATION			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4321	Administration					
4323	Solid Waste Collection					
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		68200	78095	74945	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up					
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other		30000	20487	24800	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
AccL #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	Appropriations Ensuig FY (RECOMMENDED)	Appropriations Ensuig FY (NOT RECOMMENDED)
WATER DISTRIBUTION & TREATMENT			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4331	Administration					
4332	Water Services		36850	35943	37850	
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv.& Other					
ELECTRIC			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4351-4352	Admin. and Generation					
4353	Purchase Costs					
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance					
4359	Other Electric Costs					
HEALTH			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4411	Administration		1397	704	1718	
4414	Pest Control (Animal)		150	350	150	
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other		5752	5751	5768	
WELFARE			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Assist.		2604	170	3002	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Pymnts					
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		8920	10459	9950	
CULTURE & RECREATION			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		20280	19959	20530	
4550-4559	Library		57172	55275	66502	
4583	Patriotic Purposes		3300	3903	3450	
4589	Other Culture & Recreation		1000	1000	1000	
CONSERVATION			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4611-4612	Admin.& Purch. of Nat. Resources					
4619	Other Conservation		675	0	675	
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING					
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
DEBT SERVICE			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		33050	33050	33050	
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		14680	14326	13120	
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes		6000	1147	2600	
4790-4799	Other Debt Service					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acc. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	Appropriations Ensuang FY (RECOMMENDED)	Appropriations Ensuang FY (NOT RECOMMENDED)
CAPITAL OUTLAY			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4901	Land					
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment					
4903	Buildings					
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs.		23650	21430	see summary page 7	
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4912	To Special Revenue Fund					
4913	To Capital Projects Fund					
4914	To Enterprise Fund					
	Sewer-					
	Water-					
	Electric-					
	Airport-					
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		108500	108500	see summary page 7	
4916	To Exp.Tr.Fund-except #4917		25000	25000	see summary page 7	
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds					
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds					
4919	To Agency Funds					
SUBTOTAL 1			1081415	1068801	967861	

If you have a line item of appropriations from more than one warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total for the ensuing year.

Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount	Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount

SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3,VI, as appropriations: 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriation to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trust funds; 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	Appropriations Ensuing FY (RECOMMENDED)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (NOT RECOMMENDED)
4915	Fire Truck CRF	9	15000	15000	15000	
	Forest Fire Truck CRF	10	3000	3000	0	
	Police Cruiser CRF	DA 11	13500	21983	12500	
	Sidewalk CRF	12	14500	*29000	11000	
	Highway Equipment CRF	DA 13	20000	**	10000	
	Library CRF	14	5000	5000	5000	
	Water Department CRF	DA 15	5000	5094	8000	
	Sewer Department CRF	16	3000	3000	5000	
	Rescue Van CRF	17	3000	3000	10000	
	Mower CRF	18	1000	1000	1000	
	Highway Truck CRF	19	15000	15000	10000	
	Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust	20	5000	5000	5000	
	Town Buildings CRF	21	20000	20000	10000	
	Bridge Replacement CRF	22	5000	5000	5000	
	Emergency Radion CRF	DA 23	5000	4638	0	
	Revaluation CRF	24	15000	0	26500	

*included \$14,500 encumbered from 2001

**receivable from Trustee of Trust Funds

DA disallowed by DRA per August 2, 2002 letter, subject to a Special Hearing conducted September 25, 2002

1		2		3		4		5		6	
Acct. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year		Actual Revenues Prior Year		Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year				
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN			XXXXXXXXXX		XXXXXXXXXX		XXXXXXXXXX				
3912	From Special Revenue Funds										
3913	From Capital Projects Funds										
3914	From Enterprise Funds										
	Sewer - (Offset)			24000		25300		25000			
	Water - (Offset)			41000		44186		45000			
	Electric - (Offset)										
	Airport - (Offset)										
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds										
3916	From Trust & Agency Funds										
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX		XXXXXXXXXX		XXXXXXXXXX				
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes										
	Amount VOTED From F/B ("Surplus")										
	Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes										
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE & CREDITS				584865		596230		515400			

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	Prior Year	Ensuing Year
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from page 4)		967861
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 5)		23080
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 5)		134000
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended		1124941
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)		515400
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised		609541

Vachon, Clukay & Co., PC

Certified Public Accountants

45 Market Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03101
(603) 622-7070
FAX: 622-1452

Board of Selectmen
Town of Bennington, New Hampshire

We have compiled the financial statements of the Town of Bennington, New Hampshire for the year ended December 31, 2002 included in the accompanying Form F-65 (MS-5), in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Our compilation was limited to presenting in the form prescribed by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration, information that is the representation of Town Officials. We have not audited or reviewed the financial statements referred to above and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

The financial report, Form F-65 (MS-5), is presented in accordance with the requirements of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration which differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such differences.

Vachon, Clukay & Co. PC

January 20, 2003

FORM F-65 (MS-5)
(10-9-2002)

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION



**ANNUAL CITY/TOWN
FINANCIAL REPORT
R.S.A. CHAPTER 21-J**

30 3 006 004 000 00 1403
Town of Bennington
Chairman, Board of Selectmen
General Delivery

Bennington, NH 03442

(Please correct any error in name, address, and ZIP Code)

PLEASE
RETURN
COMPLETED
FORM TO

State of New Hampshire
Department of Revenue Administration
Community Services Division
PO Box 487
Concord, NH 03302-0487
Telephone: (603) 271-3397

Part I GENERAL FUND - Revenues and expenditures for the period - Specify -

January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002
OR
July 1, 200_ to June 30, 200__

A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual		Account No. (a)	Amount (b)
1. Revenues from taxes (Including state education)			
a. Property taxes (commitment less overlay plus Section C, line 6, column (c), page 12)		3110	\$ 1,662,911
b. State and local taxes assessed for school districts	\$ 1,100,669	4933	
c. Land use change taxes		3120	3,800
d. Resident taxes		3180	
e. Timber taxes		3185	3,472
f. Payments in lieu of taxes		3186	
g. Other taxes (Explain on separate schedule)		3189	
h. Interest and penalties on delinquent taxes		3190	63,750
i. Excavation Tax (@ \$.02 per cu. yd.)		3187	8,431
j. TOTAL (Excluding line 1b)			\$ 1,742,364
2. TOTAL revenues for education purposes (This entry should be used by the few municipalities which have dependent school districts only)			
3. Revenue from licenses, permits, and fees			
a. Business licenses and permits		3210	640
b. Motor vehicle permit fees		3220	215,608
c. Building permits		3230	1,145

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)			
A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No.	T99	Amount
3. Revenue from licenses, permits, and fees (Continued)	(a)		(b)
d. Other licenses, permits, and fees	3290		6,717
e. TOTAL			\$ 224,110
4. Revenue from the federal government			
a. Housing and urban renewal (HUD)	3311	B50	\$
b. Environmental protection	3312	B89	
c. Other federal grants and reimbursements - Specify -		B89	
Emergency management	3319		525
d. TOTAL			\$ 525
5. Revenue from the State of New Hampshire		C30	
a. Shared revenue block grant	3351		\$ 51,171
b. Meals and rooms distribution	3352	C89	40,333
c. Highway block grant	3353	C46	33,247
d. Water pollution grants	3354	C91	13,062
e. Housing and community development	3355	C50	
f. State and federal forest land reimbursement	3356	C89	
g. Flood control reimbursement	3357	C89	
h. Other state grants and reimbursements - Specify -		C	
	3359		
i. TOTAL			\$ 137,813
6. Revenue from other governments		D	
Intergovernmental revenue - Other	3379		\$
7. Revenue from charges for services (Exclude interfund transfers)		A89	
a. Income from departments	3401		\$ 18,406
b. Water supply system charges	3402	A91	44,953
c. Sewer user charges	3403	A80	25,236
d. Garbage-refuse charges	3404	A81	3,331
e. Electric user charges	3405	A92	
f. Airport fees	3406	A01	
g. Parking		A60	
h. Transit or bus system		A94	
i. Parks and Recreation		A61	
j. Other Charges	3409	A89	
k. TOTAL			\$ 91,926

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)		
A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Amount (b)
8. Revenue from miscellaneous sources		
a. Special assessments	3500	\$ U01
b. Sale of municipal property	3501	U11 110,800
c. Interest on investments	3502	U20 1,838
d. Rents of property	3503	U40 528
e. Fines and forfeits	3504	U99 325
f. Insurance dividends and reimbursements	3506	U99 4,939
g. Contributions and donations	3508	U99
h. Other miscellaneous sources not otherwise classified	3509	U99 2,071
i. TOTAL		\$ 120,501
9. Interfund operating transfers in		
a. Transfers from special revenue fund	3912	\$
b. Transfers from capital projects fund	3913	
c. Transfers from proprietary funds	3914	
d. Transfers from capital reserve fund	3915	
e. Transfers from trust and agency funds	3916	
f. TOTAL		\$
10. Other financial sources		
a. Proceeds from long-term notes and general obligation bonds	3934	\$
b. Proceeds from all other bonds	3935	
c. Other long-term financial sources	3939	
d. TOTAL		\$
11. TOTAL REVENUES FROM ALL SOURCES		\$ 2,317,239
12. TOTAL FUND EQUITY (Beginning of year) <i>(Should equal line B.2f, column b, page 9)</i>		\$ 205,773
13. TOTAL OF LINES 11 AND 12 <i>(Should equal line 21, page 8)</i>		\$ 2,523,012
Remarks		

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual	Account No. (a)	Current operation (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
1. General government				
a. Executive	4130	E29 \$ 69,793	G29 \$	F29 \$
b. Election and registration	4140	E89 15,610	G89	F89
c. Financial administration	4150	E23 54,481	G23	F23
d. Revaluation of property	4152	E23	G23	F23
e. Legal expense	4153	E25 7,540	G25	F25
f. Personnel administration	4155	E29 101,709	G29	F29
g. Planning and zoning	4191	E29 15,183	G29	F29
h. General government building	4194	E31 12,674	G31	F31
i. Cemeteries	4195	E89 4,071	G89	F89 1,480
j. Insurance not otherwise allocated	4196	E89 13,283	G89	F89
k. Advertising and regional association	4197	E89	G89	F89
l. Other general government	4199	E89 4,843	G89	F89
m. TOTAL		\$ 299,187	\$	\$ 1,480
2. Public safety				
a. Police	4210	E62 \$ 135,945	G62 \$	F62 \$
b. Ambulance	4215	E32 7,500	G32	F32
c. Fire	4220	E24 45,036	G24	F24
d. Building inspection	4240	E66 1,640	G66	F66
e. Emergency management	4290	E89	G89	F89
f. Other public safety (including communications)	4299	E89	G89	F89
g. TOTAL		\$ 190,121	\$	\$
3. Airport/Aviation center				
a. Administration	4301	\$	\$	\$
b. Airport operations	4302			
c. Other	4309			
d. TOTAL		E01 \$	G01 \$	F01 \$

Remarks

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Current operation (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
4. Highways and streets				
a. Administration	4311	\$ 89,377		
b. Highways and streets	4312	72,120		
c. Bridges	4313			
d. Street lighting	4316	7,169		
e. Other highway, streets, and bridges	4319			
f. TOTAL		E44 \$ 168,666	G44 \$	F44 \$
5. Sanitation		E80	G80	F80
a. Administration	4321	\$ 21,710	\$	\$
b. Solid waste collection	4323	E81	G81	F81
c. Solid waste disposal	4324	E81 54,931	G81	F81
d. Solid waste clean-up	4325	E81	G81	F81
e. Sewage collection and disposal	4326	E80 20,364	G80	F80
f. Other sanitation	4329	E80 1,800	G80	F80
g. TOTAL		\$ 98,805	\$	\$
6. Water distribution and treatment				
a. Administration	4331	\$ 21,039	\$	\$
b. Water services	4332	16,369		
c. Water treatment	4335	3,117		
d. Water conservation	4338			
e. Other water	4339			
f. TOTAL		E91 \$ 40,525	G91 \$	F91 \$
7. Electric				
a. Administration	4351	\$	\$	\$
b. Generation	4352			
c. Purchase costs	4353			
d. Equipment maintenance	4354			
e. Other electric	4359			
f. TOTAL		E92 \$	G92 \$	F92 \$

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Current Operation (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
8. Health				
a. Administration	4411	\$ 704	\$	\$
b. Pest control	4414	350		
c. Health agencies and hospitals	4415	5,751		
d. Vital statistics	4140			
e. Other health	4419			
f. TOTAL		E32 \$ 6,805	G32 \$	F32 \$
9. TOTAL expenditures for education purposes <i>(This entry should be used by the few municipalities which have dependent school districts only)</i>		\$	\$	\$
10. Welfare		E79	G79	F79
a. Administration	4441	\$ 168	\$	\$
b. Direct assistance	4442	E67 6,391		
c. Intergovernmental welfare payments	4444	M79 520		
d. Vendor payments	4445	E75 3,149		
e. Other welfare	4449	E79 391	G79	F79
f. TOTAL		\$ 10,619	\$	\$
11. Culture and recreation				
a. Parks and recreation	4520	E61 \$ 19,933	G61 \$	F61 \$
b. Library	4550	E62 41,015	G62	F62
c. Patriotic purposes	4583	E61 3,903	G61	F61
d. Other culture and recreation	4589	E61 5,450	G61	F61
e. TOTAL		\$ 70,301	\$	\$
12. Conservation				
a. Administration	4611	\$	\$	\$
b. Purchase of natural resources	4612			
c. Other conservation	4619			
d. TOTAL		E59 \$	G59 \$	F59 \$
13. Redevelopment and housing				
a. Administration	4631	\$	\$	\$
b. Redevelopment and housing	4632			
c. TOTAL		E50 \$	G50 \$	F50 \$

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Current operation (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
14. Economic development				
a. Administration	4651	\$	\$	\$
b. Economic development	4652			
c. Other economic development	4659			
d. TOTAL		E89 \$	G89 \$	F89 \$
15. Debt service				
a. Principal long term bonds and notes	4711	\$ 33,050		
b. Interest on long term bonds and notes	4721	189 14,326		
c. Interest on tax and revenue anticipation notes	4723	189 1,147		
d. Other debt service charges	4790	E23		
e. TOTAL		\$ 48,523		
16. Capital outlay				
a. Land and improvements	4901		G \$	F \$
b. Machinery, vehicles, and equipment	4902		G	
c. Buildings	4903			F
d. Improvements other than buildings	4909			F
e. TOTAL			G \$	F \$
17. Interfund operating transfers out				
a. Transfers to special revenue funds	4912	\$ 19,218		
b. Transfers to capital projects funds	4913			
c. Transfers to proprietary funds	4914			
d. Transfers to capital reserve funds	4915	137,500		
e. Transfers to trust and agency funds	4916	25,000		
f. TOTAL		\$ 181,718		

Remarks

Part III **GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET - Please specify the period -**

As of December 31, 2002 OR June 30, 200__

A. ASSETS	Account number (a)	Beginning of year (b)	End of year (c)
1. Current assets			
a. Cash and equivalents	1010	\$ 366,890	\$ 388,024
b. Investments	1030		
c. Taxes receivable (See worksheet, page 12)	1080	158,381	149,269
d. Tax liens receivable (See worksheet, page 12)	1110	89,810	94,862
e. Accounts receivable	1150	5,256	3,641
f. Due from other governments	1260		
g. Due from other funds	1310	3,537	8,349
h. Other current assets	1400	6,000	
i. Tax deeded property (subject to resale)	1670		
j. TOTAL ASSETS (Should equal line B3)		\$ 629,874	\$ 644,145
B. LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY			
1. Current liabilities			
a. Warrants and accounts payable	2020	\$ 20,132	\$ 15,179
b. Compensated absences payable	2030		
c. Contracts payable	2050		
d. Due to other governments	2070	1,203	493
e. Due to school districts	2075	401,079	411,975
f. Due to other funds	2080	250	3,990
g. Deferred revenue	2220	114	114
h. Notes payable - Current	2230		
i. Bonds payable - Current	2250		
j. Other payables	2270	1,323	1,323
k. TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 424,101	\$ 433,074
2. Fund equity			
a. Reserve for encumbrances (Please detail on page 18)	2440		\$ 2,000
b. Reserve for continuing appropriations (Detail on page 18)	2450		
c. Reserve for appropriations voted from surplus	2460		
d. Reserve for special purposes (Please detail on page 18)	2490	18,500	
e. Unreserved fund balance	2530	187,273	209,071
f. TOTAL FUND EQUITY		\$ 205,773	\$ 211,071
3. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY (Should equal line A1j)		\$ 629,874	\$ 644,145

Part IV GENERAL FUND

A. FIXED ASSET GROUP OF ACCOUNTS As of December 31, 2002 OR June 30, 200__ (Please specify date)

	Account number (a)	Beginning of year		End of year	
		Debit (b)	Credit (c)	Debit (d)	Credit (e)
1. Land and improvements	1610	\$ As with the majority of New Hampshire communities, the Town has not maintained historical cost records of its investment in General Fixed Assets.			
2. Buildings	1620				
3. Machinery, vehicles, and equipment	1640				
4. Construction in progress	1650				
5. Improvements other than buildings	1660				
6. Tax deeded property	1670				
7. Investment in general fixed assets	2800				
8. TOTAL		\$	\$	\$	\$

B. LONG-TERM DEBT GROUP OF ACCOUNTS As of December 31, 2002 OR June 30, 200__ (Please Specify Date)

	Account number (a)	Beginning of year		End of year	
		Debit (b)	Credit (c)	Debit (d)	Credit (e)
1. Bond proceeds not used	1810	\$		\$	
2. Amount to be provided for the retirement of long-term debt	1820	353,202		314,860	
3. Notes and bonds payable - Long-term	2310		254,550		221,500
4. Other long-term liabilities	2390		98,652		93,360
5. TOTAL		\$ 353,202	\$ 353,202	\$ 314,860	314,860

C. PLEASE LIST THE ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS TO AMORTIZE ALL GENERAL OBLIGATION (Debt as of (enter date) December 31, 2002 for the ensuing five years)

	Year (a)	Principal (b)	Interest (c)	Total (d)
1.	2003	\$ 33,050	\$ 12,273	\$45,323
2.	2004	33,050	10,187	43,237
3.	2005	33,050	8,172	41,222
4.	2006	21,750	6,577	28,327
5.	2007	21,750	5,412	27,162
6. SUBTOTAL (Sum of lines 1-5)		142,650	42,621	185,271
7. Remaining periods of debt				89,512
8. TOTAL		\$ 142,650	\$ 42,621	274,783

Part V RECONCILIATIONS			
A. RECONCILIATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY			
		Amount	
1. School district liability at beginning of year (Account number 2075, column b, on page 9)	\$	401,079	
2. ADD: School district assessment for current year		1,100,669	
3. TOTAL LIABILITY WITHIN CURRENT YEAR (Sum of lines 1 and 2)		1,501,748	
4. SUBTRACT: Payments made to school district	(1,089,773)	
5. School district liability at end of year (lines 3 less line 4) (Account number 2075, column c, on page 9)		411,975	
B. RECONCILIATION OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES			
		Amount	
1. Short-term (TANS) debt at beginning of year	^{61V} \$		
2. ADD: New issues during current year		80,000	
3. SUBTRACT: Issues retired during current year	(80,000)	
4. Short-term (TANS) debt outstanding at end of year (Lines 1 + 2 - 3) (Be sure to include (TANS) in Account number 2230, column c, page 9)	^{64V}		
PLEASE REFER TO THE INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPLETE SECTIONS C AND D			
C. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS WORKSHEET			
	Current year (a)	Prior year (b)	TOTAL (c)
1. Overlay/Allowance for Abatements (Beginning of year)*	10,108	46,022	56,130
2. SUBTRACT: Abatements made (From tax collector's report)	(6,599)	(13,333)	(19,932)
3. SUBTRACT: Discounts	()	()	()
4. SUBTRACT: Refunds (Cash abatements)	(788)	()	(788)
5. ESTIMATED ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AT END OF YEAR**	(12,737)	(47,263)	(60,000)
6. Excess of estimate (Add to revenue on page 1, line 1a)	(8,440)	(14,574)	(23,014)
*Use overlay amount for column (a) and use last year's balance of line 5, Allowance for Abatements for column b (see your form from last year).			
**The amount in column c will go into line 1(b) for next year's worksheet.			
D. TAXES/LIENS RECEIVABLE WORKSHEET			
	1080 taxes (a)	1110 liens (b)	TOTALS (c)
1. Uncollected, end of year	\$ 162,006	\$ 142,125	\$ 304,131
2. SUBTRACT: "Overlay" carried forward as Allowance for Abatements (from Worksheet C, line 5)	(12,737)	(47,263)	(60,000)
3. Receivable, end of year*	149,269	94,862	244,131
*(These amounts are entered on page 9, account number 1080 and 1110, column c)			

SUMMARY OF REVENUES FOR ALL OTHER FUNDS - Please specify the period -
 January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002 OR July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2000

	Proprietary funds			
	Capital projects (a)	Special revenue (b)	Enterprise (c)	Internal service (d)
REVENUE AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
1. Revenue from taxes	T01	T01	T01	
		\$	\$	\$
2. Revenue from licenses, permits, and fees	T99	T99		
	B89	B89		
3. Revenue from the federal government	C89	2,175		
	D89	D89		
4. Revenue from the State of New Hampshire				
5. Revenue from other governments			A91	
6. Revenue from charges for services			A80	
(a) Water supply system charges			A81	
(b) Sewer user charges			A92	
(c) Garbage/refuse collection charges	A92			
(d) Electric	A01	A01		
(e) Airport and aviation	A44	A44		
(f) Highway and toll facilities	A61	A61		
(g) Parks and recreation	A60	A60		
(h) Parking	A94	A94		
(i) Transit or bus system	A	A		
(j) Other - Specify -	A	A		
(1)	A	A		
(2)	A	A		
(3)	A	A		
7. Revenue from miscellaneous sources	U20	U20		
(a) Interest on investments	U99	U99		
(b) Other miscellaneous sources		3,374		
8. Interfund operating transfers in		22,862		
9. Other financial sources				
10. TOTAL REVENUE AND OTHER SOURCES	\$	\$ 28,411	\$	\$

Part V-B SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES FOR ALL OTHER FUNDS - Please specify the period -

January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002 OR July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2000

	Capital projects		Special revenue	Proprietary funds	
	(a)	(b)		Enterprise (c)	Internal service (d)
EXPENDITURES (BY FUNCTIONS)					
1. General government	F89 \$	E89 \$		F89 \$	
2. Public safety	F01	F01		F01	
3. Airport/Aviation center	F44	F44		F44	
4. Highways and streets	F80	F80		F80	
5. Sanitation	F91	F91		F91	
6. Water distribution and treatment	F92	F92		F92	
7. Electric	F32	F32		F32	
8. Health	F79	F79		F79	
9. Welfare	F61	F61		F61	
10. Culture and recreation	F60	F60 26,100		F60	
11. Parking	F94	F94		F94	
12. Transit or bus system	F59	F59		F59	
13. Conservation	F50	F50		F50	
14. Redevelopment and housing	F89	F89		F89	
15. Economic development					
16. Debt service	F89	F89		F89	
17. Capital outlay		963			
18. Interfund operating transfers out					
19. Payments to other governments					
20. TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	\$ 27,063		\$	\$
Remarks					

BALANCE SHEET FOR SUMMARY OF ALL OTHER FUNDS - Please specify the period -

As of December 31, 2002 OR June 30, 200__

	Account No.	Capital projects	Special revenue	Proprietary funds		
				Enterprise	Internal service	
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	
A. ASSETS						
1. Current assets						
(a) Cash and equivalents	1010	\$	\$ 5,672	\$	\$	
(b) Investments	1030					
(c) Accounts receivable	1150					
(d) Due from other governments	1260					
(e) Due from other funds	1310					
(f) Other - Specify -						
2. Fixed assets						
(a) Land and improvements	1610	\$	\$	\$	\$	
(b) Buildings	1620					
(c) Machinery, vehicles, and equipment	1640					
(d) Construction in progress	1650					
(e) Improvements other than buildings	1660					
(f) Other - Specify -						
3. TOTAL ASSETS		\$	\$ 5,672	\$	\$	

Part VIII **BALANCE SHEET FOR SUMMARY OF ALL OTHER FUNDS (Continued)** - Please specify the period -
 As of December 31, 2002 OR June 30, 200__

	Account No.	Capital projects	Special revenue	Proprietary funds	
				Enterprise	Internal service
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
B. LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY					
1. Liabilities					
(a) Warrants and accounts payable	2020	\$	\$	\$	\$
(b) Compensated absences payable	2030				
(c) Contracts payable	2050				
(d) Due to other governments	2070				
(e) Due to other funds	2080				
(f) Deferred revenue	2220				
(g) Notes and bonds payable					
(h) Other - Specify -					
(i) TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$	\$	\$	\$
2. Fund equity/Capital					
(a) Reserve for encumbrances	2440	\$	\$		
(b) Reserve for special purposes	2490				
(c) Unreserved fund balance	2530		5,672		
(d) Municipal contributed capital	2610				
(e) Other contributed capital	2620				
(f) Retained earnings	2790				
(g) TOTAL FUND EQUITY			5,672		
3. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY		\$	\$ 5,672	\$	\$

A. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Report payments made to the State or other local governments on reimbursement or cost-sharing basis. Do not include these expenditures in part VII.

Purpose (a)	Account No. (b)	Amount (c)
Payments made to other local governments for:		M12
Schools		\$
Sewers		M80
All other - County	4931	M89
All other - Towns	4199	M89
Payments made to State for:		L44
Highways	4319	L89
All other purposes	4199	

B. DEBT OUTSTANDING, ISSUED, AND RETIRED

Long-term debt purpose (a)	Bonds outstanding at the beginning of this fiscal year (b)	Bonds during this fiscal year		Outstanding at the end of this fiscal year	
		Issued (c)	Retired (d)	General obligations (e)	Revenue bonds (f)
Water-sewer utility	19A 254,550	29A	39A 33,050	41A 221,500	44A
Sewer	19X	29X	39X	41X	44X
Industrial revenue	19T	29T	34T		44T
All other debt	19X	29X	39X	41X	44X
Education	19H	29F	39F	41F	44F
Interest on water debt	19I				

C. SALARIES AND WAGES

Report here the total salaries and wages paid to all employees of your city before deductions for social security, retirement, etc. include also salaries and wages paid to employees of any utility owned and operated by your government, as well as salaries and wages of city employees charged to construction projects. These amounts may be taken from the W3 form filed by your government for the year ended December 31.

Total wages paid
200
\$350,089

D. CASH AND INVESTMENTS HELD AT END OF FISCAL YEAR

Report separately for each of the two types of funds listed below, the total amount of cash on hand and on deposit and investments in Federal Government, Federal agency, State and local government, and non-governmental securities. Report all investments at par value. Exclude accounts receivable, value of real property, and all non-security assets.

Type of fund (a)	Amount at end of fiscal year Omit cents (b)
Bond funds - Unexpended proceeds from sale of bond issues held pending disbursement	W31
All other funds except employee retirement funds	W61 \$1,028,011

Part X

This page may be used to provide the detail requested whenever "Explain" or "Specify" is found. If additional space is needed, please add extra pages using the following format. Please show the detail and the total for each.

Account number (a)	Item (b)	Amount (c)

Please Detail Reserves from page 9 (Balance Sheet).

Account number (a)	Description (b)	Year voted (c)	Warrant article number (d)
2440	General Governmental Buildings \$2,000	2002	BOS minutes

Part XI	CERTIFICATION
<p>This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief.</p>	
Signatures of a majority of the governing body:	
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	
<p>Three copies of this report are sent to each municipality. Selectmen, treasurer and tax collector are expected to cooperate in making out this report. When completed, one copy should be returned to the Department of Revenue Administration and one copy should be placed in your municipal records. The third copy is for use in preparing the annual printed report for the voters.</p> <p>Please be sure you have completed Part IX, items A-D.</p>	
WHEN TO FILE: (R.S.A. 21-J)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * For cities/towns reporting on a calendar year basis, this report must be filed on or before April 1. * For cities/towns reporting on an optional fiscal year basis (year ending June 30), this report must be filed on or before September 1.
WHERE TO FILE	<p>Department of Revenue Administration State of New Hampshire Community Services Division PO Box 487 Concord, NH 03302-0487</p>

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU

P. O. BOX 487
CONCORD, NH 03302-0487

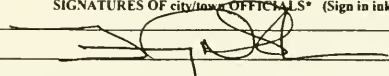
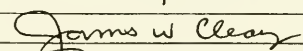
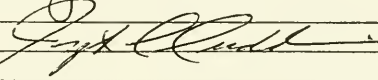
For assistance call: (603) 271-2687

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION
Form MS-1 for 2002

CITY/TOWN of Bennington IN Hillsborough COUNTY

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the information provided in this report was taken from the official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief. RSA 21-J:34

PRINT NAMES OF city/town OFFICIALS	SIGNATURES OF city/town OFFICIALS* (Sign in ink)
Terry D. Schnare	
James W. Cleary	
Joseph C. Cuddemi	

Date Signed: _____

*Check one: Selectmen Assessors

City/Town TELEPHONE # 588-2189

Due date: September 1, 2002

Complete the above required certification by inserting the name of the city/town officials, the date on which the certificate is signed, and have the majority of the members of the board of selectmen/assessing officials sign in ink (RSA 41:15 & Rev. Rule 105.02).

REPORTS REQUIRED: RSA 21-J:34 as amended, provides for certification of valuations, appropriations, estimated revenues and such other information as the Department of Revenue Administration may require upon forms prescribed for that purpose.

NOTE: The values and figures provided represent the detailed values that are used in the city/town tax assessments and sworn to uphold under Oath per RSA 75:7. Please complete all applicable pages and refer to the instructions (pages 9 thru 12) provided for individual items.

THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DRA NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1st TO AVOID LATE FILING PENALTIES. (RSA 21-J:34 & 36.)

RETURN THIS SIGNED AND COMPLETED INVENTORY FORM TO: NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION, MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU, PO BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487.

Contact Person: William B. Reid
(Print/type)

Note office hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

See Instructions beginning on page 9 of this set as needed.

LAND BUILDINGS	Lines 1 A, B, C, D & E List all improved and unimproved land - include wells, septic & paving. Lines 2 A, B, & C List all buildings.	NUMBER OF ACRES	2002 ASSESSED VALUATION By CITY/TOWN
1. VALUE OF LAND ONLY - Exclude Amount Listed in Lines 3A, 3B & 4			
A. Current Use (At Current Use Values) RSA 79-A (See Instruction # 1)		4375.95	\$ 354,473
B. Conservation Restriction Assessment (At Current Use Values) RSA 79-B			\$
C. Discretionary Easement RSA 79-C			\$
D. Residential Land (Improved and Unimproved Land)		2111.93	\$ 14,030,900
E. Commercial/Industrial Land (DO NOT include Public Utility Land)		87.83	\$ 1,515,700
F. Total of Taxable Land (Sum of Lines 1A + 1B + 1C + 1D + 1E)		6575.71	\$ 15,901,073
G. Tax Exempt & Non-Taxable Land (\$)		261.35	

2. VALUE OF BUILDINGS ONLY - Exclude Amounts Listed on Lines 3A & 3B		\$ 37,971,400
A. Residential		\$ 1,345,100
B. Manufactured Housing as defined in RSA 674:31		\$ 6,733,000
C. Commercial/Industrial (DO NOT Include Public Utility Buildings)		\$ 46,049,500
D. Total of Taxable Buildings (Sum of lines 2A + 2B + 2C)		
E. Tax Exempt & Non-Taxable Buildings (\$)		

3. PUBLIC UTILITIES (see RSA 83-F:1 V for complete definition)		\$ 2,943,200
A. Public Utilities (Real estate/buildings/structures/machinery/dynamos/apparatus/poles/ wires/fixtures of all kinds and descriptions/pipelines etc.)		\$
B. Other Public Utilities (Total of Section B from Utility Summary)		\$

4. MATURE WOOD and TIMBER RSA 79:5		\$
5. VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS (Total of Lines 1F + 2D + 3A + 3B + 4) This figure represents the gross sum of all taxable property in your municipality.		\$ 64,893,773
6. Certain Disabled Veterans (Paraplegic and Double Amputees Owning Specially Adapted Homesteads with V.A. Assistance) RSA 72:36 - a Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted		\$
7. Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities RSA 72:37 - a Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted		\$
8. School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted RSA 72:23 1V (Standard Exemption Up To \$150,000 for each) (See Instruction # 2)		\$
9. Water and Air Pollution Control Exemptions Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted RSA 72:12 - a		\$

10. MODIFIED ASSESSED VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTIES <i>(Sum of Line 5 minus Lines 6, 7, 8 & 9) This figure will be used for calculating the total equalized value for your municipality.</i>		\$
11. Blind Exemption RSA 72:37	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted Amount granted per exemption \$ _____	\$
12. Elderly Exemption RSA 72:39-a & b	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted	\$ 677,700
13. Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37-b	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted Amount granted per exemption \$ _____	\$
14. Wood-Heating Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:70	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted	\$
15. Solar Energy Exemption RSA 72:62	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted	\$
16. Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:66	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted	\$
17. Additional School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemptions RSA 72:23 IV <i>(Amounts in excess of \$150,000 exemption)</i>	Total # <input type="checkbox"/> granted	\$
18. TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS <i>(Sum of Lines 11 thru 17)</i>		\$ 677,700
19. NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE FOR MUNICIPAL, COUNTY & LOCAL EDUCATION TAX IS COMPUTED <i>(Line 10 minus Line 18)</i>		\$ 64,216,073
20. Less Public Utilities <i>(Line 3A) DO NOT include the value of OTHER public utilities listed in Line 3B.</i>		\$ 2,943,200
21. NET VALUATION WITHOUT UTILITIES ON WHICH TAX RATE FOR STATE EDUCATION TAX IS COMPUTED <i>(Line 19 minus Line 20)</i>		\$ 61,272,873

UTILITY SUMMARY: ELECTRIC, GAS, OIL, PIPELINE, WATER & SEWER RSA 83-F

List by individual company/legal entity the valuation of operating plants employed in the production, distribution and transmission of electricity, gas pipeline, water and petroleum products. Include ONLY the names of the companies listed on the Instruction Sheets. (See Instruction # 3)

SECTION A: LIST ELECTRIC COMPANIES, GENERATING PLANTS, ETC. <i>(Attach additional sheet if needed.)</i>	2002 VALUATION
PSNH	\$ 1,043,200
Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.	\$ 1,900,000
	\$
	\$
	\$
A1. TOTAL OF ALL ELECTRIC COMPANIES LISTED IN THIS SECTION <i>(See Instruction #4 for the names of the limited number of companies)</i>	\$ 2,943,200

GAS, OIL & PIPELINE COMPANIES	
	\$
	\$
	\$
A2. TOTAL OF ALL GAS, OIL & PIPELINE COMPANIES LISTED. <i>(See Instructions #4 for the names of the limited number of companies)</i>	\$

WATER & SEWER COMPANIES	
	\$
	\$
	\$
A3. TOTAL OF ALL WATER & SEWER COMPANIES LISTED. <i>(See Instructions #4 for the names of the limited number of companies)</i>	\$

GRAND TOTAL VALUATION OF ALL A UTILITY COMPANIES. <i>(Sum of Lines A1, A2, and A3)</i> <i>This grand total of all sections must agree with the total listed on page 2, line 3A.</i>	\$ 2,943,200
--	---------------------

SECTION B: LIST OTHER UTILITY COMPANIES <i>(Exclude telephone companies)</i> . <i>(Attach additional sheet if needed.)</i> (See Instruction # 5)	2002 VALUATION
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
TOTAL OF ALL OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN THIS SECTION B. <i>(See Instruction # 5 for the names of the limited number of companies)</i>	\$

TAX CREDITS	LIMITS	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS	ESTIMATED TAX CREDITS
Totally and permanently disabled veterans, their spouses or widows, and the widows of veterans who died or were killed on active duty. RSA 72:35	\$700 / \$1,400	2	\$ 2,800
Other war service credits. RSA 72:28	\$50 / \$100	69	\$ 6,850
TOTAL NUMBER AND AMOUNT		71	\$ 9,650

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICTS RSA 162-K (See page 11 for instructions)	TIF#1	TIF#2	TIF#3	TIF#4
Date of Adoption				
Original assessed value	\$	\$	\$	\$
+ Unretained captured assessed value	\$	\$	\$	\$
= Amounts used on page 2 (tax rates)	\$	\$	\$	\$
+ Retained captured assessed value	\$	\$	\$	\$
Current assessed value	\$	\$	\$	\$

LIST REVENUES RECEIVED FROM PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES <i>Amounts listed below should not be included in assessed valuation column on page 2.</i>	MUNICIPALITY	LIST SOURCE(S) OF PAYMENT In Lieu of Taxes
State and Federal Forest Land, Recreation, and/or Flood Control Land from MS-4, acct. 3356 & 3357.	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$	
Totals of account 3186	\$	

ELDERLY EXEMPTION REPORT - RSA 72:39-a

NO OF FIRST TIME FILERS GRANTED ELDERLY EXEMPTION FOR CURRENT YEAR		PER AGE CATEGORY	TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS GRANTED AN ELDERLY EXEMPTION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR & TOTAL AMOUNT OF EXEMPTION GRANTED			
AGE	#		AMOUNT PER INDIVIDUAL	AGE	#	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE EXEMPTION AMOUNT
65 - 74		\$	65 - 74	6	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
75 - 79		\$	75 - 79	7	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000
80 +		\$	80 +	6	\$ 297,700	\$ 297,700
			TOTAL		\$	\$ 677,700

CURRENT USE REPORT - RSA 79-A

	TOTAL NO. ACRES RECEIVING CURRENT USE ASSESSMENT	ASSESSED VALUATION	OTHER CURRENT USE STATISTICS	TOTAL NO. OF ACRES
FARM LAND	164.13	\$ 45,032	RECEIVING 20% RECREATION ADJUSTMENT	
FOREST LAND	3969.97	\$ 306,309	REMOVED FROM CURRENT USE DURING CURRENT YEAR	
FOREST LAND with DOCUMENTED STEWARDSHIP		\$		
UNPRODUCTIVE LAND	241.85	\$ 3,132		TOTAL NO.
WET LAND		\$	TOTAL NO. OF OWNERS IN C. U.	
TOTAL Must match page 2	4375.95	\$ 354,473	TOTAL NO. OF PARCELS IN C. U.	

CONSERVATION RESTRICTION ASSESSMENT REPORT - RSA 79-B

	TOTAL NO. ACRES RECEIVING CONS. RES. ASSESSMENTS	ASSESSED VALUATION	OTHER CONSERVATION RESTRICTION ASSESSMENT STATISTICS	TOTAL NO. OF ACRES
FARM LAND		\$	RECEIVING 20% RECREATION ADJUSTMENT	
FOREST LAND		\$	REMOVED FROM CONSERVATION RESTRICTION DURING CURRENT YEAR	
FOREST LAND with DOCUMENTED STEWARDSHIP		\$		
UNPRODUCTIVE LAND		\$		TOTAL NO.
WET LAND		\$	TOTAL NO. OF OWNERS IN CONSERVATION RESTRICTION	
TOTAL Must match page 2		\$	TOTAL NO. OF PARCELS IN CONSERVATION RESTRICTION	

DISCRETIONARY EASEMENTS - RSA 79-C

TOTAL NO. OF ACRES IN DISCRETIONARY EASEMENTS	TOTAL NO. OF OWNERS GRANTED DISCRETIONARY EASEMENTS	DESCRIPTION OF DISCRETIONARY EASEMENTS GRANTED: (i.e.: Golf Course, Ball Park, Race Track, etc.)
		1.
		2.
		3.
		4.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION
RECEIVED P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

MAR 22 2002

NH DEPT OF REVENUE ADM
MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION



REPORT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACTUALLY VOTED

(RSA 21-J:34)

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2002

Town/City Of: Bennington County: Hillsborough

Mailing Address: 7 School St., #101
Bennington, NH 03442

Phone #: 603-588-2189 Fax #: 603-588-8005 E-Mail: townofbenn@conknet.com

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATIONS VOTED (To Be Completed After Annual or Special Meeting)

This is to certify that the information contained in this form, appropriations actually voted by the town/city meeting, was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief.

GOVERNING BODY (SELECTMEN) *Please sign in ink.*

James W. Cleary

[Signature]

Penalty: Failure to file within 20 days after each meeting at which appropriations were voted may result in a \$5.00 per day penalty for each day's delay (RSA 21-J:36).

1	2	3	4	5
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations As Voted	For Use By Department of Revenue Administration
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4130-4139	Executive		71889	
4140-4149	Election, Reg. & Vital Statistics		15883	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		44700	
4152	Revaluation of Property			
4153	Legal Expense		8000	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		100494	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		7791	
4194	General Government Buildings		11800	
4195	Cemeteries		2550	
4196	Insurance		14500	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.			
4199	contingency Other General Government		3000	
PUBLIC SAFETY			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4210-4214	Police		120885	
4215-4219	Ambulance		7500	
4220-4229	Fire		44703	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		750	
4290-4298	Emergency Management			
4299	Other (Including Communications)			
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4301-4309	Airport Operations			
HIGHWAYS & STREETS			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4311	Administration		90390	
4312	Highways & Streets		80100	
4313	Bridges			
4316	Street Lighting		9300	
4319	Other			
SANITATION			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4321	Administration		24100	
4323	Solid Waste Collection		1800	
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		42300	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up			
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other		30000	

1	2	3	4	5
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations As Voted	For Use By Department of Revenue Administration
WATER DISTRIBUTION & TREATMENT			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4331	Administration		18900	
4332	Water Services		16300	
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv. & Other		1650	
ELECTRIC			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4351-4359	Electrical Operations			
HEALTH			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4411	Administration		1397	
4414	Pest Control		150	
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other		5752	
WELFARE			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Assist.		6104	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		520	
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		4900	
CULTURE & RECREATION			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		20280	
4550-4559	Library		57172	
4583	Patriotic Purpose		3300	
4589	Scholarship Other Culture & Recreation		1000	
CONSERVATION			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4611-4612	Admin. & Purch. of Nat. Resources		675	
4619	Other Conservation			
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING			
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
DEBT SERVICE			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4711	Princ. - Long Term Bonds & Notes		33050	
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		14680	
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Note		6000	
4790-4799	Other Debt Service			

1	2	3	4	5
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations As Voted	For Use By Department of Revenue Administration

CAPITAL OUTLAY		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4901	Land		
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment		
4903	Buildings		
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs	6,7,8,12	23550
			9,150

OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		
4914	To Enterprise Fund		
	Sewer-		
	Water-		
	Electric-		
	Airport-		

4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	*	108500	94,000
4916	To Exp.Tr.Fund-except #4917	** 2071	25000 ✓	
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds			
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds			
4919	To Agency Funds			
TOTAL VOTED APPROPRIATIONS			1087415	1,052,415

SPECIAL NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE MS-2 FORM

This form must contain all the appropriations passed at an annual or special meeting. Combine all the approved and amended appropriations from the MS-6 or MS-7 posted budget form. List the appropriate warrant article numbers in column 3.

Do not cross off any accounts to enter your own titles. We have included the entire chart of accounts for reporting purposes. Please call us if you have any questions or need help in classifying any of your approved appropriations. Mail this form to us within 20 days after the meeting to our new address on the 1st page of this forms.

The revenue page form MS4, due September 1, will be mailed to you in the summer. This form is computerized. Send us your blank disk & a self-addressed, stamped mailer for a copy of the spreadsheet.

* 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22 & 24

8/2/02
SR
WR

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$365,567.28
Receipts	\$2,429,130.25
Disbursements	(\$2,409,109.63)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2002	\$385,587.90

CONSERVATION FUND

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$4,273.09
Interest Earned to December 31, 2002	\$41.91
Ending Balance, December 31, 2002	\$4,315.00

JEREMY W. HALL, ESCROW ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$523.59
Interest Earned to December 31, 2002	\$4.33
Less transfer to General Account	(\$527.92)
Ending Balance December 31, 2002	\$0.00

BENNINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT - SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$50.00
Receipts	\$2,250.00
Service Charge	(\$4.00)
Checks	(\$14.50)
Disbursements	(\$945.00)
Interest Earned to December 31, 2002	\$1.23
Ending Balance December 31, 2002	\$1,337.73

DRIVEWAY SECURITY ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$9,000.00
Receipts	\$5,000.00
Service Charge	(\$21.00)
Security Deposits Returned 2002	(\$8,000.00)
Interest Earned to December 31, 2002	\$15.93
Ending Balance December 31, 2002	\$5,994.93

NHMA-PLIT

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$1,323.28
Interest Earned to December 31, 2002	\$12.98
Ending Balance December 31, 2002	\$1,336.26

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

MARSHALL BENNETT - ESCROW ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2002	\$1,300 00
Interest Earned to December 31, 2002	\$13 00
Ending Balance December 31, 2002	\$1,313 00

Joyce L. Miner,
Treasurer

Town Clerk's Revenue Report
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

Motor Vehicle Registrations		\$209,779.82
Municipal Agent Fees		4,415.00
Motor Vehicle Titles		836.00
Motor Vehicle Mail Program		162.00
UCC & IRS Lien Filings		640.00
Marriage Licenses:	Town	42.00
	State	228.00
Certified Copies:	Town	162.00
	State	302.00
Dog Licenses:	Town	1,633.50
	State	175.50
	Animal Population Control	660.00
Dog License Fines		625.00
Bad Check Fees		98.00
Election Fees		12.00
Total Revenue Collected by the Town Clerk		\$219,770.82

I hereby certify that the above report is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra Belcher, Town Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
Municipal Finance Bureau
2002 Tax Rate Calculation

TOWN/CITY: Bennington

Gross Appropriations	1,052,415
Less: Revenues	610,274
Less: Shared Revenues	19,978
Add: Overlay	10,108
War Service Credits	9,650

Net Town Appropriation	441,921
Special Adjustment	0

Approved Town/City Tax Effort	441,921
-------------------------------	---------

TOWN RATE
6.88

SCHOOL PORTION

Net Local School Budget (Gross Approp. - Revenue)	0
Regional School Apportionment	1,899,289
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(798,620)
State Education Taxes	(338,740)

Approved School(s) Tax Effort	761,929
-------------------------------	---------

LOCAL SCHOOL RATE
11.87

STATE EDUCATION TAXES

Equalized Valuation(no utilities) x	\$5.80	
58,403,443		338,740
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)		
61,272,873		
Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State		
Pay to State →	0	

STATE SCHOOL RATE
5.53

COUNTY PORTION

Due to County	96,002
Less: Shared Revenues	(4,514)

Approved County Tax Effort	91,488
----------------------------	--------

COUNTY RATE
1.42

Total Property Taxes Assessed	1,634,078
Less: War Service Credits	(9,650)
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	0
Total Property Tax Commitment	1,624,428

TOTAL RATE
25.70

PROOF OF RATE

Net Assessed Valuation		Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	61,272,873	5.53	338,740
All Other Taxes	64,216,073	20.17	1,295,338
			1,634,078

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

	2002	2001
UNCOLLECTED TAXES 01/01/02		
Property Taxes		\$157,860.96
Yield Taxes		\$519.87
TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR		
Property Taxes	\$1,629,789.25	
Land Use Change Taxes	\$3,800.00	
Yield Taxes	\$3,472.19	
Excavation Taxes	\$3,424.04	
Earth Activity Taxes		\$4,917.00
OVERPAYMENT		
Property Taxes	\$4,278.92	\$3,420.51
INTEREST - PENALTIES		
	\$1,668.19	\$11,280.11
TOTAL DEBITS		
	\$1,646,432.59	\$177,998.45
REMITTED TO TREASURER 2002		
Property Taxes	\$1,469,591.72	\$148,474.01
Land Use Change Taxes		
Yield Taxes	\$3,187.43	\$519.87
Current Use Change Taxes		
Interest/Penalties	\$1,668.19	\$11,280.11
Excavation Taxes	\$3,419.48	
Earth Activity Taxes		\$4,917.00
Credit carried from 2001		\$70.95
ABATEMENTS		
Property Taxes	\$6,527.21	\$12,736.51
Yield Taxes	\$72.36	
UNCOLLECTED TAXES 12/31/02		
Property Taxes	\$157,949.24	
Land Use Change	\$3,800.00	
Yield Taxes	\$212.40	
Excavation Taxes	\$4.56	
TOTAL CREDITS		
	\$1,646,432.59	\$177,998.45

A list of unpaid accounts is available for public inspection,
at Town Hall, during regular office hours.

Respectfully Submitted

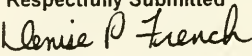
Denise P French

Denise P. French
TAX COLLECTOR

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

	TAX LIEN ON ACCOUNT OF LEVIES:			
	2001	2000	PRIOR	ELDERLY/ DISABLED TAX LIEN
Unredeemed Liens January 1, 2002		\$60,826.78	\$75,005.40	\$47,977.99
Liens Executed 2002	\$85,088.79			\$11,605.00
Interest & Costs Collected After Lien Execution	<u>\$2,263.18</u>	<u>\$6,669.14</u>	<u>\$41,869.29</u>	
TOTAL DEBITS	\$87,351.97	\$67,495.92	\$116,874.69	\$59,582.99
<hr/>				
REMITTANCE TO TREASURER				
Redemptions	\$33,379.48	\$30,008.10	\$74,395.20	
Interest & Costs After Lien Execution	\$2,263.18	\$6,669.14	\$41,869.29	
Abatement of Unredeemed Taxes	\$596.52			
Liens Deeded to Municipality				
Unredeemed Tax Liens December 31, 2002	<u>\$51,112.79</u>	<u>\$30,818.68</u>	<u>\$610.20</u>	<u>\$59,582.99</u>
TOTAL CREDITS	\$87,351.97	\$67,495.92	\$116,874.69	\$59,582.99

A list of unpaid accounts is available for public inspection,
at Town Hall, during regular office hours.

Respectfully Submitted

Denise P. French
TAX COLLECTOR

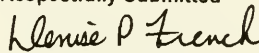
WATER & SEWER FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

Unpaid Balance January 1, 2002		\$3,985.03
Charges:		
Water Usage	\$43,247.06	
Water Overpaid	\$25.63	
Water Interest	\$173.46	
Shut-off Notice Fees	\$740.00	
Water Department Fees	\$792.65	
Sewer Usage	\$25,138.36	
Sewer Overpaid	\$32.27	
Sewer Interest	\$97.49	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL CHARGES	+	<u>\$70,246.92</u>
		\$74,231.95
Abatements Granted		
Water	\$0.00	
Sewer	\$92.74	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL ABATEMENTS	-	\$92.74
Credit Carried From 2001	-	\$40.68
Receipts To Treasurer	-	<u>\$70,214.62</u>
Unpaid Water/Sewer December 31, 2002		\$3,883.91

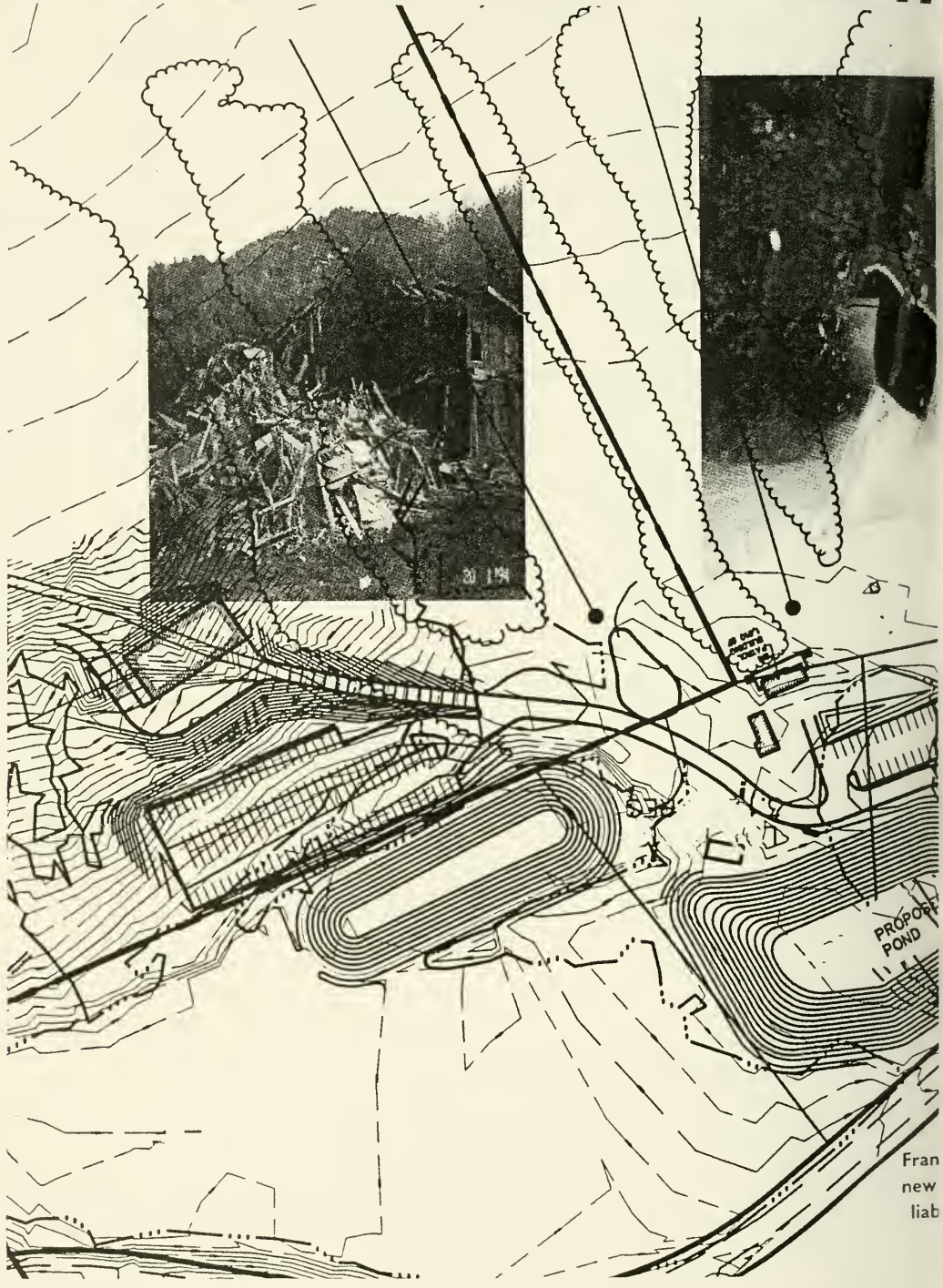
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Respectfully Submitted



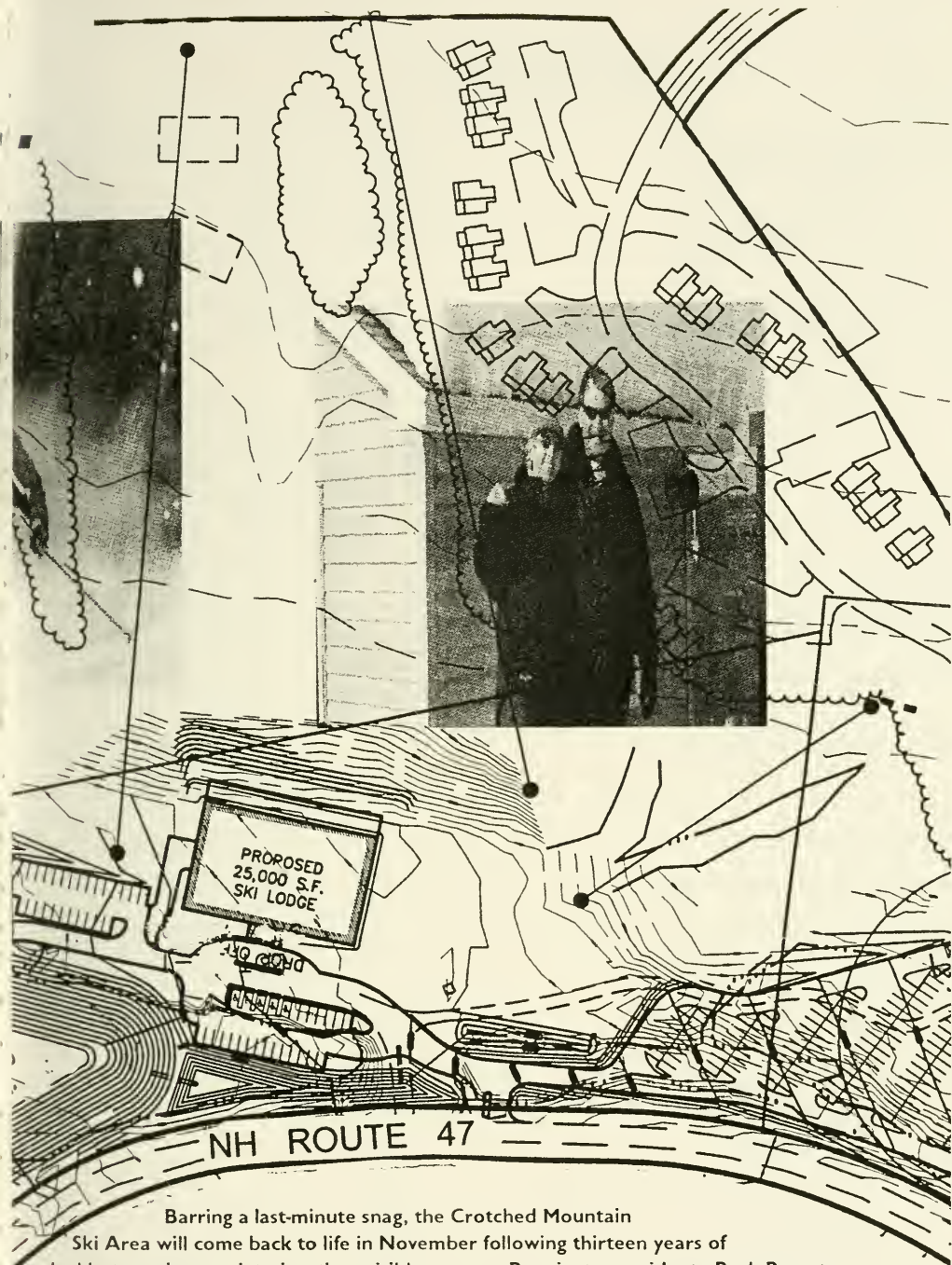
**Denise P. French
TAX COLLECTOR**

CROTCHED'S RETURN ..



PROPOSED
POND

Fran
new
liab



Barring a last-minute snag, the Crotched Mountain

Ski Area will come back to life in November following thirteen years of gradual but continuous deterioration, visible to every Bennington resident. Peak Resorts, Inc has run the gauntlet of permitting Boards and Agencies, at the State level and in Bennington and Bennington. Felix and Margrit Kagi, pictured above, are expected to be the managers of the "new" Mountain; which not only has meant removal of an eyesore and a liability but is also expected to provide a healthy boost to Bennington's ... and the Area's ... indecisive economic status.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

LOCAL TAXES FOR CURRENT YEAR		
Property Tax	\$1,469,592	
Yield Tax	\$3,188	
Excavation Tax	\$3,419	
Interest/Penalties	<u>\$1,668</u>	
		\$1,477,867
LOCAL TAXES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS		
Property Tax	\$148,474	
Yield Tax	\$520	
Earth Activity Tax	\$4,917	
Interest/Penalties	\$11,280	
Tax Liens Redeemed	\$137,783	
Tax Lien Interest/Penalties	<u>\$50,802</u>	
		\$353,776
WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT		\$70,215
TOWN CLERK REVENUE		\$219,771
INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS		
Police Cruiser Fund		\$5,625
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE		
FEMA Reimbursement	\$525	
Shared Revenue Grant	\$91,504	
Highway Block Grant	\$33,247	
Water Pollution Grant	<u>\$13,062</u>	
		\$138,338
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES		\$80,000
INTEREST EARNED ON DEPOSITS		\$1,825
CEMETERY/PERPETUAL CARE		\$2,071
RENT OF TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY		\$528
DIVIDENDS/REFUNDS		\$46
LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES		
Building Permits	\$1,145	
Driveway Permits	\$40	
Demolition Permits	\$30	
Cable Franchise Fees	\$2,234	
Pistol Permits	\$40	
Sign Permits	\$10	
Court Fines	\$325	
Commercial Hauler Permits	<u>\$250</u>	
		\$4,074

SALE OF TAX DEEDED PROPERTY

\$110,000

INCOME FROM DEPARTMENTS

Police	\$445
Recreation	\$201
Planning Board	\$2,467
Zoning	\$109
Recycling	\$4,840
Cemetery	\$550
Election and Registration	\$50
Photocopies	\$62
Old Home Days	\$400

\$9,124

REIMBURSEMENTS

Health Insurance	\$4,894
PD Special Details	\$13,861
Welfare Department	\$140
Highway	\$19
Transfer Station	\$652

\$19,566

TOTAL 2002 RECEIPTS

\$2,492,826.00

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Selectmen Salaries	\$2,250	
Telephone	\$1,830	
Computer	\$4,519	
Xerox Machine Rental	\$2,070	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$738	
Advertising	\$748	
General Supplies	\$373	
Office Supplies	\$2,964	
Postage	\$2,534	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$59	
Administrative Assistant	\$35,159	
Part-Time Office Support	\$12,096	
Mileage/Expenses	\$995	
Moderator's Salary	\$60	
Town Report Printing	\$1,950	
Newsletter Printing	\$1,283	
Total Executive Office	\$69,628	\$69,628

ELECTION AND REGISTRATION

Town Clerk	\$9,269	
Deputy Town Clerk	\$2,144	
Assistant Town Clerk	\$765	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$55	
Office Supplies	\$189	
Books & Periodicals	\$24	
Municipal Agent Mail Program	\$403	
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$675	
Supervisors of the Checklist - Conval	\$180	
Advertising	\$266	
Supervisors Office Supplies	\$9	
Voter Ballot Clerks	\$396	
Election Printing	\$703	
Election Meals	\$265	
Total Election and Registration	\$15,343	\$15,343

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Auditing Services	\$5,506	
Assessing/Tax Map Maintenance	\$4,463	
Tax Collector	\$33,982	
Tax Collector Dues and Subscriptions	\$20	
Tax Collector Fees	\$1,663	
Treasurer's Salary	\$750	
Overlay	\$7,656	
Refunds - Town Clerk	\$526	
Total Financial Administration	\$54,566	\$54,566

JUDICIAL & LEGAL EXPENSE

General Legal Support	7,146	
	7,146	

Total Judicial & Legal Expense

7,146

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION

Group Health Insurance	\$62,176
Group Dental Insurance	\$3,279
FICA	\$15,524
Medicare	\$5,058
Group 1 Retirement	\$6,596
Police Retirement	\$5,244
Unemployment Compensation	\$87
Workers Compensation	\$3,746

Total Personnel Administration

\$101,710

PLANNING AND ZONING

Recording Secretary	\$439
SWRPC Member Dues	\$1,541
Miscellaneous	\$984
Master Plan	\$8,882
ZBA Miscellaneous	\$277

Total Planning and Zoning

\$12,123

GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Custodial/Groundskeeping	\$3,513
Tax Deeded Property	\$2,215
Security/Fire System Maintenance	\$1,394
Electricity	\$2,224
Heat & Oil	\$1,988
Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,446

Total General Government

\$12,780

CEMETERIES

Evergreen Groundskeeping/Laborer	\$687
Evergreen Equipment Rental/Lease	\$391
Sunnyside Groundskeeping/Laborer	\$1,360
Sunnyside Equipment Rental/Lease	\$154

Total Cemeteries

\$2,592

PROPERTY/LIABILITY/BOND INSURANCE

NHMA-PLIT Annual Premium	\$11,283
Deductible Coverage	\$2,000

Total Property/Liability/Bond Insurance

\$13,283

CONTINGENCY FUND

General Contingency Fund	\$5,396
Abatement Interest	\$54

Total Contingency Fund

\$5,450

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief	\$43,124
Patrol Officer	\$30,400
Overtime	\$10,950
Part-Time Officers Salary	\$12,855

Crossing Guard Salary	\$3,733
Holiday Compensation	\$2,731
Special Detail Wages	\$11,188
Administrative Telephone	\$2,267
Cellular Telephone	\$789
Lease of Pagers	\$389
Photo Services	\$361
Dispatch Services	\$5,701
Equipment/Training Supplies	\$3,120
Administrative Office Supplies	\$539
Maintenance/Repair of Equipment	\$115
Administrative Gasoline	\$4,077
Administrative Vehicle Repairs	\$1,814
Books/Periodicals	\$208
Uniforms	\$1,244
Miscellaneous	\$847
Total Police Department	<u>\$84,452</u>

\$136,452

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Antrim Ambulance	\$7,500
Total Ambulance Service	<u>\$7,500</u>

\$7,500

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Elected Chiefs Salaries	\$1,500
Administrative Telephone	\$1,478
Dispatch Services	\$2,687
General Supplies	\$2,595
Firefighter Emergency Calls	\$4,500
Medical	\$1,054
Fire Prevention Materials	\$557
Training	\$2,665
Equipment Replacement	\$7,528
Equipment Upgrade	\$9,281
Radio Repairs	\$2,536
Gasoline	\$571
Repair - Vehicles	\$4,132
Electricity	\$1,632
Heating Oil	\$826
Repairs/Maintenance	\$748
Total Fire Department	<u>\$44,290</u>

\$44,290

BUILDING INSPECTION

Building Inspector's Salary	\$1,640
Total Building Inspection	<u>\$1,640</u>

\$1,640

GENERAL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Road Agent Salary	\$30,945
Highway Laborer Salary	\$30,099
Road Agent Overtime	\$2,622
Highway Laborer Overtime	\$3,581
Highway Part-Time Laborer	\$1,749
Telephone	\$428

Lease of Pager	\$150	
Drug/Alcohol Testing	\$520	
Garage Electricity	\$891	
Highway Garage Heat	\$1,522	
Barn Maintenance/Repairs	\$1,024	
General Supplies	\$2,461	
Street Signs	\$245	
Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	\$5,085	
Gasoline/Oil	\$2,802	
Vehicle Maintenance/Repair	\$4,704	
Miscellaneous	\$170	
Total General Highway Department		\$88,998

HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Tar/Patch/Seal	\$4,619	
Paving	\$33,344	
Paving/Recon Equipment	\$2,500	
Road Maintenance Supplies	\$220	
Road Drainage Supplies	\$2,000	
Snow/Ice Supplies	\$24,845	
Hired Plowing/Sanding	\$3,918	
Gravel Preparation	\$3,725	
Total Highways and Streets		\$75,171

STREET LIGHTING

Street Lighting Electricity	\$7,954	
Total Street Lighting		\$7,954

TRANSFER STATION

Attendants	\$21,819	
Household Hazardous Waste Day	\$1,800	
Post-Closure Costs	\$6,696	
Telephone	\$417	
Hauling and Disposal	\$34,436	
Electricity	\$760	
Shed Heat	\$313	
General Supplies	\$1,215	
Equipment Maintenance	\$384	
Certification	\$100	
Recyclables Removal	\$2,722	
Container Lease	\$6,306	
NHRRRA Annual Dues	\$100	
Highway Department Assistance	\$1,027	
Total Transfer Station		\$78,095

WATER DEPARTMENT

Labor Wages	\$80	
Commissioners Salaries	\$360	
Town of Antrim	\$19,043	
NE Rural Water Association Dues	\$100	
Postage	\$958	
Miscellaneous	\$508	

Telephone	\$881	
Electricity	\$8,089	
Pumphouse Heat	\$1,067	
Line Repairs/Maintenance	\$6,739	
Corrosion Control	\$3,117	
Total Water Department		\$40,942
SEWER DEPARTMENT		
Sewage Treatment - Town of Antrim	\$17,887	
Electricity	\$1,776	
Propane	\$585	
Repair/Maintenance	\$238	
Total Sewer Department		\$20,486
HEALTH DEPARTMENT		
Deputy Health Officer	\$225	
Miscellaneous	\$479	
Total Health Department		\$704
ANIMAL CONTROL		
Veterinary Services	\$300	
Equipment/Supplies	\$50	
Total Animal Control		\$350
HEALTH AGENCIES		
Home Health Care	\$4,000	
Monadnock Family and Mental Health	\$1,751	
Total Health Agencies		\$5,751
WELFARE DEPARTMENT		
Deputy Welfare Officer	\$125	
Telephone Reimbursement	\$15	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$30	
Rental Assistance	\$6,391	
St. Joseph Community Services	\$520	
Vendor Payments - Medical	\$1,466	
Vendor Payments - Food	\$323	
Vendor Payments - Electric/Heat	\$1,349	
Gasoline	\$10	
Miscellaneous	\$399	
Total Welfare Department		\$10,628.00
PARKS AND RECREATION		
Telephone	\$686	
Christmas Party	\$511	
Fishing Derby	\$200	
Activities	\$1,315	
Little League	\$1,250	
Soccer	\$76	
Miscellaneous	\$159	
Groundskeeping	\$5,758	
Electricity - Newhall Field	\$380	

Ballfield Chemical Toilets	\$1,304	
Recreation Facilities	\$569	
Lifeguard Salary	\$3,008	
Beach Groundskeeping	\$100	
Beach Improvements	\$306	
Beach Water Sample/Analysis	\$40	
Beach Red Cross Supplies	\$42	
Beach Chemical Toilets	\$257	
Total Parks and Recreation		\$15,961
LIBRARY		
Librarian Salary	\$21,692	
Librarian Assistants	\$10,616	
Book Collection	\$14,500	
Telephone	\$1,511	
Building Electricity	\$724	
Building Heating Oil	\$708	
Grounds Maintenance	\$1,000	
Building Maintenance	\$807	
Photo Copier Supplies	\$1,368	
Program Supplies	\$800	
Conference/Fees	\$1,550	
Total Library		\$55,276
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES		
Old Home Days	\$3,243	
Memorial Day	\$660	
Total Patriotic Purposes		\$3,903
PRINCIPAL - LONG TERM NOTES		
Note Repayments	\$1,300	
General Obligation Debt	\$31,750	
Total Principal - Long Term Notes		\$33,050
INTEREST - LONG TERM NOTES		
Interest on Notes	\$244	
Interest General Obligation Debt	\$14,082	
Total Interest - Long Term Notes		\$14,326
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES		
Principal - Tax Anticipation Note	\$80,000	
Interest - Tax Anticipation Note	\$1,147	
Total Tax Anticipation Notes		\$81,147
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS		
Fire Truck Capital Reserve	\$15,000	
Highway Equipment Capital Reserve	\$17,285	
Rescue Capital Reserve	\$3,000	
Police Cruiser Capital Reserve	\$21,983	
Mower Capital Reserve	\$1,000	
Library Capital Reserve	\$7,491	
Forest Fire Truck Capital Reserve	\$3,000	

Highway Truck Capital Reserve	\$15,000	
Water Capital Reserve	\$5,094	
Sewer Capital Reserve	\$3,000	
Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve	\$5,000	
Bridge Maintenance Capital Reserve	\$5,000	
Town Buildings Capital Reserve	\$20,000	
Emergency Radios Capital Reserve	\$4,887	
Total Capital Reserve Funds		\$126,740

2002 WARRANT ARTICLES

Cemetery Survey/Monument Repair	\$1,480	
Old Home Day Fireworks	\$5,000	
Project LIFT	\$450	
Sidewalk Construction	\$29,000	
Property Revaluation	\$18,000	
Total 2002 Warrant Articles		\$53,930.00

TOTAL 2002 EXPENDITURES

\$1,197,915.00

2002 PAYROLL

Suzanne Baker	\$89.00
Catriona Beck	\$45.00
Debra Belcher	\$9,269.00
Thomas Belcher	\$1,834.64
Aaron B. Bequeath	\$2,240.00
David Blanchard	\$34,179.16
Dawn A. Bond	\$10,226.03
Sarah T. Brown	\$273.78
C. Stephen Campbell	\$56,879.97
Josephine Carrara	\$82.50
Scott Champagne	\$54.00
Mark. S. Chase	\$500.00
David M. Chenard	\$8,920.00
James W. Cleary	\$750.00
Melissa A. Clough	\$10,275.26
Drusilla Cox	\$84.00
John J. Cronin, III	\$60.00
Joseph C. Cuddemi	\$750.00
Wendy J. Duran	\$150.00
Lester Foote Sr.	\$7,741.55
Denise P. French	\$33,981.92
John R. French	\$176.00
Kristie J. French	\$2,179.00
Meredith L. Germain	\$2,799.38
Valerie A. Germain	\$533.94
Zachary P. Germain	\$208.13
Dorothy Glynn	\$54.00
Chester D. Heinzman Jr	\$750.00
Roy J. Johnson	\$120.00
Walter D. Kiblin	\$34,261.35
Cory J. Lawrence	\$770.00
Leslie MacGregor	\$21,691.79
Philip M. Marcellino	\$41,512.66
Darlene L. McKenney	\$285.00
Lester P. Milton	\$1,695.00
Joyce L. Miner	\$750.00
Keith Nason	\$500.00
Donald G. Parker, Sr.	\$8,307.36
Adam Perry	\$245.00
Caleb S. Platt	\$710.60
William B. Reid	\$35,158.80
Terry D. Schnare	\$750.00
Dorothy Smith	\$3.00
Michael Tacy	\$9,702.06
Victoria Turner	\$285.00
Carroll Warren	\$652.75
Deborah M. Whitney	\$2,374.50
Carrie B. Whittemore	\$66.69
Deborah P. Wilk	\$19.50
Allan D. Wilson	\$500.00
Glenn P. Wilson	\$494.00
Dorothy A. Zabriskie	\$3,733.20
Michael A. Zabriskie	\$330.00
Linnea Zachos	\$13.50
TOTAL 2002 PAYROLL	<u>\$350,018.02</u>

**TOWN OF BENNINGTON
DEFAULT BUDGET
2003**

<u>Function</u>	
Executive Office	\$71,889
Election/Registration	\$15,883
Financial Administration	\$44,700
Judicial/Legal	\$8,000
Personnel Administration	\$100,494
Planning/ZBA	\$7,791
General Government Buildings	\$11,800
Cemeteries	\$2,550
Insurance	\$14,500
Contingency	\$3,000
Police Department	\$120,885
Ambulance	\$7,500
Fire Department	\$44,703
Building Inspector	\$750
General Highway	\$90,390
Highway/Streets	\$80,100
Street Lighting	\$7,800
Solid Waste	\$68,200
Water	\$36,850
Sewer	\$30,000
Health/Welfare	\$18,823
Recreation	\$20,280
Library	\$57,172
Patriotic Purposes	\$3,300
Scholarship	\$1,000
Conservation Commission	\$675
Principal/Interest Notes	\$46,170
TAN Interest	\$2,600
Capital Reserve	\$133,500
Special Articles	\$28,850
TOTAL	\$1,080,155

SPECIAL ARTICLES:	Computer Replacement	\$ 10,200.00
	Cemetery Repairs	\$ 3,700.00
	Project LIFT	\$ 450.00
	Sidewalk Construction	\$ 14,500.00
		<u>\$ 28,850.00</u>

REPORT OF TRUST FUNDS, BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002

Date of Creation	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose of Trust Fund	How Invested	%	Balance Brg Year	New Funds Created	Cash Gains or Losses	Withdrawals	Balance Yr. end	INCOME		Expended During Yr	Balance End Year	Grand Total of Principal & Income
										Balance Brg Year	Amount			
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS														
1980	Fire Truck		Bank CD's BNH		74,004.49	15,000.00			89,004.49	8,169.14	4,368.51		12,537.65	101,542.14
1983	Water Department	equipment	Bank CD's BNH		25,429.28	0.00			25,429.28	3,973.78	1,470.47		5,444.25	30,873.53
1983	Forestry Truck		Bank CD's BNH		14,516.77	3,000.00			17,516.77	1,665.69	843.16		2,509.85	20,026.62
1984	Library	structure repair	Bank CD's BNH		31,000.00	5,000.00			36,000.00	5,159.70	1,133.16		6,292.86	42,292.86
1987	Sewer Department	equipment	Bank CD's BNH		20,500.00	3,000.00			23,500.00	2,450.64	1,209.56		3,659.00	27,159.00
1987	Rescue Truck		Bank CD's BNH		14,079.28	3,000.00			17,079.28	1,793.59	856.24		2,649.83	19,729.11
1987	Highway Dept Equipment		Bank CD's BNH		1,576.81	0.00			1,576.81	22.88	64.01		86.89	1,663.70
1989	Highway Dept Truck		Bank CD's BNH		40,787.66	15,000.00			55,787.66	2,374.50	1,996.69		4,371.19	60,158.85
1989	Police Dept Cruiser		Bank CD's BNH		15,701.72	1,000.00		5,114.10	10,587.62	189.64	479.04	510.82	157.86	10,745.48
1989	Highway Dept Mower		Bank CD's BNH		3,503.33	5,000.00			4,503.33	240.49	165.33		405.82	4,909.15
2001	Bridge Expendable Trust	repairs	Bank C. D.		6,103.34	20,000.00			13,103.34	81.17	171.58		252.75	13,356.09
2001	Town Building		Bank C. D.		670.11	5,000.00			20,670.11	33.55	167.21		200.75	20,870.87
2001	Bridge Replacement		Bank C. D.		26,000.00	5,000.00			31,000.00	769.65	1,349.58		2,119.03	33,119.03
2001	Fire Dept Radios		Bank C. D.		5,000.00	29,000.00		5,000.00	29,000.00	0.00	109.40		0.00	29,243.54
2002	Sidewalk Repair		Bank C. D.			15,000.00			15,000.00		243.54		243.54	29,243.54
2002	Revaluation		Bank C. D.			15,000.00			15,000.00		117.56		117.56	15,117.56
GRAND TOTALS					\$ 387,794.64	\$ 119,500.00		10,114.10	497,180.64	\$ 31,392.59	\$ 20,514.76	\$ 6,400.72	\$ 45,506.63	\$ 542,687.17

**GEP DODGE LIBRARY TREASURER'S REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2002**

BEGINNING BALANCE **\$ 561.85**

INCOME

Book Replacement	\$ 102.40
Gifts Received	\$ 522.73
Interest/Misc Inc	\$ 113.49
Receipts	\$ 1,655.15
Trustees	\$ 3,735.03
Booksale	\$ 210.15
Receipts from Town	\$ 19,218.00

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 25,556.95**

EXPENSES

Books	\$ 13,213.50
Research books (required)	\$ 3,370.51
Computer Supplies	\$ 700.00
Youth Audio Books	\$ 412.65
Copier	\$ 1,943.29
Cleaning/Maintenance	\$ 3,355.77
Program/Business Expenses	\$ 1,103.76
Dues & Education	\$ 565.00
Periodicals	\$ 476.30
Equipment/materials	\$ 959.45

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 26,100.23**

ENDING BALANCE **\$ 18.57**

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle A. Hautanen
Library Treasurer

G.E.P. DODGE LIBRARY

No other town in the Monadnock region could be more blessed than Bennington is with as many generous volunteers willing to share their talents, their time and their donations.

Thank you to our Sunday volunteers for the two hours they donate every Sunday afternoon from 4-6PM all year long. Our volunteers this past year were: Barbara Varnum, Lee Smith, Lisa Logan, Laurie MacKeigan, Dorothy Smith, Lisa Shingler, and Deb Page.

Thank you to those of you who donated new and used books, periodicals newspapers, time, talent, ideas, equipment, labor and money. We especially thank Heidi Schwieger, Janice Tyler, Betty Coffin-Brooks, Robert and Marion Coffin, Jean and Lee Smith, Joe Eisenberg, Robyn Manley, Barbara and Len Moorehead, Lori Stumpfolf, Pam Lorimer, Carrie Whittemore, Lisa Shingler, PJ and Kenneth Martel, Josephine and Frank Carrara, Michelle Ricco, Vernon Thornblad, Deb, Rich and Dennis Page, Debi, Tom and Laura Belcher, Linda Osienski, Richard Verney, Linda and Emily Bryer, Dawn Bond, Danny MacKay, Laurie MacKeigan, Phil & Val Germain,

Once again the summer reading program, this year entitled "Lions & Tigers & Books, Oh MY!", was very well attended and the library grounds were beautifully enhanced by a handsome and happy tiger created by Debi and Laura Belcher. There would be no summer reading program without the donations and support of businesses and organizations like The Bennington Country Store, the Bennington Garage, Inc., the Toadstool Book Shop, Edmund's Hardware Store and the Bennington Recreation Committee. Our summer reading program volunteer story time readers were; Janice Tyler, Michelle Ricco, Heidi Schwieger, Michelle Hautanen, Linda Bryer, Lori Stumpfolf, Rick Edmund's, Steve Campbell, and Lisa Shingler.

The library had some sprucing up this year on the inside and the outside of the building. On the inside the old and hazardous light fixtures were finally replaced, thank you to Victor Solod who worked us into his busy schedule and very quickly and efficiently replaced them.

On the outside of the library, Tom Belcher landscaped for his Eagle Scout project. Aside from re-seeding and fertilizing the lawn area, he put in bricked planters and flowers on either side of the walkway, painted the handrail and the library sign, reseated the library sign, and installed a gravel drip line around the perimeter of the library building to prevent water damage to the casement windows and to prevent topsoil erosion.

Other outside work included the replacement of the ancient scrubby bushes with 6 Rhododendrons and 2 Arborvitae on either side of the library entrance by Our Town Landscaping, the removal of the two dead maple trees and the NH State Prisoners painted the library trim and window frames.

The library Building Committee started up again with an enthusiastic group of Bennington patrons. Building Committee meetings are held every second Thursday of the month at 7PM. Please join the team and help to reach the goal of raising the funds to add on much needed space and handicap accessibility to the library building.

Visit the library's website at <http://www.dodgelifrary.com>. The website has links to local, regional and worldwide websites, provides an extensive online reference section and keeps a current calendar of events for the library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie MacGregor
Library Director

BENNINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We have experienced "el niño" which has produced copious precipitation in the form of rain, sleet and snow. The snow arrived early this year; the compensation for this is that we should have an adequate water supply next summer.

The Society regrets that we had to cancel our annual Baked Ham Dinner and our famous Roast Turkey Dinner - it would have been our 23rd year. I was in Florida most of the summer finding an assisted living apartment for Pearl Walker. Down sizing and adjusting are always difficult but I am happy to report that Pearl loves her new home. She does plan on returning to Bennington for a summer vacation.

Silvio Zanga, one of our Charter Members, passed away in November 2002. Silvio was always ready to help paint and wallpaper. At our annual dinners he always made delicious Chocolate Cream Pies and they disappeared very quickly.

We also lost a friend of the Society, possibly the oldest town-born resident. Hazel Holt Normandin of Old Antrim Road. She was ninety-eight years young! Hazel worked part-time at my inn, David's Fine Dining on School Street. She used to make the gourmet treats served on our relish tray. One of the specialties was nick named "Hazel's Five Bean Salad." In September 1980 Gourmet magazine did a three-page story on David's and Hazel's Bean Salad recipe was included in the story. Hazel retired at eighty-five years of age.

Arnold and Jean Cernota and the building committee oversaw the new office to the Historical Society museum. We added a 16' by 26' two-story addition with space for a computer, file cabinets and office. A small kitchen is also planned. It also houses our new heating and air conditioning units so that we have proper climate control for our exhibits. Ron McClure & Co. designed and built the addition; Tim Parris took care of the painting as usual. Our thanks to the committee, the Cernotas and to Pearl Walker for her continued generous support.

2002 activities planned by Barbara Willis, Sandy Cleary, Verna Paige and David Sysyn were as follows:

- For our Spring meeting we had a talk on "Wood Planes"
- In May we co-sponsored with the VFW Ladies Auxiliary a poster/essay contest for the Pierce School 3rd & 4th grade. Dorothy Glynn has been in charge of this project for many years.
- For the June meeting we had on display the Pierce School 4th grade project on their homes - history and pictures.
- For our Fall annual meeting and election of officers was held at Pearl Walker Hall. Ted Leach of Hancock spoke about the changes in the Legislature that took place last year including the re-districting of towns. Bennington is now joined with Greenfield.

Arnold and Jean attended a course sponsored by the New Hampshire Local Records

Education Project where they learned about the preservation of records, etc. Dan Dailey, project archivist working at Dartmouth College Library, came and assessed the Bennington Historical Museum. He made recommendations for the new addition and returned for a meeting on preserving/sorting documents. Many of the officers and directors got "hands on" experience in cataloging and organizing our historical records.

The Society planted flowers, trimmed trees and mulched shrubs at the town common.

The Christmas Party and Open House was again a success - we were a stop for the town sleigh ride. Thank you Barbara Willis and committee. David and Tim Sysyn played the guitar and sang Christmas songs and carols. The Christmas tree was beautifully decorated and a great Santa Claus was on deck to greet the many guests.

There are big changes in two of the town's landmark buildings:

1. The Kimball House, built around 1870, High Victorian architecture, was originally a one family home. In the early 1960's, Elsie Kimball sold the house to Douglas Harris and John Bertrand who converted the house into two apartments. Ms. Caverly sold it this year to Wagner and Linda Quintanilla and they are renovating the house.
2. The Benjamin Whittemore house, a Federal Period brick, was built circa 1803. Beverly Dobbins purchased the house from the Stephen Chase Jr. estate and is doing extensive restoration - its looking very stately already.

Congratulations to both new residents and thanks for helping to make Bennington a better place to live.

The town sold the Crotched Mountain ski area to Terry Schnare of Bennington and Donald Hardwick of Frankestown. The 107-acre site, on the west side of the mountain, has been leased to Peak Resorts, Inc., a Missouri based company. The company hopes to open the facility for skiing by Thanksgiving, 2003. Plans call for a new lodge, a new snowmaking pond and five ski lifts. It is estimated this will employ approximately 500 seasonal workers and 20 year round workers. 254 acres in Frankestown owned by Schnare and Hardwick is part of the project.

The big changes in 2002 will benefit "our town" and will be a big boost to the Monadnock Region.

Respectfully submitted,
David A. Glynn, President
The Bennington Historical Society

BENNINGTON PLANNING BOARD

This has been by far and away the busiest year in memory for the Bennington Planning Board. To provide some perspective, in most years the Board meets once a month to conduct its business, with only an occasional added evening to finish up some work. In 2002, we met a minimum of two evenings every month, plus several other meetings and site visits added to carry out our responsibilities. I wish to thank all the Board members for this extraordinary time commitment made in service to the community.

The single biggest project was the long awaited and much anticipated proposal to start up the old Crotched Mountain Ski Area, abandoned for over a decade. For four months, we worked with Peak Resorts from St. Louis, Missouri through a detailed and exhaustive site plan review. This process also required a close collaboration with the Frankestown Planning Board and numerous state and regional agencies. Four public hearings, including one that combined both towns, were conducted to encourage input from townspeople and to make the complex proceedings as visible as possible to the general public.

Impact on water and land resources, adjacent properties, public safety, roads, wetlands, and wildlife habitat, along with the intangibles surrounding "quality of life" issues, were all carefully considered in our decision making. The result, we believe, is a responsible, economically viable business enterprise that the community can take great pride in for years to come. Peak Resorts, new to the New Hampshire tradition of citizen boards that oversee such projects, was very responsive to all of our requests and agreeable to our conditions for operation. We welcome them to the community and look forward to a long and healthy association.

The other major piece of work we engaged in was the continuation of the data gathering stage for the town's new Master Plan. As stated in last year's report, it is necessary for the town to develop a new Plan since we are currently operating under a blueprint that was created almost fifteen years ago. All towns need to undergo such rewritings of their Plans, and we thought it best to do this through a process that was highly participatory and that engaged as many people as possible in the civic deliberations on the issues that will impact so significantly on the town's future. It takes a little longer, but we believe the quality of the resulting Plan will be well worth it.

In June of 2002, the Board created and distributed a four-page survey to every resident. Almost one hundred were returned. In September, we carried out a two-day forum for the community to explore together the future needs of the town. We are pleased that over fifty people made the time to participate in that event. This coming year the Board and the Master Plan Steering Committee will be examining the results of both the survey and forum, along with the photo day from the previous year. Then, with the assistance of Southwest Regional Planning Commission, we will draw up the new Master Plan. The extensive work on the ski area set us back a bit on our schedule, but we hope to have the Plan ready for public hearing by the summer of 2003.

And finally, the Board created three changes to the town's regulations that it is submitting as warrant articles for a vote in March. The first is a wording change, advocated by town counsel, to eliminate conflicting language in the Zoning Board's oversight rules. The second is a requirement for land owners to dismantle and remove abandoned, dilapidate buildings on their property. The third article is an increase in the minimum lot size in the Rural/ Agricultural Zone outside of the Water Resource Protection Zone. The Board, in consultation with the state and regional planning offices, strongly advocates this change to enable the town to better manage growth in future years. This was also a recommendation coming out of the town surveys, where people felt the creation and preservation of more open space to be a very high priority for the town.

There have been a number of changes and additions made to the Board this past year. Due to the increased workload and demands on the Board, it was determined that the town would benefit by an expansion of the number of alternates. We are very pleased that Jeff Rose and Michelle Stahl agreed to join us. They both bring new energy and valued perspectives from their different backgrounds and longtime residencies in the town. Howard Mabry retired as our Secretary this summer, having served the Board and the community ably for many years. We wish him all the best in his retirement. And we welcome Suzanne Baker who joined us as our new Secretary.

On a sad note, we lost a very respected and trusted colleague when Terry Shields passed away suddenly in May. At the time of his death, he had been the vice chairman of the Board. We send our deepest condolences to his family. He will be missed by all of us.

As always, we wish to thank all the good people in town who helped us in 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Eppig, chairman

Catriona Beck
Jim Cleary, ex officio
Phil Germain, vice chairman
Letitia Rice
Joe Eisenberg, alternate
Jeff Rose, alternate
Michelle Stahl, alternate

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hello Again. The police department has made it through another busy year. What do I mean by a busy year. Please refer to some of the statistics in this article and in the yearly statistics chart located elsewhere in this town report. When you look at the numbers keep in mind we are a town of 1400 people; therefore, based on the population and the numbers I considered it a busy year.

As I always remind you – please keep a watch in your neighborhood and the town. If you see anything that looks suspicious, out of place or unusual please call the police. My continued goal is not only to reduce crime but to prevent it from happening in the first place.

We had another change in personnel. Officer Bequeath resigned from being a part-time officer. Why? Because he became a proud father of a healthy boy. We hired Lester Milton as a part-time officer. He's MR. FRIENDLY so if you see him please do not hesitate to welcome him to Bennington. Officer Marcellino is still with us as the full-time officer. He is doing such a fine job that I (with the approval of the Board of Selectmen) promoted him to Corporal. Also, Dottie Zabriskie is back for another year of being the crossing guard for Pierce School. She is doing an outstanding job in protecting the children as they make their way to school. When you see her please thank her for what she is doing for the safety of the children.

We had another bicycle "safety" rodeo which was a great success. We are also scheduled to have the "Officer Phil" safety program. Ongoing programs include: issuing gun safety locks, giving out bicycle helmets to the kids who need one, providing child safety seats and cell phones which can be used to call E911 in case of an emergency. If you have any questions or would like to request one of these items please contact the police.

Remember if you want to see what is going on in your police department you can go on-line at – benningtonpd.com.

Now it's time for some statistics – 2001 we had a total of 4245 incidents; for 2002 the total number is 4905 (Increase of 660 – 13.4%)

Criminal - 2001 was 340; 2002 was 332
Arrests - 2001 was 183; 2002 was 189
Calls For Service - 2001 was 1371; 2002 was 1708
Motor Vehicle Stops – 2001 was 956; 2002 was 1328

In 2002 we had 332 criminal reports. Out of the 332 cases 321 have been cleared through a variety of means such as an arrest or no charges pursued. This equates to a 96.7% rate of solving the reports in a satisfactory manner. The 11 cases not yet solved are: Reckless Conduct (1), Theft (1), Criminal Threatening (2) and Criminal Mischief (7).

Please refer to the enclosed statistical chart for more specific numbers on what we did in 2002.

Even though we are a small town I believe the police department is very professional. As told to you in the past, each of the officers pledge to be not only professional but fair in carrying out their duties – even when the decision might be negative, tough and not popular with some people.

All officers practice the open door policy, so if you would like to drop by and see us please do so. As always I enjoy working in Bennington, eight years in February. On behalf of all the officers and the crossing guard THANK YOU for your support.

Respectfully Submitted
Steve Campbell
Chief of Police

BENNINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

It was another busy year for the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. The officers, and general membership of the department would like to thank the town's people for their continued support. As always training is a very important part of our department, and many of our members completed various trainings, and seminars. We would like to congratulate Chrissy Elliott on completing and passing her National Registry EMT-B. Kris Eaton completed and passed his SCBA. Captain Steve Pacsay, and Lieutenant Kristie French completed Command School (a three day seminar & training class). Deputy Chief Keith Nason completed and passed Firefighter I, II, and various classes within those State of NH classes. Lieutenant Scott Grant, Rescue Captain Joe O'Brien, Deputy Chief Keith Nason also completed and passed special driving classes for Fire Apparatus, and obtained their CDL-B licenses with tanker, and air brake endorsements. We are proud that we were able to lower our operating budget this year without sacrificing any services to the town. We have many new members, and continue to add to the Fire Department & Rescue Squad family. If you are interested please get in touch with anyone on the department. Again thank you for your continued support!

Respectfully Submitted,
Allan Wilson,
Fire Chief

Summary of 2002 calls (Nov 01-Oct 02)

Rescue/Medical	60
Motor Vehicle Crashes	24
Mutual Aide	15
False Alarms	10
Brush Fires	7
Cover Assignment / Mutual Aide	7
Structure Fires	6
Down Power Lines	5
Electrical	3
Gas Leaks	3
Chimney Fires	3
Carbon Monoxide	2
Car Fires	1
Other	1
TOTAL	147

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

After a fairly uneventful winter of 2002, with only 15 or so snow and ice storms, the Highway Department swept up and graded the Town's highway system, now up to 20 miles with the addition of Birch Glen Drive.

Crushed gravel was added where needed. Ditch & culvert work was completed and irrigation with a timer was installed at the Town Common.

The beach was spruced up with new sand and the raft shoved out. Summer's here.

A new apron was paved on Old Greenfield Road and the rest was shimmed and sealed.

Another 1,500' of Deering Road by the river was completed with 1,000' or so prepared for gravel for this year.

Paving was continued on North Bennington Road with 520 ton of asphalt being put down by Brox Paving.

The Town's bridges were swept and cleaned and the State bridge crew sealed the concrete arch at the intersection of Route 202 and Antrim Road.

For the Water Department we assisted in installing six new fire hydrants.

Work on drainage at the old Town Barn site was begun in preparation of a municipal parking lot but was not completed due to a Thanksgiving snowstorm, which was followed by several more, shutting down the construction season for 2002.

Projects for 2003 will include shimming and sealing on Mountain Road, Durgin Road and North Bennington Road; paving on Acre Street, Eaton Avenue, Bible Hill Road and North Bennington Road.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Blanchard,
Road Agent

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the Cemeteries arranged to have two broken headstones repaired and several more straightened up in the Sunnyside Cemetery. Small trees and brush were cut on the outside of the Evergreen Cemetery. Again we want to thank the Hillsborough House of Corrections for sending up five inmates to do some raking for only the cost of lunch.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phil Traxler
Jill S. Young
Charles Zabriskie, Sr.
Cemetery Trustees

CEMETERY TRUSTEES FINANCIAL REPORT

Peterborough Granite Repair of Gravestones	\$ 1,480.00
Mike Zabriskie - Labor	\$ 330.00
Donald Parker, Sr. - Labor	\$ 125.00
Lunch for inmates (3 times)	\$ 111.59
Edmunds' Hardware	\$ 57.11
Grounds Keeping	
Sunnyside	\$ 1,769.75
Evergreen	<u>\$ 1,043.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,916.45

INTEREST PAID TO TOWN FROM TRUST FUNDS

Interest Paid to the Town From Trust Funds	\$ 2,071.40
Sale of Lots From the Evergreen and Sunnyside Cemeteries	<u>\$ 1,950.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,021.40

HEALTH & WELFARE

The year 2002 was busy as usual, with fuel and rent assistance being the most requested and accepted. Many of our elderly were in need of fuel due to the late beginning of the fuel assistance program. Old reliables: visiting nurses, home-health people and "Meals on Wheels" enabled several of our ill/elderly to remain in their own homes.

Many thanks to Father Smith and St. Patrick Parish for their Thanksgiving dinners and all others that contributed to a Merry Christmas.

The Health Department has had a busy year also. Faulty septic systems and substandard housing were the largest problems. The Selectmen have been most helpful and cooperative with these matters.

Glenn Wilson is my new Deputy Health and Welfare Officer and is most welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Huntley,
Overseer of Public Welfare
Health Officer

BENNINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The year 2002 was a year of much activity. Aside from the normal review of timber cut and culvert permits, (both showing increased activity), we spent much time on the mountain project.

The reopening of the Crotched Mountain ski area has brought much excitement and has been a focus of many of the towns committees. Naturally, an area that has been closed that long must meet new environmental and zoning standards. There have been several public meetings where many concerns have been addressed. As of this writing, it appears that the plans address all issues in an adequate and satisfactory way. By this time next year the mountain should be in operation.

One of the goals of the commission, expressed in recent annual reports, has been the preservation of lands in the community. A couple of years ago, the town had acquired a large parcel of land. It was only after the land was in agreement to be sold that I became aware that it existed. At that time, I asked the selectmen to inform the commission when we had such tracts so that we might apply to hold those lands for conservation and other public use. Late in the negotiations for the mountain property, I became aware that there was a large parcel that the town owned. This parcel was the largest highest and most accessible (for recreation) that the town owned. While this parcel was on the negotiation table with the group trying to buy the mountain, it had never been,(and in current plans it is not proposed to be), used as an active part of the ski area. Because time was short, I as an individual, petitioned the town for a special warrant that would allow the voters to decide whether they wanted to keep this land as a town forest

This was not well understood by the town meeting. The town meeting changed the article to instruct the conservation commission to review all town owned land and report back to the selectmen. (This work was done and the final draft of that report has been forwarded to the selectmen.) The change meant the towns people would not get to vote on this particular parcel. The parcel in question was sold as part of the mountain project with the deed prohibiting development of buildings.

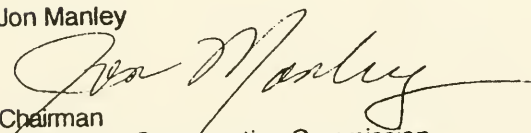
I want to publicly apologize to the other commissioners for this issue being confused as a commission sponsored article at town meeting.

While other towns are actively buying lands to set aside for conservation use, we need to be more active in preserving those we already own. We also need to continue to identify and protect lands that are vital to our water resource protection.

In September the town held a forum. There were several groups that came out of this town forum. One group, *"The Green Forum"* will focus on land use and preservation. I look forward to this group working with the commission in the coming year.

As always we are looking for citizens interested in our work to join us. Contact any commissioner or the town offices if you would be interested in being on the commission.

Jon Manley



Chairman
Bennington Conservation Commission

BENNINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION LAND LISTING

The Bennington Conservation Commission has met to review and discuss the parcels of land currently owned by the town of Bennington, As of the printing of the list 2/07/02, there were 49 parcels in all. Of the 49 parcels, 2 units (lots 10-001C 37A and 37B) are scheduled to be sold. Of the 47 parcels left, 19 of them are used for specific purposes by the town. It makes sense to continue them in that use. They are as follows:

Map/lot	Description	Use (if not Obvious)
15-01B	Jake Burke Lot	Soccer field
15-01C	Newhall Youth Field	
03-32	Whittemore Beach and Access Road	
07-14	Civil War Monument	
07-37-1	Greenfield Rd Cemetery	
07-65*	Old Dump	Skateboard Park
07-73	Town Hall	
07-81	G.E.P. Dodge Library	
07-103	Sawyer Memorial Field	
10-1	Fire Station	
10-72 *	Cold Spring Pond	
10-79*	Cold Spring Pond	
10-85	Sunnyside Cemetery	
10-83	Evergreen Cemetery	
11-10*	Chlorinator	
11 -11 *	Water Storage Tank	
16-3	Town Well	
21-01	Transfer Station	
09-23A	Sewer Pump House	

* Parcels indicated, (both above and later in this document), are those that are already a part of or would be valuable to retain as protection of our water resources

Of the 28 remaining lots, 13 are lots in the Oak Hill and Birches of Bennington Development. While it has been said that the town should not be in the Real Estate business and that the sale of these properties would be good for the taxpayer, that tax benefit would be short lived if these lots were developed in a way that would require more services. It is recommended that these lots be consolidated and sold only in sizes that are consistent with current lot size zoning regulations.

These lots include: 13-25,13-26,13-27,13-28,13-29,13-30,13-33,13-34,13-36,13-41,13-42,13-43,13-45

Of the remaining 15 lots, 6 are directly involved in the Crotched Mountain are and should remain in that negotiation process. These lots include:

Map/lot	Description
12-01	Ponds at Crotched Mountain (10 Acres)
12-01A	Corner of Crotched Mtn.area and Onset Rd (6.7 Acres)
12-01B	Corner of Onset Rd. (21.1 Acres)
12-01C	Slope and Lodge at Crotched Mountain

12-01D *Wetland
 12-01E Out Buildings Crotched Mountain Base (9.1 Acres)

Of the 9 remaining properties 6 parcels not clearly related to others. Some are lots of record that do not meet recent lot standards.

Recommendations are as follows

Map/lot	Description
12-43	First house lot on Onset Road (1.25 acres) * *
	Recommendation: Barring any wetland issues. sell
23-17	House lot on Pine Meadows Rd. (2.4 Acres)**
	Recommendation: Barring any wetland considerations- Sell it
10-16	Corner of Eaton Ave and Main Street (. 19 Acres)
	Recommendation: Clean up and pave as downtown parking area
02-04	At corner of Dodge and South Bennington Rds.
	Recommendation: Hold until we find out why we own this land or as a further road expansion. Or, sell to an abutter.**
16-14	Backland (2.8Acres)
	Recommendation: investigate original reason for obtaining land. Keep as possible use as Historical Society interest.
22-03	Off Durgin Rd. (1.6 Acres)
	Recommendation: Retain as access to trail system and railroad right of way

** parcels so indicated are less than current lot size requires. Even though they are lots of record it might be in the Town's best interest to sell them to abutters who would agree to incorporate them into existing tracts by lot line adjustments. This would discourage development on undersized lots.

We are now left with 3 parcels of land of the "many" that the town owns that might be suitable for "Town Forest" or "Conservation Land" They are as follows:

Map/Lot	Description
12-08	Mountain Rd. (59 acres)
	This is the same parcel of land that was the subject of the amended petition warrant article. This 59-acre parcel is located on the west side of Crotched Mountain and slopes gently away, in terraces, from the Francestown Line. It represents the largest parcel that the town owns. It is the highest town owned property on the mountain. It is easily accessible by road It is tree covered with a mixed species forest of various age trees. Suitable trails and wood roads or hiking, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing are present.

Recommendation: This land should be retained and set aside or **Major** portion should be protected by negotiated agreement and public access to it be retained.

10-81*

Land between the Cemeteries (23 acres)

This is a wooded parcel with many large pine trees. It is accessible by an old wood road. The parcel is steeply sloped to a stream that flows into the back of Cold Springs Pond.

Recommendation: For the short term, this land should be retained as a public forest. With substantial work, it could be used for future cemetery expansion. It should also be retained for protection of the Cold Springs Pond water resources.

09-08

Land abutting Young and Railroad (12.9 acres)

This land is on a level above the railroad bed. It is located between the railroad and route 202. It is tree covered with some impressively large trees. It is quite rocky and very wet on the Route 202 side.

Recommendation: This parcel has the potential to be a nice town park. It is rare for any town to have such a large piece so close to the downtown area. The challenges this parcel would present to builders could be used to make interesting trails and a place of true character. The town should retain this land as a park and look for a group to make some initial trails as a project to make it more accessible.

Additional Recommendations:

In addition to the above recommendations, we suggest that the town move to protect areas that are vital to our clean water resources, our river and wetlands, and our town character. This can be done by encouraging easements and acquisitions. When a parcel becomes available to the town we ask that the Conservation Commission be made aware of it so that we might have a chance to evaluate it for future protection and public use.

ELECTION REPORT 2003

We started the year with a "clean" checklist" after the ten year purge. We predicted that this would increase our voter turnout, and sure enough it did. Bennington's November General election's turnout was 64%! A predicted close Senate race, no doubt, contributed to these numbers as well.

This year's important dates are:

TUESDAY MARCH 11, 2003 Town Elections - Fire Department - Polls open 8AM - 7PM

Next year's important Town Election dates & deadlines are:

EARLY JANUARY, 2004	Filing period to run for town offices
EARLY JANUARY, 2004	Last day to submit a petitioned Warrant Article
EARLY FEBRUARY, 2004	First Session - Town Meeting - Pierce School

As of this writing, Bennington has 777 registered voters: 175 Democrats, 320 Republicans, and 282 Undeclared voters.

Copies of the Bennington Checklist are available on request for \$10 in both paper copies and computer database format. Registration cards on file and prior years' checklists are open to inspection during normal Town Hall business hours.

REGISTERING TO VOTE

Every citizen of the United States must be able to vote somewhere. Voters can get on the checklist in four ways:

- 1) Same Day Registration. Register at the polls on the day of the election.
- 2) Register with the Supervisors of the Checklist at one of their scheduled sessions. Sessions are usually 10 days prior to the election and will be posted in the Monadnock Ledger and on the Town Hall bulletin board.
- 3) Register with the Town Clerk during regular Town Hall hours.
- 4) If you are out of town, you can get an absentee voter registration form from the Town Clerk, as well as an absentee ballot. Call 588-2189

In order to register to vote you must fill out a voter registration card and must have proof of your citizenship, age, and domicile. If you register to vote on Election Day, you must fill out an Election Day affidavit.

Proof of domicile can be any reasonable documentation indicating that you are domiciled in Bennington and intend to maintain a domicile in Bennington. If you do not have documentation regarding domicile you may sign an affidavit declaring your domicile.

The affidavit may be sworn before a justice of the peace, notary public, or the Town Moderator.

ABSENTEE VOTING

If you will not be in town for any of the elections, please try to vote absentee. You can even vote absentee if you are not sure if your work and commuting schedule will allow you to get to the polls in time. If you're not sure, it's always better to vote absentee. Your vote counts!

If you plan to vote absentee, please plan ahead. The Town Clerk has all the forms you will need, and she can tell you how to file absentee, and what the deadlines are for each election. Separate forms must be requested for each election. Call the Town Hall at 588-2189 for information.

I say this every year, but it bears repeating: We have a unique opportunity in a small town to get involved with "hands on" government. And this doesn't just mean getting your hands on the ballot and pencil in the voting booth. Every year, there are boards and volunteer committees looking for people to serve on them. Any registered voter in town can sign up to run for elected positions, big and small, or volunteer to be on a committee. Ask your town officials which committees are looking for volunteers, and they can point you in the right direction. Our interest and attention to town matters strengthens our community. Don't be bashful! This is your democracy.

Resepctfully Submitted,

Victoria Turner

Dawn Bond

Darlene McKenney

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

BENNINGTON RECREATION COMMITTEE

Well, did you have fun? Did you enjoy all the events and programs we sponsored? Did you know that we exist for your pleasure? Our goal and motto remains firm, "To Have FUN". We accomplish this goal year after year with your help and the help of all our volunteers and committee members. Every year the Recreation Committee works hard to bring you even more to the already popular recreation programs. Some of the events that happened this past year were:

Glow Bowling: What a great event for the end of winter! Over sixty people joined us at Bowling Acres one Friday night and packed the lanes full with bowlers. I don't know if Bowling Acres could ever keep up with our Bennington bowlers.

3rd Annual Easter Egg Decorating: The rabbits worked overtime again this year! It was quite a scramble at the Fire Station that morning dying and decorating eggs. This program will continue to be in our base program.

3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt: It's awful hard to have an Easter Egg Hunt in the snow but eggs are eggs and they need to be hunted down and captured, because deep inside the elusive egg lies a sweet treat. Rabbits lay eggs? 50 dozen?

Fishing Derby: This great event happens every year on the fourth Saturday in April. Kids 15 years and younger are encouraged to fish to their limit. A relatively slow year for pulling fish out of the water but, we hope next year we will have fish flying out of the pond. Thanks to the Fire Department and Bruce Edes for their continued support.

Bennington Youth Baseball: They had another successful year winning the number #1 spot in the league. Congratulations and special thanks to the dedicated coaches and parents. In the near future Newhall Field could be under the lights.

Bennington Youth Soccer had an excellent season with over 30 youngsters participating. Special Thanks to all parents and volunteer coaches who continue to make this a successful program.

Whittemore Beach: Home to our favorite swimming hole received yet another load of new clean beach sand. We apologize again to those early beach goers who might have been inconvenienced by the persistent family of geese.

Annual Pumpkin Decorating: Held a week before the Haunted Hayride is carving out quite a name for itself with kids of all ages. A fall favorite definitely part of our base program.

The Haunted Hayride and Haunted Town Hall: A time honored favorite was filled with tricks and treats. Rain and cold slowed the pace this past year. It prevented us from having the hayride, but the show went on at the Town Hall. If you missed it because of the rain not to worry, the spooks always come out the next year.

Christmas Program: With tree lighting, caroling, Christmas goodies, a visit from Santa, and hayrides, who could ask for more? A great turnout for the horse-drawn hayrides earlier in the day. Special thanks to the Trow family for this special time. And Santa's lap is still sore from all the youngsters and grownups that whispered into the Jolly Man's ear.

Library Road Trip: Always a good time rolling down the open road going to visit fun and educational places.

Old Home Days: Well, what can I say? This is what we pride ourselves on. Fireworks at Newhall Field. What a show! Road Races, Pancake Breakfasts, Parades (What a great Scottish band), Fireman's Muster, Pie Eating, Pony Rides, Animal Shows, Bounce Tent, Dunk Booth, games, etc...What a great all day event. Let's have it again next year!

Anything new you would like to see. We are always open to suggestions. We meet the second Wednesday of every month at the Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

Fun and entertaining programs with great success. We owe it all to the dedicated volunteers friends, family members and town organizations that helped make it happen, Our Special Thanks to all.

Just a reminder, additional volunteers are always welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Bennington Recreation Committee

Bruce Edes
Wanda Grant
Sfa Whittemore (Co-Chairperson)

Valerie Germain

Dotti Zabriski (Secretary)
Scott Liljeberg (Newhall Field)
Philip R. Germain (Co-Chairperson)

PIERCE SCHOOL

We began the 2001 – 2002 school year with our “Artist in Residence” program. Sarah Haskell taught the children how to weave. Together they worked to create a beautiful scene of Bennington. Their work is on display in the office.

In October, our librarian, Mrs. Tenney invited Kathy Mallat, author of “Brave Bear” to come and spend the day with us. Each class spent some time with Kathy explaining to them how “Brave Bear” came to be. In the evening the children and their families enjoyed a buffet dinner. The children were able to introduce Kathy to their family.

The children enjoyed the visit from Jessica Lawler of the New Hampshire Dance Institute. With her help they were able to perform fun and lively choreographed dance routines to several songs. Family and friends were well entertained! We also enjoyed our annual programs such as the Christmas Program and Buffet, Memorial Day Program, and our end of year celebration.

Our PTO is actively supporting our students through the Crafts Fair, May calendar raffle, and the Open House Bake Sale. These funds support the Fine Arts programs within our school and hope to soon be able to purchase risers for the multi-purpose room. Following are some additional fundraisers that anyone in the community can contribute to:

Box Tops for Education – The children of Pierce School brought in over 1,250 Box Tops earning \$125.00! Great job! Family and Friends can help contribute to this fundraiser by saving Box Tops for a student they know or just stopping into the school and turning them into the Main Office. Box Tops are located on many General Mills, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury and Green Giant products. We get 10 cents for each Box Top and can use the funds raised for books, playground equipment or other needs for the students.

Cartridges for Kids – This is a new program the School will be getting into for the 2002 – 2003 school year. Cartridges for Kids recycles cartridges and will pay Pierce School a specific dollar amount depending on the type of ink/toner cartridge returned to them. They are also collecting old cellular phones. Again, please feel free to bring these items in to the Main Office.

Technology4Kids – By doing your online shopping through www.technology4kids.com you can help raise additional funds for Pierce School. A percentage of your purchase is automatically credited to Pierce School. The funds can then be used to purchase technology items such as computers and software. There are over 200 merchants such as L.L. Bean, WalMart, Target and Staples participating in the program.

We would like to thank the local businesses that have supported our many activities, our senior citizens that drive for field trips, parents and Teachers that volunteer their time, and the community for their continued support.

Pierce School is a team effort to benefit the children. Please help in any way you can whether it be participating in one of the fundraisers listed, volunteering at the school, attending the Craft Fair or just coming to watch the children perform. As Danny Kaye said, “The greatest natural resource that any country can have is its children”.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pierce School PTO

SOLID WASTE

The Transfer Station lost a fixture in 2002. On July 28 Lester Foote opted to retire ending a career in waste management here that goes back to the 1970's, when disposal consisted of dumping truckloads of trash in an open pit and burying it. Lester witnessed a lot of changes over thirty years. He didn't change. He cared about the Transfer Station, its appearance and the people who used it.

Don Parker and Mike Tacy have taken over Station operations. Their standards should insure the same high level of service.

The changes at the Station during the year were minor ... but positive. Joe Cuddemi returned as a Selectman and as a citizen with a strong interest in solid waste matters. Some of the changes made in 2002 actually are returns to earlier procedure. We now have a single glass cotainer, for example, a switch which over the long run will save dollars in transportation costs.

Both the Selectmen and Budget Committee gave serious thought this fall to the merits of accepting heavy household goods, chairs and sofas in particular. Even though residents pay a fee for their disposal, some added costs are involved. It was the Board/Committee decision that the program provided a level of service to some citizens, the elderly, for example, that made it deserving of continued support, subject to annual revaluation

The recycling picture remains much as it did a year ago. Except for aluminum and plastic, prices are low. We nevertheless encourage all residents to continue their recycling efforts in the sincere belief that market conditions will return to a productive level.

A constant at the Station is growth in use. We have more people each year; the Town's tonnage increases proportionately.

The Solid Waste Committee is pledged to maintaining a top-level Transfer Station. Your ideas are important. Please feel free to call or write to us at any time.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Committee's 2003 recommendations are down from a year ago; totaling \$134,000. That's no small sum, but we remind our fellow citizens that these appropriations are designed to cover financial obligations which we must inevitably face – and they provide a buffer against catastrophic expenses in any single year.

The largest appropriation in 2003 is an example of such an inevitable expense; \$26,500 to pay a portion of the Town's cost of property revaluation. Now called "Certification", it is required of all communities in the Conval School District by 2004. The Selectmen signed a contract on July 17 with the Loudon-based firm, Earls, Neider, Perkins LLC to complete the work. The total cost is \$68,000. That expense is being borne through Capital Reserve appropriations made in 2002 (\$15,000) and, with voter approval, 2003 and 2004 appropriations of \$26,500 each.

The Town has two Fund accounts bearing the word "Bridge". One, the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, is designed to provide us with money to make routine repairs as needed on any of the five bridges for which we are responsible. The other, the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, is focused on a single bridge, that one at the base of Bible Hill Road which eventually must be replaced. That bridge is a joint responsibility of Antrim and Bennington. At the moment, it has a low priority in Antrim. The Fund is being maintained, and added to, in anticipation of the day when it fits the funding plans of both Towns. At the moment, eighty percent of the construction cost would be paid from the State's Bridge Aid Program. Hopefully, that generous assistance will still be in place when construction plans materialize.

The Committee was alerted this fall to another coming obligation. We share with Antrim a single wastewater treatment facility. One of that facility's lagoons was dredged in 1996 at a cost to Bennington of \$30,000; twenty-three percent of the total cost. Work on both lagoons will be required in the future to meet new Federal standards. The bottom-line expense is unknown at this time, but it will be substantial.

The members of the Committee are aware of the significant portion of Bennington's annual budget devoted to Capital Reserve appropriations. We invite your questions and suggestions.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE

MINIMUM BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

1. Shall the Town amend Article VII c. of the Bennington Zoning Ordinance to require a minimum of four (4) acres and three hundred (300) feet of frontage in the Rural Agricultural District for a lot to be developed or built upon? (Note: The current minimum requirements are two (2) acres and two hundred (200) feet of frontage.)

UNSAFE STRUCTURES

2. Shall the Town add to the Bennington Zoning Ordinance the following section dealing with unsafe structures?

“No owner or occupant of land shall permit buildings ruined by fire or natural causes to be left indefinitely. Said ruins shall be made safe within thirty (30) days after the date of the original damage or destruction. Within one year, the owner shall remove the ruins and grade the area to clear ground level or shall begin to rebuild or replace the structure in conformance with this ordinance.”

ZBA PROCEDURES

3. Shall the Town amend Article XV B. g. of the Bennington Zoning Ordinance, to eliminate the following:

“g. The use proposed is a permitted one” (Note: Town Counsel advises that this sentence is superfluous.)?

TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SESSION 1: FEBRUARY 5, 2002 DELIBERATIVE SESSION

SESSION 2: MARCH 12, 2002 TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

Session 1 of the 2002 Bennington Town Meeting convened on Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pierce School multi-purpose room in Bennington, New Hampshire. John J. Cronin III, presided over the Town Meeting as Moderator, calling the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The first order of business was for moderator Cronin to excuse himself from articles 1 and 2 due to a conflict of interest. James Dodge, the previous moterator stepped in for the first two articles.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bennington in the County of Hillsborough in said State, qualified to vote: You are hereby notified to meet at the Pierce School on Tuesday, the fifth of February, next at seven o'clock in the evening, and then at the Fire Station on Tuesday, the twelfth day of March, next at eight o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

Note: The casting of absentee ballots will begin at 1 p.m. The polls will close at 7 p.m.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing. The results of the March 12th elections are as follows:

Selectman - Joseph C. Cuddemi
Moderator- John J. Cronin III
Treasurer - Joyce L. Miner
Town Clerk - Debra Belcher
Supervisor of the Checklist - Dawn A. Bond
Library Trustee (3 yr.) - Elisabeth A. Shingler
Trustee of the Trust Funds (3 yr.) - Francesco Carrara
Fire Chief - Allan D. Wilson
1st Deputy Fire Chief - Mark S. Chase
2nd Deputy Fire Chief - Keith W. Nason
Planning Board (3 yr.) - Letitia Rice
Cemetery Trustee (3 yr.) - Philip Traxler
Planning Board (1 yr.) - Letitia Rice
Zoning Board Member - (2 yr.) - Barbara Goodwin
Zoning Board Member - (2 yr.) - John A. Tyler
Water & Sewer Commissioner (3 yr.) - Glenn Wilson

(1)

Conval District Budget Committee Member - Peter Hopkins

When the polls opened at 8:00 a.m., the Voter Checklist contained 711 registered voters due to a recent purging of the checklist. During the March 12th Town Meeting, 54 new voters were added to the checklist. When the polls closed at 7:00 p.m., the Voter Checklist totaled 765 registered voters. A total of 443 voters cast their ballots during Town Meeting which represents 58% of the voters on the checklist. .

The Deliberative Session of the Town Meeting, Session 1, was attended by 40 registered voters.

The Moderator initiated discussion on the following articles.

2. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Chairman of the board of Selectmen to appoint two persons, both of whom must be former Bennington Selectmen, as replacements for the standing Selectmen, for the sole and specific purpose of negotiating the sale of the Town-owned property at the site of the former Crotched Mountain Ski Area?

Note: Selectman Germain addressed the article and pointed out that this article would change current procedure .

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 171 NO - 265
THE ARTICLE FAILED

3. Shall the Town vote to establish a Municipal Forest, under the provisions of RSA 31:110-114, to encourage progressive timber management for the Town of Bennington; specifically, Map 12. lot 8, which consist of approximately 59 acres ?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and stated that the town owned other lots that would be much more suitable for the purpose proposed. An amendment to the article was submitted changing the wording to vote to establish a commission to study the possibilities of a Municipal forest. under the provisions of RSA 31:110-114 to encourage timber management for the Town of Bennington. Jon Manley addressed the issue stating that the town has a Conservation Committee and this amendment would change the article from its original intent.

A vote was take by secret ballot RESULTS: YES-19 NO- 21
THE AMENDMENT FAILED

A second amendment was put before the floor stating, Shall the Town vote to direct the Conservation Committee to recommend to the Board of Selectmen those town owned parcels suitable for designation of RSA 31:110-114 and report such recommendations not later than Town Meeting 2003

Note: Peter Martel spoke to the legality of changing the intent of the article by changing the wording . Harvey Goodwin questioned why the Town wanted this parcel of land for a Municipal Forest instead of any other parcel of land in town.

A vote was taken by secret ballot RESULTS: YES -26 NO - 13

(2)

THE AMENDMENT PASSED
3/12/02 RESULTS YES - 334 NO - 95
THE ARTICLE PASSED

At this time Moderator Cronin presented Frank Cordelle a plaque of appreciation for his years of service as a volunteer in the community.

4. Shall the Town vote to change the organization of the Fire Department, in accordance with RSA 154:1111, to make the position of Fire Chief appointive by the Selectmen rather than elective; the positions of Deputy Chiefs appointive by the Chief and the Fire Department Officers appointive by the board of Chiefs?

Note: Allan Wilson stated that this article would help the uniformity in the department. Peter Martel was concerned as to who the Board of Chiefs would be. Allan Wilson explained the process that the department would use to control the election/ appointment of officers.

3/12/02 RESULTS YES - 224 NO- 206
THE ARTICLE PASSED

5. Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special articles, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the Warrant, and other appropriations voted separately for the purposes set forth therein, totaling nine hundred twenty-four thousand two hundred sixty-five dollars (\$924,265)? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be eight hundred eighty-two thousand eighteen dollars (\$882,018), exclusive of special articles, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law or the governing body may hold one Special Meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Note: This warrant article(operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

Note: Selectman Germain addressed the article and clarified that the operating budget is slightly higher than it was the previous year. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS YES - 271 NO - 151
THE ARTICLE PASSES

6. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450) as its share of year 2001 programming for Project LIFT, which provides literacy services and material to Bennington citizens over 16 years of age?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article stating the Project LIFT is well worth the investment. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 368 NO - 70
THE ARTICLE PASSED

7. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand seven hundred dollars (\$3,700) for gravestone/headstone repair and tree care at Sunnyside Cemetery?

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article and pointed out that this is an ongoing program of maintenance and repair. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 360 NO - 75
THE ARTICLE PASSED

8. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for purchase of fireworks to be displayed in conjunction with Bennington's 2002 observance of Old Home Days?

Note: No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 248 NO - 182
THE ARTICLE PASSED

9. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 343 NO - 90
THE ARTICLE PASSED

10. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the Forest Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 321 NO - 112
THE ARTICLE PASSED

11. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$29,000) for the purchase of a Ford Explorer Police Department cruiser and authorize the withdrawal of fifteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$15,500) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose?

Note: Selectman Germain addressed the article stating that an amendment was being put forward to clarify the wording of the article. The new wording would clarify that we would be raising the sum of thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, and shall the Town Designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend up to twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$29,000) from that fund for the purchase of a Ford Explorer cruiser? The amendment was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 250 NO - 177
THE AMENDED ARTICLE PASSED

12. Shall the Town vote to create a Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the "Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund" to meet the cost of replacing the Town's sidewalks and shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$29,000) to be placed in that Fund and authorize the use of \$14,500 from the Fund balance for that purpose?

Note: Harvey Goodwin brought forth an amendment to the article stating, shall the Town create a Capital Reserve Fund, to be known as the "Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund", to meet the cost of replacing the Town's sidewalk and shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,500 to be placed in that fund; and shall the Town also place in that Fund the sum of \$14,500 appropriated for the same purpose at the 2001 Town Meeting, encumbered by the selectmen but unspent. The amendment was accepted as read

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 278 NO - 154
THE AMENDED ARTICLE PASSED

13. Shall the Town raise and appropriate up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the purchase of a sander body and authorize the withdrawal of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) from the Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose?

Note: Selectman Schnare read an amendment to the article. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) from that fund for the purchase of a sander body? The amendment was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 306 NO - 124
THE AMENDED ARTICLE PASSED

14. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Library Capital Reserve Fund? The article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 332 NO - 99
THE ARTICLE PASSED

15. Shall the Town raise and appropriate up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the replacement of hydrants and authorize the withdrawal of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article stating that an amendment had been set forward to clarify the wording of the article. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund. and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from that Fund for the purpose of replacing the Hydrants? The amendment was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 314 NO - 112
THE ARTICLE PASSED

16. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the Sewer Department Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article stating that this was required for dredging of the lagoons. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 275 NO - 152
THE ARTICLE PASSED

17. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the Rescue Van Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: The current rescue van will need to be replaced in three years. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 344 NO - 84
THE ARTICLE PASSED

18. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Mower Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article stating that this is the third year of a ten year cycle for the Mower Fund. David Blanchard added that the mower is fine. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 260 NO - 167
THE ARTICLE PASSED

19. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article stating that the Town truck is on a four year cycle and is due to be replaced in another year. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 270 NO - 157
THE ARTICLE PASSED

20. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund?

Note: This is a regular maintenance issue to be used for yearly repairs. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 342 NO - 88
THE ARTICLE PASSED

21. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Town Building Expendable Trust Fund?

Note: No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 264 NO - 168
THE ARTICLE PASSED

22. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted.

3/13/01 RESULTS: YES - 198 NO - 72
THE ARTICLE PASSED

23. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the

purchase of digital radios and authorize the withdrawal of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) from the Fire Department Radios Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose?

Note: an amendment was introduced to clarify the wording; Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Emergency Radios Capital Reserve Fund and shall the Town designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) from that Fund for the purchase of four portable digital radios? The amendment passed and was accepted as read.

3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 290 NO - 150
THE ARTICLE PASSED

24. Shall the Town create a Capital Reserve Fund to be known as The Town Revaluation Fund (pursuant to RSA Chapter 35) for the future revaluation of the municipality and to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) toward that purpose, and appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Fund?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and stated that we are close to an equalized evaluation and this has to be completed by 2004. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

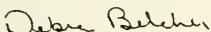
3/12/02 RESULTS: YES - 249 NO - 177
THE ARTICLE PASSED

The Moderator recognized Harvey Goodwin of the Budget Committee who had requested a progress report from the Street Light Committee. Selectman Cleary addressed the main areas of need that the Committee had determined as follows: :

There has been a review of reducing the cost of street lighting. Street lights that were not needed were eliminated . Five of the lights in town are now out. The lights at the school give off enough light that the others were not needed. The light at Albertos Restaurant will be put back due to its need. In the future some small lighting may be added to replace some of the larger lighting.

There being no other business at hand. the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Belcher
Town Clerk

Deaths Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2002

<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Name of Deceased</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>	<u>Name of Father</u>	<u>Maiden Name of Mother</u>
01/16/02	John Kehoe	Peterborough, NH	Frederick Kehoe	Cecelia Tobin
05/13/02	Terrance H. Shields	Bennington, NH	Donald Shields	Mary Cantwell
06/16/02	Elsie E. Dunlap	Peterborough, NH	Derwin Wing	Edith Clavette
07/04/02	George W. Plunkett	Bennington, NH	Robert Plunkett	Evelyn Carter
07/23/02	Germaine Jean	Peterborough, NH	Henry Plantier	Josephine Bonnette
08/15/02	Charles E. Brooks	Bennington, NH	William Brooks	Cecile Bouche
09/10/02	Arthur R. Koskela	Peterborough, NH	Otto Koskela	Maria Quist
09/22/02	Robert S. Handy	Bennington, NH	Robert Handy	Isabell Stowell
11/20/02	Silvio Zanga	Peterborough, NH	Giovanni Zanga	Ida Valle
12/26/02	Robert V. Smith	Peterborough, NH	Clifford Smith	Pauline Bumble

I hereby certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra Belcher, Town Clerk

Marriages Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2002

<u>Date of Ceremony</u>	<u>Name of Bride & Groom</u>	<u>Residence</u>
03/09/02	Tracy L. Barnard Kenneth G Reed II	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
07/13/02	Stephanie C. Toland David W. Bixler	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
07/20/02	Peggy J. Dellinger Peter B. Wahl	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
08/17/02	Wendy M. Dunn Benjamin A. Clow	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
09/21/02	Kerry P. Loughran Matthew T. Nelson	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
09/28/02	Jennifer R. Susmann Brian M. Magoon	Francestown, NH Francestown, NH

I certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra Belcher, Town Clerk

Births Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2002

<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Name of Father and Mother</u>
06/01/02	Madeline Jane Carpentiere	Peterborough, NH	Casey and Elizabeth Carpentiere
06/17/02	Elizabeth Rebecca Bryant	Peterborough, NH	Kenneth and Rachel Bryant
07/04/02	Lucas John Blanchette	Peterborough, NH	Dave and Tammie Blanchette
07/26/02	Molly Kristina Reed	Concord, NH	Kenneth and Tracy Reed
11/04/02	Marshall Buchan Warren	Franklin, NH	Lawrence and Linda Warren
11/23/02	Angelina Rebecca Leonard	Peterborough, NH	Edward and Paula Leonard

I hereby certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra Belcher, Town Clerk

BENNINGTON PD STATISTICS
Year 2002

INCIDENT	Chief Campbell	Officer Marcellino	Officer Bequeath	Officer Chenard	TOTAL
CRIMINAL					
ABANDONING A VEHICLE	1				1
ARSON	1				1
ASSAULT	6	14		1	21
BAD CHECKS	25	2		1	28
BENCH WARRANT	28	3	1		32
BREACH OF BAIL		3			3
BURGLARY		1			1
CHILD NEGLECT/ABUSE		1			1
COUNTERFEIT MONEY		1			1
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	14	11	1	3	29
CRIMINAL THREATENING	2	9		1	12
DISOBEYING OFFICER	1	2			3
DISORDERLY CONDUCT		1		1	2
DOMESTIC DISPUTE	16	7		1	24
DRUGS	7	12	1		20
DWI	2	3	2	1	8
ESCAPE	1				1
HARRASSMENT	15	6	1	2	24
ILLEGAL DUMPING/LITTERING	5	1		2	8
OBSTRUCT CRIME/FALSE STATEME.	4				4
OPEN CONTAINER	1				1
OPERATING AFTER SUSPENSION	10	13		1	24
OPERATE SUS. REGISTRATION	1		1		2
OPERATE, IMPROPER DRIVER	1				1
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	8	12		2	22
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	1				1
RECKLESS CONDUCT	3				3
RECKLESS OPERATION		1			1
RESISTING ARREST	3	1			4
SEXUAL ASSAULT	3	1			4
THEFT	11	6			17
TRANSPORTATION OF ALCOHOL		1	1	1	3
TRESPASSING	3	3		1	7
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF RENTAL	6	2		2	10
VIOLATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDER	5	2			7
WEAPONS, FELON WITH	1				1
TOTAL CRIMINAL	185	119	8	20	332
ARRESTS					
FELONY	9				9
JUVENILE & PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	15	11		2	28
MISDEMEANOR	75	44	2	1	122
VIOLATION	5	14	3	8	30
TOTAL ARRESTS	104	69	5	11	189

BENNINGTON PD STATISTICS
Year 2002

INCIDENT	Chief Campbell	Officer Marcellino	Officer Bequeath	Officer Chenard	TOTAL
SERVICES					
ALARM	10	8		2	20
CHECK WELFARE	6	4		1	11
CIVIL STANDBY	10	4	2	1	17
CITIZEN / MOTORIST ASSIST	109	96	2	19	226
CIVIL	35	15		13	63
E911	10	8	1		19
INVESTIGATE INCIDENT / REPORT	154	99	12	47	312
PAPERWORK / SERVE PAPERS	57	23		14	94
PROPERTY CHECK	312	379	53	199	943
TRANSPORT	2	1			3
TOTAL SERVICES	705	637	70	296	1708
MOTOR VEHICLE					
MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS					
WARNINGS	464	501	45	227	1237
SUMMONS					
OTHER	14	6	2	3	25
SPEED	21	25		2	48
STOP SIGN			1		1
UNINSPECTED	8	6			14
UNREGISTERED	2		1		3
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS	509	538	49	232	1328
PARKING COMPLAINTS	14	2		8	24
TRAFFIC DETAIL	70	18		11	99
OHRV COMPLAINTS	5			1	6
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE	598	558	49	252	1457
ACCIDENTS					
TOTAL MV ACCIDENTS	20	17	1	4	42
MV ACCIDENTS W/ INJURY	4	1	1		6
PROPERTY DAMAGE (\$1000+)	11	5	1		17
JUVENILE					
CHECK THE WELFARE	1	1			2
COMMUNITY SERVICE	3				3
ENDANGERING THE WELFARE	1	1			2
INVESTIGATE INCIDENT / REPORT	30	25	3	8	66
JV PETITIONS	1				1
JV POSSESSION CIGARETTES	4	2			6
JV POSSESSION ALCOHOL		4		5	9
MISSING	4	1			5
TRUANCY					0
TOTAL JUVENILE	44	34	3	13	94
ANIMAL					
CAT	8	3		8	19
DOG	52	29		22	103
OTHER	10	9		2	21
TOTAL ANIMAL	70	41	0	32	143

BENNINGTON PD STATISTICS
Year 2002

INCIDENT	Chief Campbell	Officer Marcellino	Officer Bequeath	Officer Chenard	TOTAL
COMMUNITY POLICING					
COMMUNITY	19	12		3	34
SCHOOL	12	1			13
TOTAL COMMUNITY POLICING	31	13	0	3	47
COURT					
DISTRICT	188	9		1	198
GRAND JURY	2				2
HEARINGS (JV AND ALS)	5	1			6
SUPERIOR	1				1
TOTAL COURT	196	10	0	1	207
MUTUAL AID					
ANTRIM	14	25		6	45
DEERING	1	4		1	6
FIRE / RESCUE	20	27	2	7	56
FRANCESTOWN	3	9	1	4	17
GREENFIELD	8	1	1	2	12
HANCOCK	11	17	2	4	34
OTHER	4	6	1		11
TOTAL MUTUAL AID	61	89	7	24	181
ADMINISTRATION					
DETAIL	10	5			15
MEETING / TRIP	73	8		1	82
PISTOL PERMIT	19				19
POLICE INFORMATION	10	12		9	31
SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION	170	133	5	35	343
TRAINING	9	4		2	15
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	291	162	5	47	505
SUMMARY					
CRIMINAL	185	119	8	20	332
ARRESTS	104	69	5	11	189
SERVICES	705	637	70	296	1708
MOTOR VEHICLE	598	558	49	252	1457
ACCIDENTS	20	17	1	4	42
JUVENILE	44	34	3	13	94
ANIMAL	70	41	0	32	143
COMMUNITY POLICING	31	13	0	3	47
COURT	196	10	0	1	207
MUTUAL AID	61	89	7	24	181
ADMINISTRATIVE	291	162	5	47	505
GRAND TOTAL	2305	1749	148	703	4905
PERCENTAGE	47.00%	35.70%	3.00%	14.30%	100.00%

SCOUTING ...

Eagle Scouts and Bald Eagles have something more in common than sharing a name ... they're rare ... one Eagle Scout per year is a big thing for a town of Bennington's size; in 2002 there were two of them.

Tommy Belcher and Richard Osienski both received their Eagle Badges last Fall. They joined two other recent awardees, Andrew Eppig and Arthur Heinzman, honored in 1998 and 2000 respectively.

On these pages, the Selectmen recognize these young men for their accomplishments, and join their fellow citizens in wishing them the best in their career fields. The Selectmen also extend their congratulations to the Scout's mothers and fathers who often find pursuit of that final project to be a family affair.

The Scouts qualifying projects:

Andrew: construction of a papier mache/plaster of paris topographical model of the Town of Bennington

Tommy: landscaping of the Dodge Library

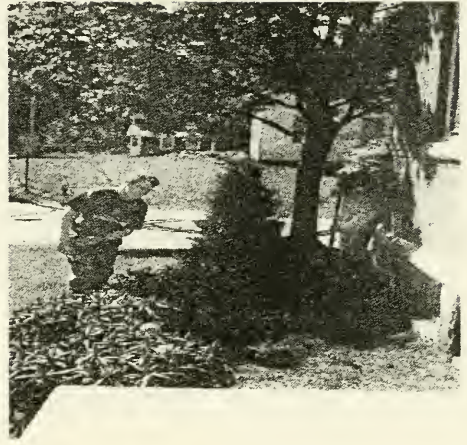
Arthur: reopening of the hiking trail; Camp Chenoa to the top of Mt. Robb

Richard: construction of the octagonal pavilion at Newhall Field

at the top of the Class



Rich Osienski at the Pavilion with his list of contributors.



Tommy Belcher in action on the Library grounds.



Andrew Eppig, topographical model maker



Arthur Heinzman, shown with his Mom and Dad, gets the badge

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

588-2189

Town Hall	Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tax Collector	Available during Town Hall office hours
Town Clerk	Monday: 9:00 a.m. to noon Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday: 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to noon

MEETING SCHEDULES

Selectmen	Every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.
Planning Board	Second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Library Trustees	First Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Library
Water/Sewer Com.	First Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
Recreation Com.	Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Conservation Com.	Third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Cemetery Trustees	Second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS

588-6585

Monday	9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	Noon - 8:00 p.m.
Friday	Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (staffed by volunteers)

RECYCLING/TRANSFER STATION HOURS

588-3407

Wednesday	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

