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2003

**2003**  
**ANNUAL REPORTS**



**for the**  
**TOWN of**  
**BENNINGTON**  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

## SIDNEY HUNTINGTON

Long time resident Sidney Huntington passed away in February 2003. "Sid" was a jack-of-all trades. Throughout the years he could be found building stonewalls, driving a school bus or maintaining Bennington streets as one of the last elected Road Agents. During his tenure with the Town of Bennington he was the Highway Department's only full-time employee; he also was responsible for overseeing the "Dump" operations.

Prior to moving to Bennington in 1948, Sid served in the United States Army; spending time in Iwo Jima.

Among other things, in his spare time Sid enjoyed his family, carpentry, caning and making maple syrup. He was a very talented man who made time for all. Those whose lives he touched miss him.



## PORRIDGE ANYONE?

On a beautiful day this past Fall, this Mama bear and her two cubs found a tree on North Bennington Road "just right" for hanging out on a Sunday afternoon. Those lucky enough to be passing by caught a rare glimpse of nature at its best. The family was gone by the next morning.

Photo courtesy of Kristy Boulé

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ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

**TOWN OFFICERS**

of

**BENNINGTON  
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

for the Year Ending December 31, 2003

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## SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

2003 was a busy year felt in many areas of town life.

We welcome Crotched Mountain Ski & Ride Area to the Town of Bennington. Since 1989 the ski area has been dormant. In a fifteen-month time period the face of Crotched Mountain was dramatically changed and a rejuvenated ski area opened in December. We are encouraged by the willingness of Peak Resorts to embrace the community. As an example of this they recently presented the Town with a \$2,500 check to offset an increase in the 2004 ambulance service appropriation.

The Board of Selectmen is disheartened with the obvious lack of citizenry interest in their town government and school administration. Your Selectmen and school officials try very hard to make the best decisions for all. We hold weekly meetings, hold public hearings and at every step of the way encourage voter participation. The majority of your tax dollar goes to the Conval School District, yet only three-dozen people throughout the school district attended the Hearing where a Budget of thirty-four million dollars was proposed. Likewise, only one resident without family ties to a town employee or Board member took the time to attend the First Session for review and approval of the 2004 Town Warrant.

The long-standing position of past and present Boards of Selectmen that no construction is permitted on Class VI roadways was challenged this year. Under the umbrella of RSA 674:41, the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinance, the Board of Selectmen's policy has been to require a Class VI road to be brought up to Class V road standards prior to issuing a building permit. In keeping with their philosophy, the Selectmen denied a building permit for construction on the Class VI portion of Mountain Road.

As provided for by Statute the property owner filed an Administrative Appeal with the Zoning Board of Adjustment. At a Public Hearing in April Zoning Board members voted to grant an exception in accordance with RSA 674:41 thereby giving the property owner permission to construct a home on a Class VI road. The Zoning Board went beyond their jurisdiction and determined roadway construction specifications and approved language for an Agreement and Release. In May the Board of Selectmen filed a Motion for Rehearing in accordance with RSA 677:2. The Zoning Board of Adjustment voted to deny the Board of Selectmen's request to rehear ZBA Case 2003-01. The Selectmen voted to petition the Superior Court for Rehearing. Late in the year the Selectmen and the property owner drafted an Agreement, which would remove the case from the Court. The Agreement is not finalized as of yet.

Throughout 2003 the Board of Selectmen spent considerable time enforcing and administering the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. Three property owners have been brought into court for refusing to comply with Article XVI(B) – Requirements of a Building Permit. The Town has been successful in Court on two of these cases; the third case is still active. Legal fees incurred are being reimbursed to the Town.

At the 2003 annual meeting the voters approved an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance; Unsafe Structures. No owner or occupant of land shall permit buildings ruined by fire or natural causes to be left indefinitely. The Selectmen immediately put this provision into action and addressed two properties where the roof of an unoccupied building had caved in. The two property owners responded very differently. One was more than willing to work with the Selectmen and ultimately removed the hazardous building and cleaned up their property. The second owner refused to cooperate and the case went to Court. The Court has ordered the Town to remove the hazardous property; associated costs will be liened against the real estate.

This spring the Selectmen will revisit those properties where an accumulation of junk vehicles remain. This is an ongoing pursuit to bring all properties into compliance with local and state ordinances.

In the next few months the Town's revaluation of all property will be completed. As of this writing all of the measuring and listings have been completed; interior inspections will be completed within the next month. We anticipate the property owners will receive their preliminary assessment value in late May or early June.

The Selectmen expect the new assessment values to be substantially higher than the ones in place from the 1991 revaluation of property. To that end the Selectmen are proposing changes in the Elderly Exemption program. Exemptions of assessed values for qualified taxpayers would be increased as well as the asset and net income limits. We encourage a "Yes" vote on Warrant Article 5 in support of our elderly taxpayers.

A final note on the revaluation; the existing tax rate of \$30.49 will tumble down. Please don't apply the 2003 tax rate to the 2004 assessment value when you receive your information. As a rule of thumb - whenever assessed values go up, the tax rate per thousand goes down.

The 2003 tax rate was up \$4.79; \$3.36 of which was attributed to the Conval School District. Since 1996 the funding of expenses of the school district has been apportioned 50% on average daily membership and 50% on the equalized valuation of each town. Prior to 1996 the funding of the school district was based on **75% enrollment and 25% on equalization value**. To illustrate the tax savings to Bennington property owners recognized when the formula was changed in 1996 we offer the following information:

1995 Tax Rate (75/25)	\$36.17
1996 Tax Rate (50/50)	\$29.83
2003 Tax Rate (50/50)	\$30.49

We encourage you to apply your assessed value to the 1995 tax rate and then again to the 2003 tax rate. The difference represents your personal savings!

On the 2004 School Warrant you will find a petitioned warrant article asking the voters to change the school funding formula back to **75% enrollment and 25% equalized valuation**. Passage of this article would be disastrous to the Bennington taxpayers. It is imperative that you help us - help yourself - by getting out to vote on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to encourage your friends

and neighbors, here and in the neighboring Conval communities, to vote **NO** on a change to the school funding formula.

In July the Selectmen applied for a \$700,000 Transportation Enhancement Program Grant. The Town of Bennington proposes reconstruction of approximately 2,800 feet of roadside in the downtown Village area (Cross Street, School Street and Main Street) to restore definition of pedestrian access by way of sidewalks and crosswalks, delineation of roadway and parking with granite curbing, narrowing existing pavement on the existing one-way loop, define access point to private properties, improve roadside drainage, and enhance the aesthetics of the streetscape.

Recognizing the need to plan and implement repairs to the Town's sidewalks, a Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2002. At year-end the Fund balance was \$40,767; an \$11,000 appropriation has been included in the 2004 Budget. Should Bennington be awarded the Transportation Enhancement Program Grant the Town will eventually have to raise an additional \$88,000 to fulfill its sponsorship of 20%.

This past year brought many staff changes. Administrator Bill Reid retired after ten years of service; veteran employee Denise French replaced him. Dawn Bond moved into the position vacated by Dee. Mark Chase was promoted to Fire Chief, Joseph O'Brien to Second Deputy Fire Chief. Recreation Committee leaders Phil Germain, Sfa Whittemore and Dotti Zabriskie retired from the Committee. Trustee of Trust Funds Jim Dodge resigned at the end of the year when he moved out of town. As we write this Message we recognize Jim Cleary, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen for his ten years of service. Jim will be retiring from the Board next month. To those who have been promoted we wish you continued success. For those of you who have retired from your position we wish you the best of health and happiness and extend to you our heartfelt gratitude for your commitment and service to the Town of Bennington.

We thank the Town's public officials, employees and volunteers for their dedicated service to the community.

There is always a need for volunteers to serve a wide range of positions – from Firefighter to Trustee of the Trust Funds, from Recreation Committee to Zoning Board. Most volunteer positions do not consume a lot of time. Please call or stop by Town Hall to discuss your area of interest. You can make a difference!

James W. Cleary, Chairman

Joseph C. Cuddemi

Terry D. Schnare

# TOWN OFFICERS

## MODERATOR

John J. Cronin, III

Term Expires 2004

## SELECTMEN

James W. Cleary, Chairman

Term Expires 2004

Joseph C. Cuddemi

Term Expires 2005

Terry D. Schnare

Term Expires 2006

## TOWN CLERK

Debra Belcher

Term Expires 2004

## TOWN TREASURER

Joyce L. Miner

Term Expires 2004

## 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 2006

## FOREST FIRE WARDENS

Mark Chase, Warden

Appointed

## SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Joseph MacGregor

Term Expires 2006



**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Appointed by Moderator

Robyn Manley, Chairman  
Lucien Lizotte

Harvey Goodwin  
Brent Paradis

Scott Sweeney

**SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE**

Appointed by Selectmen

Joseph Cuddemi

Philip Germain

Donald Parker

**SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST**

Darlene McKenney  
Barbara Moorehead  
Victoria L. Turner

Term Expires 2004  
Term Expires 2004  
Term Expires 2006

**TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS**

James Dodge, Chairman  
Francesco Carrara  
Mae Lizotte

Term Expires 2004  
Term Expires 2005  
Term Expires 2006

**OFFICER OF HEALTH/WELFARE**

Barbara Huntley

Appointed

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

C. Stephen Campbell

Appointed

**ADMINISTRATOR**

Denise P. French

Appointed

**CEMETERY TRUSTEES**

Charles E. Zabriskie, Jr.  
Philip Traxler  
Jill Young

Term Expires 2004  
Term Expires 2005  
Term Expires 2006

## PLANNING BOARD

Catriona D.M. Beck	Term Expires 2004
Peter Eppig	Term Expires 2004
Terry Schnare, Ex-Officio	Term Expires 2004
Letitia A. Rice	Term Expires 2005
Jeff Rose (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005
Philip Germain, Chairman	Term Expires 2006

## ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

David Beck, Chairman	Term Expires 2004
Peter Martel	Term Expires 2004
Barbara Goodwin	Term Expires 2005
Judy Heddy (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005
John Tyler	Term Expires 2005
James Trow (Alternate)	Term Expires 2005
Francesco Carrara	Term Expires 2006

## BUILDING INSPECTOR

Chester D. Heinzman, Jr.	Appointed
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## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Appointed by Selectmen

Jonathan Manley, Chairman	Term Expires 2004
Dennis McKenney	Term Expires 2004
Letitia Rice	Term Expires 2004
Bruce Edes	Term Expires 2005
Joseph MacGregor	Term Expires 2005
Terry Schnare	Term Expires 2006

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

Appointed by Selectmen

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

## **WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Nick Collemacine	Term Expires 2004
Glenn Wilson	Term Expires 2005
Rob Horn	Term Expires 2006

## **NEWHALL PARK BOARD**

Appointed by Selectmen

Joyce Desaulniers	Term Expires 2004
Brian Whittemore	Term Expires 2004
Cilla Roberts, Alternate	Term Expires 2005
David Parker	Term Expires 2006

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Appointed

Mark Chase, Chief	Term Expires 2004
First Deputy (vacant)	Term Expires 2004
Joseph O'Brien, Second Deputy	Term Expires 2004

## **RECREATION COMMISSION**

Appointed by Selectmen

Kelly Byrne	Wanda Grant
Hope Heinzman	Cindy Norton
Michelle Ricco	Kelly St. Pierre

Joseph Cuddemi, Interim Chairman

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Appointed by Selectmen

Terry Schnare	Richard Verney
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## **HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Appointed by Selectmen

David Blanchard	Stephen Campbell
James Cleary	Denise French

## 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 Monday, the second of February, next at seven o'clock in the evening, and then at the Fire Station on Tuesday, the ninth 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. Are you in favor of amending the Zoning Ordinance by repealing the existing Article XII - Cluster Development - and replacing it with a new Article XII - Open Space Residential Development, as proposed by the Planning Board? The full text of the Amendment can be found posted with the Warrant and within the Town Report.
3. Are you in favor of amending Article XVII, Definitions, of the Zoning Ordinance to redefine the definition of "Frontage" to read: The contiguous distance along the lot line dividing a lot from either (a) a publicly maintained highway, excepting limited access highways as defined by RSA 230:44 and Class VI highways; or (b) an approved road shown on a recorded subdivision plan, as proposed by the Planning Board? When a lot borders on more than one public highway, the frontage shall be on that roadway on which the lot has the greatest length.
4. Are you in favor of amending Article XVII, Definitions, of the Zoning Ordinance to redefine the definition of "Front Setback" to read: The distance from the boundary of the right-of-way line of a street(s) and the front line of a building or any projection thereof, as proposed by the Planning Board?
5. Shall the Town of Bennington modify the elderly exemptions from property tax, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years \$25,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years \$50,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$75,000. To qualify, the person must have been a resident of New Hampshire for at least 5 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$23,500, or if married, a combined net income of less than \$35,500; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 (excluding the value of the person's residence)?

(Recommended by the Selectmen)

6. 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 one million forty-two thousand three hundred fifty-five dollars (\$1,042,355)? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be nine hundred seventy-six thousand and eight dollars (\$976,008), 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)

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

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

8. 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)

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

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

10. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-eight thousand three hundred dollars (\$28,300) to purchase a new Police Cruiser and authorize the withdrawal of eighteen thousand three hundred dollars (\$18,300) from the Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose? The balance of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) is to come from general taxation.

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

11. 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)

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

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

13. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to be added to the Rescue Van Capital Reserve Fund?

(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

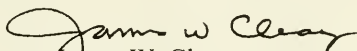
14. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund?


(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

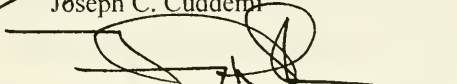
- 15. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the Bridge Expendable Trust Fund?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 16. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Town Building Expendable Trust Fund?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 17. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 18. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 19. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Replacement Capital Reserve Fund?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 20. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450) as its share of year 2004 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)
  
- 21. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for replacement of the Town Hall furnace?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 22. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for the purchase of Police Department protective vests?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 23. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for construction of cement pads at the Recycling Center?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen)
  
- 24. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for construction of guard rails on Mill Road?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)
  
- 25. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for the purpose of upgrading the Library catalogue software?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee)

26. Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Capital Reserve Fund titled Emergency Police Radios established in 2000 and transfer to the General Fund the balance remaining in that Fund amounting to one hundred seventy-four dollars and seventy-six cents (\$174.76)?  
(Recommended by the Selectmen)

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

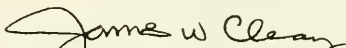
  
James W. Cleary


  
Joseph C. Cuddemi

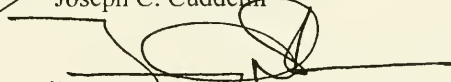
  
Terry D. Schnare

*Board of Selectmen  
Bennington, New Hampshire*

a true copy of Warrant - Attest

  
James W. Cleary

  
Joseph C. Cuddemi

  
Terry D. Schnare

# BUDGET OF THE TOWN

OF: BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004

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 the 26th of January, 2004.

### GOVERNING BODY (SELECTMEN)

*Please sign in ink.*

*James W. Cleary*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**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



## Budget - Town of Bennington FY 2004

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)
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4130-4139	Executive		72269	83263	104490	
4140-4149	Election,Reg. & Vital Statistics		21530	20714	24167	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		46446	28183	10170	
4152	Revaluation of Property					
4153	Legal Expense		7000	19983	12000	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		116372	111846	135544	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		8250	7325	6750	
4194	General Government Buildings		11235	12615	14150	
4195	Cemeteries		2550	5424	7872	
4196	Insurance		14500	14703	17000	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.					
4199	Other General Government		4000	1426	2000	
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4210-4214	Police		130692	130654	141186	
4215-4219	Ambulance		7500	7500	10000	
4220-4229	Fire		40950	41074	54330	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		750	1090	750	
4290-4298	Emergency Management					
4299	Other (Incl. Communications)					
<b>AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4301-4309	Airport Operations					
<b>HIGHWAYS &amp; STREETS</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4311	Administration		94307	90213	96921	
4312	Highways & Streets		82600	87347	84500	
4313	Bridges					
4316	Street Lighting		7800	6817	7800	
4319	Other					
<b>SANITATION</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4321	Administration		23370	24125	23901	
4323	Solid Waste Collection		1800	620	800	
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		49775	63705	56591	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up					
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other		24800	27495	25350	

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 Ensnung FY (RECOMMENDED)	Appropriations Ensnung FY (NOT RECOMMENDED)
<b>WATER DISTRIBUTION &amp; TREATMENT</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4331	Administration		19200	21105	20300	
4332	Water Services		17000	12508	17000	
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv.& Other		1650	2081	1750	
<b>ELECTRIC</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4351-4352	Admin. and Generation					
4353	Purchase Costs					
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance					
4359	Other Electric Costs					
<b>HEALTH</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4411	Administration		1718	1166	1844	
4414	Pest Control		150	0	150	
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other		5768	5769	5800	
<b>WELFARE</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Asslst.		8002	9939	8055	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Pymnts		400	390	585	
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		4550	2666	4550	
<b>CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		20530	19941	25080	
4550-4559	Library		66502	65309	69807	
4583	Patriotic Purposes		3450	3267	3650	
4589	Other Culture & Recreation		1000	2000	1000	
<b>CONSERVATION</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4611-4612	Admin.& Purch. of Nat. Resources		675	60	675	
4619	Other Conservation					
4631-4632	<b>REDEVELOPMENT &amp; HOUSING</b>					
4651-4659	<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		33050	33050	33050	
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		13120	12244	10187	
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes		2600	1552	2600	
4790-4799	Other Debt Service					

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)
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4901	Land					
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment					
4903	Buildings					
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs.					
<b>OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT</b>			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					
4916	To Exp.Tr.Fund-except #4917					
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds					
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds					
4919	To Agency Funds					
<b>SUBTOTAL 1</b>			967861	979169	1042355	

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



**TOWN OF BENNINGTON**

**SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

Account	Article	Account Name	Appropriations	Actual	Appropriations
			Prior Year	Expenditures	Ensuing FY
4915	7	Fire Truck CRF	15,000	15,000	15,000
4915	14	Highway Equip CRF	10,000	10,000	10,000
4915	13	Rescue CRF	10,000	10,000	12,000
4915		Police Cruiser CRF	12,500	12,500	- - -
4915		Mower CRF	1,000	1,000	- - -
4915	11	Library CRF	5,000	5,000	5,000
4915	9	Highway Truck CRF	10,000	10,000	10,000
4915	8	Water CRF	8,000	8,000	8,000
4915	12	Sewer CRF	5,000	5,000	5,000
4915	17	Bridge Replacement CRF	5,000	5,000	5,000
4915	15	Bridge Maintenance ETF	5,000	5,000	3,000
4915	16	Town Buildings ETF	10,000	10,000	5,000
4915	19	Sidewalk Construction CRF	11,000	11,000	11,000
4915	18	Property Reval CRF	26,500	26,500	30,000
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS</b>			<b>\$134,000</b>	<b>\$134,000</b>	<b>\$119,000</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
<b>TAXES</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
3120	Land Use Change Taxes		3800	7000	0
3180	Resident Taxes				
3185	Timber Taxes			7004	5000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes				
3189	Other Taxes				
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		64000	32273	33000
	Inventory Penalties			3111	3100
3187	Excavation Tax (\$.02 cents per cu yd)			1669	
<b>LICENSES, PERMITS &amp; FEES</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
3210	Business Licenses & Permits		800	452	500
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		220000	238605	241000
3230	Building Permits		800	1690	1500
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees		7000	8679	8500
3311-3319	<b>FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
<b>FROM STATE</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
3351	Shared Revenues		27000	26679	27000
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution		40000	42556	43000
3353	Highway Block Grant		32000	35388	35433
3354	Water Pollution Grant		13000	12217	11372
3355	Housing & Community Development				
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement				
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement				
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)				
3379	<b>FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS</b>				
<b>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
3401-3406	Income from Departments		7000	10989	8000
3409	Other Charges		5000	3124	5000
<b>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		20000	100	0
3502	Interest on Investments		5000	0	0
3503-3509	Other			22981	20000

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
<b>INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3912	From Special Revenue Funds				
3913	From Capital Projects Funds				
3914	From Enterprise Funds				
	Sewer - (Offset)		25000	24014	25000
	Water - (Offset)		45000	40161	45000
	Electric - (Offset)				
	Airport - (Offset)				
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	10			18300
3916	From Trust & Agency Funds				
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes				
	Amount VOTED From F/B ("Surplus")				
	Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes				
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE &amp; CREDITS</b>			515400	518692	530705

**\*\*BUDGET SUMMARY\*\***

	Prior Year	Ensuing Year
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from page 4)	967861	1042355
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 5)	134000	119000
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 5)	23080	45250
<b>TOTAL Appropriations Recommended</b>	1124941	1206605
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	515400	530705
<b>Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised</b>	609541	675900

**TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
DEFAULT BUDGET  
2004**

**Function**

Executive Office	\$72,269
Election/Registration	\$21,530
Financial Administration	\$46,446
Judicial/Legal	\$7,000
Personnel Administration	\$116,372
Planning/ZBA	\$8,250
General Government Buildings	\$11,235
Cemeteries	\$2,550
Insurance	\$14,500
Contingency	\$4,000
Police Department	\$130,692
Ambulance	\$7,500
Fire Department	\$40,950
Radio Lease	\$8,147
Building Inspector	\$750
General Highway	\$94,307
Highway/Streets	\$82,600
Street Lighting	\$7,800
Solid Waste	\$74,945
Water	\$37,850
Sewer	\$24,800
Health/Welfare	\$20,588
Recreation	\$20,530
Library	\$66,502
Patriotic Purposes	\$3,450
Scholarship	\$1,000
Conservation Commission	\$675
Debt Service	\$48,770
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$976,008</b>



**TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**SESSION 1:**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2003 DELIBERATIVE SESSION**

**SESSION 2:**

**MARCH 11, 2003 TOWN ELECTION RESULTS**

Session 1 of the Bennington Town Meeting convened on Tuesday, February 4, 2003 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 7:00 p.m.

Moderator Cronin opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the Challenger astronauts.

**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 the necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing. The results of the March 11<sup>th</sup> elections are as follows:

**Selectman- Terry D. Schnare**

**Treasurer- Joyce L. Miner**

**Town Clerk- Debra Belcher**

**Trustee of the Trust Funds (3 yr.)- Mae Lizotte**

**Trustee of the Trust Funds (1 yr.)- James G. Dodge**

**Planning Board (3 yrs.)- Philip R. Germain**

**Library Trustee (3 yrs.)- Carrie Whitemore**

**Zoning Board Member (3 yrs.)- Francesco Carrara**  
**Cemetery Trustee (3 yrs.)- Jill S. Young**  
**Water and Sewer Commissioner (3 yrs.)- Robert Horn**  
**Water and Sewer Commissioner (1 yr.)- Nick Collemacine**  
**School Moderator- Peter Hopkins**

When the polls opened at 8:00 a.m., the Voter Checklist contained 766 registered voters. During the March 11<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting, 7 new voters were added to the checklist. When the polls closed at 7:00 p.m., the Voter Checklist totaled 773 registered voters. A total of 301 voters cast their ballots during the Town Meeting which represents 39% of the voters on the checklist.

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The Deliberative Session of the Town Meeting, Session 1, was attended by 30 registered voters.

The Moderator initiated discussion on the following articles.

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.)

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and stated that this article would provide minimum impact on the growth rate of the town.

3/11/03 RESULTS:            YES- 128                    NO- 169

THE ARTICLE FAILED

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.”

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article and pointed out that the zoning ordinance would be added for safety reasons.

3/11/03 RESULTS:                    YES- 212                    NO- 81  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

- 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.)

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

3/11/03 RESULTS                    YES- 209                    NO- 71  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

- 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 41:16b?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article stating that the selectmen recommend this article due to the amount of training required of the job and the revenue it generates.

3/11/03 RESULTS                    YES- 233                    NO- 61  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

- 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 Petition Warrant Article)

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article and explained that this was not binding but just a suggestion. Mark Chase questioned the class of road that would be involved and who would decide said class. Selectman Cuddemi clarified that the article would apply to all roads and would be merely a suggestion.

3/11/03 RESULTS

YES-228

NO- 68

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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)

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article and explained that this was also a suggestion and not binding. Dennis McKenney had a concern about the role of the ZBA and that the town needs to be in compliance. Selectman Cleary replied that the RSAs and zoning laws supercede the suggestions in this article.

3/11/03 RESULTS

YES-170

NO-121

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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.

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

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and pointed out that the handout explained the default budget. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS

YES-233

NO-52

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 and shall the Town designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from that Fund?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article, stating that this is a usual Reserve Fund. Mark Chase noted that the scheduled fire truck replacement was to be in the year 2009. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-224                      NO-66  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Schnare noted that the funds requested have been increased due to replacement of fire hydrants. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-212                      NO-75  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and asked David Blanchard, the Road Agent to speak to it. David Blanchard noted that he believed that the town was in the fifth year of a 10-year cycle to replace a large truck. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/22/03 RESULTS                      YES-204                      NO-85  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article noting that the town is on a four-year replacement schedule with one of the two cruisers being replaced every two years. Dennis McKenney brought forth discussion on a September Special Meeting that failed to appropriate funds. Bill Reid clarified that the DRA opposed the wording of the article and a special meeting was held. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-182                      NO-111  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article and noted that this was an ongoing fund for Library maintenance and to refurbish handicap accessibility. Leslie MacGregor spoke to the article to stress the need for repairs to the roof, furnace and other expensive upkeep needs. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-225                      NO-71  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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 Selectman as agents to expend from that Fund?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article noting that the lagoon would need to be dredged in the next four or five years. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-198                      NO-92  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article and asked Keith Nason to speak to it. Keith Nason explained that the forest truck fund would be deleted this year and this fund would be to replace the rescue van when needed. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-227                      NO-63  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article noting that this is a usual reserve fund for the mower. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-197                      NO-95  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and asked David Blanchard to speak. David Blanchard explained that the highway equipment is in the first year of its cycle and that the sander body of the existing truck had been replaced last year as normal upkeep. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-203                      NO-87  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article noting that this would include on going clean up and repair on the bridges in town. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-224                      NO-67  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article noting that the Town Hall has had the roof replaced and has been painted. The plan for this year is to address the grounds and parking issue. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-195                      NO-98  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article and noted that this is an on going situation involving the bridge on North Bennington Road that is also owned with Antrim. It will eventually have to be replaced. If the State Program is available at that time we could get 80% of the money but the town would have to have funds ready at that time. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-210                      NO-79  
THE ARTICLE PASSED



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?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article and noted that revaluation started in the past couple of years and we will need to pay the balance due in 2004. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS YES-182 NO-109

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article and stated that we are in the third year of the sidewalk replacement plan. Alan Wilson asked about the reserve monies that have been put away for the sidewalks and how this fits into the master plan. Selectman Schnare is looking into matching funds due to the maintenance of granite curbs. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS YES-182 NO-111

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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(c)?

Note: Selectman Cleary deferred this article to Leslie MacGregor, the Head Librarian. Leslie MacGregor stated that the language in the article was incorrect and the letter in the RSA should be (d). Leslie MacGregor moved to amend the article and was seconded. In further discussion, Leslie MacGregor explained that this is a legal issue to ensure that the

library can accept gifts of books, videos, furniture etc. without the consent of the Selectmen. The new article was put before the floor stating, 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)?

A vote was taken RESULTS: THE AMENDMENT PASSED

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-238                      NO-55  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

- 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)

Note: Selectman Cuddemi turned the floor over to Leslie MacGregor to address the article. Leslie MacGregor explained that the article was at the suggestion of Terry Knowles from the Charitable Trust and is meant to clarify the language on the existing Capital Reserve Fund.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-228                      NO-62  
THE ARTICLE PASSED

- 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

Note: Selectman Schnare addressed the article and noted that this is a housekeeping issue. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS

YES-241

NO-43

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cleary deferred the article to Keith Nason. Keith explained that the lease would allow the existing mobile radios and pagers to be replaced. Selectman Cuddemi noted that the town has used the lease company before and it has worked out well. Dennis McKenney asked if the dollar amount for the next four years would be the same. Keith Nason stated that the total figure would come up to approximately \$32,000. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS

YES-216

NO-75

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article stating that more work is being done at the cemeteries. Dennis McKenney questioned if the work that is being done is to catch up and if so will we be able to get to a regular maintenance schedule. Selectman Cuddemi responded that much of the work is repair and catching up on clearing and gravestone repair. Administrator Bill Reid explained that repair work is behind due to the availability of the craftsman that does the repairs. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS

YES-240

NO-52

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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 Memorial Library.

Note: Selectman Schnare deferred the article over to Leslie MacGregor who asked to amend the article and strike the word Memorial as the correct name of the library is the GEP Dodge Library. The amendment was put on the floor and seconded.

RESULTS: THE AMENDMENT PASSED

Leslie MacGregor spoke to the amendment and stated that the article is to replace three computers that are currently at the library. One computer is for public use and the other two computers are for the work that is done by the librarians and the State. No further amendments were introduced and the amended article was accepted.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-236                      NO-56

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cleary deferred the article to Bill Reid who explained that Microsoft changed their equipment on a national level and to ensure services the town is forced to upgrade. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS                      YES-230                      NO-61

THE ARTICLE PASSED

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?

Note: Selectman Cuddemi addressed the article stating that Project Lift has been in New Hampshire for several years and it is an on going program that we should continue. No amendment was introduced and the article was accepted as read.

3/11/03 RESULTS

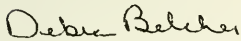
YES-241

NO-47

THE ARTICLE PASSED

There being no other business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Belcher

Town Clerk

# REPORT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACTUALLY VOTED

(RSA 21-J:34)

Date of Meeting: March 11, 2003

Town/City Of: Bennington

County: Hillsborough

Mailing Address: 7 School St., #101

Bennington, New Hampshire 03442

Phone #: 603-588-3087

Fax #: 603-588-8005

E-Mail: townofbenn@conknet.com

## Certificate of Appropriations

(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.*

Date: March 19, 2003

James W. Cleary  
[Signature]  
[Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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 days'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
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4130-4139	Executive		72269	
4140-4149	Election, Reg. & Vital Statistics		21530	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		46446	
4152	Revaluation of Property			
4153	Legal Expense		7000	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		116372	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		8250	
4194	General Government Buildings		11235	
4195	Cemeteries		2550	
4196	Insurance		14500	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.			
4199	Other General Government (Contingency)		4000	
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4210-4214	Police		130692	
4215-4219	Ambulance		7500	
4220-4229	Fire		40950	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		750	
4290-4298	Emergency Management			
4299	Other (Including Communications)			
<b>AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4301-4309	Airport Operations			
<b>HIGHWAYS &amp; STREETS</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4311	Administration		94307	
4312	Highways & Streets		82600	
4313	Bridges			
4316	Street Lighting		7800	
4319	Other			
<b>SANITATION</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4321	Administration			
4323	Solid Waste Collection		29370	
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		51575	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up			
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other		24800	
<b>WATER DISTRIBUTION &amp; TREATMENT</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4331	Administration		19200	
4332	Water Services		16650	
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv. & Other			
<b>ELECTRIC</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4351-4359	Electrical Operations			

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
<b>HEALTH</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4411	Administration		1718	
4414	Pest Control			
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other		5918	
<b>WELFARE</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Assist.		8002	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments			
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		4950	
<b>CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		20530	
4550-4559	Library		66502	
4583	Patriotic Purposes		3450	
4589	Other Culture & Recreation		1000	
<b>CONSERVATION</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4611-4612	Admin. & Purch. of Nat. Resources		675	
4619	Other Conservation			
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING			
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		33050	
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		13120	
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Note		2600	
4790-4799	Other Debt Service			
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4901	Land			
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment			
4903	Buildings			
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs			
<b>OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT</b>			<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXX</b>
4912	To Special Revenue Fund			
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		23080	
4914	To Enterprise Fund			
	Sewer-			
	Water-			
	Electric-			
	Airport-			
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		119000	
4916	To Exp Tr.Fund-except #4917		15000	
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds			
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds			
4919	To Agency Funds			
<b>TOTAL VOTED APPROPRIATIONS</b>			<b>1124941</b>	



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

PO BOX 487  
 CONCORD NH 03302-0487

Email Address: nduffy@rev.state.nh.us  
 For assistance call : (603) 271-2687

Original Date _____
Copy (check box if copy) <input type="checkbox"/>
Revision Date _____

DO NOT FAX!!

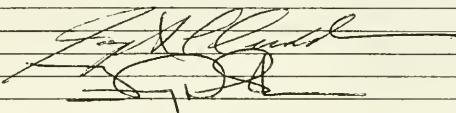
SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

Form MS-1 for 2003

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)
James W Cleary	
Joseph C. Cuddemi	
Terry D Schnare	

Date Signed 26-Aug-03

\*Check one:

Selectmen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assessors	<input type="checkbox"/>

City/Town Telephone # 588-2189

Due date: September 1, 2003

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)

REPDRTS 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/towns tax assessments and sworn to uphold under Oath per RSA 75:7 Please complete all applicable pages and refer to the instructions tab 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: N.H. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION, MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU, PO BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487

FOR DRA USE ONLY

Contact Person: Denise P. French  
 (Print/type)  
 Note office hours: M - Thurs 9am - 4pm

See Instructions, Tax Increment Finance District Tab & Utilities A & B, of this set as needed

BENNINGTON

LAND	Lines 1 A, B, C, D, E & F List all improved and unimproved land - include wells, septic & paving	NUMBER OF	2003 ASSESSED VALUATION
	BUILDINGS	ACRES	BY CITY/TOWN

<b>1. VALUE OF LAND ONLY - Exclude Amount Listed in Lines 3A 1, 2 &amp; 3, 3B &amp; 4</b>			
A. Current Use (At Current Use Values) RSA 79-A (See Instruction #1)	4,385.34		\$303,146
B. Conservation Restriction Assessment (At Current Use Values) RSA 79-B	0.00		\$0
C. Discretionary Easement RSA 79-C	0.00		\$0
D. Discretionary Preservation Easement RSA 79-D	0	Number of Structures	\$0
E. Residential Land (Improved and Unimproved Land)	2,100.08		\$14,142,100
F. Commercial/Industrial Land (Do Not include Public Utility Land)	95.58		\$1,545,600
G. Total of Taxable Land (Sum of Lines 1A + 1B + 1C + 1D + 1E + 1F)	6,581.00		\$15,990,846
H. Tax Exempt & Non-Taxable Land	261.35		\$1,408,400

<b>2. VALUE OF BUILDINGS ONLY - Exclude Amounts Listed on Lines 3A 1, 2 &amp; 3 &amp; 3B</b>	
A. Residential	\$38,936,500
B. Manufactured Housing as defined in RSA 674:31	\$1,281,500
C. Commercial/Industrial (DO NOT Include Public Utility Buildings)	\$6,701,700
D. Total of Taxable Buildings (Sum of lines 2A + 2B + 2C)	\$46,919,700
E. Tax Exempt & Non-Taxable Buildings	\$5,942,600

<b>3. PUBLIC UTILITIES (see RSA 83-F:1 V for complete definition)</b>	TOTALS PG 4
A. Public Utilities (Real estate/buildings/structures/machinery/dynamics/apparatus/poles/ wires/fixtures of all kinds and descriptions/pipelines etc.)	A 1 \$2,943,200 A 2 A 3
B. Other Public Utilities	B \$0

<b>4. MATURE WOOD and TIMBER RSA 79:5</b>	\$0
---	-----

<b>5. VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS (Total of Lines 1G + 2D + 3A 1, 2 &amp; 3, + 3B + 4)</b>	\$65,853,746
This figure represents the gross sum of all taxable property in your municipality	

	# Granted
<b>6. Certain Disabled Veterans RSA 72:36 - a</b> (Paraplegic & Double Amputees Owning Specially Adapted Homesteads with V.A. Assistance)	0 \$0
<b>7. Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities RSA 72:37 - a</b>	0 \$0
<b>8. School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption RSA 72:23 IV</b> (Standard Exemption Up To \$150,000 for each)	0 \$0
<b>9. Water and Air Pollution Control Exemptions RSA 72:12 - a</b>	0 \$0

BENNINGTON

<b>10. MODIFIED ASSESSED VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTIES</b>		
(Sum of Line 5 minus Lines 6, 7, 8 & 9) This figure will be used for calculating the total equalized value for your municipality.)		
	# GRANTED	\$55,853,746
<b>11. Blind Exemption RSA 72:37</b>	0	\$0
<b>12. Elderly Exemption RSA 72:39 - a &amp; b</b>	18	\$632,800
<b>13. Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37 - b</b>	0	\$0
<b>14. Wood-Heating Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:70</b>	0	\$0
<b>15. Solar Energy Exemption RSA 72:62</b>	0	\$0
<b>16. Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:66</b>	0	\$0
<b>17. Additional School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemptions RSA 72:23 IV</b>	0	\$0
<b>18. TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS (Sum of Lines 11 thru 17)</b>		\$632,800
<b>19. NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE FOR MUNICIPAL, COUNTY &amp; LOCAL EDUCATION TAX IS COMPUTED (Line 10 minus Line 18)</b>		\$65,220,946
<b>20. Less Public Utilities (Line 3A 1, 2, &amp; 3) Do NOT include the value of OTHER public utilities listed in Line 3B.</b>		\$2,943,200
<b>21. NET VALUATION WITHOUT UTILITIES ON WHICH TAX RATE FOR STATE EDUCATION TAX IS COMPUTED (Line 19 minus Line 20)</b>		\$62,277,746

**BENNINGTON**

**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 & Utilities Tabs)

SECTION A: ELECTRIC COMPANIES, GENERATING PLANTS, ETC: (Attach additional sheet if needed.) (See Instruction #4 Tab & Utilities - A Tab)	2003 VALUATION
Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc	\$1,900,000
Public Service of NH	\$1,043,200
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
<b>A1. TOTAL OF ALL ELECTRIC COMPANIES LISTED IN THIS SECTION:</b> (See Utilities - A Tab for the names of the limited number of companies)	<b>\$2,943,200</b>

GAS, OIL & PIPELINE COMPANIES	
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
<b>A2. TOTAL OF ALL GAS, OIL &amp; PIPELINE COMPANIES LISTED:</b> (See Utilities - A Tab for the names of the limited number of companies)	<b>\$0</b>

WATER & SEWER COMPANIES	
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
<b>A3. TOTAL OF ALL WATER &amp; SEWER COMPANIES LISTED:</b> (See Utilities - A Tab for the names of the limited number of companies)	<b>\$0</b>

SECTION B: LIST OTHER UTILITY COMPANIES (Exclude telephone companies): (Attach additional sheet if needed.) (See Instruction & Utilities - B Tab)	2003 VALUATION
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
<b>TOTAL OF ALL OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN THIS SECTION B:</b> (See Utilities - B Tab for the names of the limited number of companies)	<b>\$0</b>

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	0	\$0
	\$1,400	2	\$2,800
Other war service credits. RSA 72:28	\$50	0	\$0
	\$100	66	\$6,650
<b>TOTAL NUMBER AND AMOUNT</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>\$9,450</b>

\*If both husband & wife qualify for the credit they count as 2.

\*If someone is living at a residence as say brother & sister, and one qualifies count as 1, not one-half.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICTS RSA 162-K (See Tax Increment Finance Dist Tab for instructions)	TIF #1	TIF#2	TIF#3	TIF#4
Date of Adoption				
Original assessed value	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
+ Unretained captured assessed value	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
= Amounts used on page 2 (tax rates)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
+ Retained captured assessed value	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Current assessed value	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

LIST REVENUES RECEIVED FROM PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAX Amounts listed below should not be included in assessed valuation column on page 2.	MUNICIPALITY	LIST SOURCE(S) OF PAYMENT In Lieu of Taxes
State & Federal Forest Land, Recreation, and/or Flood Control Land from MS-4, acct. 3356 & 3357	\$0	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$0	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$0	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$0	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$0	
Other from MS-4, acct. 3186	\$0	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

BENNINGTON

ELDERLY EXEMPTION REPORT - RSA 72:39-a

NUMBER OF FIRST TIME FILERS GRANTED ELDERLY EXEMPTION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR		PER AGE CATEGORY AMOUNT PER INDIVIDUAL	TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS GRANTED AN ELDERLY EXEMPTION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR & TOTAL AMOUNT OF EXEMPTION GRANTED			
AGE	NUMBER		AGE	NUMBER	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE EXEMPTION AMOUNT	TOTAL ACTUAL EXEMPTION AMOUNT
65 - 74		\$20,000	65 - 74	6	\$120,000	\$120,000
75 - 79		\$40,000	75 - 79	4	\$160,000	\$155,200
80 +		\$60,000	80 +	6	\$357,700	\$357,600
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>\$637,700</b>	<b>\$632,800</b>

CURRENT USE REPORT - RSA 79-A

	TOTAL NUMBER ACRES RECEIVING CURRENT USE ASSESSMENT	ASSESSED VALUATION	OTHER CURRENT USE STATISTICS	TOTAL NUMBER OF ACRES
FARM LAND	164.13	\$38,464	RECEIVING 20% RECREATION ADJUSTMENT	0.00
FOREST LAND	3,970.86	\$261,904	REMOVED FROM CURRENT USE DURING CURRENT YEAR	0.00
FOREST LAND WITH DOCUMENTED STEWARDSHIP	0.00	\$0		
UNPRODUCTIVE LAND	250.35	\$2,778		<b>TOTAL NUMBER</b>
WET LAND	0.00	\$0	TOTAL NUMBER OF OWNERS IN CURRENT USE	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,385.34</b>	<b>\$303,146</b>	TOTAL NUMBER OF PARCELS IN CURRENT USE	<b>0</b>

CONSERVATION RESTRICTION ASSESSMENT REPORT - RSA 79-B

	TOTAL NUMBER ACRES RECEIVING CONSERVATION RESTRICTION ASSESSMENTS	ASSESSED VALUATION	OTHER CONSERVATION RESTRICTION ASSESSMENT STATISTICS	TOTAL NUMBER OF ACRES
FARM LAND	0.00	\$0	RECEIVING 20% RECREATION ADJUSTMENT	0.00
FOREST LAND	0.00	\$0	REMOVED FROM CONSERVATION RESTRICTION DURING CURRENT YEAR	0.00
FOREST LAND WITH DOCUMENTED STEWARDSHIP	0.00	\$0		
UNPRODUCTIVE LAND	0.00	\$0		<b>TOTAL NUMBER</b>
WET LAND	0.00	\$0	TOTAL NUMBER OF OWNERS IN CONSERVATION RESTRICTION	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0</b>	TOTAL NUMBER OF PARCELS IN CONSERVATION RESTRICTION	<b>0</b>

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION**  
**Municipal Finance Bureau**  
**2003 Tax Rate Calculation**

**TOWN/CITY: BENNINGTON**

*Beverly Jewell*  
*October 5, 2003*

Gross Appropriations	1,124,951
Less: Revenues	543,791
Less: Shared Revenues	19,978
Add: Overlay	5,024
War Service Credits	9,450

Net Town Appropriation	575,656
Special Adjustment	0

Approved Town/City Tax Effort	575,656
-------------------------------	---------

**TOWN RATE**  
**8.83**

**SCHOOL PORTION**

Net Local School Budget (Gross Approp. - Revenue)	0
Regional School Apportionment	2,070,247
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(767,790)
State Education Taxes	(309,484)

Approved School(s) Tax Effort	992,973
-------------------------------	---------

**LOCAL**  
**SCHOOL RATE**  
**15.22**

**STATE EDUCATION TAXES**

Equalized Valuation(no utilities) x	\$4.92	
62,903,333		309,484
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)		
62,277,746		
Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State		
Pay to State →	0	

**STATE**  
**SCHOOL RATE**  
**4.97**

**COUNTY PORTION**

Due to County	100,360
Less: Shared Revenues	(4,514)

Approved County Tax Effort	95,846
----------------------------	--------

**COUNTY RATE**  
**1.47**

<b>TOTAL RATE</b>
<b>30.49</b>

Total Property Taxes Assessed	1,973,959
Less: War Service Credits	(9,450)
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	0
<b>Total Property Tax Commitment</b>	<b>1,964,509</b>

**PROOF OF RATE**

Net Assessed Valuation		Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	62,277,746	4.97	309,484
All Other Taxes	65,220,946	25.52	1,664,475
			1,973,959

**TRC#**  
**26**

**TRC#**  
**26**

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
GENERAL ACCOUNT  
2003

Cash Balance as at :	1/1/03	\$	385,587.90
Plus Receipts			2,798,183.12
Less Disbursements			(2,671,576.44)
Cash Balance as at:	12/31/03	\$	512,194.58

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
CONSERVATION FUND  
2003

Cash Balance as at :	1/1/03	\$	4,315.00
Interest Earned			20.43
Cash Balance as at:	12/31/03	\$	4,335.43

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
Bennington Police Dept - Special Revenue Fund  
2003

Cash Balance as at :	1/1/03	\$	1,337.73
Plus Receipts		\$	-
Less Service Charge		\$	-
Less Checks		\$	-
Plus Interest			1.51
Less Disbursements			(801.15)
Cash Balance as at:	12/31/03	\$	538.09

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
DRIVEWAY SECURITY ACCOUNT  
2003

Cash Balance as at :	1/1/03	\$	5,994.93
Less check order		\$	(14.50)
Plus Interest			8.49
Plus receipts 2003			4,000.00
Security Deposits returned 2003			(4,000.00)
Cash Balance as at:	12/31/03	\$	5,988.92

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
NHMA - PLIT  
2003

Cash Balance as at :	1/1/03	\$	1,336.26
Plus Interest			6.33
Cash Balance as at:	12/31/03	\$	1,342.59

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
Marshall Bennett - Escrow Account  
2003

Cash Balance as at :	1/1/03	\$	1,313.00
Plus Interest			6.22
Cash Balance as at:	12/31/03	\$	1,319.22

Joyce L. Miner  
Treasurer



**Town Clerk's Revenue Report**  
 Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$232,802.36
Motor Vehicle Copy Fee	165.00
Municipal Agent Fees	4,660.00
Motor Vehicle Titles	850.00
Motor Vehicle Mail Program	226.00
UCC Filings	452.37
Marriage Licenses:   Town	91.00
State	494.00
Certified Copies:   Town	146.00
State	290.00
Dog Licenses:        Town	1,720.50
State	191.50
Animal Population Control	716.00
Dog License Fines	240.00
Bad Check Fees	121.00
Election Fees	4.00
<b>Total Revenue Collected by the Town Clerk</b>	<b>\$243,169.73</b>

I hereby certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
*Debra Belcher, Town Clerk*

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

	2003	2002
<b>UNCOLLECTED TAXES 01/01/03</b>		
Property Taxes		\$157,949.24
Land Use Change		\$3,800.00
Yield Taxes		\$212.40
Excavation Tax		\$4.56
<b>TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR</b>		
Property Taxes	\$1,968,955.00	
Land Use Change Taxes	\$3,250.00	
Yield Taxes	\$6,791.96	
Excavation Taxes	\$1,669.08	
<b>OVERPAYMENT</b>		
Property Taxes	\$10,294.74	\$64.00
2004 Prepaid	\$17.98	
<b>INTEREST - FEES</b>	\$1,944.52	\$10,654.10
<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>	\$1,992,923.28	\$172,684.30
<b>REMITTED TO TREASURER 2003</b>		
Property Taxes	\$1,818,881.42	\$94,308.70
Land Use Change Taxes	\$3,250.00	\$3,800.00
Yield Taxes	\$6,791.96	
Interest/Fees	\$1,944.52	\$10,654.10
Excavation Taxes	\$1,669.08	\$4.56
Conversion to Lien (prinicpal)		\$61,521.94
<b>ABATEMENTS</b>		
Property Taxes	\$10.00	\$2,395.00
Current Levy Deeded	\$640.00	
<b>UNCOLLECTED TAXES 12/31/03</b>		
Property Taxes	\$159,736.30	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	\$1,992,923.28	\$172,684.30

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

CERTIFIED TAX COLLECTOR

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

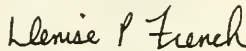
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT  
SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

		TAX LIEN ON ACCOUNT OF LEVIES:			ELDERLY/ DISABLED TAX LIEN
		2002	2001	PRIOR	
Unredeemed Liens January 1, 2003			\$51,112.79	\$31,428.88	\$59,582.99
Liens Executed 2003		\$69,945.41			\$2,331.00
Interest & Costs Collected After Lien Execution	Interest	\$1,407.16	\$3,737.26	\$10,129.77	\$1,623.39
	Costs	\$414.70	\$489.20	\$1,760.64	\$61.48
Paid Prior to Deed				144.71	
<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>		<b>\$71,767.27</b>	<b>\$55,339.25</b>	<b>\$43,464.00</b>	<b>\$63,598.86</b>
<hr/>					
<b>REMITTANCE TO TREASURER</b>					
Redemptions		\$22,190.27	\$15,713.14	\$30,262.25	\$4,336.00
Interest & Costs		\$1,821.86	\$4,226.46	\$11,890.41	\$1,684.87
Refund at Tax Deed				\$144.71	
Liens Deeded to Municipality		\$605.14	\$647.30	\$430.84	
Unredeemed Tax Liens 12/31/2003		\$47,150.00	\$34,752.35	\$735.79	\$57,577.99
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>\$71,767.27</b>	<b>\$55,339.25</b>	<b>\$43,464.00</b>	<b>\$63,598.86</b>

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

Respectfully Submitted



Denise P. French

CERTIFIED TAX COLLECTOR

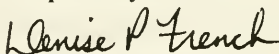
# WATER & SEWER FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

<b>Unpaid Balance January 1, 2003</b>			\$ 3,883.91
<b>Charges:</b>			
Water Usage	\$44,561.82		
Water Interest	235.47		
Shut-off Notice Fees	330.00		
Lien Fees	51.00		
Water Department Fees	200.00		
Sewer Usage	25,787.56		
Sewer Interest	+ <u>105.22</u>		
<b>Total Charges</b>		+ <u>71,271.07</u>	<u>75,154.98</u>
<b>Prepaid 2004 Water</b>		+ 8.08	
<b>Conversion to Lien</b>		- 1,860.68	
<b>Receipts to Treasurer</b>		- 62,514.67	
<b>Abatements</b>			
Water	137.86		
Sewer	+ <u>88.85</u>		
<b>Total Abatements</b>		- <u>226.71</u>	
<b>Unpaid Water &amp; Sewer December 31, 2003</b>			\$10,561.00

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

Respectfully Submitted



**Denise P. French**  
CERTIFIED TAX COLLECTOR

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS**  
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

LOCAL TAXES FOR CURRENT YEAR

Property Tax	\$1,818,881	
Land Use Change Tax	\$3,250	
Yield Tax	\$6,792	
Excavation Tax	\$1,669	
Interest/Penalties	\$1,945	
		\$1,832,537

LOCAL TAXES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

Property Tax	\$94,309	
Land Use Change Tax	\$3,800	
Excavation Tax	\$5	
Interest/Penalties	\$10,654	
Tax Liens Redeemed	\$72,502	
Tax Lien Interest/Penalties	\$19,624	
		\$200,894

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

\$62,515

TOWN CLERK REVENUE

\$243,170

INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS

Library	\$2,491	
Police Cruiser	\$2,858	
Revaluation	\$40,200	
Water Department	\$5,328	
Sewer Department	\$9,697	
		\$60,574

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE

Emergency Management Grant	\$1,965	
Shared Revenue Grant	\$93,727	
Highway Block Grant	\$35,388	
Water Pollution Grant	\$12,217	
DWI Grant	\$1,595	
Speed Patrol Grant	\$1,596	
Snow Removal Grant	\$2,040	
		\$148,528

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES

\$199,960

CEMETERY/PERPETUAL CARE

\$559

LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES

Building Permits	\$1,690	
Recycle/Disposal Tickets	\$3,314	
Demolition Permits	\$30	
Driveway Permits	\$50	
Cable Franchise Fees	\$2,705	
Pistol Permits	\$70	

Sign Permits	\$10
Court Fines	\$8,582
Bad Check Fees	\$260

\$16,711

INCOME FROM DEPARTMENTS

Police	\$2,051
Recreation	\$90
Planning	\$524
Zoning	\$684
Recycling	\$6,068
Cemetery	\$100
Election and Registration	\$85
Photocopies	\$64

\$9,666

REIMBURSEMENTS

Legal Costs	\$619
Health Insurance	\$3,405
Property Insurance	\$2,347
PD Special Details	\$6,605
Welfare Department	\$144

\$13,120

TOTAL 2003 RECEIPTS

\$2,788,234

**STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES**  
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Selectmen Salaries	\$2,250	
Telephone	\$2,449	
Computer	\$5,463	
Xerox Machine Rental	\$1,698	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$758	
Advertising	\$1,006	
General Supplies	\$298	
Office Supplies	\$2,134	
Postage	\$2,806	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$192	
Administrative Assistant	\$39,076	
Part-Time Office Support	\$21,043	
Mileage/Expenses	\$1,232	
Moderator's Salary	\$20	
Town Report Printing	\$1,943	
Newsletter Printing	\$895	
Total Executive Office	\$83,263	\$83,263

**ELECTION AND REGISTRATION**

Town Clerk	\$12,114	
Deputy Town Clerk	\$3,102	
Assistant Town Clerk	\$2,838	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$55	
Office Supplies	\$927	
Books & Periodicals	\$161	
Municipal Agent Mail Program	\$53	
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$225	
Supervisors of the Checklist - Conval	\$180	
Advertising	\$169	
Supervisors Office Supplies	\$36	
Voter Ballot Clerks	\$111	
Election Printing	\$665	
Election Meals	\$77	
Total Election and Registration	\$20,713	\$20,713

**FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

Acct Bank Services	\$16	
Auditing Services	\$5,712	
Assessing/Tax Map Maintenance	\$3,162	
Tax Collector	\$16,674	
Tax Collector Dues and Subscriptions	\$20	
Tax Collector Fees	\$1,849	
Treasurer's Salary	\$750	
Overlay	\$64	
Refunds - Town Clerk	\$339	
Refunds - Tax Collector	\$10,439	
Total Financial Administration	\$39,025	\$39,025

JUDICIAL & LEGAL EXPENSE		
General Legal Support	\$17,861	
Defense Proceedings	\$2,122	
Total Judicial & Legal Expense		\$19,983
PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION		
Group Health Insurance	\$71,676	
Group Dental Insurance	\$3,306	
FICA	\$12,899	
Medicare	\$3,637	
Group 1 Retirement	\$7,907	
Police Retirement	\$6,849	
Unemployment Compensation	\$98	
Workers Compensation	\$5,474	
Total Personnel Administration		\$111,846
PLANNING AND ZONING		
Recording Secretary	\$1,273	
SWRPC Member Dues	\$1,557	
Miscellaneous	\$538	
Master Plan	\$2,824	
ZBA Miscellaneous	\$1,133	
Total Planning and Zoning		\$7,325
GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS		
Custodial/Groundskeeping	\$5,561	
Security/Fire System Maintenance	\$1,091	
Electricity	\$2,061	
Heat & Oil	\$2,598	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,305	
Total General Government		\$12,616
CEMETERIES		
Evergreen Groundskeeping/Laborer	\$2,266	
Evergreen Maintenance Supplies	\$6	
Evergreen Equipment Rental/Lease	\$478	
Sunnyside Groundskeeping/Laborer	\$2,674	
Total Cemeteries		\$5,424
PROPERTY/LIABILITY/BOND INSURANCE		
NHMA-PLIT Annual Premium	\$13,703	
Deductible Coverage	\$1,000	
Total Property/Liability/Bond Insurance		\$14,703
CONTINGENCY FUND		
General Contingency Fund	\$1,426	
Abatement Interest	\$2	
Total Contingency Fund		\$1,428
POLICE DEPARTMENT		
Police Chief	\$45,340	
Patrol Officer	\$33,431	



Overtime	\$11,274
Part-Time Officers Salary	\$13,069
Crossing Guard Salary	\$3,619
Holiday Compensation	\$4,067
Special Detail Wages	\$4,921
Traffic Enforcement Grant	\$3,196
Administrative Telephone	\$2,673
Cellular Telephone	\$520
Lease of Pagers	\$312
Photo Services	\$285
Dispatch Services	\$3,483
Equipment/Training Supplies	\$2,798
Administrative Office Supplies	\$557
Maintenance/Repair of Equipment	\$1,061
Administrative Gasoline	\$4,602
Administrative Vehicle Repairs	\$1,949
Books/Periodicals	\$105
Uniforms	\$1,209
Miscellaneous	\$300

Total Police Department

\$138,771

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Antrim Ambulance	\$7,500
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Total Ambulance Service

\$7,500

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Elected Chiefs Salaries	\$1,500
Administrative Telephone	\$1,770
Dispatch Services	\$2,886
General Supplies	\$2,793
Firefighter Emergency Calls	\$4,500
Medical	\$1,288
Fire Prevention Materials	\$428
Training	\$4,018
Equipment Replacement	\$6,985
Equipment Upgrade	\$6,855
Radio Repairs	\$145
Gasoline	\$482
Repair - Vehicles	\$2,516
Electricity	\$1,495
Heating Oil	\$1,210
Repairs/Maintenance	\$2,203

Total Fire Department

\$41,074

BUILDING INSPECTION

Building Inspector's Salary	\$1,090
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Total Building Inspection

\$1,090

GENERAL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Road Agent Salary	\$30,436
Highway Laborer Salary	\$31,102
Road Agent Overtime	\$3,622

Highway Laborer Overtime	\$4,199	
Highway Part-Time Laborer	\$2,178	
Telephone	\$480	
Drug/Alcohol Testing	\$274	
Garage Electricity	\$752	
Highway Garage Heat	\$1,948	
Barn Maintenance/Repairs	\$231	
General Supplies	\$1,450	
Street Signs	\$245	
Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	\$2,992	
Gasoline/Oil	\$4,489	
Vehicle Maintenance/Repair	\$5,625	
Miscellaneous	\$189	
Total General Highway Department		\$90,212

#### HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Tar/Patch/Seal	\$19,399	
Paving	\$35,975	
Paving/Recon Equipment	\$2,525	
Road Drainage Supplies	\$1,600	
Snow/Ice Supplies	\$16,425	
Hired Plowing/Sanding	\$7,573	
Gravel Preparation	\$3,850	
Total Highways and Streets		\$87,347

#### STREET LIGHTING

Street Lighting Electricity	\$6,817	
Total Street Lighting		\$6,817

#### TRANSFER STATION

Attendants	\$24,125	
Household Hazardous Waste Day	\$620	
Post-Closure Costs	\$9,312	
Telephone	\$407	
Hauling and Disposal	\$43,794	
Electricity	\$605	
Shed Heat	\$73	
General Supplies	\$649	
Equipment Maintenance	\$12	
Certification	\$75	
Miscellaneous	\$76	
Recyclables Removal	\$5,726	
Container Lease	\$2,875	
NHRRRA Annual Dues	\$100	
Total Transfer Station		\$88,449

#### WATER DEPARTMENT

Labor Wages	\$85	
Commissioners Salaries	\$230	
Town of Antrim	\$20,055	
NE Rural Water Association Dues	\$175	
Postage	\$417	

Miscellaneous	\$143	
Telephone	\$664	
Electricity	\$6,615	
Pumphouse Heat	\$1,334	
Line Repairs/Maintenance	\$3,895	
Corrosion Control	\$2,081	
Total Water Department		\$35,694

#### SEWER DEPARTMENT

Sewage Treatment - Town of Antrim	\$20,547	
Electricity	\$1,788	
Repair/Maintenance	\$5,160	
Total Sewer Department		\$27,495

#### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Officer	\$1,018.00	
Deputy Health Officer	\$80	
Miscellaneous	\$68	
Total Health Department		\$1,166

#### HEALTH AGENCIES

Home Health Care	\$4,000	
Monadnock Family and Mental Health	\$1,769	
Total Health Agencies		\$5,769

#### WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Welfare Officer	\$5,097	
Telephone Reimbursement	\$2	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$30	
Postage	\$20	
Rental Assistance	\$4,790	
St. Joseph Community Services	\$390	
Vendor Payments - Medical	\$1,513	
Vendor Payments - Food	\$149	
Vendor Payments - Electric/Heat	\$939	
Miscellaneous	\$65	
Total Welfare Department		\$12,995

#### PARKS AND RECREATION

Telephone	\$758	
Christmas Party	\$292	
Fishing Derby	\$200	
Activities	\$1,677	
Little League	\$1,250	
Miscellaneous	\$34	
Groundskeeping	\$5,509	
Electricity - Newhall Field	\$474	
Ballfield Chemical Toilets	\$1,280	
Recreation Facilities	\$6,345	
Lifeguard Salary	\$1,919	
Beach Groundskeeping	\$122	
Beach Improvements	\$41	

Beach Water Sample/Analysis	\$40	
Total Parks and Recreation		\$19,941
LIBRARY		
Librarian Salary	\$24,168	
Librarian Assistants	\$12,693	
Book Collection	\$15,000	
Media Collection	\$4,000	
Telephone	\$1,045	
Building Electricity	\$832	
Building Heating Oil	\$1,369	
Grounds Maintenance	\$425	
Building Maintenance	\$1,655	
Photo Copier Supplies	\$1,367	
Program Supplies	\$1,000	
Conference/Fees	\$1,600	
Technology	\$155	
Total Library		\$65,309
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES		
Old Home Days	\$2,839	
Memorial Day	\$428	
Total Patriotic Purposes		\$3,267
SCHOLARSHIP		
Edward French Scholarship	\$2,000	
Total Edward French Scholarship		\$2,000
CONSERVATION COMMISSION		
Dues and Subscriptions	\$60	
Total Conservation Commission		\$60
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	\$179	
Interest General Obligation Debt	\$12,065	
Total Interest - Long Term Notes		\$12,244
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES		
Principal - Tax Anticipation Note	\$200,000	
Interest - Tax Anticipation Note	\$1,552	
Total Tax Anticipation Notes		\$201,552
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS		
Fire Truck Capital Reserve	\$15,000	
Highway Equipment Capital Reserve	\$10,000	
Rescue Capital Reserve	\$10,000	
Police Cruiser Capital Reserve	\$12,500	

Mower Capital Reserve	\$1,000	
Library Capital Reserve	\$5,000	
Highway Truck Capital Reserve	\$10,000	
Water Capital Reserve	\$8,000	
Sewer Capital Reserve	\$5,000	
Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve	\$5,000	
Bridge Maintenance Capital Reserve	\$5,000	
Town Buildings Capital Reserve	\$10,000	
Sidewalk Construction	\$11,000	
Property Revaluation	\$26,500	
Total Capital Reserve Funds		\$134,000

2003 WARRANT ARTICLES

Fire Department Radio Lease	\$8,147	
Cemetery Repairs	\$1,350	
Selectmen's Computer/Software	\$6,630	
Library Computers	\$3,600	
Project LIFT	\$450	
Total 2003 Warrant Articles		\$20,177.00

**TOTAL 2003 EXPENDITURES** \$1,352,305.00

2003 PAYROLL

Molly N. Anderson	\$204.00
Robert M. Anderson	\$ 1,415.25
Suzanne Baker	\$270.50
Debra Belcher	\$12,109.38
Thomas J. Belcher	\$535.50
Thomas S. Belcher	\$3,077.42
Aaron B. Bequeath	\$3,575.00
David Blanchard	\$34,560.15
Matthew Blanchard	\$80.00
Dawn A. Bond	\$16,594.68
Jessica L. Brown	\$14.68
Catherine C. Campbell	\$681.50
C. Stephen Campbell	\$56,102.04
Josephine Carrara	\$33.00
Scott Champagne	\$42.00
Mark. S. Chase	\$580.00
David M. Chenard	\$6,303.00
James W. Cleary	\$750.00
Donald Clough, Jr.	\$80.00
Melissa A. Clough	\$11,619.40
Dominic Collemacine	\$20.00
Casey Cook	\$40.00
Drusilla Cox	\$33.00
John J. Cronin, III	\$20.00
Joseph C. Cuddemi	\$750.00
Franklin D. Dalton	\$1,360.00
Denise P. French	\$37,225.05
John R. French	\$40.00
Kristie J. French	\$6,487.75
Meredith L. Germain	\$299.26
Patricia C. Goodwin	\$928.51
Chester D. Heinzman Jr.	\$750.00
Robert C. Hom	\$50.00
Barbara A. Huntley	\$6,115.00
Walter D. Kiblin	\$35,860.65
Howard Mabry	\$12.00
Leslie MacGregor	\$24,168.00
Philip M. Marcellino	\$45,807.61
Dartene L. McKenney	\$135.00
Lester P. Milton	\$3,283.50
Joyce L. Miner	\$750.00
Keith Nason	\$166.68
Joseph O'Brien	\$268.52
Donald G. Parker, Sr.	\$15,070.75
Jeffrey C. Parsons	\$340.00
Adam Perry	\$2,042.13
Caleb S. Platt	\$250.93
William B. Reid	\$19,795.63
Terry D. Schnare	\$750.00
Vera M. Spanos	\$1,488.00
Walter E. Starkweather	\$70.00
Michael Tacy	\$10,448.46
Victoria Turner	\$135.00
Deborah M. Whitney	\$3,101.75
Paul Whitney	\$315.00
Carrie B. Whittemore	\$130.29
Allan D. Wilson	\$166.68
Glenn P. Wilson	\$290.00
Dorothy A. Zabriskie	\$3,618.79
Michael A. Zabriskie	\$1,383.76
<b>TOTAL 2003 PAYROLL</b>	<b>\$372,595.20</b>

REPORT OF TRUST FUNDS, BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003

Date of Creation	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose of Trust Fund	How Invested	PRINCIPAL		INCOME		Expanded During Yr.	Balance End Year	Grand Total of Principal & Income At Year end	
				Balance Beg Year	Balance Yr. end	Withdrawals	Cash Gains or Losses				New Funds Created
<b>CEMETERY FUNDS</b>											
Various	Mt. Calvary Cemetery	Perpetual & General Care	BNH & NHPDP	775.00	775.00	775.00	229.25	36.10	285.44	1,040.44	
Various	Sunside Cemetery	"	BNH & NHPDP	12,011.73	12,011.73	14,388.75	2,643.79	871.54	3,285.33	15,277.06	
Various	Energreen Cemetery	"	BNH & NHPDP & PUTNAM	13,288.75	13,288.75	-	1,415.06	1,146.24	2,002.14	16,391.89	
<b>TOTAL CEMETERY FUNDS</b>				\$ 26,075.48	\$ 27,176.48	\$ 4,288.10	\$ 1,803.97	\$ 558.16	\$ 5,322.91	\$ 32,709.39	
Various	Liberty Funds	General Expense Scholarship	C D BNH	80,241.40	80,241.40	1,103.97	188.69	3,747.23	176.63	80,241.40	
1994	Edward French		Peabody BNHNHPDP	1,103.97	1,103.97			0.94		1,280.00	
<b>CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS</b>											
1990	F18 Truck	equipment	Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	89,004.49	104,004.49	5,328.00	12,527.65	5,119.40	17,658.03	121,660.54	
1993	Water Department		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	25,239.29	28,101.28		5,444.25	1,556.34	7,006.89	35,101.87	
1993	Forestry Truck	structure repair equipment	Bank CD's BNH	17,516.77	17,516.77	5,328.00	2,508.85	948.34	3,458.18	20,874.86	
1994	Library		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	36,000.00	41,000.00	8,500.00	6,282.80	713.39	8,416.00	41,590.25	
1997	Sawed Department		CD's, 1st Essex, BNH & NHPDP	23,900.00	20,000.00		3,598.00	1,225.82	3,887.86	23,687.86	
1997	Rescue Truck		CD's, 1st Essex, BNH & NHPDP	17,079.28	27,079.28		2,646.03	873.09	3,522.82	30,602.20	
1997	Highway Dept. Equipment		CD's, 1st Essex, BNH & NHPDP	1,576.81	14,201.81		80.80	100.69	187.46	14,479.28	
1999	Highway Dept. Truck		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	55,767.66	65,767.66	2,857.99	4,371.18	2,851.45	6,732.64	72,500.30	
1999	Police Dept. Cruiser		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	10,587.82	20,228.65		157.86	374.83	532.69	20,763.32	
1996	Highway Dept. Mower		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	4,503.33	8,503.33		405.62	167.13	582.85	6,098.28	
2001	Bridge Expendable Trust		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	13,103.34	16,103.34		252.75	248.86	481.73	18,894.07	
2001	Town Building		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	30,670.11	30,670.11		200.76	386.37	587.13	31,257.24	
2001	Fire Dept. Replacement		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	31,000.00	36,000.00		2,119.03	1,187.55	3,288.58	39,288.58	
2001	Fire Dept. Replacements		Bank CD's BNH & NHPDP	174.76	174.76		0.00	0.04	0.04	174.80	
2003	Stenwick Repair		BNH CD & NHPDP	29,000.00	40,000.00		243.54	623.43	785.97	40,786.97	
2002	Revaluation		BNH CD & NHPDP	16,000.00	40,200.00		117.66	258.30	376.95	40,786.98	
<b>TOTALS</b>				\$ 487,385.30	\$ 1,137,815.00	\$ 43,097.99	\$ 45,506.73	\$ 21,983.19	\$ 11,919.35	\$ 55,180.57	\$ 633,464.86

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# Vachon, Clukay & Co., PC

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*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, 2003 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 21, 2004



FORM F-65 (MS-5)  
(10-1-2003)

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION



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

Town of Bennington  
Chariman, 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, 2003 to December 31, 2003  
OR  
July 1, 200\_\_ to June 30, 200\_\_

**A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual**

	Account No. (a)	Amount (b)
<b>1. Revenues from taxes (Including state education)</b>		
a. Property taxes (including state education plus Section C, line 6, column (c), page 12)	3110	T01 \$ 1,967,671
b. State and local taxes assessed for school districts \$ 1,302,457	4933	
c. Land use change taxes	3120	T01 3,250
d. Resident taxes	3180	T01
e. Timber taxes	3185	T01 6,792
f. Payments in lieu of taxes	3186	U99
g. Other taxes (Explain on separate schedule)	3189	T01
h. Interest and penalties on delinquent taxes	3190	T01 30,537
i. Excavation Tax (@ \$ 02 per cu. yd.)	3187	T99 1,669
<b>j TOTAL (Excluding line 1b)</b>		\$ 2,009,919
<b>2. TOTAL revenues for education purposes</b> (This entry should be used by the few municipalities which have dependent school districts only)		\$
<b>3. Revenue from licenses, permits, and fees</b>		T99
a. Business licenses and permits	3210	452
b. Motor vehicle permit fees	3220	T01 238,831
c. Building permits	3230	T99 1,690

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)			
A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual (Continued)		Account No.	Amount
		(a)	T99 (b)
3. Revenue from licenses, permits, and fees (Continued)			
d. Other licenses, permits, and fees		3290	8,679
e. TOTAL			\$ 249,652
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
FEMA		3319	4,005
d. TOTAL			\$ 4,005
5. Revenue from the State of New Hampshire			
a. Shared revenue block grant		3351	C30 \$ 51,171
b. Meals and rooms distribution		3352	C30 42,556
c. Highway block grant		3353	C46 35,388
d. Water pollution grants		3354	C89 12,217
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
Police grants		3359	4,620
i. TOTAL			\$ 145,952
6. Revenue from other governments			
Intergovernmental revenue - Other		3379	D \$
7. Revenue from charges for services			
(Exclude interfund transfers)			A89
a. Income from departments		3401	\$ 10,469
b. Water supply system charges		3402	A91 45,198
c. Sewer user charges		3403	A80 25,804
d. Garbage-refuse charges		3404	A81 6,068
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			\$ 87,539

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Amount (b)
<b>8. Revenue from miscellaneous sources</b>		
a. Special assessments	3500	U01 \$
b. Sale of municipal property	3501	U11 100
c. Interest on investments	3502	U20
d. Rents of property	3503	U40
e. Fines and forfeits	3504	U99 9,070
f. Insurance dividends and reimbursements	3506	U99 5,152
g. Contributions and donations	3508	U99
h. Other miscellaneous sources not otherwise classified	3509	U99
<b>i. TOTAL</b>		\$ 14,322
<b>9. Interfund operating transfers in</b>		
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	559
<b>f. TOTAL</b>		\$ 559
<b>10. Other financial sources</b>		
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	
<b>d. TOTAL</b>		\$
<b>11. TOTAL REVENUES FROM ALL SOURCES</b>		\$ 2,511,948
<b>12. TOTAL FUND EQUITY</b> (Beginning of year) (Should equal line B.2f, column b, page 9)		\$ 211,071
<b>13. TOTAL OF LINES 11 AND 12</b> (Should equal line 21, page 8)		\$ 2,723,019

Remarks

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual	Account No.	Current expenditure	Equipment and land purchases	Construction
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
<b>1. General government</b>				
a. Executive	4130	E29 \$ 89,619	G29 \$ 6,630	F29 \$
b. Election and registration	4140	E89 20,360	G89	F89
c. Financial administration	4150	E23 27,855	G23	F23
d. Revaluation of property	4152	E23	G23	F23
e. Legal expense	4153	E25 21,112	G25	F25
f. Personnel administration	4155	E29 111,846	G29	F29
g. Planning and zoning	4191	E29 7,325	G29	F29
h. General government building	4194	E31 12,656	G31	F31
i. Cemeteries	4195	E89 6,774	G89	F89 1,350
j. Insurance not otherwise allocated	4196	E89 14,703	G89	F89
k. Advertising and regional association	4197	E89	G89	F89
l. Other general government	4199	E89 1,426	G89	F89
m. TOTAL		\$ 313,676	\$ 6,630	\$ 1,350
<b>2. Public safety</b>				
a. Police	4210	E62 \$ 140,244	G62	F62
b. Ambulance	4215	E32 7,500	G32	F32
c. Fire	4220	E24 49,221	G24	F24
d. Building inspection	4240	E66 1,090	G66	F66
e. Emergency management	4290	E89	G89	F89
f. Other public safety (including communications)	4299	E89	G89	F89
g. TOTAL		\$ 198,055	\$	\$
<b>3. Airport/Aviation center</b>				
a. Administration	4301	\$	\$	\$
b. Airport operations	4302			
c. Other	4309			
d. TOTAL		\$	\$	\$

Remarks

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Current expenditure (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
<b>4. Highways and streets</b>				
a. Administration	4311	\$ 87,904		
b. Highways and streets	4312	89,261		
c. Bridges	4313			
d. Street lighting	4316	6,817		
e. Other highway, streets, and bridges	4319			
<b>f. TOTAL</b>		E44 \$ 183,982	G44 \$	F44 \$
<b>5. Sanitation</b>		E80	G80	F80
a. Administration	4321	\$ 23,797	\$	\$
b. Solid waste collection	4323	2,049	G81	F81
c. Solid waste disposal	4324	63,179	G81	F81
d. Solid waste clean-up	4325		G81	F81
e. Sewage collection and disposal	4326	27,495	G80	F80
f. Other sanitation	4329		G80	F80
<b>g. TOTAL</b>		\$ 116,520	\$	\$
<b>6. Water distribution and treatment</b>				
a. Administration	4331	\$ 21,105	\$	\$
b. Water services	4332	14,015		
c. Water treatment	4335	2,081		
d. Water conservation	4338			
e. Other water	4339			
<b>f. TOTAL</b>		E91 \$ 37,201	G91 \$	F91 \$
<b>7. Electric</b>				
a. Administration	4351	\$	\$	\$
b. Generation	4352			
c. Purchase costs	4353			
d. Equipment maintenance	4354			
e. Other electric	4359			
<b>f. TOTAL</b>		E92 \$	G92 \$	F92 \$

Part I GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Current expenditure (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
<b>8. Health</b>				
a. Administration	4411	\$ 1,166	\$	\$
b. Pest control	4414			
c. Health agencies and hospitals	4415	5,769		
d. Vital statistics	4140			
e. Other health	4419			
f. TOTAL		\$ 6,935	\$	\$
<b>9. TOTAL expenditures for education purposes</b> <i>(This entry should be used by the few municipalities which have dependent school districts only)</i>				
		\$	\$	\$
<b>10. Welfare</b>				
a. Administration	4441	\$ 5,149	\$	\$
b. Direct assistance	4442	4,790		
c. Intergovernmental welfare payments	4444	390		
d. Vendor payments	4445	2,601		
e. Other welfare	4449	65		
f. TOTAL		\$ 12,995	\$	\$
<b>11. Culture and recreation</b>				
a. Parks and recreation	4520	\$ 19,497	\$	\$
b. Library	4550	45,857		
c. Patriotic purposes	4583	3,267		
d. Other culture and recreation	4589	2,450		
e. TOTAL		\$ 71,071	\$	\$
<b>12. Conservation</b>				
a. Administration	4611	\$ 60	\$	\$
b. Purchase of natural resources	4612			
c. Other conservation	4619			
d. TOTAL		\$ 60	\$	\$
<b>13. Redevelopment and housing</b>				
a. Administration	4631	\$	\$	\$
b. Redevelopment and housing	4632			
c. TOTAL		\$	\$	\$

Part I. GENERAL FUND (Continued)

B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual (Continued)	Account No. (a)	Current expenditure (b)	Equipment and land purchases (c)	Construction (d)
<b>14. Economic development</b>				
a. Administration	4651	\$	\$	\$
b. Economic development	4652			
c. Other economic development	4659			
d. TOTAL		E89 \$	G89 \$	F89 \$
<b>15. Debt service</b>				
a. Principal long term bonds and notes	4711	\$ 33,050		
b. Interest on long term bonds and notes	4721	<sup>189</sup> 12,244		
c. Interest on tax and revenue anticipation notes	4723	<sup>189</sup> 1,592		
d. Other debt service charges	4790	E23		
e. TOTAL		\$ 46,886		
<b>16. Capital outlay</b>				
a. Land and improvements	4901		G	F
b. Machinery, vehicles, and equipment	4902		\$	\$
c. Buildings	4903		G	F
d. Improvements other than buildings	4909			F
e. TOTAL			G \$	F \$
<b>17. Interfund operating transfers out</b>				
a. Transfers to special revenue funds	4912	\$ 22,600		
b. Transfers to capital projects funds	4913			
c. Transfers to proprietary funds	4914			
d. Transfers to capital reserve funds	4915	134,000		
e. Transfers to trust and agency funds	4916			
f. TOTAL		\$ 156,600		

Remarks





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

As of December 31, 2003 OR June 30, 200\_\_

<b>A. ASSETS</b>			
	Account number (a)	Beginning of year (b)	End of year (c)
<b>1. Current assets</b>			
a. Cash and equivalents	1010	\$ 388,024	\$ 512,195
b. Investments	1030		1,343
c. Taxes receivable (See worksheet, page 12)	1080	149,269	159,736
d. Tax liens receivable (See worksheet, page 12)	1110	94,862	80,216
e. Accounts receivable	1150	3,641	10,519
f. Due from other governments	1260		
g. Due from other funds	1310	8,349	
h. Other current assets	1400		
i. Tax deeded property (subject to resale)	1670		
j. <b>TOTAL ASSETS (Should equal line B3)</b>		\$ 644,145	\$ 764,009
<b>B. LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>			
<b>1. Current liabilities</b>			
a. Warrants and accounts payable	2020	\$ 15,179	\$ 4,946
b. Compensated absences payable	2030		
c. Contracts payable	2050		
d. Due to other governments	2070	493	3,309
e. Due to school districts	2075	411,975	577,896
f. Due to other funds	2080	3,990	200
g. Deferred revenue	2220	114	114
h. Notes payable - Current	2230		
i. Bonds payable - Current	2250		
j. Other payables Deposits	2270	1,323	1,323
k. <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		\$ 433,074	\$ 587,788
<b>2. Fund equity</b>			
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		
e. Unreserved fund balance	2530	209,071	176,221
f. <b>TOTAL FUND EQUITY</b>		\$ 211,071	\$ 176,221
<b>3. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY (Should equal line A1j)</b>			
		\$ 644,145	\$ 764,009

Part IV GENERAL FUND

A. FIXED ASSET GROUP OF ACCOUNTS As of December 31, 2003 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, 2003 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	314,860		304,457	
3. Notes and bonds payable - Long-term	2310		221,500		188,450
4. Other long-term liabilities	2390		93,360		116,007
5. TOTAL		\$ 314,860	\$ 314,860	\$ 304,457	304,457

C. PLEASE LIST THE ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS TO AMORTIZE ALL GENERAL OBLIGATION (Debt as of (enter date) December 31, 2003 for the ensuing five years)				
	Year (a)	Principal (b)	Interest (c)	Total (d)
1.	2004	\$ 33,050	\$ 10,187	\$43,237
2.	2005	33,050	8,172	41,222
3.	2006	21,750	6,577	28,327
4.	2007	21,750	5,412	27,162
5.	2008	21,750	4,247	25,997
6. SUBTOTAL (Sum of lines 1-5)		131,350	34,595	165,945
7. Remaining periods of debt				63,515
8. TOTAL		\$ 131,350	\$ 34,595	229,460



**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)	\$	411,975
2. ADD: School district assessment for current year		1,302,457
3. TOTAL LIABILITY WITHIN CURRENT YEAR (Sum of lines 1 and 2)		1,714,432
4. SUBTRACT: Payments made to school district	(	1,136,536 )
5. School district liability at end of year (line 3 less line 4) (Account number 2075, column c, on page 9)		577,896
B. RECONCILIATION OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES		Amount
1. Short-term (TANS) debt at beginning of year	<sup>61V</sup> \$	-
2. ADD: New issues during current year		200,000
3. SUBTRACT: Issues retired during current year	(	200,000 )
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)	<sup>64V</sup>	

**PLEASE REFER TO THE INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPLETE SECTIONS C AND D**

C. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS WORKSHEET	Current year	Prior year	TOTAL
	(a)	(b)	(c)
1. Overlay/Allowance for Abatements (Beginning of year)*	5,024	60,000	65,024
2. SUBTRACT: Abatements made (From tax collector's report)	( 650 )	( 4,078 )	( 4,728 )
3. SUBTRACT: Discounts	( )	( )	( )
4. SUBTRACT: Refunds (Cash abatements)	( )	( )	( )
5. ESTIMATED ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AT END OF YEAR**	( )	( 60,000 )	( 60,000 )
6. Excess of estimate (Add to revenue on page 1, line 1a)	4,374	(4,078)	296

\*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	1110 liens	TOTALS
	(a)	(b)	(c)
1. Uncollected, end of year	\$ 159,736	\$ 140,216	\$ 299,952
2. SUBTRACT: "Overlay" carried forward as Allowance for Abatements (from Worksheet C, line 5)	( )	( 60,000 )	( 60,000 )
3. Receivable, end of year*	159,736	80,216	239,952

*\*(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, 2003 to December 31, 2003 OR July 1, 200\_\_ to June 30, 200\_\_

	Capital projects			Special revenue			Proprietary funds	
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
<b>REVENUE AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>								
1. Revenue from taxes	T01	T01	T01					
	\$	\$	\$					\$
2. Revenue from licenses, permits, and fees	T99	T99	T99					
3. Revenue from the federal government	B89	B89	B89					
4. Revenue from the State of New Hampshire	C89	C89	C89					
	D89	D89	D89					
5. Revenue from other governments								
6. Revenue from charges for services								
(a) Water supply system charges								
(b) Sewer user charges								
(c) Garbage/refuse collection charges								
(d) Electric	A92	A92	A92					
(e) Airport and aviation	A01	A01	A01					
(f) Highway and toll facilities	A44	A44	A44					
(g) Parks and recreation	A61	A61	A61					
(h) Parking	A60	A60	A60					
(i) Transit or bus system	A94	A94	A94					
(j) Other - Specify -	A	A	A					
(1)								
(2)	A	A	A					
(3)	A	A	A					
7. Revenue from miscellaneous sources	U20	U20	U20					
(a) Interest on investments					25			
(b) Other miscellaneous sources	U99	U99	U99		8,993			
8. Interfund operating transfers in								
9. Other financial sources								
10. TOTAL REVENUE AND OTHER SOURCES	\$	\$	\$		9,018			\$



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

As of December 31, 2003 OR June 30, 200\_\_

	Account No.	Capital projects (b)	Special revenue (c)	Proprietary funds	
				Enterprise (d)	Internal service (e)
<b>A. ASSETS</b>					
<b>1. Current assets</b>					
(a) Cash and equivalents	1010		\$ 5,369	\$	\$
(b) Investments	1030				
(c) Accounts receivable	1150				
(d) Due from other governments	1260				
(e) Due from other funds	1310				
(f) Other - Specify -					
<b>2. Fixed assets</b>					
(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 -					
<b>3. TOTAL ASSETS</b>			\$ 5,369	\$	\$

**Part VIII BALANCE SHEET FOR SUMMARY OF ALL OTHER FUNDS (Continued) - Please specify the period -**  
 As of December 31, 2003 OR June 30, 200\_\_

	Account No.	Capital projects	Special revenue	Proprietary funds	
				Enterprise (d)	Internal service (e)
<b>B. LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>					
<b>1. Liabilities</b>					
(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		\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2. Fund equity/Capital</b>					
(a) Reserve for encumbrances	2440	\$	\$		
(b) Reserve for special purposes	2490				
(c) Unreserved fund balance	2530				
(d) Municipal contributed capital	2610				
(e) Other contributed capital	2620				
(f) Retained earnings	2790				
(g) TOTAL FUND EQUITY			5,369		
<b>3. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>		\$	\$ 5,369	\$	\$



**Part IX SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION WORKSHEET**

**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 221,500	29A	39A 33,050	41A 188,450	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
Z00
\$372,227

**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 \$1,249,678



**CERTIFICATION**

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.

Signatures of a majority of the governing body:

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

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.

**Please be sure you have completed Part IX, Items A-D.**

**WHEN TO FILE: (R.S.A. 21-J)**

\* 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**

Department of Revenue Administration  
State of New Hampshire  
Community Services Division  
PO Box 487  
Concord, NH 03302-0487

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The 2004 funding for the Capital Improvement Plan Program totals \$119,000; down from \$134,000 appropriated a year ago.

By category/function the 2003 Capital Improvement Plan Committee took the following action on Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) and Expendable Trust Funds (ETF):

### Police Department:

2004 **Police Cruiser** replacement is estimated to cost \$28,300; \$20,762 is currently available in the CRF. Based on advice from the Department of Revenue Administration it was decided not to deposit money into this CRF in 2004 but to raise \$10,000 from general taxation; \$18,300 to be taken from the CRF.

### Highway Department:

**Highway Truck** replacement is scheduled for 2006; \$72,520 is currently available in the CRF. The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$10,000**.

**Highway Equipment** CRF balance is \$14,479. The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$10,000**.

**Mower** CRF balance is \$6,096. The Road Agent reported the current mower is in good shape. When the need arises, adequate funds are presently available for replacement of the mower. The Committee voted to discontinue the annual appropriation of \$1,000.

**Bridge Maintenance** EFT balance is \$18,595. Since there are no anticipated expenses for the ensuing year the Committee voted to reduce the appropriation to **\$3,000**.

**Bridge Replacement** CRF balance is \$39,287. The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$5,000**.

**Sidewalk Replacement** CRF balance is \$40,767. The Selectmen have applied for a \$700,000 Grant to upgrade the sidewalks and drainage in the center of Town. The Town would be responsible for 20% matching funds (\$140,000). The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$11,000**.

### Revaluation:

**Revaluation** CRF balance is \$1,677. The final payment of \$30,800 is due in 2004. The Committee voted to increase the appropriation to **\$30,000**.

**Fire Department:**

**Forestry Truck and Rescue Van** CRF balances total \$51,577. The Fire Department plans to combine these two CRF and ultimately purchase a combo Rescue/Mini-Pump. The approximate cost of the vehicle is \$115,000 or the Department could lease the vehicle. The current rescue vehicle would be converted into a forestry vehicle. The Committee voted to increase the appropriation to **\$12,000**.

**Fire Truck** CRF balance is \$121,661. The Committee voted to appropriate **\$15,000** toward the purchase of the 1989 KME Pumper replacement.

It appears that there is no funding currently being provided for the eventual replacement of the 1998 Pumper/Tanker.

**Water Department:**

**Water Department** CRF balance is \$35,102. The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$8,000**.

Commissioner Wilson informed the Committee that the Town of Antrim wants to purchase a portable generator that could be transported between the two pump stations, as needed, to provide emergency power. The exact cost is unknown at this time, however, it is estimated to be in the \$35,000 range. It is possible the purchase will occur in 2004, however, it has not been confirmed yet.

**Sewer Department:**

**Sewer Department** CRF balance is \$23,688. The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$5,000**.

**Library:**

**Library** CRF balance is \$41,590. The Committee voted to continue the annual appropriation of **\$5,000**.

**Town Buildings:**

**Town Buildings** ETF balance is \$31,257. The Committee recommended that all town buildings be reviewed, needs assessed, and a plan developed to address future growth. The Committee voted to reduce the appropriation to **\$5,000**.

In the near future, the Planning Board plans to impose Impact Fees when appropriate. Before the Fees can be levied the Town must have a solid Capital Improvement Plan in place. Funds have been appropriated in the Planning Board budget to pay for planning assistance from the Southwest Region Planning Commission. It is anticipated that the Capital Improvement Plan Committee will serve as a review board.

## CEMETERY TRUSTEES

The Trustees again arranged to have one broken headstone repaired and more straightened up. Also, we want to thank the Hillsborough County House of Corrections for sending up five inmates this Spring and Fall to work on the cemeteries for the cost of lunch.

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

## CEMETERY TRUSTEES FINANCIAL REPORT

### EXPENSES

Peterborough Granite Repair of Gravestones	\$ 1,350.00
William Cleary (fence repair)	\$ 204.00
Walter Starkweather - Labor	\$ 70.00
Mike Zabriskie - Labor	\$ 1,342.14
Rental Equipment	\$ 412.00
Lunch for Inmates	\$ 253.71
Materials	\$ 357.75
Sunnyside Mowing	<u>\$ 2,400.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,389.60</b>

### RECEIPTS

Interest Paid to the Town From Trust Funds	\$ 1,767.78
Sale of Lots turned over to Town	\$ 100.00
Sale of Lots into Trust Funds	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,067.78</b>

**GEP DODGE LIBRARY TREASURER'S REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2003**

**BEGINNING BALANCE** **\$ 46.57**

**INCOME**

Book Replacement	\$	20.36
Book Donations	\$	157.06
Book Sale	\$	12.67
Gifts Received	\$	1,862.76
Interest/Misc Inc.	\$	3.03
Overdue	\$	151.73
Copier Receipts	\$	185.26
Receipts from Town	\$	35,539.80

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$ 37,932.67**

**EXPENSES**

Books	\$	18,306.95
Reference/Resource Books	\$	2,866.04
Audio/Video	\$	1,207.85
Bank Fees	\$	9.90
Copier	\$	1,180.00
Cleaning/Maintenance	\$	6,254.43
Program/Business Expenses	\$	2,823.21
Dues & Education	\$	615.00
Postage & Delivery	\$	139.00
Equipment/materials	\$	370.33
Technology	\$	3,998.98

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$ 37,771.69**

**ENDING BALANCE** **\$ 207.55**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michelle A. Hautanen  
Library Treasurer

## GEP DODGE LIBRARY

<http://www.dodgeliibrary.com>

This year the GEP Dodge library was the first public library in the state of New Hampshire to 'Go Wireless' thanks to generous computer genius Wagner Quintanilha. Being wireless gives us more flexibility and has saved us money by taking advantage of Adelphia's free Internet connection for public libraries, thus eliminating 2 phone lines and a dial-up Internet connection. Wagner Quintanilha has also networked our work computers, upgraded the public computer, monitored all the computers for viruses, and is always available to answer and resolve the interminable puzzles that computers present.

Early in the summer Victor Solod and his crew completely updated the library's electrical system and installed new circuit boxes. With the up to code electrical system we were finally able to install an air conditioner making the library tolerable and patron friendly on those incredibly hot & humid summer days.

The 2003 NH State summer reading program theme was, by tragic coincidence: '*Reading Rocks the Granite State*'. No one could have anticipated that this would have been the year that the *Old Man of the Mountain* would slide away. Shortly before that sad event we had designed our summer reading program t-shirt with the 'Old Man' as the main feature. Thanks to generous donations from the Bennington Garage, Elegant Settings, Jack Daniels Motor Inn, and the Monadnock Paper Mill we were able to offer the t-shirt to all reading program participants for free.

Our 2003 summer reading program mascot was a very friendly big blue dinosaur created by Debi Belcher and her helpers. The program was well attended by 87 summer readers who read 1,325 books, (approximately 3,640 pages), during our 6 week program. We had 11 story time volunteers, twice weekly programs, weekly drawings & trivia questions, 2 program parties and 3 organized but aborted field trips. The Bennington Country Store donated popsicles, and the Toadstool Book Shop offered discounted gift certificates to our excellent readers.

This fall the *Keith M. Sullivan Foundation* presented the Bennington, Greenfield, Antrim & Jaffrey libraries with \$1,000.00 each for new library shelving. The foundation raises money each year to fund projects that benefit children. Bennington's new shelving will be in place the first part of 2004.

In 2003 the library housed 17,519 books, 945 videos & DVDs, 422 music CDs, 413 books on tape, 42 periodicals, & 3 newspapers. Through, the NH State Library's interlibrary loan system, the library loaned 304 books and borrowed 223 books. The library answered 1,300 reference questions, and had a circulation of 14,800. The library is also a repository for public service information, has IRS forms, AARP sponsored free tax help, homebound services, NH tourist information, and a public bulletin board. At the library there are programs for children and adults, and a multi-generational summer reading program. Along with our many generous volunteers and community service students, the library has 8 rotating Sunday volunteers. In 2003 we had 176 new patrons register bringing the patron total to 1,406. Through the library's website, patrons can keep track of library events and link to many of the NH State Library funded reference databases.

Come in and check us out, your 98 year old library is a modern, current and happening place where there is something for everyone.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie MacGregor  
Director

Melissa Clough  
Library Assistant

Michelle Hautanen - Treasurer  
Lisa Shingler - co-chair  
Carrie Whittemore - Chair  
Library Trustees



## BENNINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Another year has come to a close and I find it's time to reflect on the changes in your Bennington Historical Society. 2003 brought completion of the office addition to our museum with space allocated for a small kitchen, file area, storage and an office including our computer. We now have a telephone: (603) 588-4871. Ron McClure and the building committee did a wonderful job with Vice President Arnold Cernota at the helm. The cost of the addition was approximately \$28,000.

Gifts to the Society in 2003 included:

Richard and Eleanor Amidon donated a large and heavy safe. Mr. Pauquette of Hancock painted the safe inside and out and Ken Reed added the lettering "BENNINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY."

Amy Marrosa and Tony Lockwood gave a poster advertising a dance in Bennington in the early 1920's.

A Reaveley painting was given by Barbara Shea of Antrim – it will join our collection of Reaveley art works.

Arthur Allison of Antrim donated a picture of the covered bridge.

A hand-forged pin from the old railroad covered bridge was given by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cuddemi.

David Glynn gave a thumb back chair and a flax wheel chair made by his grandfather, Louis Sylvester. The flax wheel chair has one wheel for the back and a half wheel on each side. In the antique world this reuse of sound objects is called a "Make Do" piece.

Herb and Lee Flanders donated a nice check to be used to purchase Bennington memorabilia.

The museum had a display of antique glass bottles on loan from Arnold and Jean Cernota. Some of the bottles are Stoddard New Hampshire glass and a portion of the collection formerly belonged to the late Steve Chase, Sr. Steve was an authority on glass made in Lyndeboro, Temple and Stoddard, New Hampshire. Steve lived on Route 202 where the Johnson family now lives.

The Society is saddened to report the deaths of some of our members and town folks. Noralee Sysyn (the "Hat" lady) is sorely missed – she was always ready to put on the musical programs as entertainment at our annual ham dinner. She was loved by many and enjoyed a large following of fans – she performed in all of the New England states and in London, England. Noralee was an honorary member of the Bennington Historical Society – we received a \$300 donation in her memory.

Another big loss to our Society and town is the death of Roger Magoon. Roger did all the foundation digging for the museum additions. He also regularly attended our dinners for the last twenty-five years, was a Society member and was a town selectman and served on many town committees and projects.

Silvio Zanga was a charter member of our Society and rarely missed a meeting and never was absent from our dinners. He always baked two chocolate cream pies that were very popular. Silvio also helped us with painting and he did all the wallpaper hanging in the museum. He was expert at his craft and was known throughout the area as perfectionist.

Last, but not least, we lost Sally Martel, a former town resident and Society member. She and her husband Peter attended most of our programs. Sally had a contagious smile and a happy personality – we will miss her.

Jessica Brown formed a youth group for our society. They wrote a play about the origin of Bennington seceding from Hancock Factory Village in 1842. They performed the play in August at the Pierce School.

John Porter did a presentation on Old Barns. We had a big turnout of fifty people including guests from several area towns.

A flea market was held in August along with our annual Baked Ham and Bean dinner – we raised almost \$1000, which will be used to purchase office equipment.

Mr. Robert Marshall's eleventh grade class at the Conval School did a presentation on Bennington and the mills along the river. A map of surrounding towns and a model of Bennington is on display at the museum. They also did a written presentation of the History of Bennington.

December brought the opening of the Crotched Mountain Ski Area. Positions for employment were advertised beginning in October and they expect to hire 200 – 300 employees. An open house was held with a large number of dignitaries attending including the Town Selectmen and Chief of Police. Two large storms dumped approximately 22" and 20" of snow – a good start for the ski area – we welcome this new addition to our community and wish them every success.

I would like to thank Arnold and Jean Cernota for all the many hours of support to our organization. I would also like to thank Barbara Willis for her good ideas and implementation of our programs and a big thank you to Verna Paige for keeping the museum open. We owe a very special "thank you" to Pearl S. Walker who is always willing to help our Society and the Town of Bennington. Pearl is in very frail health but continues to follow our Society's activities with interest.

Respectfully submitted,  
David A. Glynn, President

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hello from the police department. We made it through a productive and, more importantly, a safe year. I hope everyone enjoyed 2003 and hope you enjoy 2004 even more. There are no unusual personnel issues this year. Corporal Marcellino and myself are still your full-time police officers. We still have Officers Chenard and Milton. I reported last year that Officer Bequeath resigned. He returned to duty only to resign again – to move to Maine.

As a reminder, 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 at 588-6303. Our goal is to prevent crime from happening in the first place. We might not be able to eliminate crime; however, with your help I am sure we can prevent and/or reduce it some. However, we are fortunate in that we still live in a small and safe town.

Remember we have ongoing programs and we encourage you to take advantage of them. Some of them are: providing bicycle helmets to children who need one, issuing gun safety locks, loaning (and in some cases donating) a child safety seat, cell phones (for E911 use only), teddy bears (and other stuffed animals) and the most recent item we have is quilts (for small children –we have a limited number). Please take advantage of these programs. All you have to do is contact the police and ask.

Time for statistics: 2002 we had a total of 4905 Incidents/Calls for Service; for 2003 the number was 6335 (increase of 1430; 22.6%)

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Criminal	332	325
Arrests	189	182
Calls For Service	1708	1615
Motor Vehicle Stops	1328	2684

In 2003 we had 325 criminal reports. Out of the 325, cases 316 have been cleared in an acceptable manner such as arrest or no charges pursued. This equates to a 97.2% rate of solving the reports in a satisfactory manner. The unsolved cases include: Criminal Mischief (7), Theft (1). Please refer to the enclosed statistical chart for more specific numbers on what we did in 2003.

By the time you read this we will probably be done with (or very close to) the first season of the opening of Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride. The police department has worked very closely with the Crotched Mountain personnel and I am glad to say, as of this report, everything is going great. We have had a few more incidents; however, we are working together to keep everything safe and fun.

How about some new (trivia) numbers for this year – Chiefs of Police in Bennington. I did a little research on Chiefs of Police in Bennington and have found the following:

- From 1922 until 1936 = 7 Constables
- January 1981 = First full-time chief
- From 1936 until present = 26 chief's (5 full-time); includes –
  - One wife who filled in for husband due to medical problems
  - One chief who was appointed two times
  - One chief who was appointed three times
- Longest term as chief
  - Dave Mancini = 9 years, 7 months
  - Ivon Clough = 8 years
  - Steve Campbell = 8 years (as of 6/2004)
  - William Haag = 10 years (7 year term plus a 1 and 2 year term)
- Longest term as officer and chief combined
  - William Haag = 10 years
  - Dave Mancini = 9 years, 7 months
  - Steve Campbell = 9 years (as of 2/2004)

(I apologize if I missed something or someone; if I did please let me know)

All police officers pledge to be professional and fair – even when we have to make a decision that is negative in nature and not popular with some people. We always practice the open door policy. You are welcome to stop in anytime; however, keep in mind there are times when there will not be an officer in the office so you might want to call first.

For information on what is happening in your police department please go to [benningtonpd@conknet.com](mailto:benningtonpd@conknet.com).

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully Submitted  
 Steve Campbell, Chief  
 Phil Marcellino, Corporal  
 Dave Chenard, Officer  
 Les Milton, Officer

**BENNINGTON PD STATISTICS**  
**Year-To-Date 2003**

<b>INCIDENT</b>	<b>Chief Campbell</b>	<b>Corporal Marcellino</b>	<b>Officer Chenard</b>	<b>Officer Milton</b>	<b>Officer Bequeath</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>CRIMINAL</b>						
ALCOHOL - ADULT	5	1				6
ALCOHOL - JUVENILE	10	17	7		3	37
ASSAULT	8	3	1		4	16
BAD CHECKS	12	1				13
BENCH WARRANT	23	6				29
BURGLARY	3	3				6
CONDUCT AFTER ACCIDENT	1	4				5
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	11	5	2	1	1	20
CRIMINAL THREATENING	4	3		1	2	10
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	3		1	1		5
DOMESTIC DISPUTE	10	17	2			29
DRUGS	8	5			2	15
DWI	7	6				13
FELON WITH WEAPON		1				1
HARRASSMENT	15	12	3	1		31
ILLEGAL DUMPING/LITTERING	4	2				6
ILLEGAL STICKER/REGISTRATION	1	1			1	3
OPERATING AFTER SUSPENSION	7	8				15
PROHIBITIVE SALES	1	1			1	3
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	1	6	3		3	13
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY		2				2
RECKLESS OPERATION	2	2				4
RESISTING ARREST	1	1				2
SEXUAL ASSAULT		1		1		2
THEFT	11	5	2	1	1	20
TRESSPASSING	4	4	1		1	10
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF RENTAL	1					1
VIOLATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDER	2	1				3
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>325</b>
<b>ARRESTS</b>						
FELONY	2	2				4
JUVENILE & PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	2	8	3		5	18
MISDEMEANOR	49	26			8	83
VIOLATION	29	36	7		5	77
<b>TOTAL ARRESTS</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>SERVICES</b>						
ALARM	15	7	1			23
CHECK WELFARE	2	8	1			11
CIVIL STANDBY	5	5	1			11
CITIZEN / MOTORIST ASSIST	104	66	13	7	5	195
CIVIL	29	25	14	2	1	71
E911	5	6				11
INVESTIGATE INCIDENT / REPORT	105	93	29	10	16	253
PAPERWORK / SERVE PAPERS	51	6	3	1		61
PROPERTY CHECK	269	401	160	65	80	975
TRANSPORT	3	1				4
<b>TOTAL SERVICES</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>1615</b>

**BENNINGTON PD STATISTICS**  
**Year-To-Date 2003**

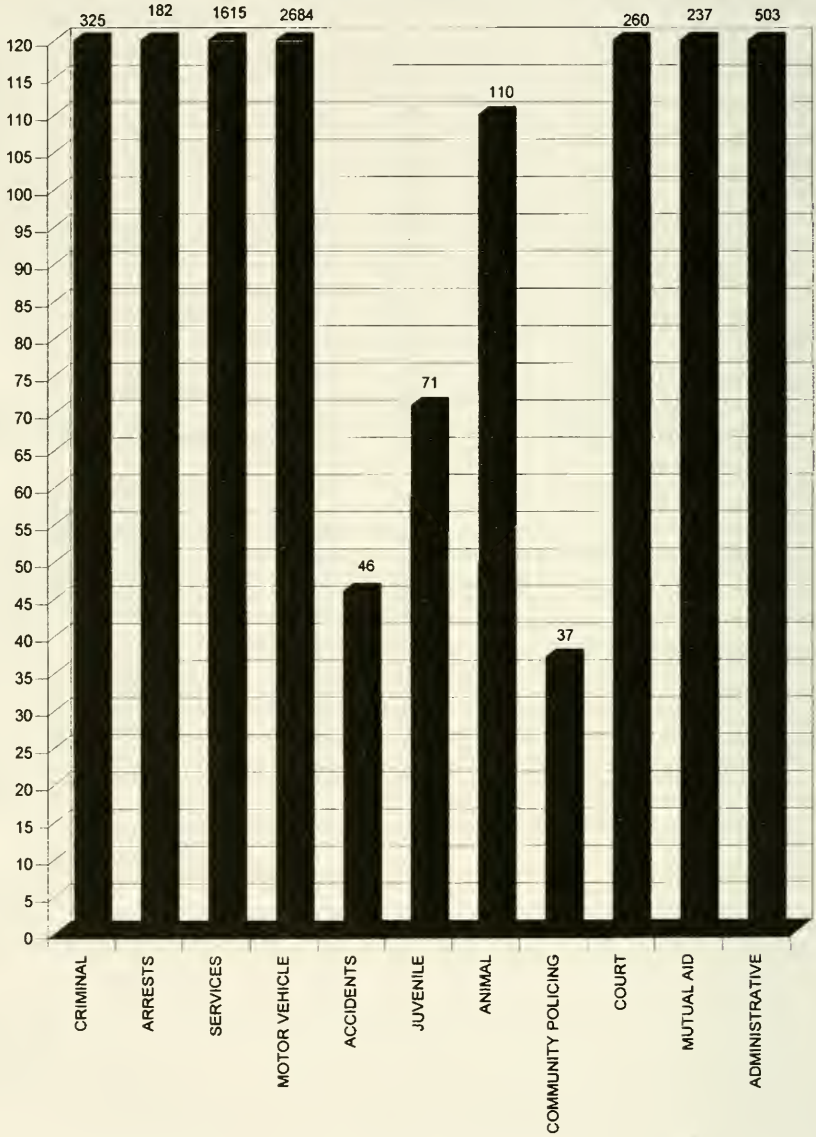
<b>INCIDENT</b>	<b>Chief Campbell</b>	<b>Corporal Marcellino</b>	<b>Officer Chenard</b>	<b>Officer Milton</b>	<b>Officer Bequeath</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE</b>						
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS</b>						
WARNINGS	989	757	282	153	94	2275
SUMMONS						0
OTHER	30	14		3	2	49
SPEED	45	16	2	10	3	76
SEAT BELT						0
UNINSPECTED	31	4	1	1	2	39
UNREGISTERED	6	4		1	1	12
<b>TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS</b>	<b>1101</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>2451</b>
PARKING COMPLAINTS	15	5	1			21
TRAFFIC DETAIL	113	18	6			137
OHRV COMPLAINTS	54	11	5	4	1	75
<b>TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE</b>	<b>1283</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>2684</b>
<b>ACCIDENTS</b>						
<b>TOTAL MV ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>46</b>
MV ACCIDENTS W/ INJURY	3	1	1			5
PROPERTY DAMAGE (\$1000+)	17	6				23
<b>JUVENILE</b>						
CHECK THE WELFARE	2					2
ENDANGERING THE WELFARE		2				2
INVESTIGATE INCIDENT / REPORT	32	10	2	3		47
JV PETITIONS	3	1				4
JV POSSESSION CIGARETTES	2	1			2	5
MISSING	2	1				3
TRUANCY	4	4				8
<b>TOTAL JUVENILE</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>ANIMAL</b>						
CAT	6	1	1			8
DOG	45	27	6	3		81
OTHER	14	4	3			21
<b>TOTAL ANIMAL</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>COMMUNITY POLICING</b>						
COMMUNITY	12	7		4	1	24
SCHOOL	10	3				13
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY POLICING</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>COURT</b>						
DISTRICT	232	12	5	1		250
GRAND JURY	3	1				4
HEARINGS (JV AND ALS)	3	1		1		5
SUPERIOR	1					1
<b>TOTAL COURT</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>260</b>

**BENNINGTON PD STATISTICS**  
**Year-To-Date 2003**

<b>INCIDENT</b>	<b>Chief Campbell</b>	<b>Corporal Marcellino</b>	<b>Officer Chenard</b>	<b>Officer Milton</b>	<b>Officer Bequeath</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>MUTUAL AID</b>						
ANTRIM	22	35	2	2	4	65
DEERING	1					1
FIRE / RESCUE	22	28	6		1	57
FRANCESTOWN	54	5	1	2	1	63
GREENFIELD	6	4	1	1	4	16
HANCOCK	5	17	2	1	3	28
OTHER		5	1		1	6
<b>TOTAL MUTUAL AID</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>237</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>						
DETAIL	7	2				9
MEETING / TRIP	60	4				64
PISTOL PERMIT	35					35
SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION	196	140	17	16	1	370
TRAINING	9	5	5	2	4	25
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>503</b>
<b>SUMMARY</b>						
CRIMINAL	155	123	22	6	19	325
ARRESTS	82	72	10	0	18	182
SERVICES	588	618	222	85	102	1615
MOTOR VEHICLE	1283	829	297	172	103	2684
ACCIDENTS	29	12	2	2	1	46
JUVENILE	45	19	2	3	2	71
ANIMAL	65	32	10	3	0	110
COMMUNITY POLICING	22	10	0	4	1	37
COURT	239	14	5	2	0	260
MUTUAL AID	110	94	13	6	14	237
ADMINISTRATIVE	307	151	22	18	5	503
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2925</b>	<b>1974</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>6335</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE</b>	<b>48.20%</b>	<b>33.20%</b>	<b>9.60%</b>	<b>4.80%</b>	<b>4.20%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

# BENNINGTON PD STATISTICAL CHART

## Year-To-Date 2003





## BENNINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

One of the Fire Department's accomplishments for 2003 was the sprucing up of the Fire Department building. The walls and ceilings of the apparatus bays were painted, and the floors were painted and sealed. The bays look great, thanks to the hard work of our Volunteers.

Many of our members attended training classes this year, at Meadowood in the spring and fall, and at the State Fire Academy in Concord. In 2004 we plan to do some hose drills at the Ski Area and on Onset Road, as well as other locations in Town.

Equipment upgrades planned for 2004 include another air pack, more fire hose, new nozzles and new fittings.

I would like to say THANK YOU to all of the members and the Board of Selectmen for their support over the last year. A big THANK YOU also goes to all of the people of Bennington that have supported our fundraisers and helped us out at fire scenes, and in general just being there for us.

A breakdown of our 2003 calls follows this report.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark S. Chase,  
Fire Chief



# The Bennington Volunteer Fire Department

7 School Street Unit 103

Bennington, NH 03442

603-588-2188

[www.benningtonfire.com](http://www.benningtonfire.com)

Chief: Mark Chase

Deputy Chief: Joseph O'Brien

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January 18, 2004

## 2002-2003 call breakdown

Medical Calls;	58
Car Accidents;	5
Car Fires	4
False Alarms	17
Chimney Fires	3
Structure Fires	3
Brush Fires	3
Power Lines Down	4
Investigate Smoke	3
Gas Spill	1
Police Stand-by	1

## Mutual Aide Calls

Mutual Aide Jaws to Antrim	16
Cover to Antrim	2
Structure to Antrim	2
Cover to Deering	3
Cover to Frankestown	1
Structure to Frankestown	1
Structure to Greenfield	5
Cover to Hancock	2
Structure to Hancock	1
Structure to Hillsboro	1
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>136</b>

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

When the first snowstorm is on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and the last on April 8<sup>th</sup>, with 24 ice or snowstorms in between, it makes for a long winter here in New Hampshire; even so, the people and the equipment of Bennington Highway survived and were very thankful for spring.

Construction work started in the spring with some repairs to our water system and through the summer five new fire hydrants were installed. The parking lot at the old Town Barn site was completed and the expansion of the Town Hall parking area started.

A portion of Bible Hill Road was excavated and reconstructed to prevent the heaving that repeatedly occurs there.

Paving was done with 775 tons of asphalt being laid out on Mountain Road, Ross Road, Knightland Road and the lower part of Pierce Hill Road.

A 50' x 10' retaining wall was built on Antrim Road. New guardrails will be installed this spring when new posts and guardrails are put in below the trestle, the same area where trees and brush were cut last summer.

Portions of North Bennington Road beyond Pine Meadows will be excavated this summer in order to fix the frost heaves there, with paving and tarring being done to improve that section of road.

As always, the people of the Highway Department wish to thank the citizens of Bennington for their help and support.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Blanchard,  
Road Agent

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

This Department along with the Board of Selectmen has been working diligently to eliminate and/or improve several substandard, unhealthy or unsafe dwellings and other properties in Town. Most property owners have been cooperative, but in some cases we have had to go to the courts for help. This is an ongoing project, but its success will be beneficial to the Town. We can be proud of our community.

Septic systems and general health issues are taken care of upon arrival and to date are in good order. Many thanks to the Fire Chief and Building Inspector for their support with inspections and photos.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Huntley, Health Officer  
Glenn Wilson, Deputy

## WELFARE DEPARTMENT

2003 was a busy year for rent assistance. All of the recipients were victims of unemployment or illness. Fuel Assistance, Public Service Helpline, Meals-on-Wheels and our Visiting Nurses have made it possible for most of our elderly to remain in their own homes.

A big THANK YOU to St. Patrick Parish for their annual Thanksgiving and Easter dinners for the needy and elderly. "Operation Santa Claus" was responsible for keeping our children warm and happy with warm clothes and toys.

Hopefully we will do as well in 2004.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Huntley, Overseer of Public Welfare  
Glenn Wilson, Deputy

## ELECTION REPORT

The big news in elections this year is changes brought about by the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA). There are some changes in forms and procedures, most likely more noticeable to election officials than to voters. However, if you plan to register to vote, change parties, or vote absentee, please read the information below carefully.

The Board of Supervisors sadly bids farewell to Dawn Bond, who had to resign due to changes in her work schedule. All three of us came on the Board at the same time, and I think we made a great team, and had some fun in the process! We wish Dawn the best. Also, thanks and welcome go to Barbara Moorehead, who has generously offered to fill in until Town Elections.

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This year's important dates follow. Supervisors' sessions are held at the Town Hall:

March 9	Tuesday	Town Elections - Fire Department Polls open 8AM - 7PM
June 1	Tuesday 7-7:30PM	Supervisors' session for State Primary Election - LAST DAY TO CHANGE PARTY AFFILIATION BEFORE PRIMARY !!!
September 7	Tuesday 7-7:30PM	Supervisors' session for State Primary Election
September 14	Tuesday	State Primary Election - Fire Department Polls open 8AM - 7PM
October 23	Saturday 11-11:30AM	Supervisors' session for General Election
November 2	Tuesday 8AM-7PM	General Election - Fire Department Polls open 8AM - 7PM

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As of this writing, Bennington has 773 registered voters: 166 Democrats, 303 Republicans, and 304 Undeclared voters.

Copies of the Bennington Checklist are available on request for \$10 in both paper copies and computer database format. Prior years' checklists registration cards and checklists are open to inspection during normal Town Hall business hours. However, new privacy standards enacted with HAVA require that registration forms starting this year will be kept confidential. There will always be printed copies of the most recent checklist available, however.

### REGISTERING TO VOTE

Voting is a fundamental right, as it is one of the rights from which all other freedoms flow. Nearly every citizen of the United States is entitled to register and vote somewhere. In most cases, people register where their primary residence is. However, citizens who are in transition, homeless, living overseas, in college, etc. must have equal access to the fundamental right of voting.

In order to register to vote you must fill out a voter registration form and must have proof of your citizenship, age, and domicile. Bring your drivers' license, and make sure that it has your current street address on it. 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.

Voters can get on the checklist in four ways:

- 1) Same Day Registration. Register at the polls on the day of the election.
- 1) 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.
- 1) Register with the Town Clerk during regular Town Hall hours.
- 1) 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 603-588-2189

CHANGING PARTIES

Voters who are registered Undeclared must declare a party to vote on Primary day. They can then return to undeclared status immediately after voting by filling out a form with the supervisors. All other voters (i.e. registered Democrats and Republicans) must wait till the day after the Primary to fill out a form to change parties. IMPORTANT: the deadline for changing parties prior to the September Primary is June 1! See the Supervisors if you have any questions. You can fill out the party registration change form at the Town Hall.

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 gotten for each election. (The exception to this is military personnel, who can fill out the Federal Post Card Application. This ensures that all ballots will be sent to them, as long as they are stationed in one place. The online version of this form is at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/onlinefpga.html> )

Call the Town Hall at 588-2189 for more information on absentee voting.

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This year looks to be a very interesting election year, with the Presidential Primary just past by the time this goes to print, and 2 more Federal elections to go. Just a reminder not to forget local politics, where one person can really make a difference: Every year there are positions to fill, both elected and volunteer, at the town level. And local politics is where many of our greatest leaders have gotten their start! Ask at the Town Hall what positions are open, and how and when to sign up.

Thanks everyone for helping our democracy work!

Victoria Turner  
Darlene McKenney  
Barbara Moorehead  
SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

## BENNINGTON RECREATION COMMITTEE

Well, did you have fun? Did you enjoy all the events and programs we sponsored? 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! Lots of people joined us at Bowling Acres one night and packed the lanes full with bowlers. I don't know if Bowling Acres could ever keep up with our Bennington bowlers.

**4th 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 an annual event.

**4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** As always, the Easter Egg Hunt went on with enthusiasm as eggs are eggs and they needed to be hunted down and captured, because deep inside the elusive egg lies a sweet treat.

**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 good year this year for pulling fish out of the water Thanks to all those who offer their continued support of this program.

**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. Newhall Youth Field will be under the lights this summer. We're looking forward to the Summer of 2004, when Bennington will be hosting the New England Regional Cal Ripken 12-year-old Championship Games.

**Bennington Youth Soccer** had an excellent season with all the youngsters participating. Special Thanks to all parents and volunteer coaches who continue to make this a successful program. We hope to put more emphasis into the Soccer program in coming years. Volunteers are needed to make the Soccer program as wonderful as the Baseball program.

**Whittemore Beach:** Home to our favorite swimming hole. Summertime is always more fun splashing in the Lake! We plan to have a new carpet for the raft in Summer 2004 and hope to get the lifeguard signed on and the swimming lessons started earlier in the Summer.

**Old Home Days:** Another great annual event, with all the Fire Trucks in the parade, the Fireman's Muster, Bounce Tent, Dunk Booth, games, etc. And what a great Country-Western Band!! In 2004 we're looking to introduce a different variation and having a "Town Picnic" -- many of the same fun games and more emphasis on an old-fashioned BBQ!!!

Annual Pumpkin Decorating: This fall favorite was back with Bennington children showing up all dressed for the occasion. In addition to the pumpkin decorating, the kids enjoyed “donut on a string” eating contest and the “cake walk” as well as “pin the nose on the pumpkin” and “ghost races”. An annual event, we hope to make each coming Halloween party better and better!!!

Holiday Events: A new event this past year – the Children’s Holiday Craft Party. Despite the snowstorm, a fairly good turnout with 15 or so kids showing up at the Firehouse all bundled up but ready for making their craft ( a reindeer ornament). With punch and Christmas cupcakes and a Holiday movie, the kids had a ball. Looking forward to making this new event an annual one with a lot more fun to be had by all! Unfortunately, our tree lighting and caroling this year were canceled due to weather, but the Tree sure looked beautiful in all its colorful lights for the Holiday Season. Thanks, Scott! The annual horse-drawn hayrides were again a great success! With Christmas goodies, a visit from Santa and all the hot cocoa you could drink, who could ask for more? Again, a special thanks to the Trow family for this special time – looking forward to it again next year! And Santa’s lap is still sore from all the youngsters and grownups that whispered into the Jolly Man’s ear.

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 committee members and town organizations that helped make it happen, Our Special Thanks to all.

Just a reminder, additional volunteers are always welcome. You do not need to “commit” yourself to being a “permanent” committee member, if you just want to show up on the day of the event and volunteer your time and creativity – that would be great!

*The committee would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere Thank You to Sfa Whittemore and Dottie Zabriskie for their years of dedication and service to the Recreation Committee. Sfa and Dottie resigned from the Committee this past November and the current Committee members wanted to recognize them and thank them for their years of service to the Committee and the Town. Thank you, Sfa and Dottie!*

Respectfully Submitted,  
***The Bennington Recreation Committee***

Wanda Grant  
Michelle Ricco  
Kelly Byrne  
Cindy Norton  
Kelly St. Pierre  
Hope Heinzman (Explorer Post)  
Joe Cuddemi (Interim Chairperson)



## PIERCE SCHOOL

The 2002 – 2003 school year began with a visit from author Marty Kelley. Marty lives in New Boston. He has written and illustrated several books including “Fall Is Not Easy” and “Summer Stinks”. We enjoyed seeing and hearing how he creates his books. In the evening we had a potluck supper and Marty did a presentation for the families.

A colorful new art piece done by the students of Pierce School hangs in our hallway. Last spring the students spent a week with “Artist in Residence” Rocky Lehr. With Rocky’s help the students created a felt hanging that depicts the Contoocook River as it flows through Bennington. The scene starts at the bridge at the entrance to town and shows the scenery and wildlife along the river to the train trestle by the Monadnock Paper Mill. It is a wonderful addition to the other art pieces that the students have created over the years that are on display throughout Pierce School.

Jessica Lawler from the New Hampshire Dance Institute was here for a weeklong residency with the students. The students from Kindergarten through fourth grade learned some very creative dance routines. Parents, family, and friends were invited for a night performance and the students all received rave reviews! We all had a lot of fun!

The “Fine Arts Program” coordinated by Jeannie Connolly and Terry Reeves continues to support Pierce School students with the residencies, programs such as “FACTS” (Famous Artists Come To School), storytellers, and field trips to museums and plays. We appreciate how this program brings “Art” to the students in so many ways.

Pierce School staff will continue to focus on developing “Caring Communities” within our school environment. This enables teachers to help students learn pro-social skills such as anger management, impulse control, problem solving, communication, and character development.

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 help to purchase items and offer activities that do not fall within the regular budget. After several years of dedicated fundraising the School was able to purchase risers that now allow all children to be seen by family and friends during performances. Following are some additional fundraisers that anyone in the community can contribute to.

**Box Tops for Education** – The children of Pierce School raised \$155.00 by bringing in Box Tops. 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. Additional information may be obtained at [www.boxtopsforeducation.com](http://www.boxtopsforeducation.com).

**Cartridges for Kids** – Cartridges for Kids recycles cartridges and pays 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.

**Campbell’s Soup Labels** – By saving labels from Campbell products and redeeming them our School can earn FREE merchandise. Some of the eligible products are Campbell’s soups, Prego pasta sauces, and Pepperidge Farm Goldfish crackers. Please visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for a complete listing and more information about this 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 talents, and the community for their continued support.

The PTO would like to give a special thanks to Aileen Schnare for over 9 years of service and countless hours spent fundraising on behalf of Pierce School. Volunteers are the backbone of any organization and Pierce School greatly appreciates the dedication Aileen provided.

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. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the school's library.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Pierce School Staff**

and

**Pierce School PTO**

Tammie J. Blanchette, Co-President

Cheryl Jessie, Co-President

Gretchen Hutton, Treasurer

Cindy Norton, Secretary

## BENNINGTON PLANNING BOARD

It has been a very busy and exciting year for the Bennington Planning Board. In fact, we anticipate that this past and present year combined, the Planning Board will have reviewed and implemented more significant changes than it has in the past ten years. There are four large projects that have continued to challenge the Planning Board throughout this past year. Some of that work is self-evident and current, others are in process slated for release this next winter and spring, and others are beyond that.

One of the four major projects this past year was the Crotched Mountain Ski Area site plan review process which started a year prior. The site plan review process was a dual effort concerted by the Towns of Bennington and Frankestown, with some help from the Southwest Regional Planning Commission, the Boards were able to work through all the details, idiosyncrasies and regulations in a spirit of cooperation and expediency to bring the project to closure. So now the future looks bright and white!

Another ongoing project that the Board has been working on for the last several years is the Master Plan Update. It was 18 years ago when the original Master Plan was drafted, and the State of NH recommends that every ten years a new revised Master Plan should be drafted to better reflect the Town's current vision. This new Master Plan will set the tone and direction for the future Town of Bennington. The committee working on this revision has finalized this document and expects to deliver it to the public this coming spring 2004.

The Board has also been working on new and improved Subdivision Regulations. Our current Subdivision Regulations were implemented in 1986, the same year as the original Master Plan. At its inception the original Subdivision Regulations, Master Plan and other regulations were in synch with one another, but times change and rules and regulations have to be adjusted to reflect that new change in vision. These new regulations, if adopted, will establish a clear and organized path for minor and major subdivisions in accordance with the new Master Plan. So, look for the new Subdivision Regulations late this winter 2004.

One of the major projects undertaken by the Board this year was an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance repealing Article XII – Cluster Development – and replacing it with an Open Space Residential Development Ordinance (OSRD). Not unlike the Subdivision Regulations and Master Plan, the Cluster Development Ordinance was also seriously antiquated and needed major overhauling. The purpose of this new OSRD is to implement the goals and objectives of the new Master Plan. Some of the attributes of the proposed OSRD are:

- Promote a more efficient use of land requiring less streets and utilities.
- Promote the preservation of open space, farmland, recreation areas, green space, crucial wildlife habitat, water resources, and existing topography, natural, cultural, and historic features.
- Provide wildlife corridors to connect open spaces need by wildlife to ensure their survival.
- Discourage sprawling, land consuming forms of development usually resulting from conventional subdivision.

- Promote the efficient provision of municipal services and protect existing and potential water supplies.
- Maintain the rural and scenic character of the Town of Bennington.
- Reduce the erosion and sedimentation by the retention of existing vegetation and the minimization of development on steep slopes.
- Promote the siting of buildings, which are sensitive to existing natural and historic features.
- Protect the value of real property.
- Create compact neighborhoods accessible to open space amenities and with strong community identity and quality of life.
- Provide for a variety of lot sizes, building densities, and housing choices to accommodate a variety of age and income groups.
- Implement adopted land use, transportation, and community policies, as identified in the Town’s Master Plan.

This OSRD will be an affective tool in the future planning of the Town of Bennington. We encourage you to vote “YES” on Article 2 of the Town’s 2004 Warrant.

This upcoming year will be no less challenging or exciting. With a new Master Plan coming this spring and the updated Subdivision Regulations, the Board will have some major housekeeping items to do. Several projects such as Capital Improvement Plans, Impact Fees, Review of the current Zoning Ordinances and working with the Conservation Commission to help develop an Open Space Plan will be on the forefront of the Planning Board’s agenda.

Thanks to all Planning Board members, Selectmen (Ex-Officio’s), Dee French and SWRPC for making this a stellar year.

As always we meet on a regular basis, every second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Bennington Town Hall, all are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip R. Germain, Chairperson

Planning Board Members:  
 Peter Eppig (Vice-Chairperson)  
 Letitia Rice  
 Catriona Beck  
 Jeffrey Rose (Alternate)  
 Terry Schnare (Ex-Officio)

**OPEN SPACE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE  
BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Amend the Bennington Zoning Ordinance by repealing the existing Article XII - Cluster Development and replacing it with the following new Article XII – Open Space Residential Development:

**Article XII. Open Space Residential Development**

- A. **AUTHORITY:** The Open Space Residential Development (OSRD) Ordinance has been adopted by Town Meeting Vote of the Town of Bennington, New Hampshire pursuant to RSA 674:21, Innovative Land Use Controls.
- B. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of the OSRD Ordinance is to facilitate implementation of the goals, policies, and objectives of the Bennington Master Plan, and thus to:
1. Promote a more efficient use of land requiring a smaller network of streets and utilities;
  2. Promote the preservation of open space, farmland, recreation areas, green space, fields and woods, valuable wildlife habitat, water resources and outstanding topographic, natural, cultural, and historic features;
  3. Provide wildlife corridors connecting open spaces, needed by wildlife to ensure their survival;
  4. Discourage the sprawling, land-consuming form of development usually resulting from conventional subdivision;
  5. Promote the efficient provision of municipal services and protect existing and potential water supplies;
  6. Maintain the rural and scenic character of the Town of Bennington;
  7. Reduce erosion and sedimentation by the retention of existing vegetation, and the minimization of development on steep slopes;
  8. Promote the siting of buildings which is sensitive to existing natural and historic features;
  9. Protect the value of real property;

10. Create compact neighborhoods accessible to open space amenities and with a strong community identity and quality of life;
11. Provide for a variety of lot sizes, building densities, and housing choices to accommodate a variety of age and income groups;
12. Implement adopted land use, transportation, and community policies, as identified in the Town's Master Plan.

C. **DEFINITIONS:** The following definitions specifically apply to this section of the zoning ordinance.

Basal Area - The cross sectional area of a tree measured at a height of 4 1/2 feet above the ground, usually expressed in square feet per acre for a stand of trees.

Common Area - Any land area, other than open space, set aside for common ownership as a result of an OSRD, including areas for common facilities.

Common Facilities - Built facilities which are commonly owned by the property owners within an OSRD. Common facilities may be proposed but are not required. They may include streets, rights of way, common buildings, wells, water and waste treatment systems, and recreation facilities.

Common Open Space - A type of Open Space within an OSRD, which is not individually owned but is designated and intended for the common use or enjoyment of the residents of the development, and in some cases the general public.

Estate Lot - Any lot ten acres or larger created as part of an OSRD.

Homeowners Association - A private non-profit organization (corporation, association, or other legal entity) established by the developer to manage, maintain, support, and finance the common facilities and common open space of an OSRD, and to enforce certain covenants and restrictions.

Open Space - Undeveloped land set aside for common or individual ownership as a result of an OSRD, with conservation easements and other deeded restrictions to ensure that the land will remain permanently open and undeveloped. A condition of OSRD approval is that open space may not be further subdivided.

Open Space Residential Development (OSRD) - A form of residential development where the density of dwelling units is no greater than would be permitted in the district in which the OSRD is located, but where the lot size and other dimensional standards may be reduced in exchange for the preservation of permanently protected open space, recreational land, forests, and/or farmland. Tracts of land developed as an OSRD may be under single or consolidated ownership.

Soil Based Carrying Capacity of a Lot - A number that is calculated by adding together the Soil Carrying Capacity of each of the different areas of soil on that lot.

Soil Carrying Capacity - A number that is calculated for a given area of a certain type of soil by dividing that given area by the required area for that soil type as found in Appendix 1 of Soil Based Lot Sizing, Society of Soil Scientists of Northern New England, SSSNNE Special Publication No. 4, Version I, September, 2003.

D. APPLICABILITY OF OSRD:

1. Ten Acre Minimum. In any residential subdivision consisting of ten (10) contiguous acres or more in single or consolidated ownership, an applicant may apply for an OSRD under this Article. The minimum acreage may be waived by the Planning Board in instances where an applicant demonstrates that the criteria in Article XII.2 are met.
2. Required for Special Land Features. The Planning Board may require an applicant to use an OSRD subdivision design if the property possesses one or more of the following special features:
  - a. Large contiguous tracts of unfragmented land;
  - b. Agricultural land with soils designated as prime or of statewide significance by the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service soil surveys;
  - c. Rare, threatened, or endangered species or exemplary natural communities according to the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory (Department of Resources and Economic Development);
  - d. Frontage on any surface water body ten (10) acres or greater, or on any third or fourth order stream, as shown on topographical maps published by the U.S. Geological Survey and as specified by the Strahler method as found in the *Handbook of Applied Hydrology*, section 4-2, 1964;
  - e. A portion of an aquifer with a transmissivity in excess of 1,000 sq. ft. per day as shown on the Stratified Drift Aquifer Maps published and updated by the N.H. Department of Environmental Services;
  - f. Unique natural, cultural, and/or historical features as identified in the most current version of the Bennington Master Plan.

- E. PROCEDURES: OSRD plan submission, review and approval procedures shall be as described in the Bennington Subdivision Regulations, Section XII. OSRDs with uses other than single family detached dwelling units are also subject to Site Plan Review by the Planning Board.
- F. PERMITTED USES: Residential uses, accessory uses, and incidental recreational uses, which may or may not include recreation facilities for use by the general public, shall be allowed within an OSRD. All other uses are prohibited.
1. Residential uses may include dwelling units in the following form:
    - a. Single family detached residential dwellings;
    - b. Two-family dwellings;
    - c. Residential condominiums, up to a maximum of six (6) dwelling units per structure. (Any OSRD that includes proposals for condominium ownership shall comply with all applicable state statutes regulating the condominium form of ownership);
    - d. Multi-family dwellings; up to a maximum of six (6) dwelling units per structure;
    - e. Housing for persons fifty-five (55) years of age and over;
    - f. Accessory Dwelling Units.
  2. Active recreational uses shall only be allowed in the Common Area and may include:
    - a. Racquet and other hard surface courts;
    - b. Swimming pool and facilities;
    - c. Clubhouses and other common recreational facilities;
    - d. Ball fields;
    - e. Golf courses;
    - f. Horse stables;
    - g. Playgrounds and related equipment.



3. Passive recreational uses allowed in the Common Area and Open Space, unless under specific easement, may include:
  - a. Nature and hiking trails;
  - b. Jogging and walking trails;
  - c. Bicycle trails;
  - d. Cross country ski trails;
  - e. Horseback riding trails;
  - f. Common gardens and arboretums;
  - g. Benches and picnic tables;
4. Agricultural uses to include row crops, orchards, and forestry practices.

G. REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN SPACE AND COMMON AREA:

1. Fifty percent (50%) of the OSRD tract must be set aside as permanently protected open space through the use of covenants, easements, and/or deed restrictions as set forth in the Bennington Subdivision Regulations.
  - a. No more than fifty percent (50%) of the open space may consist of wetlands, surface waters, flood plains, or areas with unaltered slopes greater than twenty-five percent (25%) provided, however, that the applicant may include a greater percentage of wetlands in such open space upon a demonstration that such inclusion promotes the purposes of this ordinance;
  - b. Streets and driveways shall not be counted as open space.
2. All recreational facilities, common areas, and common open space shall be reasonably accessible to all residents of the development.
3. The common area shall not include any land designated as wetlands, unaltered slopes greater than twenty-five percent (25%), or flood plain areas.

4. In evaluating the acceptability of proposed Open Space and Common Areas, the Planning Board shall consider the extent to which the location and design of the area achieves the following objectives:
  - a. Large enough blocks of land are conserved to retain ecosystem function and habitat integrity;
  - b. The development protects all flood plains, wetlands, and steep slopes from clearing, grading, filling, or construction (except as may be approved for essential infrastructure or active or passive recreation amenities);
  - c. Large enough blocks of land are conserved to sustain agricultural or forestry operations and buffer them from nearby development;
  - d. Access to and/or benefits from the Common Open Space are provided to the greatest number of dwelling units within the subdivision;
  - e. The development provides preserved open space that is reasonably contiguous. To the greatest extent practicable, this land should be designed as a single block with logical, straightforward boundaries. Long thin strips of conservation land should be avoided, unless the conservation feature is linear, or unless such configuration is necessary to connect with other open space, streams or trails;
  - f. Linkages or contiguity with existing or potential conservation areas on abutting properties are provided. Open Space should be designed where possible as part of larger contiguous and integrated greenway systems;
  - g. Development is designed around existing hedgerows and treelines between fields or meadows;
  - h. Scenic views and vistas, particularly as seen from public streets, are left unblocked or uninterrupted. Siting new construction on prominent hilltops or ridges is avoided while taking advantage of lower topographic features;
  - i. Development is designed around and preserves sites of historic, archeological, or cultural value and their environs, in order to safeguard the character of the feature, including stone walls, springs houses, barn foundations, cellar holes, and earthworks and burial grounds;
  - j. The development protects the rural character of roadsides, and improves public safety and vehicle carrying capacity of the street, by avoiding development that fronts directly on existing public streets;

- k. The development provides landscaping for common areas, cul-de-sac islands, and shade trees on new streets.

H. DENSITY:

1. The maximum number of dwelling units for an OSRD subdivision shall be determined by use of a yield plan, which is a conceptual plan showing how the parcel could be subdivided in a conventional manner. Determination of the possible number of conventional lots may entail the use of site specific soil mapping and soil carrying capacity. For purposes of determining the number of OSRD dwelling units, each conceptual conventional lot must meet the requirements of a buildable lot for a single family dwelling unit as defined in the zoning district in which the OSRD is located and meet all other applicable requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations. The Planning Board shall adopt regulations that provide for the generation of a yield plan in accordance with this section.
2. There shall be no further subdivision of an approved OSRD.

- I. DENSITY BONUS FOR INNOVATIVE OPEN SPACE PROTECTION: The Planning Board may award the development a density bonus that increases the maximum number of dwelling units available under conventional subdivision by a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) for those applicants that meet the following criteria. Density bonuses awarded for preserving frontage lots shall be in addition to the above twenty-five percent (25%). In no event may the number of dwelling units exceed the soil based carrying capacity for the entire parcel.

With the exception of front lot bonuses, density bonuses may be awarded ONLY in zoning districts where the minimum lot size under conventional zoning is three (3) acres or more. Density bonuses shall be awarded in accordance with the following:

1. Additional Open Space Bonus - Where the proposed OSRD plan shows sixty percent (60%) or more of the tract as open space protected as such in perpetuity, the development shall be awarded a density bonus of ten percent (10%),

Or

Where the proposed OSRD plan shows seventy percent (70%) or more of the tract as open space protected as such in perpetuity, the development shall be awarded a density bonus of twenty percent (20%).

2. Trails Bonus - Where there is a linking of existing/proposed trails or open space networks with trail corridors through the site, and the general public is granted access to these trails in perpetuity, the development shall be awarded a density bonus of five percent (5%). The minimum nature of public access required to trigger this bonus is pedestrian traffic. The instrument granting access, acceptable to the planning board, shall restrict the use of motorized vehicles where appropriate.
3. Agricultural Land and Use Bonus - Where the development protects agriculturally valuable lands and provides permission for their use as such in perpetuity, the development shall be awarded a density bonus of up to ten percent (10%), to be determined by the Planning Board. If the portion preserved for agricultural use is equal to 25% or more of the tract, then the full bonus may be awarded, with a smaller bonus awarded for smaller percentages, but also taking into consideration the importance of the land for preserving the rural character of the Town. The instrument granting use, acceptable to the Planning Board, may reasonably restrict the type of intensity of farming to occur to prevent nuisances. This provision only requires that permission is available; the fact that agricultural uses are not pursued at any particular time does not affect the validity of the bonus.
4. Forest Management Bonus - On sites where the open space to be preserved is mostly mature forest (70% or greater), where thirty percent (30%) or less of the basal area will be cut, and where the cutting is well distributed and will be based on a management plan developed by a NH Licensed Forester and approved by the Planning Board, the development shall be awarded a density bonus of fifteen percent (15%).
5. View Shed and Viewpoint Bonus - The development may be awarded a density bonus of five percent (5%) if it protects in perpetuity view sheds and associated viewpoints, which are lands or corridors of land that contribute to the visual landscape of the Town, including items such as open fields containing stone walls.
6. Historic Features Bonus - The development may be awarded a density bonus of five percent (5%) if it protects in perpetuity historically significant buildings and landscapes, identified as such in the Master Plan, that include buildings and associated uses that are maintained and visually separated from the developed portion of the OSRD. Structures or landscapes not identified as such through the Master Plan may be determined by sufficient evidence presented to the Planning Board during review of the development. Such evidence may include comment from the Heritage Commission or Bennington Historical Society, listing or eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Landmarks, or other qualified statements of historic value.

7. Frontage Lots - Where a development is proposed such that all potential lots that could front on a public street existing at the time of application have been preserved in a natural undeveloped condition, the development shall receive, in addition to any bonus awarded under this section, a bonus of one (1) additional dwelling unit for every potential frontage lot so preserved, up to a maximum bonus of 4 additional dwelling units.

J. **ADDITIONAL DENSITY FOR 1 & 2 BEDROOM DWELLING UNITS:** The total number of bedrooms shall be considered in the calculation of the number of dwelling units allowed in an OSRD.

1. The development may be awarded a number of additional 1 or 2 bedroom dwelling units equal to fifty percent (50%) of the number of proposed 1 or 2 bedroom principal dwelling units allowed under the yield plan.
2. If such additional density is allowed, the 1 & 2 bedroom dwelling units upon which the calculation is based and those 1 & 2 bedroom dwelling units awarded as a bonus shall be subject to deed restrictions restricting them to 1 or 2 bedroom dwellings and prohibiting the construction of an associated accessory dwelling unit.

K. **DIMENSIONAL CONTROLS FOR OSRD TRACT:**

1. **Frontage:** The minimum frontage for a tract on which an OSRD is proposed shall be a contiguous one-hundred (100) feet and of sufficient length to provide safe access for a right-of-way of at least fifty (50) feet.
2. **Setbacks:** There shall be a minimum setback of seventy-five (75) feet along all property boundaries of the tract for all structures, including accessory structures, parking areas, driveways and internal streets. Entrance streets connecting the OSRD to the external street system may cross the setback area.
3. **Buffers:**
  - a. A landscaped buffer no less than fifty (50) feet deep shall be provided where appropriate to screen the development from public streets and adjacent properties. Entrance streets connecting the OSRD to the external street system may cross the buffer area. The natural vegetation shall be retained whenever possible. If the natural vegetation is not sufficient to serve as an effective visual screen, landscaping shall be required to provide such a screen. Landscaping may include berms and/or decorative fencing of an appropriate height, and shall be installed under the conditions set forth in the Bennington Subdivision Regulations.

- b. This buffer area shall be part of the common area, and shall be subject to the same restrictions that apply to that area.
- c. Frontage lands on streets existing at the time of application shall be preserved as buffers to the maximum extent possible in addition to all required setbacks.

L. DIMENSIONAL CONTROLS FOR LOTS IN SUBDIVISION:

- 1. Lots on pre-existing town streets: For each lot developed along a public street existing at the time of application, the minimum frontage, minimum lot size, and all other dimensional controls shall be those which are required in the underlying zoning district in which the OSRD is located.
- 2. Frontage on New Subdivision Streets: In the interest of flexibility and creative site designs, there shall be no minimum frontage requirements for individual lots on new subdivision streets within an OSRD.
- 3. Lot size for lots using a community waste water system: In the interest of flexibility and creative site designs, there is no minimum lot size for lots within an OSRD that use a community waste water system. All developments shall contain some form of lot delineation or lines that designate a reasonable amount of land attributable to each lot taking into consideration the type of structure(s) on that lot and as acceptable to the Planning Board.
- 4. Lot size for lots proposed to have individual septic systems: For those lots proposed to have individual septic systems, the following requirements must be met:
  - a. The soil based carrying capacity of the lot must be equal to the number of proposed dwelling units for that lot. Allowances may be made for dwelling units of less than 4 bedrooms, per the Bennington Subdivision Regulations.
  - b. A lot must contain a minimum area of at least 20,000 square feet of contiguous non-wetland area per proposed dwelling unit, exclusive of setbacks, and must meet all other requirements of the Bennington Zoning Ordinance pertaining to septic system design and location. The contiguous non-wetland area must be able to contain a square with a minimum dimension as follows:

Size of Required Contiguous Non-wetland Area	Minimum Dimension
20,000 sq. ft.	75 ft.

40,000 sq. ft. 100 ft.

60,000 sq. ft. 125 ft.

for every additional 20,000 sq. ft. an additional 25 ft.

5. Setbacks: In the interest of flexibility and creative site designs, there shall be no minimum setback requirements for individual house lots within an OSRD.

M. DRIVEWAYS AND STREETS:

1. All subdivisions using the OSRD provisions shall include the construction of an entrance street providing access to the development from a junction with a public street. This street shall be built in accordance with the Bennington Subdivision Regulations. Wherever possible, taking into consideration conservation and space limitation of the individual parcel, such street shall be of a design such that there is only one entrance onto any public street in existence at the time of application. Whenever possible, the entrance street to the development shall be located such that the maximum distance attainable can be provided on each side of the street to protect neighboring homes from traffic.
2. The design of the street network shall provide for access to adjacent developed areas, or shall reserve right-of-ways for future connection to adjacent properties which, in the judgment of the Planning Board, are likely to be developed. This objective shall be secondary to the goal of protecting the open space.
3. Internal streets in an OSRD may be considered for design waivers in accordance with the Bennington Subdivision Regulations. The Planning Board may deny any and all of these waivers where future connections to other streets is reasonably possible or anticipated.
4. All driveways, including those for lots fronting on public streets existing at the time of application, shall be located on an internal subdivision street.

- N. COMMUNITY WATER AND WASTE WATER SYSTEMS: An OSRD may include a community or common water and/or waste water system for individual households. Such systems shall be installed by the subdivider and shall be installed under the conditions set forth in the Bennington Subdivision Regulations. Community waste water systems shall be located in the common area unless the Planning Board determines they may be located in the Open Space.

O. OWNERSHIP OF OPEN SPACE AND COMMON LAND:

1. The developer shall hold, manage and maintain open space, common land and common facilities within an OSRD until completion of all improvements, whereupon the developer shall transfer the ownership and management and maintenance responsibilities as set forth in Subsections O.2 and 3.
2. Common areas and common facilities within an OSRD shall be owned by and bound by a homeowner's or condominium association or similar form of common ownership set by the developer. Membership in said association shall be mandatory for property owners and made a required covenant in any deed issued or passed. Articles of association or incorporation must be acceptable to the Planning Board and to the Town Council. The requirements for the homeowners association shall be as set forth in the Bennington Subdivision Regulations.
3. Common Open Space shall be owned by one or a combination of the following:
  - a. A homeowner's or condominium association or similar form of common ownership set by the developer;
  - b. A conservation trust or private nonprofit organization such as the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, The Audubon Society, or the Monadnock Conservancy, which has as its purpose the preservation of open space through ownership and control;
  - c. The Town of Bennington, subject to acceptance by the town, which shall maintain the land as open space for the benefit of the general public of Bennington;
  - d. The State of New Hampshire for permanent open space uses;
  - e. A private landowner such as a farmer or forest manager that will manage it for uses consistent with the provisions of this ordinance.
4. Any Estate Lot may retain open space in private ownership subject to the approval of the Planning Board.

P. PERMANENT PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE: All open space in an OSRD, whether held privately or in common, shall be restricted in perpetuity as open space through the use of conservation easements that legally restrict the development rights to that property.

1. The easement may be so worded as to permit or restrict public access, to allow or disallow recreational development, and similar provisions.



2. The burden of the Easement conveyed hereby shall run with the Property and shall be enforceable against all future owners and tenants in perpetuity; the benefits of this Easement shall not be appurtenant to any particular parcel of land but shall be in gross and assignable or transferable only to the State of New Hampshire, the U.S. Government, or the Town of Bennington, consistent with Section 170(c)(1) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended or to any qualified organization within the meaning of Section 170(h)(3) of said Code, which organization has among its purposes the conservation and preservation of land and water areas and agrees to and is capable of enforcing the Purposes of this Easement. Any such assignee or transferee shall have like power of assignment or transfer.

- Q. ENFORCEMENT: The enforcement of this Article is vested with the Board of Selectmen. Upon any well-founded information that this Article is being violated, the Selectmen shall, within 14 days, undertake such steps as are legally available to them pursuant to RSA 676:15, 17, 17-a, 17-b.
- R. SEVERABILITY: The invalidity of any provision of this Article shall not affect the validity of any other provision, nor any prior decisions made on the basis of the valid provisions of this Article.
- S. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Article shall take effect upon its passage, and as amended.”

**Note:** The Section XII of the Bennington Subdivision Regulations will also need to be amended to reflect the new Article XII – Open Space Residential Development in the Zoning Ordinance.

**Births Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ended December 31, 2003**

<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Name of Father and Mother</u>
02/06/03	Jessica Ann Hoyt	Concord, NH	William and Kelly Hoyt
05/02/03	Shawn Patrick Clements	Nashua, NH	Jamie and Tara Clements
05/04/03	Jonas MacWilliam Ingram	Peterborough, NH	Jon and Kristin Ingram
05/05/03	Madelynn Frances Plourde	Peterborough, NH	Scott and Karen Plourde
06/01/03	Fiona Elizabeth Clough	Peterborough, NH	Christopher and Shelagh Clough
06/10/03	Grace Marion Cleary	Peterborough, NH	James and Carol Cleary
07/11/03	Austin Kobe Davis	Peterborough, NH	Nicholas and Tasha Davis
08/03/03	Shevonne Ruby MacKeigan	Bennington, NH	Matthew and Laurie MacKeigan
08/15/03	Ethan Cole Charlonne	Peterborough, NH	Jonathan and Amy Charlonne
08/18/03	Jeremiah Donald Hardwick	Concord, NH	David and Amy Hardwick
10/19/03	Delaney Catherine Sweeney	Concord, NH	James and Nancy Sweeney
10/30/03	Devin Marrae Moorehead	Peterborough, NH	David and Gail Moorehead
11/01/03	Holden Percy Stephenson	Keene, NH	Cory and Christopher Stephenson
11/07/03	Mary Quintanilha	Peterborough, NH	Wagner and Linda Quintanilha
12/15/03	John Charles Dalphond	Concord, NH	John and Lisa Dalphond

I hereby certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief  
*Debra Belcher, Town Clerk*

## Deaths Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2003

<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>
01/04/03	Philip Stapf	Hillsborough, NH	Julius Stapf	Helene Schmidt
01/07/03	Muriel F. Bowker	Peterborough, NH	Arthur Bell	Elizabeth Cashion
01/21/03	Phebe R. Whittemore	Manchester, NH	Louis Champney	Laura Moore
02/10/03	Sidney A. Huntington	Peterborough, NH	Rodney Huntington	Hattie Rockwell
02/21/03	Athlon S. Huntley	Peterborough, NH	George Huntley	Lottie Duncanson
03/16/03	Mae E. Newhall	Peterborough, NH	Lloyd Chamberlain	Mary Parker
04/02/03	Roger E. Magoon	Bennington, NH	George Magoon	Agnes Richards
04/20/03	Randall M. Lyons	Hillsborough, NH	Richard Lyons	Ardelle Wolfe
06/17/03	Atheleah G. Hutchinson	Peterborough, NH	George Edwards	Caroline Hoffman
06/20/03	Alfred J. Willette	Bennington, NH	Alfred Willette	Clara LaChance
06/22/03	Andrew D. Whalen	Bennington, NH	Frank Austin	Laurie Smith
06/29/03	Katherine A. Richardson	Bennington, NH	Gordon Johnson	Evelyn Jackson
12/03/03	Nancy J. Champagne	Peterborough, NH	John Holden	Violet Krept
12/27/03	Rachael E. Perry	Lebanon, NH	Michael Perry	Susan Smith

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, 2003**

<u>Date of Ceremony</u>	<u>Name of Bride &amp; Groom</u>	<u>Residence</u>
01/03/03	Amy B. Smith Michael A. Call	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
03/15/03	Carol A. Roy Edward K. Chevalier	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
03/16/03	Cheryl A. Baldwin Robert S. Jessie	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
04/26/03	Sheryl A. Dorr Gregory S. Brown	Bennington, NH Scheneectady, NY
05/14/03	Amanda L. Sweet David J. Koziell	Bennington, NH Peterborough, NH
05/31/03	Fiona R. Higgins Shamar L. Nixon	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
06/21/03	Susan E. Levan Michael J. Crowe	Nashua, NH Bennington, NH
07/12/03	Queen G. Brown Donald R. McEathron	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
07/19/03	Michele Lord Paul J. Dugre	Bennington, NH Antrim, NH
07/19/03	Sylvia M. Morley Mark A. Castellano	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
08/09/03	Katherine L. Dole Donald J. Warner	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
09/07/03	Melissa J. Podsadowski Joshua K. Stewart	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH

**Marriages Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2003**

<u>Date of Ceremony</u>	<u>Name of Bride &amp; Groom</u>	<u>Residence</u>
09/27/03	Kathy L. Krieger Timothy P. Chapman	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
10/04/03	Amanda R. King Thomas M. Mueller	Bennington, NH Lawrenceville, GA
10/11/03	Catherine J. Livingston Darren P. Courtemarche	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
12/05/03	Beth Vertie Riddle Mickey D. Lee	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
12/20/03	Sarah C. Hildebrand Lawrence J. Malloy	Bennington, NH Swansey, NH

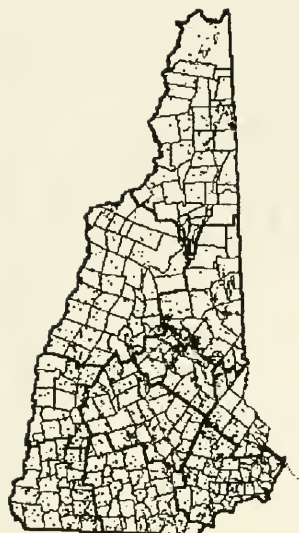
I hereby certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
*Debra Belcher, Town Clerk*

# Bennington, NH

Incorporated: 1842  
Community Contact: **TOWN OF BENNINGTON**  
James Cleary  
7 School Street, Unit 101  
Bennington, NH 03442  
Telephone: (603) 588-2189  
Fax: (603) 588-8005  
E-mail: [townofbenn@conknet.com](mailto:townofbenn@conknet.com)  
Web Site: [www.townofbennington.com](http://www.townofbennington.com)

City/Town Office Hours: **Monday through Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm**

County: **Hillsborough**  
Labor Market Area: **Peterborough**  
Planning Commission: **Southwest Region**  
Tourism Region: **Monadnock**



**Demographics, 2000 Census:** From 1990 to 2000, Bennington's population grew by 13.4 percent to 1,401, a numeric increase of 165. The median age is 35.1, with 28.6 percent under the age of 18 and 8.1 percent age 65 and older. The total number of households is 552, with an average size of 2.5 persons. Of those, 356 are family households, with an average size of 3.2 persons. As of April 1, 2000, there were 635 total housing units.

**Population density, 2002:** 124.6 persons per square mile of land area. Bennington contains 11.4 square miles of land area and 0.2 square miles of inland water area.

**Origin:** Taken from portions of Hancock, Greenfield, Deering, and Francestown, the town was named in commemoration of the Battle of Bennington, fought on August 14-16, 1777, near Bennington, Vermont. Vermont's Bennington was named for Governor Benning Wentworth, who was responsible for naming many towns in New Hampshire and Vermont.



Hillsborough County

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

City/Town Office Hours:  
M-Th 9-4 pm

Type of Government	Selectmen
Annual Budget (2003)	\$1,081,415
Planning Board	Elected
Industrial Plans Reviewed by	Planning Board
Zoning Ordinance	1986/03
Master Plan	1990
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes

Public Library **G E P Dodge**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	Full-time
Fire Department	Volunteer
Town Fire Insurance Rating	5/9
Emergency Medical Service	Volunteer

Nearest Hospital(s):

**Monadnock Community, Peterborough**  
Distance: 11 miles Staffed Beds: 62

**PROPERTY TAXES**

2002 Total Tax Rate	\$25.70
2002 Equalization Ratio	81.6
2002 Full Value Tax Rate	\$20.81

2002 Property Valuation:	Residential	82.2%
	Commercial	12.7%
	Other	5.1%

**UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	PSNH
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Bennington Water Dept.

Sanitation	Municipal
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	No
Curbside Trash Pickup	No
Mandatory Recycling Program	No

Telephone Company	MCT Telecom
Cellular Telephone Access	Yes
Cable Television Access	Yes
High Speed Cable Internet Service	
Business Cable Internet Service	unknown
Residential Cable Internet Service	unknown

**HOUSING**

2001 Total Housing Units	649
2001 Single-Family Units	469
Building Permits Issued	9
2001 Multi-Family Units	137
Building Permits Issued	0
2001 Manufactured Housing Units	43
2000 Census Housing Costs	
Median Value, Owner-Occupied Housing	\$95,600
Median Gross Rent (monthly)	\$630

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

Total Population	Community	County
2001	1,415	388,762
2000	1,401	380,841
1990	1,236	336,073
1980	890	276,608
1970	639	223,941

**2000 Census Demographics**

Population by Gender	Male	Female	709
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Population by Age Group	
Under age 5	84
Age 5 to 19	356
Age 20 to 34	258
Age 35 to 54	486
Age 55 to 64	104
Age 65 and over	113
Median Age	35.1 years

Total Households	552	Ave. Size	2.5 persons
Total Families	356	Ave. Size	3.2 persons

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	87.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	24.8%

**ANNUAL INCOME, 1999**

(US CENSUS)

Per capita income	\$19,675
Median 4-person family income	\$52,153
Median household income	\$46,150

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	\$34,063
Female	\$26,734

Families below the poverty level	8.4%
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**TRANSPORTATION**

Road Access	Federal Routes	202
	State Routes	31, 47, 123
Nearest Interstate, Exit	I-293, Exit 4	
	Distance	32 miles

Railroad	No
Public Transportation	No

Nearest Airport	Keene
Runway	6,201 feet
Lighted? Yes	Navigational Aids? Yes

Nearest Commercial Airport	Manchester
Distance	38 miles

**DISTANCE TO**

Manchester, NH	30 miles
Portland, ME	138 miles
Boston, MA	83 miles
New York City, NY	249 miles
Montreal, Quebec	260 miles

**EDUCATION/CHILD CARE FACILITIES**

	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Primary & Secondary				
Number of Schools	1			
Grade Levels	K-4			
Total Enrollment	94			

If no schools, district students attend: **Contoocook Valley Regional, Peterborough**  
 Regional Career Technology Center(s): **Contoocook Valley Regional High School**

Distance: **10 miles**  
 Region: **14**

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2003: Total Facilities: **1** Total Capacity: **12**

Nearest Community/Technical College: **Manchester; Concord**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **New England**

LARGEST EMPLOYERS	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.	Printing specialty papers	235	1819
Pierce Elementary School	Education		
Bennington Country Store	Convenience store		
Harris's 202 Convenience Store	Convenience store		
Alberto's Restaurant	Food service		
Town of Bennington	Municipal services		

**LABOR FORCE**

Annual Average	1992	2002
Civilian labor force	621	782
Employed	593	756
Unemployed	28	26
Unemployment rate	4.5%	3.3%

**COMMUTING TO WORK**

	(US CENSUS)
Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	83.0%
Carpooled, car/truck/van	11.0%
Public transportation	0.3%
Walked	2.8%
Other means	1.3%
Worked at home	1.6%

Mean Travel Time to Work **23.7 minutes**

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES**

	2001	2002
Goods Producing		
Average Employment	n	273
Average Weekly Wage	n	\$1,125
Service Providing		
Average Employment	n	85
Average Weekly Wage	n	\$249
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	330	358
Average Weekly Wage	\$896	\$917
Government		
Average Employment	24	24
Average Weekly Wage	\$407	\$406
Total, Private plus Government		
Average Employment	354	382
Average Weekly Wage	\$862	\$885

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

**RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

X	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
X	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
X	Tourist Attractions
	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
X	Youth Sports: Baseball
X	Youth Sports: Soccer
	Youth Sports: Football
	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
	Campgrounds
X	Fishing/Hunting
	Boating/Marinas
X	Snowmobile Trails
	Bicycle Trails
	Cross Country Skiing
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Crotched Mountain</b>
	Other:



## 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 Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.
Planning Board	Second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Library Trustees	First Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Library
Water/Sewer Com.	First Tuesday of each month at 7:00 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.



## ROGER MAGOON

It is with great sadness that we mark the passing of Roger Magoon in 2003. A WWII veteran, he lived in Bennington for over 50 years. He owned and operated Magoon Construction for 37 years – many will remember seeing him remove snow from the downtown area after a snowstorm. Roger served several terms as a Bennington Selectman and was an active member of the Planning Board and Historical Society. He was also a coach for Bennington's Babe Ruth teams for many years.

An avid reader, Roger's great passion was for airplanes and flying. He held his private pilot's license for over 50 years.

Roger is greatly missed by all who had the good fortune to know him.



**WILLIAM B. REID**

After ten years of exemplary service to the Town of Bennington, Administrator Bill Reid retired at the end of June. While employed with the Town, Bill was the consummate professional: diplomatic, compassionate and thorough. Although his presence is greatly missed by all, those who had the pleasure of working with him think of him often and with great affection. We wish Bill and his family health, happiness, and total enjoyment of his well-earned "time off".

