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2018 ANNUAL REPORTS



**for the
TOWN OF BENNINGTON
NEW HAMPSHIRE**



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for the Year Ended December 31, 2018

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CONCORD, NH

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

TOWN OFFICIALS

of

**BENNINGTON
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

for the Year Ended December 31, 2018

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Term Expires

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

David P. Hardwick, Sr.....	March 2019
Mark J. Mackesy	March 2020
James W. Cleary, Chair.....	March 2021

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Karen Belcher, Chair	March 2019
Joshua Segal.....	March 2020
Melissa Clark.....	March 2021

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Jill Wilmoth, Chair.....	March 2019
David McKenzie, Alternate	March 2019
Molly Eppig.....	March 2020
Jeanette Regis	March 2021

MODERATOR

John J. Cronin, III	March 2020
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PLANNING BOARD

David McKenzie, Chair	March 2019
Christopher Maple, Vice Chair.....	March 2019
Mark Mackesy, Ex-Officio	March 2019
Sam Cohen	March 2020
Donald Trow.....	March 2021

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Linda Quintanilha	March 2021
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SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Melissa Searles	March 2020
Brenda Gibbons	March 2022
Victoria Turner, Chair	March 2024

TOWN CLERK

Debra Belcher	March 2019
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TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

David Parker.....	March 2019
Bethany Craig.....	March 2020
Michael Munhall	March 2021

WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Dennis Mckenney.....	March 2019
David Beck	March 2020
Richard Reed	March 2021

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Christopher Clough.....	2019
Melissa Clark, Chair	2019
Sam Cohen	2020
Anthony Parisi, Vice Chair.....	2020
Jeffrey Rose	2021

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

Administrator – retired from fulltime employment November 1.....	Denise P. French
Deputy Administrator – promoted to Administrator as of November 1...	Kristie J. LaPlante

BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER..... Dario Carrara

CHIEF OF POLICE..... Bret M. Sullivan

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director.....	Keith W. Nason
Assistant Director	Kristie J. LaPlante

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief.....David Foster

HEALTH OFFICER..... Dario Carrara

HEALTH OFFICER, DEPUTY Debra Davidson

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR Debra Davidson

LIBRARY DIRECTOR..... Leslie MacGregor

ROAD AGENT..... Gary S. Russell

TAX COLLECTOR Kristie J. LaPlante

TOWN TREASURER..... Rhonda Davie

DEPUTY TOWN TREASURER Joyce Miner

APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Term Expires

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Debora Ash	2019
John Baybutt	2019
Jon Charlonne	2019
Judith Heddy	2019
Richard Reed	2019

CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDING COMMITTEE

James Cleary	2019
Peter Eppig	2019
David P. Hardwick, Sr.....	2019
Mark Mackesy	2019
David McKenzie	2019

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Thomas James.....	2019
Michael Munhall, Co- Chair	2019
Joseph MacGregor.....	2020
Jon Manley.....	2020
Vacant.....	2021
Valerie Germain, Co-Chair	2021

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Bret Sullivan	2019
James Cleary	2019
Gary Russell.....	2019

NEWHALL PARK BOARD

Gretchen Hutton	2019
David Parker.....	2020
Brian Whittemore.....	2021

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

David Parker.....	2019
Jeffrey Rose	2019
Gary Russell.....	2019

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Molly Eppig, Peter Eppig, David McKenzie, Michael Munhall



...In Memory of Those We Lost in 2018...

Barbara Parker
1943-2018

Barbara served her community as an office assistant at Town Hall and as a member of the Fire Department auxiliary. Barbara was a social woman who enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She took great joy in sewing and knitting; most of her crafts were gifted to loved ones.



**2019
WARRANT**

Bennington

The inhabitants of the Town of Bennington in the County of Hillsborough in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019
(Snow date February 8, 2019)
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Pierce Elementary School
Details: In the Library

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Location: Pierce Elementary School
Details: In the Multi Purpose Room

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before January 28, 2019, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the Bennington Town Hall and that an original was delivered to the Bennington Town Clerk

Name	Position	Signature
David P. Hardwick, Sr.	Selectman	
James W. Cleary	Selectman	
Mark J. Mackesy	Selectman	



Article 01 To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year
To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Article 02 Operating Budget
Shall the Town of Bennington raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant 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, seven hundred forty five thousand, seven hundred seventy three dollars (\$1,745,773)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be one million, seven hundred forty three thousand, five hundred five dollars (\$1,743,505), 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 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Article 03 Gift of Land
Shall the Town vote to accept a gift of a 1.9 acre parcel of land from Cold Springs Land Trust, located on Main Street and identified as Map 7, Lot 18 for the development of parking to benefit the Congregational Church, GEP Dodge Library, and other public functions? Among the restrictive covenants will be a provision for the Bennington Historical Society to erect a gazebo at no cost to the Town, no additional structures (other than the gazebo), and to preserve a location for a Christmas tree subject to regulation by the Town and not to the exclusion of any other religion.

Article 04 Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund
Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 05 Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund
Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 06 Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund previously established
Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Article 07 Water Dept Maintenance/Repairs CRF
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Water Department Maintenance & Repairs Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 08 Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund
Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee



2019
WARRANT

Article 09 Mower Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Mower Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 10 Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 11 Fire Department SCBA Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be added to the Fire Department Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 12 Fire Department Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand seven hundred dollars (\$5,700) to be added to the Fire Department Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 13 Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 14 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty seven thousand dollars (\$37,000) to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 15 Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 16 Re-purpose Rescue Chassis Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Rescue Chassis Capital Reserve Fund to the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the Selectmen as agents to expend from this Fund (2/3 vote required).
Recommended by the Selectmen

Article 17 Deferred Road Maintenance

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to provide additional Highway Department funds to address deferred road maintenance?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee



Article 18 Sewer Dept Asset Management Grant

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to develop a Sewer Asset Management Plan for the wastewater planning, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$30,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; said borrowing to be from NH DES Clean Water State Revolving Fund of which 100% of the principal is to be forgiven (3/5 vote required).

Article 19 Timber Sales to Conservation Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of eight thousand two hundred three dollars (\$8,203) from unassigned fund balance to be deposited in the Conservation Commission Fund, said amount representing 50% of the income derived from Timber Tax revenue in the preceding year?

Recommended by the Conservation Commission

Article 20 Gravel Sales to Conservation Fund

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of five hundred eight dollars (\$508) from unassigned fund balance to be deposited in the Conservation Commission Fund, said amount representing 50% of the income derived from excavation tax revenue in the preceding year?

Recommended by the Conservation Commission

Article 21 End 68 Hours of Hunger

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in support of "End 68 Hours of Hunger" - a nonprofit regional organization?

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 22 The Grapevine & Family Resource Center

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in support of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center - a nonprofit organization? The appropriation would provide \$4,000 funding for The Grapevine Family & Resource Center and \$2,000 funding for The Teen Center's programs and services.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 23 American Red Cross

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred dollars (\$700) in support of the American Red Cross - a nonprofit organization?

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 24 Contoocook Valley Transportation Company

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) in support of the Contoocook Valley Transportation Company - a nonprofit organization?

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 25 Court Appointed Special Advocates

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) in support of the Court Appointed Special Advocates - a nonprofit organization?

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee



Article 26 Contocook Housing Trust

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300) in support of the Contocook Housing Trust - a nonprofit organization?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Article 27 Child Advocacy Center

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in support of the Child Advocacy Center of Hillsborough County - a nonprofit organization?
Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 28 Relative to Motor Vehicle Registration Fees

Shall the Town vote, in accordance with RSA 261:157-a, to adopt an ordinance waiving the fee to be charged for a permit to register one motor vehicle owned by any person who was captured and incarcerated for 30 days or more while serving in a qualifying war or armed conflict as defined in RSA 72:28, V, and who was honorably discharged, provided the person has provided the Town Clerk with satisfactory proof of these circumstances.



Proposed Budget
Bennington

For the period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: January 28, 2019

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
David P. Hardwick Sr.	Selectman	
James W. Cleary	Selectman	
Mark J. Mackesy	Selectman	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending	for period ending	ending 12/31/2019	
			12/31/2018	12/31/2018	(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
General Government						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	02	\$198,374	\$195,823	\$191,065	\$0
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$41,935	\$48,846	\$45,617	\$0
4150-4151	Financial Administration	02	\$41,115	\$41,743	\$41,790	\$0
4152	Revaluation of Property	02	\$13,959	\$16,800	\$26,855	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$3,026	\$4,700	\$4,700	\$0
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	02	\$17,580	\$17,580	\$13,241	\$0
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	02	\$4,074	\$5,852	\$5,206	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$78,877	\$60,153	\$68,603	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$13,760	\$14,538	\$14,538	\$0
4196	Insurance	02	\$26,005	\$27,000	\$24,979	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Association		\$70,468	\$76,533	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Government Subtotal			\$509,173	\$509,568	\$436,594	\$0
Public Safety						
4210-4214	Police	02	\$355,875	\$355,957	\$372,854	\$0
4215-4219	Ambulance	02	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$0
4220-4229	Fire	02	\$60,709	\$81,111	\$77,100	\$0
4240-4249	Building Inspection	02	\$3,091	\$3,176	\$3,176	\$0
4290-4298	Emergency Management	02	\$1,167	\$1,840	\$1,840	\$0
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal			\$436,842	\$458,084	\$470,970	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center						
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets						
4311	Administration	02	\$224,311	\$273,888	\$261,037	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$171,487	\$149,500	\$149,500	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$11,346	\$9,000	\$7,500	\$0
4319	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal			\$407,144	\$432,388	\$418,037	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending	for period ending	ending 12/31/2019	
			12/31/2018	12/31/2018	(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
Sanitation						
4321	Administration	02	\$37,784	\$36,821	\$36,821	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	02	\$2,849	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$65,054	\$60,825	\$64,950	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	02	\$4,703	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$0
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	02	\$41,499	\$40,700	\$40,950	\$0
Sanitation Subtotal			\$151,889	\$148,346	\$157,221	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment						
4331	Administration	02	\$33,587	\$36,012	\$36,011	\$0
4332	Water Services	02	\$8,013	\$11,001	\$11,001	\$0
4335	Water Treatment	02	\$5,437	\$4,700	\$6,000	\$0
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal			\$47,037	\$51,713	\$53,012	\$0
Electric						
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health						
4411	Administration	02	\$0	\$102	\$102	\$0
4414	Pest Control	02	\$10	\$200	\$200	\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	02	\$5,845	\$5,845	\$5,845	\$0
Health Subtotal			\$5,855	\$6,147	\$6,147	\$0
Welfare						
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	02	\$7,588	\$14,679	\$12,178	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$935	\$720	\$935	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	02	\$1,502	\$4,801	\$3,302	\$0
Welfare Subtotal			\$10,025	\$20,200	\$16,415	\$0
Culture and Recreation						
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	02	\$25,850	\$26,002	\$33,460	\$0
4550-4559	Library	02	\$142,223	\$145,764	\$145,861	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$644	\$700	\$700	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	02	\$1,000	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$0
Culture and Recreation Subtotal			\$169,717	\$174,866	\$182,421	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending 12/31/2018	for period ending 12/31/2018	ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)
Conservation and Development						
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	02	\$823	\$823	\$823	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	02	\$633	\$633	\$1,133	\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal			\$1,456	\$1,456	\$1,956	\$0
Debt Service						
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	02	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Capital Outlay						
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out						
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$1,745,773	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	18	\$30,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Sewer Dept Asset Management Grant</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	04	\$25,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	05	\$10,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	06	\$1,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	07	\$25,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Water Dept Maintenance/Repairs CRF</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	08	\$15,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	09	\$1,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Mower Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	10	\$5,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	11	\$2,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Fire Department SCBA Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	12	\$5,700	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Fire Dept Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fu</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	14	\$37,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund</i>		
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	13	\$30,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund</i>		
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	15	\$10,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund</i>		
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$196,700	\$0



Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	22 <i>Purpose: The Grapevine & Family Resource Center</i>	\$6,000	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	21 <i>Purpose: End 68 Hours of Hunger</i>	\$1,000	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	27 <i>Purpose: Child Advocacy Center</i>	\$1,000	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	24 <i>Purpose: Contoocook Valley Transportation Company</i>	\$500	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	25 <i>Purpose: Court Appointed Special Advocates</i>	\$500	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	23 <i>Purpose: American Red Cross</i>	\$700	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	26 <i>Purpose: Contoocook Housing Trust</i>	\$300	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	19 <i>Purpose: Timber Sales to Conservation Fund</i>	\$8,203	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	20 <i>Purpose: Gravel Sales to Conservation Fund</i>	\$508	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	17 <i>Purpose: Deferred Road Maintenance</i>	\$45,000	\$0
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$63,711	\$0



Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2018	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2018	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund	02	\$107,500	\$11,000	\$1,000
3180	Resident Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax	02	\$16,407	\$17,000	\$10,000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	02	\$0	\$500	\$500
3187	Excavation Tax	02	\$1,017	\$1,100	\$1,100
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	02	\$40,915	\$48,000	\$48,000
9991	Inventory Penalties	02	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Taxes Subtotal			\$173,339	\$85,100	\$68,100
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	02	\$765	\$700	\$700
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	02	\$292,835	\$285,000	\$295,000
3230	Building Permits	02	\$4,288	\$3,000	\$4,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	02	\$5,253	\$6,000	\$6,000
3311-3319	From Federal Government		\$0	\$0	\$0
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal			\$303,141	\$294,700	\$305,700
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	02	\$74,708	\$74,708	\$74,708
3353	Highway Block Grant	02	\$45,099	\$45,125	\$45,125
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3379	From Other Governments	02	\$5,936	\$26,000	\$21,000
State Sources Subtotal			\$125,743	\$145,833	\$140,833
Charges for Services					
3401-3406	Income from Departments	02	\$18,914	\$12,000	\$16,000
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services Subtotal			\$18,914	\$12,000	\$16,000
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	02	\$0	\$500	\$500
3502	Interest on Investments	02	\$345	\$75	\$1,000
3503-3509	Other	02	\$16,042	\$15,000	\$15,000
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal			\$16,387	\$15,575	\$16,500



Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2018	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2018	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)	02	\$32,700	\$33,000	\$33,000
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)	02	\$58,745	\$57,000	\$57,000
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal			\$91,445	\$90,000	\$90,000
Other Financing Sources					
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes	18	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	19, 20	\$0	\$0	\$8,711
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$38,711
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$728,969	\$643,208	\$675,844



Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 12/31/2018	Period ending 12/31/2019
Operating Budget Appropriations		\$1,745,773
Special Warrant Articles	\$0	\$196,700
Individual Warrant Articles	\$0	\$63,711
Total Appropriations	\$1,729,235	\$2,006,184
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$613,760	\$675,844
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$1,115,475	\$1,330,340



Default Budget of the Municipality

Bennington

For the period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019

RSA 40:13, IX (b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.

This form was posted with the warrant on: January 28, 2019

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
David P. Hardwick, Sr.	Selectman	
James W. Cleary	Selectman	
Mark J. Mackesy	Selectman	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Prior Year Adopted Budget	Reductions or Increases	One-Time Appropriations	Default Budget
General Government					
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	\$195,823	(\$4,858)	\$0	\$190,965
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	\$48,846	\$20	(\$3,174)	\$45,692
4150-4151	Financial Administration	\$41,743	\$547	\$0	\$42,290
4152	Revaluation of Property	\$16,800	\$18,305	(\$5,000)	\$30,105
4153	Legal Expense	\$4,700	\$0	\$0	\$4,700
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	\$17,580	(\$4,340)	\$0	\$13,240
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	\$5,852	\$0	\$0	\$5,852
4194	General Government Buildings	\$60,153	\$7,082	\$0	\$67,235
4195	Cemeteries	\$14,538	\$0	\$0	\$14,538
4196	Insurance	\$27,000	(\$2,021)	\$0	\$24,979
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Government Subtotal		\$433,035	\$14,735	(\$8,174)	\$439,596
Public Safety					
4210-4214	Police	\$355,957	\$11,031	\$0	\$366,988
4215-4219	Ambulance	\$16,000	\$0	\$0	\$16,000
4220-4229	Fire	\$81,111	\$537	(\$500)	\$81,148
4240-4249	Building Inspection	\$3,176	\$0	\$0	\$3,176
4290-4298	Emergency Management	\$1,840	\$0	\$0	\$1,840
4299	Other (Including Communications)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal		\$458,084	\$11,568	(\$500)	\$469,152
Airport/Aviation Center					
4301-4309	Airport Operations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets					
4311	Administration	\$273,888	(\$12,851)	\$0	\$261,037
4312	Highways and Streets	\$149,500	\$0	\$0	\$149,500
4313	Bridges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$9,000
4319	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$432,388	(\$12,851)	\$0	\$419,537



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Prior Year Adopted Budget	Reductions or Increases	One-Time Appropriations	Default Budget
Sanitation					
4321	Administration	\$36,821	\$0	\$0	\$36,821
4323	Solid Waste Collection	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	\$60,825	\$4,125	\$0	\$64,950
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$12,000
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	\$40,700	\$0	\$0	\$40,700
Sanitation Subtotal		\$148,346	\$8,125	\$0	\$156,471
Water Distribution and Treatment					
4331	Administration	\$36,012	\$0	\$0	\$36,012
4332	Water Services	\$11,001	\$0	\$0	\$11,001
4335	Water Treatment	\$4,700	\$800	\$0	\$5,500
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$51,713	\$800	\$0	\$52,513
Electric					
4351-4352	Administration and Generation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health					
4411	Administration	\$102	\$0	\$0	\$102
4414	Pest Control	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$200
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	\$5,845	\$0	\$0	\$5,845
Health Subtotal		\$6,147	\$0	\$0	\$6,147
Welfare					
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	\$14,679	\$0	\$0	\$14,679
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	\$720	\$215	\$0	\$935
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	\$4,801	\$0	\$0	\$4,801
Welfare Subtotal		\$20,200	\$215	\$0	\$20,415
Culture and Recreation					
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	\$26,002	\$0	\$0	\$26,002
4550-4559	Library	\$145,764	\$352	\$0	\$146,116
4583	Patriotic Purposes	\$700	\$0	\$0	\$700
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	\$2,400	\$0	\$0	\$2,400
Culture and Recreation Subtotal		\$174,866	\$352	\$0	\$175,218



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Prior Year Adopted Budget	Reductions or Increases	One-Time Appropriations	Default Budget
Conservation and Development					
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	\$823	\$0	\$0	\$823
4619	Other Conservation	\$633	\$0	\$0	\$633
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal		\$1,456	\$0	\$0	\$1,456
Debt Service					
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
4790-4799	Other Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal		\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Capital Outlay					
4901	Land	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out					
4912	To Special Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations		\$1,729,235	\$22,944	(\$8,674)	\$1,743,505



Reasons for Reductions/Increases & One-Time Appropriations

Account	Explanation
4311	Change in staffing, cellphone plan
4140-4149	Fewer elections, IT contract increase
4130-4139	Dental increase, change in staff
4150-4151	Tax software increase, IT contract increase
4220-4229	Increase in dispatch costs & cellphone plan, decrease for Forestry Pump funding
4194	Pest control, heating contract
4196	Decrease in property liability insurance
4444	Meals on Wheels participants
4550-4559	Dental increase, heat contract
4155-4159	Worker's Comp holiday credit
4210-4214	Staffing changes, regional prosecutor, software increase, cellphone plan
4152	Town-wide Revaluation (+\$18,250), TDS contract in 2018 (-\$5,000), software increase
4325	Postclosure obligations as mandated by NH DES
4324	Waste removal contract
4335	Water samples required by NH DES



Bennington
Summary Inventory of Valuation

Reports Required: RSA 21-J:34 as amended, provides for certification of valuations, appropriations, estimated revenues and such other information as the Department of Revenue Administration may require upon reports 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.

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

Assessor
Kristie LaPlante

Municipal Officials		
Name	Position	Signature
JAMES W. CLEARY		
DAVID P. HARDWICK SR.		
MARK MACKESY		

Preparer		
Name	Phone	Email
Kristie LaPlante	588-2189	klaplante@townofbennington.com

Preparer's Signature

Land Value Only		Acres	Valuation
1A	Current Use RSA 79-A	4,654.60	\$359,955
1B	Conservation Restriction Assessment RSA 79-B	0.00	\$0
1C	Discretionary Easements RSA 79-C	0.00	\$0
1D	Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D	0.00	\$0
1E	Taxation of Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0.00	\$0
1F	Residential Land	1,761.51	\$21,178,500
1G	Commercial/Industrial Land	244.21	\$2,332,300
1H	Total of Taxable Land	6,660.32	\$23,870,755
1I	Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Land	285.39	\$1,496,500

Buildings Value Only		Structures	Valuation
2A	Residential		\$65,639,000
2B	Manufactured Housing RSA 674:31		\$1,446,100
2C	Commercial/Industrial		\$12,206,500
2D	Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D	0	\$0
2E	Taxation of Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	\$0
2F	Total of Taxable Buildings		\$79,291,600
2G	Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Buildings		\$6,547,300

Utilities & Timber		Valuation
3A	Utilities	\$3,636,400
3B	Other Utilities	\$0
4	Mature Wood and Timber RSA 79:5	\$0
5	Valuation before Exemption	\$106,798,755

Exemptions		Total Granted	Valuation
6	Certain Disabled Veterans RSA 72:36-a	0	\$0
7	Improvements to Assist the Deaf RSA 72:38-b V	0	\$0
8	Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities RSA 72:37-a	0	\$0
9	School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption RSA 72:23-IV	0	\$0
10A	Non-Utility Water & Air Pollution Control Exemption RSA 72:12	0	\$0
10B	Utility Water & Air Pollution Control Exemption RSA 72:12-a	0	\$0
11	Modified Assessed Value of All Properties		\$106,798,755

Optional Exemptions		Amount Per	Total Granted	Valuation
12	Blind Exemption RSA 72:37	\$15,000	0	\$0
13	Elderly Exemption RSA 72:39-a,b		14	\$750,000
14	Deaf Exemption RSA 72:38-b	\$0	0	\$0
15	Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37-b	\$0	0	\$0
16	Wood Heating Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:70		0	\$0
17	Solar Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:62		0	\$0
18	Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:66		0	\$0
19	Additional School Dining/Dorm/Kitchen Exemptions RSA 72:23		0	\$0
20	Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions			\$750,000
21A	Net Valuation			\$106,048,755
21B	Less TIF Retained Value			\$0
21C	Net Valuation Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value			\$106,048,755
22	Less Utilities			\$3,636,400
23A	Net Valuation without Utilities			\$102,412,355
23B	Net Valuation without Utilities, Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value			\$102,412,355



Utility Value Appraisers

Commerford, Neider, Perkins
 George Sansoucy, LLC

The municipality **DOES NOT** use DRA utility values. The municipality **IS NOT** equalized by the ratio.

Electric Company Name	Valuation
MONADNOCK PAPER MILLS INC	\$415,200
PSNH DBA EVERSOURCE ENERGY	\$3,221,200
	\$3,636,400



Veteran's Tax Credits	Limits	Number	Est. Tax Credits
Veterans' Tax Credit RSA 72:28	\$500	65	\$31,830
Surviving Spouse RSA 72:29-a	\$700	0	\$0
Tax Credit for Service-Connected Total Disability RSA 72:35	\$2,000	2	\$4,000
All Veterans Tax Credit RSA 72:28-b	\$0	0	\$0
		67	\$35,830

Deaf & Disabled Exemption Report

Deaf Income Limits	
Single	\$0
Married	\$0

Deaf Asset Limits	
Single	\$0
Married	\$0

Disabled Income Limits	
Single	\$0
Married	\$0

Disabled Asset Limits	
Single	\$0
Married	\$0

Elderly Exemption Report

First-time Filers Granted Elderly Exemption for the Current Tax Year

Age	Number
65-74	0
75-79	1
80+	0

Total Number of Individuals Granted Elderly Exemptions for the Current Tax Year and Total Number of Exemptions Granted

Age	Number	Amount	Maximum	Total
65-74	5	\$25,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
75-79	2	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
80+	7	\$75,000	\$525,000	\$525,000
	14		\$750,000	\$750,000

Income Limits	
Single	\$27,500
Married	\$39,500

Asset Limits	
Single	\$75,000
Married	\$75,000

Has the municipality adopted Community Tax Relief Incentive? RSA 79-E

Adopted? No

Number of Structures:

Has the municipality adopted Taxation of Certain Chartered Public School Facilities? RSA 79-H

Adopted? No

Number of Properties:

Has the municipality adopted Taxation of Qualifying Historic Buildings? RSA 79-G

Adopted? No

Number of Properties:



Current Use RSA 79-A	Total Acres	Valuation
Farm Land	175.48	\$50,123
Forest Land	2,163.65	\$194,868
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	2,031.12	\$109,394
Unproductive Land	39.28	\$686
Wet Land	245.07	\$4,884
	4,654.60	\$359,955

Other Current Use Statistics

Total Number of Acres Receiving 20% Rec. Adjustment	Acres:	1,961.29
Total Number of Acres Removed from Current Use During Current Tax Year	Acres:	
Total Number of Owners in Current Use	Owners:	78
Total Number of Parcels in Current Use	Parcels:	149

Land Use Change Tax

Gross Monies Received for Calendar Year		\$0
Conservation Allocation	Percentage: 50.00%	Dollar Amount: \$0
Monies to Conservation Fund		\$0
Monies to General Fund		\$0

Conservation Restriction Assessment Report RSA 79-B

	Acres	Valuation
Farm Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	0.00	\$0
Unproductive Land	0.00	\$0
Wet Land	0.00	\$0
	0.00	\$0

Other Conservation Restriction Assessment Statistics

Total Number of Acres Receiving 20% Rec. Adjustment	Acres:	0.00
Total Number of Acres Removed from Conservation Restriction During Current Tax Year	Acres:	
Owners in Conservation Restriction	Owners:	0
Parcels in Conservation Restriction	Parcels:	0



Discretionary Easements RSA 79-C	Acres	Owners	Assessed Valuation
	0.00	0	\$0

Taxation of Farm Structures and Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F				
Number Granted	Structures	Acres	Land Valuation	Structure Valuation
0	0	0.00	\$0	\$0

Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D				
Owners	Structures	Acres	Land Valuation	Structure Valuation
0	0	0.00	\$0	\$0

Map	Lot	Block	%	Description
<i>This municipality has no Discretionary Preservation Easements.</i>				

Tax Increment Financing District	Date	Original	Unretained	Retained	Current
<i>This municipality has no TIF districts.</i>					

Revenues Received from Payments in Lieu of Tax	Revenue	Acres
State and Federal Forest Land, Recreational and/or land from MS-434, account 3356 and 3357	\$0.00	0.00
White Mountain National Forest only, account 3186	\$0.00	0.00

Payments in Lieu of Tax from Renewable Generation Facilities (RSA 72:74)	Amount
<i>This municipality has not adopted RSA 72:74 or has no applicable PILT sources.</i>	

Other Sources of Payments in Lieu of Taxes (MS-434 Account 3186)	Amount
Town of Antrim	\$500
	\$500



Notes

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**TOWN OF BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2018 TOWN MEETING
DELIBERATIVE SESSION-SESSION 1
AND
MARCH 13, 2018 TOWN ELECTION RESULTS-SESSION 2**

Session 1 of the 2018 Bennington Town Meeting convened on Friday, February 6, 2017 at the Pierce School multi-purpose room in Bennington New Hampshire. John J. Cronin III, the Town Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and there was a moment of silence for Joe O'Brien and Jack Spanos. The Moderator, as mandated under Senate Bill 2, which the Town of Bennington adopted on March 12, 1996, briefly explained the procedures and rules of conduct for the Deliberative Session. Each warrant article will be read and discussed and any amendments proposed from the floor must be submitted in writing to the Moderator. It was noted that the articles will be heard out of order hearing article # 31 first.

All voting on the Warrant Articles, Town and School District Officials, and the Conval School District Warrant Articles will be voted on at the polls on March 13, 2018 at Pierce School in Bennington, New Hampshire. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bennington in the County of Hillsborough in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):

Date: February 9, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Pierce Elementary School

Details: 19 Main Street

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: March 13, 2018

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Pierce Elementary School

Details: 19 Main Street

Note: The casting of absentee ballots will begin at 2:00 p.m. The polls will close at 7:00 p.m.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Cemetery Trustee (3 years)	Melissa M. Clark
Planning Board (3 years)	Donald A. Trow
Water and Sewer Commissioner (3 years)	Richard F. Reed
Selectman (3 years)	James W. Cleary
Selectman (1 year)	David P. Hardwick Sr.
Library Trustee (3 years)	Jeanette Regis
Trustee of Trust Funds (3 years)	Michael Munhall
Trustee of Trust Funds (2 years)	Bethany Craig
Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 years)	Jeffrey Rose
Moderator (2 years)	John J. Cronin III
Supervisor of the Checklist (6 years)	Victoria L. Turner

When the polls opened at 8:00 a.m., the Voter Checklist contained 1047 registered voters. During Election Day, 10 new voters were added to the checklist. When the polls closed at 7:00 p.m., the Voters Checklist contained 101057 voters. A total of 218 voters cast their ballots in this election, which was a 21 % voter turnout.

The Deliberative Town Meeting, Session 1 was attended by 24 registered voters

The Moderator initiated the following articles:

2. Are you in favor of amending Article IX (Signs), Section B.7 of the Zoning Ordinance? The proposed full text of Article IX is attached.

Note: Moderator Cronin noted that this article may not be amended.

2018 RESULTS: YES-140 NO-55
THE ARTICLE PASSED

3. Are you in favor of amending Article XVII, Section 14 (Home Occupation) of the Zoning Ordinance? The proposed full text is attached.

Note: This is also a zoning ordinance article and may not be amended.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 131 NO- 71
THE ARTICLE PASSED

31. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in support of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center - a nonprofit organization? The appropriation would provide \$4,000 funding for The Grapevine Family & Resource Center and \$2,000 funding for The Teen Center's programs and services?

Note: Melissa Gallagher, Director of The Grapevine spoke to the article noting the many services provided by The Grapevine. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 139 NO- 56
THE ARTICLE PASSED

4. Shall the Town of Bennington raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant 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 \$1,729,235? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,712,824, 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 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article noting a 2.17 % increase in the operating budget. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 140 NO- 70
THE ARTICLE PASSED

5. Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, II(b) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property?

Note: Selectman Rose addressed the article noting that this article is supported by the Selectmen and the Conservation Commission. Administrator French presented an amendment to correct the RSA number to RSA 36-A:4-a, Ib. The amendment was accepted. Valerie German, Co-Chairman of the Conservation Commission spoke to the article explaining that the fund was established in 1995. In 2009 the voters authorized the town to add 50% of the land use tax to the fund. Frankestown Land Trust has gotten grants to purchase property in Bennington for conservation use. The Conservation Commissioners would like to be able to contribute to this purchase. This article would authorize the Conservation Commissioners to expend funds. Dennis McKenney asked if this authority will carry over from year to year. Administrator French indicated that it would. No other amendments were introduced and the article was accepted.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 146 NO- 60
THE ARTICLE PASSED

6. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

Note: Selectman Cleary addressed the article noting that there is \$276,000 currently in the fund. Philip Germain asked when the truck was scheduled to be replaced. The truck is

scheduled to be replaced in 20 years. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 157 NO- 54
THE ARTICLE PASSED

7. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that the police cruiser is scheduled to be replaced next year. There is currently \$25,684 in the fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 141 NO- 69
THE ARTICLE PASSED

8. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand (\$15,000) to be added to the Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

Note: Selectmen Cleary spoke to the article noting that much had been accomplished last year and the Road Agent would like to keep it going. There is currently \$40,636 in the fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 168 NO- 43
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that there currently is \$6,079 in the fund. The mower was replaced about 6 years ago. A new mower would be in the range of \$12,000 to \$16,000. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 145 NO- 66
THE ARTICLE PASSED

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

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is the normal appropriation. The current amount in the fund is \$50,787. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 142 NO-70
THE ARTICLE PASSED

11. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be added to the Fire Department Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

Note: Selectman Rose introduced the article and asked Fire Chief, David Foster to speak to it. There is currently \$35,407 in the fund. The Fire Department is looking at new vendors to start replacing SCBA packs. NO amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 167 NO- 45
THE ARTICLE PASSED

12. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand seven hundred dollars (\$5,700) to be added to the Fire Department Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is an annual article. There is currently \$11,775 in the fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 171 NO- 41
THE ARTICLE PASSED

13. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty three thousand dollars (\$33,000) to the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund previously established?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that there is currently \$73,522 in the fund. The VFW feasibility study has been completed. The Town Hall is crowded and it was noted that the Police Department has privacy issues with the tight quarters. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 139 NO- 72
THE ARTICLE PASSED

14. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to be added to the Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article reminding everyone that the revaluation is mandated by the State. The revaluation will happen in the next 5 years. Some of the work validating known information is being done ahead of time. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 131 NO- 78
THE ARTICLE PASSED

15. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty seven thousand dollars (\$37,000) to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that there is currently \$41,067 in the fund. The heavy equipment is the main thing that the Highway Department needs. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 137 NO- 73
THE ARTICLE PASSED

16. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund?

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that the bridge on Antrim Road by Alberto's Restaurant has been red flagged by the State. There is currently \$26,900 in the fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 152 NO- 59
THE ARTICLE PASSED

17. To see if the town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Rescue Chassis Capital Reserve Fund to the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the Selectmen as agents to expend from this Fund. (2/3 vote required).

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that a 2/3 majority vote is required for the article to pass. This article would change the wording to create a broader usage of the fund. The article is not asking for more money. Michael Hoiriis, a prior Fire Department member stated that the rescue chassis that had been bought was to become the brush truck. He asked if re-mounting the chassis will create an unexpected need for funds. Selectman Cleary stated that it has been discussed whether the use of the brush truck will be discontinued. NO amendments were introduced and the amendment was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 133 NO-74
THE ARTICLE FAILED

18. To see if the town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Water Pump Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to the Water Department Maintenance and Repairs Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the Selectmen as agents to expend from this Fund. (2/3 vote required).

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is a housekeeping article. It will require a 2/3 majority vote. Water Commissioner David Beck noted that the Commissioners strongly support the article. Philip Germain asked if the purpose of the fund will be changed. The verbiage will allow the Water Commissioners to have the use of the funds for maintenance and repairs instead of being locked in to replacement of the pump. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 148 NO- 63
THE ARTICLE PASSED

19. To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund that was created for the purpose of replacing the Depot Street/North Bennington Road bridge. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that this will allow the Town to transfer money to the general fund that is currently unavailable to use. Philip Germain asked if this article will allow the money to be used for repairs to any bridge. This article only closes the account. Bridge repairs are addressed in a different article. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES-167 NO- 43
THE ARTICLE PASSED

20. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand nine hundred ninety seven dollars (\$15,997) to be deposited into the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. This sum represents the amount of principal and interest funds in the discontinued Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund as of December 31, 2017.) This article is contingent on the passage of Article 19. If Article 19 does not pass this article will be passed over.

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that the funds from the account closed in article 19 would be transferred to Bridge Maintenance. This is contingent on article 19 passing. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 150 NO- 60
THE ARTICLE PASSED

21. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Highway Equipment Loader/Grader Capital Reserve Fund? Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that this article would discontinue the Highway Equipment Loader/Grader Capital Reserve Fund. The money would be transferred to the General Fund. This is a sister article to article 22. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 160 NO- 49
THE ARTICLE PASSED

22. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty seven thousand six hundred thirty one dollars (\$51,631) to be deposited into the Highway Heavy Equipment

Capital Reserve Fund with said sum to come from the unassigned fund balance? (This amount represents the amount of principal and interest funds in the discontinued Highway Equipment Loader/Grader Capital Reserve Fund as of December 31, 2017). This article is contingent on the passage of Article 21. If Article 21 does not pass, this article will be passed over.

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that this article is contingent on article 21. Administrator French brought forward an amendment to correct a typo in the article to read \$57,631 to be raised and appropriated. The amendment was accepted. No other amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as corrected.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 145 NO- 66
THE ARTICLE PASSED

23. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to provide additional Highway Department funds to address deferred road maintenance?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that this is year 2 of a 3 year plan to address road maintenance. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 148 NO- 62
THE ARTICLE PASSED

24. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in support of Whittemore Beach staffing?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that the Town has had a hard time getting life guards. Bethany Craig from the Recreation Department noted that this has been an article for the past few years. In 2017 the Town had 4 beach attendants and 1 lifeguard. The beach is staffed 7 days a week weather permitting. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 143 NO- 67

25. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the purpose of an Asset Management Planning Grant for the Water Department? Of the \$40,000 appropriation, up to \$20,000 will come from a grant awarded by NH Department of Environmental Services and the balance (\$20,000) will come from taxation. This is a non-lapsing Article and will not lapse until 12/31/2023 or until the project is completed whichever comes first.

Note: Selectman Rose asked Water and Sewer Commissioner, David Beck to speak to the article. Up to \$20,000 can be awarded from a grant contingent on the approval of the article. Some of the Town's pipes are over 100 years old. The Town has a well and the back up well is in Antrim. The plan is to update the water system first. The funds will pay

for Town staffing. Water and Sewer Commissioner, Dennis McKenney added that the water system is an aging infrastructure and the Town should be pro-active instead of re-active. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 130 NO- 80
THE ARTICLE PASSED

26. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the existing Conservation Commission Fund (established in 1995)? This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation.

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that there is no amount to be raised from taxes. The sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance of \$92,000 to be returned. Conservation Commissioner Valerie Germain thanked the Selectmen for their support. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 138 NO- 55
THE ARTICLE PASSED

27. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of fifteen thousand three hundred sixty four dollars (\$15,364) from unassigned fund balance to be deposited in the Conservation Commission Fund, said amount representing 50% of the income derived from timber tax revenue in the preceding year?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that the State has recommended that a portion of the money that has been collected from timber tax be calculated from the previous year to be added to the Conservation Commission Fund. This will be an annual article. State Representative, Jon Manley noted that this funding will protect and preserve land. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: 125 NO- 66
THE ARTICLE PASSED

28. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of three hundred nineteen dollars (\$319) from unassigned fund balance to be deposited in the Conservation Commission Fund, said amount representing 50% of the income derived from excavation tax revenue in the preceding year?

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this article has the same intent as the previous article. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 140 NO- 53
THE ARTICLE PASSED

29. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of seven hundred dollars \$700 from unassigned fund balance to be deposited in the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, said amount representing 100% of the income derived from the sale of cemetery lots in the preceding year?

Note: Selectman Rose asked Cemetery Trustee, Karen Belcher to speak to the article. The article allows funds from the sale of cemetery lots to be transferred to be used by the Cemetery Trustees. Last year the Town sold 2 cemetery lots. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 156 NO- 37
THE ARTICLE PASSED

30. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in support of "End 68 Hours of Hunger" - a nonprofit regional organization?

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is a nonprofit organization that provides food assistance for ConVal area students. The organization serves approximately 180 students at a cost of \$2,000 per week. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 141 NO- 53
THE ARTICLE PASSED

31. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in support of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center - a nonprofit organization? The appropriation would provide \$4,000 funding for The Grapevine Family & Resource Center and \$2,000 funding for The Teen Center's programs and services?

Note: Selectman Rose asked Melissa Gallagher, Director of the Grapevine to speak to the article. The Grapevine serves the youth of the area and is asking for additional funding for the Teen Center. NO amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 139 NO- 56
THE ARTICLE PASSED

32. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred dollars (\$700) in support of the American Red Cross - a nonprofit organization?

Note: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that the Town has supported the Red Cross for many years. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 131 NO- 62
THE ARTICLE PASSED

33. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) in support of the Contoocook Valley Transportation Company - a nonprofit organization?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that this is a nonprofit organization that makes a significant difference in the quality of life for the citizens it serves. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 142 NO- 52
THE ARTICLE PASSED

34. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) in support of the Court Appointed Special Advocates - a nonprofit organization.

Note: Selectman Cleary asked Moderator, John Cronin III to speak to the article. CASA is a valuable voice for children in the court. Debra Belcher spoke in support of the organization as a family who has used their services. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 136 NO- 60
THE ARTICLE PASSED

35. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300) in support of the Contoocook Housing Trust - a nonprofit organization?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that there are 2 houses in town owned by the Contoocook Housing Trust. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 127 NO- 67
THE ARTICLE PASSED

36. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six hundred dollars (\$600) in support of the Child Advocacy Center of Hillsborough County - a nonprofit organization?

Note: Selectman Cleary asked Moderator, John Cronin III to speak to the article. The Child Advocacy Center is a safe place for people to go with their children. They work with CASA and are an essential service. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 146 NO- 50
THE ARTICLE PASSED

37. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) in support of The Good Samaritans - a nonprofit organization?

Note: Selectman Rose spoke to the article noting that this is a new request from a nonprofit organization in Keene that runs a suicide hot line. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2018 RESULTS: YES- 127 NO- 67
THE ARTICLE PASSED

No new business was introduced and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Bennington Town Clerk



Report of Appropriations Actually Voted
Bennington

For the period beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018
Form Due Date: **20 Days after the Annual Meeting**

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

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. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
James W. Cleary	Chair, Board of Selectmen	
David P. Hardwick, Sr.	Selectman	
Mark J. Mackesy	Selectman	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



Report of Appropriations Actually Voted

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations As Voted
General Government			
4130-4139	Executive	04	\$195,823
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	04	\$48,846
4150-4151	Financial Administration	04	\$41,743
4152	Revaluation of Property	04	\$16,800
4153	Legal Expense	04	\$4,700
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	04	\$17,580
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	04	\$5,852
4194	General Government Buildings	04	\$60,153
4195	Cemeteries	04	\$14,538
4196	Insurance	04	\$27,000
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	24,25,26,27,28,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37	\$76,533
4199	Other General Government		\$0
General Government Subtotal			\$509,568
Public Safety			
4210-4214	Police	04	\$355,957
4215-4219	Ambulance	04	\$16,000
4220-4229	Fire	04	\$81,111
4240-4249	Building Inspection	04	\$3,176
4290-4298	Emergency Management	04	\$1,840
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0
Public Safety Subtotal			\$458,084
Airport/Aviation Center			
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal			\$0
Highways and Streets			
4311	Administration	04	\$273,888
4312	Highways and Streets	04	\$149,500
4313	Bridges		\$0
4316	Street Lighting	04	\$9,000
4319	Other		\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal			\$432,388
Sanitation			
4321	Administration	04	\$36,821
4323	Solid Waste Collection	04	\$2,000
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	04	\$60,825
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	04	\$8,000
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	04	\$40,700



Report of Appropriations Actually Voted

Sanitation Subtotal

\$148,346

Water Distribution and Treatment

4331	Administration	04	\$36,012
4332	Water Services	04	\$11,001
4335	Water Treatment	04	\$4,700
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal			\$51,713

Electric

4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0
Electric Subtotal			\$0

Health

4411	Administration	04	\$102
4414	Pest Control	04	\$200
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	04	\$5,845
Health Subtotal			\$6,147

Welfare

4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	04	\$14,679
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	04	\$720
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	04	\$4,801
Welfare Subtotal			\$20,200

Culture and Recreation

4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	04	\$26,002
4550-4559	Library	04	\$145,764
4583	Patriotic Purposes	04	\$700
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	04	\$2,400
Culture and Recreation Subtotal			\$174,866

Conservation and Development

4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	04	\$823
4619	Other Conservation	04	\$633
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal			\$1,456

Debt Service



Report of Appropriations Actually Voted

4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal		\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest		\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	04	\$3,000
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$3,000
Capital Outlay			
4901	Land		\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	23	\$45,000
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$45,000
Operating Transfers Out			
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other		\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer		\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	06,07,08,09,10,11,12,14,15,20,22	\$181,328
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	13,16,29	\$43,700
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds		\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal			\$225,028
Total Voted Appropriations			\$2,075,796




Tax Rate Breakdown Bennington

Municipal Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Municipal	\$1,313,456	\$106,048,755	\$12.38
County	\$120,634	\$106,048,755	\$1.14
Local Education	\$1,762,575	\$106,048,755	\$16.62
State Education	\$242,362	\$102,412,355	\$2.37
Total	\$3,439,027		\$32.51

Village Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Total	\$0		\$0.00

Tax Commitment Calculation	
Total Municipal Tax Effort	\$3,439,027
War Service Credits	(\$35,830)
Village District Tax Effort	\$0
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$3,403,197

 Stephan Hamilton Director of Municipal and Property Division New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration	11/7/2018
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Appropriations and Revenues

Municipal Accounting Overview

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Total Appropriation	\$2,075,796	
Net Revenues (Not Including Fund Balance)		(\$643,208)
Fund Balance Voted Surplus		(\$95,011)
Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		(\$60,000)
War Service Credits	\$35,830	
Special Adjustment	\$0	
Actual Overlay Used	\$49	
Net Required Local Tax Effort	\$1,313,456	

County Apportionment

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net County Apportionment	\$120,634	
Net Required County Tax Effort	\$120,634	

Education

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net Local School Appropriations	\$0	
Net Cooperative School Appropriations	\$3,097,209	
Net Education Grant		(\$1,092,272)
Locally Retained State Education Tax		(\$242,362)
Net Required Local Education Tax Effort	\$1,762,575	
State Education Tax	\$242,362	
State Education Tax Not Retained	\$0	
Net Required State Education Tax Effort	\$242,362	

Valuation

Municipal (MS-1)

Description	Current Year	Prior Year
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities	\$106,048,755	\$104,186,413
Total Assessment Valuation without Utilities	\$102,412,355	\$100,550,013

Village (MS-1V)

Description	Current Year
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Bennington

Tax Commitment Verification

2018 Tax Commitment Verification - RSA 76:10 II

Description	Amount
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$3,403,197
1/2% Amount	\$17,016
Acceptable High	\$3,420,213
Acceptable Low	\$3,386,181

If the amount of your total warrant varies by more than 1/2%, the MS-1 form used to calculate the tax rate might not be correct. The tax rate will need to be recalculated. Contact your assessors immediately and call us at 603.230.5090 before you issue the bills. See RSA 76:10, II

Commitment Amount	
Less amount for any applicable Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIF)	
Net amount after TIF adjustment	

Under penalties of perjury, I verify the amount above was the 2018 commitment amount on the property tax warrant.

Tax Collector/Deputy Signature:	Date:
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Requirements for Semi-Annual Billing

Pursuant to RSA 76:15-a

76:15-a Semi-Annual Collection of Taxes in Certain Towns and Cities - I. Taxes shall be collected in the following manner in towns and cities which adopt the provisions of this section in the manner set out in RSA 76:15-b. A partial payment of the taxes assessed on April 1 in any tax year shall be computed by taking the prior year's assessed valuation times 1/2 of the previous year's tax rate; provided, however, that whenever it shall appear to the selectmen or assessors that certain individual properties have physically changed in valuation, they may use the current year's appraisal times 1/2 the previous year's tax rate to compute the partial payment.

Bennington	Total Tax Rate	Semi-Annual Tax Rate
Total 2018 Tax Rate	\$32.51	\$16.26

Associated Villages

Fund Balance Retention

Enterprise Funds and Current Year Bonds	\$90,000
General Fund Operating Expenses	\$4,111,367
Final Overlay	\$49

DRA has provided a reference range of fund balance retention amounts below. Please utilize these ranges in the determination of the adequacy of your municipality's unrestricted fund balance, as currently defined in GASB Statement 54. Retention amounts, as part of the municipality's stabilization fund policy [1], should be assessed dependent upon your governments own long-term forecasts and special circumstances. Please note that current best practices published by GFOA recommend, at a minimum, that "...general purpose governments, regardless of size, maintain unrestricted fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months of regular general fund operating revenues or regular general fund operating expenditures." [2],[3]

[1] The National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting (NACSLB), (1998), *Framework for Improved State and Local Government Budgeting: Recommended Budget Practices (4.1)*, pg. 17.
 [2] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2009), *Best Practice: Determining the Appropriate Level of Unrestricted Fund Balance in the General Fund*.
 [3] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2011), *Best Practice: Replenishing General Fund Balance*.

2018 Fund Balance Retention Guidelines: Bennington

Description	Amount
Current Amount Retained (5.94%)	\$244,265
17% Retained (<i>Maximum Recommended</i>)	\$698,932
10% Retained	\$411,137
8% Retained	\$328,909
5% Retained (<i>Minimum Recommended</i>)	\$205,568



Financial Report of the Budget

Bennington

For the period ending December 31, 2018

PREPARER'S EFILE CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Tammy R. Webb

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
JAMES W CLEARLY	Selectman	<i>James W Clearly</i>
MARK J MACKESY	Selectman	<i>Mark J Mackesy</i>
David P Hardwick		<i>David P Hardwick</i>

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



Expenditures

Account	Purpose	Voted Appropriations	Actual Expenditures
General Government			
4130-4139	Executive	\$195,823	\$198,374
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	\$48,846	\$41,934
4150-4151	Financial Administration	\$41,743	\$41,345
4152	Revaluation of Property	\$16,800	\$13,959
4153	Legal Expense	\$4,700	\$3,025
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	\$17,580	\$17,580
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	\$5,852	\$4,074
4194	General Government Buildings	\$60,153	\$78,877
4195	Cemeteries	\$14,538	\$13,760
4196	Insurance	\$27,000	\$26,005
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	\$76,533	\$76,968
<i>Explanation: carryforwards of \$6,500 from 12/31/17</i>			
4199	Other General Government	\$0	\$0
General Government Subtotal		\$509,568	\$515,901
Public Safety			
4210-4214	Police	\$355,957	\$355,875
4215-4219	Ambulance	\$16,000	\$16,000
4220-4229	Fire	\$81,111	\$60,709
4240-4249	Building Inspection	\$3,176	\$3,091
4290-4298	Emergency Management	\$1,840	\$1,167
4299	Other (Including Communications)	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal		\$458,084	\$436,842
Airport/Aviation Center			
4301-4309	Airport Operations	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal		\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets			
4311	Administration	\$273,888	\$224,311
4312	Highways and Streets	\$149,500	\$171,487
4313	Bridges	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	\$9,000	\$11,346
4319	Other	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$432,388	\$407,144



2019
MS-535

Expenditures

Account	Purpose	Voted Appropriations	Actual Expenditures
Sanitation			
4321	Administration	\$36,821	\$37,784
4323	Solid Waste Collection	\$2,000	\$2,849
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	\$60,825	\$65,054
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	\$8,000	\$4,703
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	\$40,700	\$41,499
Sanitation Subtotal		\$148,346	\$151,889
Water Distribution and Treatment			
4331	Administration	\$36,012	\$33,587
4332	Water Services	\$11,001	\$8,013
4335	Water Treatment	\$4,700	\$5,437
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other	\$0	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$51,713	\$47,037
Electric			
4351-4352	Administration and Generation	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs	\$0	\$0
Electric Subtotal		\$0	\$0
Health			
4411	Administration	\$102	\$0
4414	Pest Control	\$200	\$10
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	\$5,845	\$5,845
Health Subtotal		\$6,147	\$5,855
Welfare			
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	\$14,679	\$7,588
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	\$720	\$935
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	\$4,801	\$1,502
Welfare Subtotal		\$20,200	\$10,025
Culture and Recreation			
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	\$26,002	\$25,850
4550-4559	Library	\$145,764	\$142,668
4583	Patriotic Purposes	\$700	\$644
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	\$2,400	\$1,000
Culture and Recreation Subtotal		\$174,866	\$170,162



Expenditures

Account	Purpose	Voted Appropriations	Actual Expenditures
Conservation and Development			
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	\$823	\$823
4619	Other Conservation	\$633	\$633
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development	\$0	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal		\$1,456	\$1,456
Debt Service			
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	\$0	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	\$0	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	\$3,000	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal		\$3,000	\$0
Capital Outlay			
4901	Land	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	\$45,000	\$86,661
<i>Explanation: carryforwards of \$43,773 from 12/31/17.</i>			
Capital Outlay Subtotal		\$45,000	\$86,661
Operating Transfers Out			
4912	To Special Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water	\$0	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	\$181,328	\$180,592
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	\$43,700	\$43,700
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal		\$225,028	\$224,292



2019
MS-535

Expenditures

Account	Purpose	Voted Appropriations	Actual Expenditures
Payments to Other Governments			
4931	Taxes Assessed for County	\$0	\$120,634
<i>Explanation: appropriation from DRA</i>			
4932	Taxes Assessed for Village District	\$0	\$0
4933	Taxes Assessed for Local Education	\$0	\$1,762,575
<i>Explanation: appropriation from DRA</i>			
4934	Taxes Assessed for State Education	\$0	\$242,362
<i>Explanation: appropriation from DRA</i>			
4939	Payments to Other Governments	\$0	\$0
Payments to Other Governments Subtotal			\$2,125,571
Total Before Payments to Other Governments		\$2,075,796	\$2,057,264
Plus Payments to Other Governments			\$2,125,571
Plus Commitments to Other Governments from Tax Rate		\$2,125,571	
Less Proprietary/Special Funds		\$0	\$0
Total General Fund Expenditures		\$4,201,367	\$4,182,835



Revenues

Account	Source of Revenues	Estimated Revenues	Actual Revenues
Taxes			
3110	Property Taxes	\$0	\$3,406,632
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund	\$11,000	\$10,750
3121	Land Use Change Taxes (Conservation)	\$0	\$0
3180	Resident Tax	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax	\$17,000	\$16,407
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$500	\$500
3187	Excavation Tax	\$1,100	\$1,017
3189	Other Taxes	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$48,000	\$40,915
9991	Inventory Penalties	\$7,500	\$0
Taxes Subtotal		\$85,100	\$3,476,221
Licenses, Permits, and Fees			
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	\$700	\$765
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$285,000	\$292,836
3230	Building Permits	\$3,000	\$4,288
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	\$6,000	\$5,254
3311-3319	From Federal Government	\$0	\$0
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal		\$294,700	\$303,143
State Sources			
3351	Shared Revenues	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	\$74,708	\$74,708
3353	Highway Block Grant	\$45,125	\$45,099
3354	Water Pollution Grant	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	\$0	\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement	\$0	\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)	\$0	\$0
3379	From Other Governments	\$26,000	\$22,904
State Sources Subtotal		\$145,833	\$142,711
Charges for Services			
3401-3406	Income from Departments	\$12,000	\$15,987
3409	Other Charges	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services Subtotal		\$12,000	\$15,987
Miscellaneous Revenues			
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	\$500	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments	\$75	\$345
3503-3509	Other	\$15,000	\$16,487
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal		\$15,575	\$16,832



2019
MS-535

Revenues

Account	Source of Revenues	Estimated Revenues	Actual Revenues
Interfund Operating Transfers In			
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)	\$33,000	\$34,708
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)	\$57,000	\$61,360
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	\$0	\$72,892
<i>Explanation: from discontinued capital reserve funds (WA #19 and WA #21)</i>			
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds	\$0	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal		\$90,000	\$168,960
Other Financing Sources			
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes	\$0	\$0
Other Financing Sources Subtotal		\$0	\$0
Less Proprietary/Special Funds		\$0	\$0
Plus Property Tax Commitment from Tax Rate		\$3,439,027	
Total General Fund Revenues		\$4,082,235	\$4,123,854



Balance Sheet

Account	Description	Starting Balance	Ending Balance
Current Assets			
1010	Cash and Equivalents	\$1,046,554	\$985,694
1030	Investments	\$0	\$0
1080	Tax Receivable	\$212,523	\$232,132
1110	Tax Liens Receivable	\$129,570	\$127,005
	<i>Explanation: Net of allowance for \$20,000</i>		
1150	Accounts Receivable	\$19,895	\$22,087
1260	Due from Other Governments	\$5,185	\$18,708
1310	Due from Other Funds	\$6,891	\$26,610
1400	Other Current Assets	\$0	\$0
1670	Tax Deeded Property (Subject to Resale)	\$0	\$0
	Current Assets Subtotal	\$1,420,618	\$1,412,236
Current Liabilities			
2020	Warrants and Accounts Payable	\$30,718	\$44,803
2030	Compensated Absences Payable	\$0	\$0
2050	Contracts Payable	\$0	\$0
2070	Due to Other Governments	\$2,882	\$555
2075	Due to School Districts	\$934,271	\$961,749
2080	Due to Other Funds	\$0	\$10,750
2220	Deferred Revenue	\$993	\$1,606
2230	Notes Payable - Current	\$0	\$0
2270	Other Payable	\$0	\$0
	Current Liabilities Subtotal	\$968,864	\$1,019,463
Fund Equity			
2440	Non-spendable Fund Balance	\$0	\$0
2450	Restricted Fund Balance	\$37,913	\$2,112
2460	Committed Fund Balance	\$0	\$3,033
2490	Assigned Fund Balance	\$14,565	\$0
2530	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$399,276	\$387,628
	Fund Equity Subtotal	\$451,754	\$392,773



2019
MS-535

Tax Commitment

Source	County	Village	Local Education	State Education	Other	Property Tax
MS-535	\$120,634	\$0	\$1,762,575	\$242,362	\$0	\$3,406,632
Commitment	\$120,634	\$0	\$1,762,575	\$242,362		\$3,439,027
Difference	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		(\$32,395)

General Fund Balance Sheet Reconciliation

Total Revenues	\$4,123,854
Total Expenditures	\$4,182,835
Change	(\$58,981)
<hr/>	
Ending Fund Equity	\$392,773
Beginning Fund Equity	\$451,754
Change	(\$58,981)

SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

2018 has been a year of change and growth for the Town – changes in staffing, changes to infrastructure, changes to programs, and changes to operations. With these changes comes the enormous potential for growth.

Let's start with staffing changes. Resignations in 2018 included Peter Martel – Energy Committee, John Baybutt – Conservation Commission, Lori Ricci – Office Assistant, John Plourde – Highway Department, and Phil Marcellino – Police Department. David Hardwick Sr. succeeded Jeff Rose as Selectman. We also welcomed new faces: Mike Munhall – Trustee of Trust Funds, and Damon Beaudreau – Highway Department. Town resident and State Representative John Manley did not run for re-election; his home town attention will be missed.

Perhaps the most unique staffing change occurred within the Town Office. Denise French has been an employee of the Town of Bennington since 1979, serving in a multitude of capacities throughout the years starting as volunteer bookkeeper, Selectmen's secretary, accounting clerk, Tax Collector, Welfare Officer, Town Clerk, Administrative Assistant, and most recently our Town Administrator for the last 15 years. Dee approached us in the spring with her desire to semi-retire in the fall. As a result we met with Deputy Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante to discuss administrative staffing and realignment of duties within the office. After a review of her resume and thirteen years of satisfactory full-time employment, we voted to promote Kristie to the Town Administrator position upon Dee's retirement. In September we voted to promote Police Department Administrative Support employee Cathy McGillicuddy to full-time status, working approximately 30 hours a week for the Town Office and continuing to work 10 hours a week for the Police Department. We are fortunate that Dee will continue working for the Town as Deputy Town Administrator in a part-time capacity.

Changes to infrastructure came at minimal costs to taxpayers this year:

- Two 30" culverts that serve as the outlet for Whittemore Lake and pass under Whittemore Lake Road West were upgraded to 48" culverts by the State of NH as a result of heavy rains washing out the road in October 2017.
- Town Officials met with Monadnock Paper Mill Officials in January to discuss the State of NH's decision to Red List the bridge south of the trestle. In May the group met again with the Mill's engineers and a representative from NH DOT to better understand repairs that could be made to improve the structure and prolong replacement. As a result, a plan is in the works to repair deficiencies that will remove the bridge from Red List status. The Town has applied for State of NH Bridge Aid which will provide 80% project funding for the eventual replacement of the Bridge.
- In the spring, the Town completed the Street Light Upgrade project, replacing 35 halide fixtures with energy efficient LED fixtures, adding three new fixtures, and discontinuing/removing eleven street lights.

- In the summer we created a new parking area on the Acre Street side of Town Hall to accommodate four additional spots; paving was done at minimal cost while the Town's contractor was in Town for other projects.
- Our Water Department secured a \$20,000 matching grant from NH DES to identify, map out, and catalogue the Water Department infrastructure.
- 825 linear feet of guardrail was installed along the river of North Bennington Road at no cost to the Town thanks to special Highway Department funding awarded by the State in 2017.
- In conjunction with the Francestown Land Trust, the Conservation Commission acquired a secondary executory interest in the purchase of a 112-acre parcel of land off Mountain Road known as the Samuels Lot.
- And finally, carpets were replaced at Town Hall and the office space was reconfigured in a layout that allows staff to better serve our customers.

At the beginning of 2018 the Selectmen were in the beginning stages of developing conceptual plans to renovate the VFW as a result of the 2017 Feasibility Study to help determine future needs of the Town and spatial alternatives within current town buildings. However, in early '18, the Selectmen learned the Town will be the beneficiary of funds that are designated to be used for improvements to the Town Hall and other historical buildings. As a result, the Selectmen voted to table any renovations until all funding sources are known.

In December we learned that the metal membrane roof on the Town's cupola is damaged, which has resulted in water leaking and damaging the tin ceiling of the upstairs gymnasium at Town Hall. Temporary repairs have been made for the winter but a permanent repair will be needed in 2019.

Changes were also made to programs and operations:

- After review of usage data, the Town opted not to participate in the Summer and Fall Household Hazardous Waste Disposal program offered by the City of Keene in 2018. Instead, the Town participated in a one-day disposal event held in Hillsborough in May; twenty-one households participated in the event at no cost to the residents.
- In March, voters approved changing the purpose of the Water Department's Capital Reserve Fund from Water Pump Replacement to Water Department Repairs and Maintenance. This change broadens the use of the Fund and allows dollars to be spent on the totality of the infrastructure and not just on cyclical repairs to the pump. Voters also approved closing the "Highway Department Loader/Grader" Capital Reserve Fund and transferring the funds to the "Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund" and closing the "Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund" and transferring the funds to the "Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund".
- In June local car show enthusiasts held an Antique Car Show at Sawyer Field with admission and donations going to benefit the Antrim/Bennington Food Pantry.

- The Rhubarb Festival, which originally started as a fundraiser for the Library's Building Maintenance Fund, has grown to a point that it will now be managed by the Town's Recreation Committee. The Library will become a vendor to fundraise for their Building Maintenance Fund.
- In September, at the recommendation of the Town's Treasurer, we voted to change financial institutions from People's United Bank to local bank Bar Harbor Bank & Trust. Between a reduction in banking fees and an increase in interest earnings, we can anticipate the Town will save a net \$2,500 annually.
- After meeting with the Cemetery Trustees to review the cost of mowing and maintaining the Town's two cemeteries, the Selectmen and Trustees voted not to renew their contract with Jeremy Gagnon Landscape Corp. due to cost.

In March voters did not approve a Warrant Article to change the purpose of the Rescue Chassis Capital Reserve Fund to the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. This Fund, which was created in 1992, only allows funds to be used for the purchase of the chassis; it does not allow funds to be used for the purchase of the box on the back of the vehicle or required equipment. Until a repurpose is approved by voters, the funds in the account will remain in limbo and cannot be used.

We are proud to continue to support outstanding youth in our Community through the award of the Edward French Scholarship to a graduating Conval senior (Dominique Wheeler) and the award of a Bennington History book to the top graduating Bennington student from Great Brook Middle School (Kayla Bishop).

In a review of contracts and services provided, the Selectmen voted to renew contracts for Lawn Maintenance (Pleasant Pond Landscaping, LLC), Snow Removal (Pine View Excavation), and Solid Waste Removal (Monadnock Disposal Services, Inc.).

As we look towards 2019, we will begin a mandated town-wide revaluation under the capable guidance of Pembroke assessing company, Commerford, Neider Perkins. This state-wide mandate is required to conduct a complete revaluation every five years to keep assessed values relatively in line with market conditions. Our property values are used as a basis in calculating Bennington's portion due to Conval, the Fire Department's dispatch costs, and our participation in the Regional Prosecutor Program. Your cooperation in sharing information with our Assessors is key to making sure property owners are taxed fairly as well as ensuring we are paying our fair and proportionate share for these services.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Cleary
David Hardwick, Sr.
Mark Mackesy

TOWN CLERK'S REVENUE REPORT
 Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018

Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$ 283,615.58
Municipal Agent Fees	\$ 6,862.00
Motor Vehicle Titles	\$ 852.00
Motor Vehicle Mail Program	\$ 1,643.00
OHRV Town	\$ 156.00
Fish and Game Town	\$ 94.50
UCC Lien Filings	\$ 765.00
Marriage Licenses: Town	\$ 91.00
Certified Copies: Town	\$ 566.00
Dog Licenses: Town	\$ 1,605.00
Dog Mail Program	\$ 347.00
Dog License Fines	\$ 536.00
Checklist	\$ 250.00
Pole Licenses	\$ 10.00
Miscellaneous	\$ <u>8.00</u>
 Total 2018 Revenue Collected by the Town Clerk	 \$ 297,401.08

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

**TOWN OF BENNINGTON
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2018**

	2018	2017
UNCOLLECTED TAXES January 1, 2018		
Property Taxes		\$212,522.93
TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR		
Property Taxes	\$3,412,757.00	0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	21,500.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	16,407.20	0.00
Excavation Taxes	1,016.54	0.00
OVERPAYMENT		
Prepaid 2019	1,489.42	0.00
INTEREST & FEES	1,907.90	11,884.39
TOTAL DEBITS	\$3,455,078.06	\$224,407.32
REMITTED TO TREASURER 2018		
Property Taxes	\$3,180,512.43	\$126,600.49
Land Use Change Taxes	21,500.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	16,407.20	0.00
Interest/Fees	1,907.90	11,884.39
Excavation Taxes	1,016.54	0.00
Credit Carried From 2017	977.27	0.00
Conversion to Lien (principal)	0.00	84,428.62
ABATEMENTS		
Property Taxes	625.00	1,493.82
UNCOLLECTED TAXES December 31, 2018		
Property Taxes	\$232,131.72	\$0.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$3,455,078.06	\$224,407.32

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

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kristie J. LaPlante
Tax Collector**

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
 TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
 SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS
 JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2018

TAX LIEN ON ACCOUNT OF LEVIES:

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2010	ELDERLY/ DISABLED TAX LIEN
Unredeemed Liens January 1, 2018		\$82,237.28	\$48,361.61	\$2,848.94	\$1,777.00	\$3,038.43	\$6,307.04
Liens Executed 2018	94,603.01						1,493.82
Interest & Costs Collected After Lien Execution	1,561.85	6,465.22	18,793.44	3.14	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL DEBITS	\$96,164.86	\$88,702.50	\$67,155.05	\$2,852.08	\$1,777.00	\$3,038.43	\$7,800.86

REMITTANCE TO TREASURER

Redemptions	\$24,182.61	\$24,738.07	\$44,504.24	\$236.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest & Costs	1,561.85	6,465.22	18,793.44	3.14	0.00	0.00	0.00
Abatement of Unredeemed Liens	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unredeemed Tax Liens December 31, 2018	70,420.40	57,499.21	3,857.37	2,612.29	1,777.00	3,038.43	7,800.86
TOTAL CREDITS	\$96,164.86	\$88,702.50	\$67,155.05	\$2,852.08	\$1,777.00	\$3,038.43	\$7,800.86

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

Kristie J. LaPlante, Tax Collector

**TOWN OF BENNINGTON
WATER AND SEWER FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2018**

Unpaid Balance January 1, 2018		\$13,551.50
Charges:		
Water Usage	\$59,424.61	
Water Interest	\$671.23	
Sewer Usage	\$33,976.53	
Sewer Interest	\$461.42	
Disconnect/Restore Fees	\$0.00	
Impending Lien Fees	\$299.50	
Water Connection Backflow Tests	\$270.00	
Water Meter Replacement	+ \$718.89	
TOTAL CHARGES		+ \$95,822.18 <u>\$109,373.68</u>
2017 Credit Carried Forward		- \$8.48
Prepaid 2019		
Water	\$116.80	
Sewer	<u>\$0.00</u>	
		+ \$116.80
Conversion to Lien		
Water	\$1,376.48	
Sewer	<u>\$1,288.69</u>	
		- \$2,665.17
Receipts to Treasurer		
Water	\$59,233.37	
Sewer	<u>\$31,967.30</u>	
		- \$91,200.67
Abatements		
Water	\$260.00	
Sewer	<u>\$0.00</u>	
		- <u>\$260.00</u>
Unpaid Water & Sewer Charges December 31, 2018		\$15,356.16

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

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kristie J. LaPlante
Tax Collector**

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Cash Balance	1/1/2018	\$	1,031,261.09
Receipts		\$	4,149,390.59
Disbursements		\$	<u>(4,212,000.17)</u>
Cash Balance	12/31/2018	\$	968,651.51

CONSERVATION FUND

Cash Balance	1/1/2018	\$	18,444.13
Deposit	4/12/2018	\$	20,683.00
Deposit	6/14/2018	\$	192.91
Withdrawal	4/25/2018	\$	<u>(7,000.00)</u>
Interest Earned		\$	14.41
Cash Balance	12/31/2018	\$	32,334.45

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Davie
Treasurer

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

For Year Ended December 31, 2018

LOCAL TAXES FOR CURRENT YEAR

Property Tax	\$ 3,180,512.43	
Land Use Change Tax	\$ 21,500.00	
Yield Tax	\$ 16,407.20	
Excavation Tax	\$ 1,016.54	
Interest/Penalties	\$ 1,907.90	
	<u> </u>	\$ 3,221,344.07

LOCAL TAXES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

Property Tax	\$ 126,600.49	
Interest/Penalties	\$ 11,884.39	
Tax Liens Redeemed	\$ 93,661.57	
Tax Lien Interest/Penalties	\$ 26,823.65	
	<u> </u>	\$ 258,970.10

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT \$ 91,200.67

TOWN CLERK REVENUE \$ 297,401.08

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE

Highway Block Grant	\$ 45,099.02	
State of NH - Rooms & Meals	\$ 74,708.18	
	<u> </u>	\$ 119,807.20

LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES

Building Permits	\$ 4,238.25	
Demolition Permits	\$ 25.00	
Driveway Permits	\$ 15.00	
Sign Permits	\$ 10.00	
Cable Franchise Fees	\$ 2,534.44	
Court Fines	\$ 900.00	
Pistol Permits	\$ 20.00	
Bad Check Fees	\$ 35.00	
	<u> </u>	\$ 7,777.69

REIMBURSEMENTS

Police Special Details	\$ 5,973.50	
Emergency Management Grant	\$ 5,936.00	
Eversource - Reimburse Water Break Costs	\$ 866.07	
	<u> </u>	\$ 12,775.57

INCOME FROM DEPARTMENTS

Closure of Cemetery Perpetual Care Accounts	\$ 135.78	
Eversource Street Light Rebate	\$ 3,800.00	
Highway Department	\$ 0.86	
Planning Board	\$ 1,809.50	
Police Department	\$ 190.00	
Recreation Department	\$ -	
Recycling	\$ 16,890.36	
Water Department - Meter Replacements	\$ 718.89	
Water Department - New Connection	\$ 805.49	
Town Administration	\$ -	
Welfare	\$ 350.00	
	<u> </u>	\$ 24,700.88

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

SALE OF TOWN OWNED PROPERTY	\$	-
RENT OF TOWN OWNED PROPERTY	\$	350.00
INTEREST/BANK FEES	\$	344.53
CLOSED HIGHWAY LOADER/GRADER CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$	57,055.26
CLOSED BRIDGE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$	15,836.73
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE	\$	-
TOTAL 2018 RECEIPTS		<u>\$ 4,107,563.78</u>

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

For Year Ended December 31, 2018

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Selectmen Salaries	\$	4,500.00
Health Insurance	\$	40,074.91
Dental Insurance	\$	522.19
Fica/Medicare	\$	8,975.84
Retirement	\$	11,854.50
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	1,235.00
Copier Lease	\$	546.07
Phone & Internet	\$	1,737.40
Advertising	\$	235.75
Office Supplies	\$	2,575.61
Postage	\$	2,878.51
General Supplies	\$	978.48
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$	184.59
Administrator Salary	\$	61,530.31
Deputy Administrator Salary	\$	41,943.28
Administration Part-Time	\$	11,851.54
Town Report Printing	\$	1,260.96
Bulk Mailing	\$	517.24
Mileage/Expenses	\$	749.15
General Contingency	\$	4,222.94

Total Executive Office

\$ 198,374.27

ELECTION AND REGISTRATION

Deputy Town Clerk Salary	\$	5,146.75
Assistant Town Clerk Salary	\$	4,006.27
Town Clerk Salary	\$	21,904.34
Fica/Medicare	\$	2,398.51
IT Support	\$	930.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	95.00
Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$	300.00
Mileage/Expenses	\$	873.20
Office Supplies	\$	1,903.33
Books and Periodicals	\$	-
Supervisors Clerical Wages	\$	220.00
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$	1,350.00
Supervisors of the Checklist Conval	\$	225.00
Moderator's Stipend	\$	60.00
Advertising	\$	235.75
Supervisors Office Supplies	\$	1,041.17
Election Ballot Clerks	\$	615.00
Election Printing	\$	328.21
Election Meals	\$	302.05

Total Election and Registration

\$ 41,934.58

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Financial Software	\$	2,625.25
Bank Services/Fees	\$	2,573.33
Auditing Services	\$	16,539.67
Treasurer Salary	\$	3,120.00
Deputy Treasurer	\$	500.00
Fica/Medicare	\$	276.93

Tax Software	\$	2,713.00	
Tax Collector Fees	\$	3,103.02	
IT Support	\$	5,987.38	
Technology & Computers	\$	<u>3,876.00</u>	
Total Financial Administration			\$ 41,314.58
TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS			
Office Supplies	\$	<u>30.27</u>	
Total Trustees of Trust Funds			\$ 30.27
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT			
Assessing Services	\$	12,150.44	
Assessing Software	\$	<u>1,809.00</u>	
Total Property Assessment			\$ 13,959.44
LEGAL EXPENSES			
General Legal Support	\$	<u>3,025.50</u>	
Total Judicial & Legal Expense			\$ 3,025.50
PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION			
Unemployment Compensation	\$	500.00	
Workers Compensation	\$	<u>17,080.00</u>	
Total Personnel Administration			\$ 17,580.00
PLANNING AND ZONING			
PB Recording Secretary	\$	910.00	
PB Fica/Medicare	\$	69.61	
PB SWRPC Member Dues	\$	1,603.00	
PB Miscellaneous	\$	1,161.72	
ZBA Recording Secretary	\$	265.00	
ZBA Fica/Medicare	\$	20.26	
ZBA Miscellaneous	\$	<u>44.10</u>	
Total Planning and Zoning			\$ 4,073.69
GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS			
TH Fire/Security Alarm	\$	1,540.00	
TH Cleaning Service	\$	4,056.00	
TH Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	13,494.36	
TH Janitorial Supplies	\$	302.55	
TH Electric	\$	3,110.34	
TH Heat	\$	4,802.32	
VFW Cleaning Service	\$	1,352.04	
VFW Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	2,580.84	
VFW Electric	\$	564.29	
VFW Heat	\$	2,620.35	
FD Fire Alarm	\$	680.00	
FD Cleaning Service	\$	1,351.92	
FD Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	189.81	
FD Electric	\$	2,486.41	
FD Heat	\$	2,798.10	
HW Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	-	
HW Electric	\$	1,569.42	
HW Heat	\$	5,289.80	
SWD Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	81.06	

SWD Electric	\$	1,289.94	
SWD Heat	\$	224.51	
WTR Security Alarm	\$	250.00	
WTR Electric	\$	11,407.39	
WTR Pumphouse Heat	\$	1,373.95	
SWR Electric	\$	5,142.38	
SWR Heat	\$	43.16	
REC Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	3,466.51	
REC Electric	\$	948.09	
GEN Groundskeeping	\$	3,541.87	
GEN Repairs Maintenance	\$	1,890.97	
GEN Electric	\$	428.21	
Total General Government Buildings			\$ 78,876.59

CEMETERIES

Evergreen Cemetery Groundskeeping	\$	3,762.00	
Sunnyside Cemetery Groundskeeping	\$	6,988.00	
Recording Secretary	\$	400.00	
Labor	\$	107.64	
Fica/Medicare	\$	30.62	
Stone/Tree Maintenance	\$	1,864.74	
Maintenance Supplies	\$	606.99	
Total Cemeteries			\$ 13,759.99

PROPERTY/LIABILITY/BOND INSURANCE

Property/Liability Annual Premium	\$	26,005.00	
Total Property/Liability/Bond Insurance			\$ 26,005.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Salary	\$	68,959.21	
Police Sergeant Salary	\$	55,692.52	
Part-Time Officers Salary	\$	38,262.27	
Crossing Guard Salary	\$	3,794.40	
Administrative Assistant Salary	\$	4,494.94	
Overtime	\$	12,761.82	
On-Call Wages	\$	6,093.65	
Health Insurance	\$	49,529.40	
Dental Insurance	\$	1,023.38	
Fica/Medicare	\$	5,972.63	
Retirement	\$	40,724.02	
Regional Prosecutor	\$	30,008.00	
Dispatch Services	\$	16,076.65	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	218.00	
Education/Safety	\$	508.68	
IMC Software	\$	2,245.00	
Administration Telephone	\$	2,919.58	
Cellular Telephone	\$	360.00	
Office Supplies	\$	887.85	
Miscellaneous	\$	504.98	
Maintenance/Repair of Equipment	\$	229.70	
Equipment Supplies	\$	973.75	
Uniforms	\$	2,199.67	
Vehicle Maintenance	\$	1,096.94	
Gasoline	\$	6,188.10	

Special Detail Wages	\$	4,149.50	
Total Police Department			\$ 355,874.64
AMBULANCE SERVICE			
Antrim Ambulance	\$	16,000.00	
Total Ambulance Service			\$ 16,000.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT			
Administrative Wages	\$	1,380.26	
Emergency Call Wages	\$	7,851.36	
Non-Emergency Wages	\$	6,188.99	
Fica/Medicare	\$	1,189.45	
Dispatch Service	\$	17,463.00	
Dues	\$	150.00	
Telephone	\$	993.70	
Cell Phone	\$	445.80	
General Supplies	\$	1,652.52	
Training Courses	\$	540.00	
Service Contracts	\$	3,179.65	
Radio Repairs	\$	252.50	
Equipment Replacement	\$	9,645.18	
Vehicle Maintenance	\$	1,999.12	
Vehicle Fuel	\$	598.74	
Forestry	\$	1,712.03	
Fire Prevention Materials	\$	700.24	
Total Fire Department			\$ 55,942.54
MEDICAL/RESCUE			
Training	\$	2,075.00	
Medical Supplies	\$	2,292.75	
Equipment Replacement	\$	414.38	
Total Medical/Rescue			\$ 4,782.13
CODE ENFORCEMENT			
Building Inspector Salary	\$	2,368.75	
Fica/Medicare	\$	181.23	
Mileage	\$	524.83	
Books & Education	\$	16.00	
Total Building Inspection			\$ 3,090.81
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT			
Supplies	\$	1,167.24	
Total Emergency Management			\$ 1,167.24
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION			
Road Agent Salary	\$	28,391.29	
Highway Truck Driver Salary	\$	39,759.89	
Highway Laborer Salary	\$	33,209.10	
PT As Needed Assistance	\$	2,713.61	
Overtime	\$	10,350.10	
Health Insurance	\$	33,808.45	
Dental Insurance	\$	732.32	
Fica/Medicare	\$	9,031.85	
Retirement	\$	12,755.73	
Drug/Alcohol Testing	\$	177.00	

Telephone	\$	1,640.10	
Cell Phone	\$	180.00	
Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	\$	15,176.21	
Vehicle Maintenance/Repairs	\$	12,803.81	
Gasoline/Oil	\$	16,914.64	
General Supplies	\$	2,874.98	
Street Signs	\$	454.13	
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>3,321.79</u>	
Total Highway Department Administration			\$ 224,295.00
 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - ROADS MAINTENANCE			
Tar/Patch/Seal	\$	32,503.80	
Paving	\$	52,115.75	
Hired Plowing/Sanding	\$	19,264.66	
Snow/Ice Supplies	\$	28,762.95	
Gravel Preparation	\$	15,369.00	
Equipment Rental	\$	4,015.00	
Road Maintenance Supplies	\$	13,195.90	
Road Drainage Supplies	\$	<u>6,259.45</u>	
Total Highway Roads Maintenance			\$ 171,486.51
 STREET LIGHTING			
Eversource	\$	<u>11,345.63</u>	
Total Street Lighting			\$ 11,345.63
 TRANSFER STATION			
Attendants Salary	\$	33,091.11	
As-Needed Assistance	\$	1,582.13	
Fica/Medicare	\$	2,657.27	
NRRA Annual Dues	\$	103.32	
Certification	\$	350.00	
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	\$	2,849.00	
Hauling and Disposal	\$	50,000.00	
Telephone	\$	523.58	
Recyclables Removal	\$	13,530.86	
Container Lease	\$	1,000.00	
Landfill Post-Closure Costs	\$	4,703.15	
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>505.52</u>	
Total Transfer Station			\$ 110,895.94
 WATER DEPARTMENT			
Recording Secretary	\$	439.57	
Commissioners Salary	\$	1,700.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	153.50	
Town of Antrim	\$	29,049.64	
NE Rural Water Association Dues	\$	340.00	
Postage	\$	606.28	
Miscellaneous	\$	1,298.25	
Line Repairs/Maintenance	\$	6,900.14	
Telephone	\$	1,113.29	
Water Samples	\$	2,565.71	
Corrosion Control	\$	<u>2,870.99</u>	
Total Water Department			\$ 47,037.37

SEWER DEPARTMENT		
Town of Antrim	\$	35,135.50
Generator Maintenance	\$	4,751.70
Repair Maintenance	\$	1,106.25
Total Sewer Department		<u>40,993.45</u>
HEALTH DEPARTMENT		
Fica/Medicare	\$	-
Miscellaneous	\$	-
Total Health Department		<u>\$ -</u>
ANIMAL CONTROL		
Animal Control	\$	10.00
Total Animal Control		<u>\$ 10.00</u>
HEALTH AGENCIES		
Home Health Care	\$	4,000.00
Monadnock Family Services	\$	1,845.00
Total Health Agencies		<u>\$ 5,845.00</u>
WELFARE DEPARTMENT		
Welfare Director Salary	\$	2,599.00
Fica/Medicare	\$	198.84
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	30.00
Rental Assistance	\$	4,760.00
Meals on Wheels	\$	935.00
Vendor Payments - Electric/Heat	\$	1,502.11
Total Welfare Department		<u>\$ 10,024.95</u>
PARKS AND RECREATION		
Miscellaneous	\$	295.30
Recreation Activities	\$	768.18
Fishing Derby	\$	779.38
Little League	\$	2,000.00
Groundskeeping (Labor)	\$	3,199.28
Fica/Medicare	\$	244.77
Rec Groundskeeping	\$	15,292.64
Ball Field Chemical Toilets	\$	682.50
Beach Staff	\$	1,671.43
Beach Water Sample/Analysis	\$	180.00
Beach Supplies	\$	62.49
Beach Chem Toilets	\$	551.25
Beach Telephone	\$	122.65
Total Parks and Recreation		<u>\$ 25,849.87</u>
LIBRARY		
Librarian Salary	\$	50,187.85
Librarian Assistants Salary	\$	25,738.97
As-Needed Assistance	\$	658.00
Health Insurance	\$	21,066.18
Dental Insurance	\$	481.79
Fica/Medicare	\$	5,861.90
Retirement	\$	5,724.00
Technology	\$	1,686.95
Photo Copier Supplies	\$	2,762.59

Telephone	\$	607.45	
Conference Fees	\$	395.00	
Office Supplies	\$	716.21	
Computer Replacement	\$	190.00	
Program Supplies	\$	743.28	
Book Collection	\$	12,162.11	
Media Collection	\$	7,402.05	
Grounds Maintenance	\$	1,157.00	
Building Maintenance	\$	430.70	
Building Electricity	\$	1,820.13	
Building Heating Oil	\$	2,430.64	
Total Library			\$ 142,222.80
CULTURE AND RECREATION			
Edward E. French Scholarships	\$	1,000.00	
Project LIFT			
Total Education			\$ 1,000.00
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES			
Memorial Day	\$	643.80	
Total Patriotic Purposes			\$ 643.80
CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
General/Miscellaneous	\$	133.00	
Labor/Secretary	\$	400.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	31.00	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	342.00	
Office Supplies	\$	50.00	
Education	\$	500.00	
Total Conservation Commission			\$ 1,456.00
DEBT			
Tax Anticipation Note Interest	\$	-	
			\$ -
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS			
Highway Equipment CRF	\$	37,000.00	
Road Rehab CRF	\$	15,000.00	
Mower CRF	\$	1,000.00	
Fire Truck CRF	\$	20,000.00	
Rescue Vehicle CRF	\$	-	
Breathing Apparatus CRF	\$	2,000.00	
FD Protective Gear CRF	\$	5,700.00	
Police Cruiser CRF	\$	10,000.00	
Water CRF	\$	-	
Property Reval CRF	\$	12,000.00	
Library Building CRF	\$	5,000.00	
Total Capital Reserve Funds			\$ 107,700.00
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS			
Bridge Maintenance ETF	\$	10,000.00	
Town Buildings ETF	\$	33,000.00	
Total Expendable Trust Funds			\$ 43,000.00

2017 WARRANT ARTICLES (ENCUMBERED FUNDS)		
Upgrade Street Lighting	\$	5,000.00
Natural Resource Inventory	\$	1,500.00
Total 2017 Warrant Articles		\$ 6,500.00
2018 WARRANT ARTICLES		
Contoocook Housing Trust	\$	300.00
Contoocook Valley Transportation	\$	500.00
Grapevine Family Center	\$	6,000.00
American Red Cross	\$	700.00
Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$	500.00
Child Advocacy Center	\$	600.00
Whittemore Beach Staffing	\$	6,000.00
End 68 Hours of Hunger	\$	1,000.00
To Address Deferred Road Maintenance	\$	45,000.00
Water Department Asset Management Program	\$	33,935.43
The Samaritans	\$	250.00
Conservation Commission Fund	\$	5,000.00
50% of 2017 Timber Tax Revenues payable to CC	\$	15,364.00
2017 Cemetery Lot Sales Revenue to Cemetery ETF	\$	700.00
50% of 2017 Gravel Tax Revenues Payable to CC	\$	319.00
Total 2018 Warrant Articles		\$ 116,168.43
SUBTOTAL - 2018 EXPENDITURES & WARRANT ARTICLES		\$ 1,942,266.02
PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS		
Hillsborough County	\$	120,634.00
Local School Contribution	\$	1,762,575.00
State School Contribution	\$	242,362.00
Total Payments to Other Governments		\$ 2,125,571.00
TOTAL 2018 EXPENDITURES		<u><u>\$ 4,067,837.02</u></u>

2018 PAYROLL

Colleen Allen		
Whittemore Beach Staffing	\$ 917.50	\$ 917.50
Michael Andersen		
Fire Department	\$ 347.00	\$ 347.00
Zackary Andersen		
Fire Department	\$ 1,834.49	\$ 1,834.49
Damon Beaudreau		
Highway Department - Regular	\$ 9,487.50	
Highway Department - Overtime	\$ 513.00	
Fire Department	\$ 320.91	\$ 10,321.41
David Beck		
Water/Sewer Commissioner Salary	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Debra Belcher		
Town Clerk	\$ 21,905.06	
Cemetery Recording Secretary	\$ 400.00	
Planning Board Recording Secretary	\$ 910.00	
ZBA Recording Secretary	\$ 265.00	\$ 23,480.06
Karen Belcher		
Assistant Town Clerk	\$ 3,964.92	
Conservation Recording Secretary	\$ 360.00	\$ 4,324.92
David Bell		
Part-Time Police Officer	\$ 6,555.20	
On-Call	\$ 181.00	\$ 6,736.20
Matthew Blanchard		
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 18,412.84	
Highway Department Assistance	\$ 1,715.25	\$ 20,128.09
Vint Boggis		
Part-Time Police Officer	\$ 1,255.73	\$ 1,255.73
Jackson Burnham		
Whittemore Beach Staffing	\$ 1,339.25	\$ 1,339.25
Dario Carrara		
Code Enforcement Officer	\$ 2,368.75	\$ 2,368.75

2018 PAYROLL

James Cleary		
Selectman	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>	\$ 1,500.00
Bethany Craig		
Whittemore Beach Staffing	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	\$ 500.00
Debra Davidson		
Human Services Director	<u>\$ 2,599.00</u>	\$ 2,599.00
Rhonda Davie		
Treasurer	<u>\$ 3,120.00</u>	\$ 3,120.00
Christopher Davies		
Highway Driver - Regular	\$ 39,701.89	
Highway Driver - Overtime	\$ 1,311.46	
Health Insurance Reimbursement	<u>\$ 2,209.20</u>	\$ 43,222.55
Lionel Emond		
Part-Time Police Officer	<u>\$ 306.00</u>	\$ 306.00
David Foster		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 1,662.29</u>	\$ 1,662.29
Denise French		
Town Administrator	\$ 51,245.00	
Deputy Town Administrator	<u>\$ 1,933.75</u>	\$ 53,178.75
Brenda Gibbons		
Supervisor of the Checklist	<u>\$ 525.00</u>	\$ 525.00
Patrick Greene		
Transfer Station Attendant	<u>\$ 420.00</u>	\$ 420.00
Bruce Hall		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 208.10</u>	\$ 208.10
Matthew Hall		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 3,796.54</u>	\$ 3,796.54
David Hardwick		
Selectman	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>	\$ 1,500.00
Samantha Hardwick		
Whittemore Beach Staffing	<u>\$ 420.00</u>	\$ 420.00

2018 PAYROLL

Thomas James			
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 14,541.92		\$ 14,541.92
Jandi Jenks			
Whittemore Beach Staffing	\$ 1,207.50		\$ 1,207.50
Kristie LaPlante			
Town Administrator Salary	\$ 10,384.60		
Deputy Administrator	\$ 36,053.20		\$ 46,437.80
Jason Lepine			
Police Sergeant	\$ 55,671.52		
Overtime	\$ 4,539.04		
Special Detail Wages	\$ 688.00		
On-Call	\$ 3,798.00		\$ 64,696.56
Zachary Letourneau			
Part-Time Police Officer	\$ 16,341.55		
On-Call	\$ 68.00		\$ 16,409.55
Leslie MacGregor			
Library Director	\$ 50,168.93		\$ 50,168.93
Mark Mackesy			
Selectman	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
Catherine McGillicuddy			
Administrative Assistant	\$ 5,000.50		
Part-Time Police Admin	\$ 6,054.03		
Health Insurance Reimbursement	\$ 503.30		\$ 11,557.83
Dennis McKenney			
Water/Sewer Commissioner Salary	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
Lester Milton			
Part-Time Police Officer	\$ 16,074.82		
Special Detail Wages	\$ 989.00		\$ 17,063.82
Joyce Miner			
Deputy Treasurer	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
Keith Nason			
Fire Department	\$ 1,810.17		\$ 1,810.17

2018 PAYROLL

William OConnor			
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 103.53		
			\$ 103.53
David Parker			
Highway Department Assistance	\$ 618.14		
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 784.13		
Recreation Groundskeeping	\$ 3,199.28		
			\$ 4,601.55
John Plourde			
Highway Laborer	\$ 23,729.10		
Highway Driver - Overtime	\$ 2,948.76		
			\$ 26,677.86
Scott Plourde			
Fire Department	\$ 216.66		
			\$ 216.66
Jason Powers			
Fire Department	\$ 1,851.15		
			\$ 1,851.15
Sarah Powers			
Fire Department	\$ 746.73		
			\$ 746.73
Rick Reed			
Water/Sewer Commissioner Salary	\$ 500.00		
			\$ 500.00
Lori Ricci			
Part-Time Administration	\$ 9,790.20		
			\$ 9,790.20
Gary Russell			
Road Agent - Regular	\$ 28,944.85		
Road Agent - Overtime	\$ 6,481.56		
			\$ 35,426.41
Dwayne Searles			
Highway Department Assistance	\$ 63.00		
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 378.00		
			\$ 441.00
Melissa Searles			
Librarian Assistant Salary	\$ 25,729.45		
Website Support	\$ 750.00		
Supervisor of the Checklist	\$ 565.00		
			\$ 27,044.45
Bret Sullivan			
Police Chief	\$ 68,933.20		
Overtime	\$ 7,840.68		
On-Call	\$ 2,023.65		
Special Detail Wages	\$ 709.50		
			\$ 79,507.03

2018 PAYROLL

Christine Tarrío			
Part-Time Library Assistance	<u>\$ 766.00</u>	\$	766.00
Victoria Turner			
Supervisor of the Checklist	<u>\$ 705.00</u>	\$	705.00
Debra Whitney			
Deputy Town Clerk	\$ 5,153.05		
Part-Time Administration	<u>\$ 114.35</u>	\$	5,267.40
Jill Wilmoth			
Whittemore Beach Staffing	<u>\$ 1,110.00</u>	\$	1,110.00
Allan Wilson			
Fire Department	<u>\$ 617.73</u>	\$	617.73
Anmarie Wilson			
Crossing Guard	<u>\$ 3,794.00</u>	\$	3,794.00
Corrina Wright			
Whittemore Beach Staffing	<u>\$ 1,536.00</u>	\$	1,536.00
Total Payroll			<u><u>\$ 613,808.41</u></u>

**Town Of Bennington
Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds
For the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2018**

First Deposit	Name of Fund	Purpose of Fund	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			TOTAL		Ending Market Value
				Balance Beginning of Year	Additions-Withdraw Gain-Loss	Balance End of Year	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Income	Expended During Year	Balance End of Year	Principal & Income	
CEMETERY TRUSTS												
1946-1960	Mount Calvary Cemetery	Perpetual Care	Common TF	823.65	-6.00	817.65	419.33	39.50	0.00	458.83	1,276.48	1,273.64
1905-1997	Sunnyside Cemetery	Perpetual Care	Common TF	12,609.34	-72.80	12,536.54	2,479.48	480.10	0.00	2,959.58	15,496.12	15,461.53
1913-2011	Evergreen Cemetery	Perpetual Care	Common TF	16,638.60	-334.39	16,304.21	8,840.38	808.02	124.26	9,524.14	25,828.35	25,770.77
1958	Lizzie Holt Evergreen Cemetery Special Projects	Special Projects	Common TF	32,992.81	-176.63	32,816.18	3,645.34	1,165.10	0.00	4,810.44	37,626.62	37,542.81
2018	David Glynn Estate Evergreen Cemetery Special Projects	Special Projects	Common TF	0.00	7,507.06	7,507.06	0.00	121.79	0.00	121.79	7,628.85	7,611.86
Total Cemetery Trusts				63,064.40	6,917.24	69,981.64	15,384.53	2,614.51	124.26	17,874.78	87,856.42	87,660.61
EXPENDABLE TRUSTS												
2013	Sunnyside Cemetery Expendable Trust	Enhance Sunnyside Cemetery	Common TF	50,000.00	-49,987.88	12.12	9,821.54	3,335.54	73.60	13,083.48	13,095.60	13,066.43
Total Expendable Trusts				50,000.00	-49,987.88	12.12	9,821.54	3,335.54	73.60	13,083.48	13,095.60	13,066.43
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS												
1994	Edward French	Scholarship	Common TF	1,068.64	-8.45	1,060.19	684.60	55.75	0.00	740.35	1,800.54	1,796.53
2010	Bruce Edes	Scholarship	Common TF	35,573.35	-185.65	35,387.70	2,936.59	1,224.59	0.00	4,161.18	39,548.88	39,460.79
Total Scholarship Funds				36,641.99	-194.10	36,447.89	3,621.19	1,280.34	0.00	4,901.53	41,349.42	41,257.32
LIBRARY												
2013	Emma Gipson Trust-027	Library	Common TF	82,096.66	-397.58	81,699.08	337.94	2,616.73	2,364.88	589.79	82,288.87	82,105.72
2013	Bennington Women's Club-028	Library	Common TF	159.08	-0.76	158.32	0.65	5.07	4.58	1.14	159.46	159.10
2018	Dodge Library Books-David Glynn Estate	Purchase of Books	Common TF	0.00	50,047.06	50,047.06	0.00	801.63	445.43	356.20	50,403.26	50,290.99
Total Library				82,255.74	49,648.72	131,904.46	338.59	3,423.43	2,814.89	947.13	132,851.59	132,555.81

Town Of Bennington
Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds
For the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2018

First Deposit	Name of Fund	Purpose of Fund	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			TOTAL		Ending Market Value
				Balance Beginning of Year	Additions-Withdraw Gain-Loss	Balance End of Year	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Income	Expended During Year	Balance End of Year	Principal & Income	
FIRE DEPARTMENT												
1990	Fire Truck-001	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	257,401.82	19,808.11	277,209.93	13,909.55	4,496.62	0.00	18,406.17	295,616.10	295,927.42
1992	Rescue Chassis-005	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	38,738.25	-32.52	38,705.73	6,937.14	755.67	0.00	7,692.81	46,398.54	46,447.41
2001	Fire Department Radios-021	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010	Fire Department SCBA-025	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	33,274.10	1,975.40	35,249.50	1,462.64	575.48	0.00	2,038.12	37,287.62	37,326.89
2013	Fire Department Protective Gear	Equipment	Common CRF	11,414.66	-5,536.27	5,878.39	137.44	159.36	0.00	296.80	6,175.19	6,181.69
Total Fire Department				340,828.83	16,214.72	357,043.55	22,446.77	5,987.13	0.00	28,433.90	385,477.45	385,883.41
EXPENDABLE TRUSTS												
2014	Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust	Cemetery Maintenance	Common CRF	2,050.32	697.90	2,748.22	67.10	42.82	0.00	109.92	2,858.14	2,861.15
Total Expendable Trusts				2,050.32	697.90	2,748.22	67.10	42.82	0.00	109.92	2,858.14	2,861.15
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT												
1997	Highway Equipment Loader/Grader-006	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	52,274.33	-52,274.33	0.00	4,265.60	507.83	4,773.43	0.00	0.00	0.00
1991	Highway Heavy Equipment-008	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	39,800.77	94,051.10	133,851.87	488.50	1,058.03	0.00	1,546.53	135,398.40	135,541.00
1997	Mower-010	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	3,887.41	995.81	4,883.22	2,076.68	99.08	0.00	2,175.76	7,058.98	7,066.41
2009	Road Rehabilitation-024	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	38,969.51	14,972.55	53,942.06	897.49	665.54	0.00	1,563.03	55,505.09	55,563.55
Total Highway Department				134,932.02	57,745.13	192,677.15	7,728.27	2,330.48	4,773.43	5,285.32	197,962.47	198,170.96

Town Of Bennington
Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds
For the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2018

First Deposit	Name of Fund	Purpose of Fund	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			TOTAL		
				Balance Beginning of Year	Additions-Withdraw Gain-Loss	Balance End of Year	Net Income	Expended During Year	Balance End of Year	Principal & Income	Ending Market Value	
GENERAL												
1993	Water Department Maintenance & Repairs CRF-002	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	15,150.45	-6,908.78	8,241.67	387.47	0.00	8,854.50	17,096.17	17,114.18	
1994	Dodge Memorial Library-003	Structure Repair & Library Equipment	Common CRF	48,593.53	4,035.29	52,628.82	821.84	647.63	1,406.63	54,035.45	54,092.36	
1993	Police Cruiser-009	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	23,203.85	9,982.68	33,186.53	420.87	0.00	2,414.86	35,601.39	35,638.88	
1997	Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund-011	Expendable Trust	Common CRF	20,913.03	25,824.72	46,737.75	545.17	0.00	6,022.74	52,760.49	52,816.06	
2001	Town Buildings Expendable-012	Expendable Trust	Common CRF	66,391.16	32,950.70	99,341.86	1,206.46	0.00	6,945.36	106,287.22	106,399.16	
2001	Bridge Replacement-013	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	14,990.74	-14,990.74	0.00	140.96	843.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2001	Sidewalk Repair-014	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	0.04	-0.01	0.03	0.15	0.00	9.13	9.16	9.17	
2002	Revaluation-015	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	24,995.71	11,982.79	36,978.50	422.12	0.00	653.36	37,631.86	37,671.49	
Total General				214,238.51	62,876.65	277,115.16	3,945.04	1,491.54	26,306.58	303,421.74	303,741.30	
			GRAND TOTALS:	924,011.81	143,918.38	1,067,930.19	22,959.29	9,277.72	96,942.64	1,164,872.83	1,165,196.99	

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDING COMMITTEE

December 12, 2018

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief David Foster and Deputy Fire Chief Matt Hall met with the Capital Reserve Funding Committee to discuss the four Fire Department Capital Reserve Funds.

Fire Trucks – Established in 1990 for the *purchase of a replacement fire truck*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$294,824

Balance as of 1/1/19 - \$295,616

Assets: 1996 Ford Brush Truck
 1998 International Tanker
 2005 International Fire Engine

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 20,000
 2016 - \$ 20,000
 2017 - \$ 20,000
 2018 - \$ 20,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$25,000

Based on prior years' discussions, the 1998 International Tanker would be due for replacement in 2018. There was consensus that the Tanker is in good condition and there is no need for it to be replaced at this time. The Chiefs, however, would like to replace the 2005 International Fire Engine in 2025 due to ongoing mechanical issues and design flaws. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee requested the Chiefs to explore finance and acquisition options in advance of replacing the Fire Truck – lease, purchase new, or purchase used.

The Capital Reserve Funding Committee and Chiefs discussed current apparatus and staffing which lead to a larger discussion of sustainability and the need to open a dialogue with neighboring communities to see if efficiencies could be gained by sharing personnel, apparatus, or key pieces of equipment. To that end, there was agreement that a consultant could be best to provide independent analysis before any changes would take place. The topic was conceptual; no permanent changes were discussed or proposed.

The Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted to increase funding to \$25,000 for 2019 to ensure adequate funds for apparatus replacement in 2025.

Rescue Chassis – Established in 1992 for the *purchase of a Rescue vehicle chassis*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund. Supporting documentation and Minutes where funding was established documents the purpose of the Fund being for the purchase of the chassis only; "the present rescue box will be transferred to the new chassis."

Town Council has advised that this fund can only be used to purchase the cab/chassis. Funds from this Capital Reserve Fund cannot be used for the purchase of the box on the back of the vehicle or required equipment;

further, we can no longer retrofit vehicles again through this fund. Voters defeated a Warrant Article in 2018 to change the purpose to allow for purchase of the totality of a rescue vehicle.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$46,267

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$46,399

Assets: 2009 Ford F550 Rescue Truck

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 5,000

2016 - \$ 2,500

2017 - \$ 2,500

2018 - \$ 0

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$0

Because the wording of the Capital Reserve Fund restricts the use of this Fund, the Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted not to fund this Capital Reserve Fund in 2019. Voters will be presented with a Warrant Article in 2019 requesting their approval to change the funding purpose from "Chassis" to "Vehicle".

Fire Department SCBA – Established in 2010 for *Fire Department Breathing Apparatus*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 – \$37,187

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$37,288

Assets: Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 2,500

2016 - \$ 2,600

2017 - \$ 2,000

2018 - \$ 2,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$2,000

In November, the Fire Department provided the Selectmen with a report that lists their current inventory (with a current replacement value in excess of \$60,000) and provides a detailed plan through 2029 to replace cylinders and complete units. The Selectmen authorized the Fire Department to replace four complete SCBA units immediately at a cost of \$25,516 and to replace an additional two units in the spring at an estimated cost of \$12,800.

Because there is a detailed replacement plan in place and the funding appears adequate to meet the replacement plan and continue to fund future purchases, the Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted \$2,000 funding for 2019.

Fire Department Protective Gear – Established in 2013 for *Fire Department Protective Gear*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 – \$6,372
Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$6,175

Assets: Fire Gear

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 5,000
2016 - \$ 5,000
2017 - \$ 5,700
2018 - \$ 5,700

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$5,700

The Fire Department replaced two complete sets of fire gear in 2018 and has a purchase plan for replacement sets based on expiration dates of existing gear. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted to fund the Capital Reserve Fund with \$5,700 in 2019.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Road Agent has been out on leave. The Selectmen recommended, and the Capital Reserve Funding Committee agreed, to fund the Highway Department Capital Reserve accounts in 2019 with the same level of funding as 2018.

Highway Heavy Equipment – Established in 1991 for the *purchase of Highway Heavy Equipment*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

In 2018, voters approved the closure of the Loader/Grader Capital Reserve Fund and the monies in that account were deposited in to this account.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$135,102
Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$135,398

Assets: 1982 John Deere 444C Loader
1989 KME Fire Pumper (to clean culverts)
1990 Galion Grader
2007 International 6-wheel dump truck
2012 Cat Backhoe/Loader
2015 Freightliner 6-wheel dump truck
2016 Ford F350 1-ton

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 30,000 (Combined old Loader/Grader + Heavy Equipment)
2016 - \$ 35,000 (Combined old Loader/Grader + Heavy Equipment)
2017 - \$ 37,000 (Combined old Loader/Grader + Heavy Equipment)
2018 - \$ 37,000 (now just single fund)

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$37,000

Mower – Established in 1997 for the purpose of a *Highway Department/Recreation Department mower*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$7,041

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$7,059

Assets: 2013 Mower

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 1,000

2016 - \$ 1,000

2017 - \$ 1,000

2018 - \$ 1,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$1,000

Road Rehabilitation - Established in 2009 for the *maintenance, construction, reconstruction, or repair of town streets, roads, or traveled ways*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$55,383

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$55,506

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 15,000

2016 - \$ 15,000

2017 - \$ 15,000

2018 - \$ 15,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$15,000

LIBRARY

The Library Trustees were unable to attend the meeting and submitted a written request for \$5,000 funding for 2019.

Dodge Memorial Library – Established in 1994 and amended in 2003 for *the repair or replacement of Library equipment and for making renovations and improvements to the GEP Dodge Library*. The Library Trustees are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$53,892

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$54,035

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 5,000

2016 - \$ 5,000

2017 - \$ 5,000

2018 - \$ 5,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$5,000

In 2018 the Library used the Capital Reserve Fund for furnace repairs, technology, and small furniture. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee agreed with the request submitted by the Library Trustees to fund \$5,000 in 2019.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Bret Sullivan and Sergeant Jason Lepine met with the Capital Reserve Funding Committee.

Police Cruiser – Established in 1993 for the *purchase of a police cruiser*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 – \$35,524

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$35,601

Assets: 2013 Ford Explorer Cruiser
 2015 Ford Explorer Cruiser

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 13,000
 2016 - \$ 10,000
 2017 - \$ 10,000
 2018 - \$ 10,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$10,000

The Police Chief reported that the Department is satisfied with the condition of the oldest vehicle and recommended its replacement in 2020. Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante reported on the results of the Capital Reserve Fund audit in 2017 where the Town learned that this Capital Reserve Fund can be used for the purchase of a cruiser but cannot be used to fund equipment, sirens, lights, etc. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted \$10,000 funding for 2019.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Water Commissioners David Beck and Richard Reed met with the Capital Reserve Funding Committee.

Water Department Maintenance & Repairs – Established in 1993 and amended in 2018 for *Water Department maintenance and repairs*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$16,925

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$17,096

Assets: Hydrants, mains, valves, water tank, pump house

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 15,000
 2016 - \$ 20,500
 2017 - \$ 20,500
 2018 - \$ 0

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$25,000

Commissioners Beck and Reed outlined the Water Department Asset Management Plan that was substantially completed in 2018 (acceptance of the Plan and presentation to the public is scheduled for early 2019). The Plan identifies current assets both in geographic location on a GIS map as well as condition and value in a supplemental report. The asset data is also catalogued in a software program that lays out replacement costs

and outlines funding needs for future replacement. The current value of infrastructure in place is estimated to be \$14,650,000.

As part of the Asset Management Plan, the Water Department learned that the Town pumps 60,000 gallons of water per day but water meter readings show an equivalent usage of 40,000 per day. To recoup funding from the 20,000 gallons of water loss each day, the Water Department has goals to replace broken and outdated meters as well as transition from manual read meters to radio read meters to save on labor costs.

Realizing that the Water System has evolved over the last 120 years and the need to look at future replacement and upgrade costs, the Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted to increase funding in 2019 to \$25,000.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund – Established in 1997 for the *purpose of construction or reconstruction of town bridges*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund after a Public Hearing.

In 2018, voters approved the closure of the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and the monies in that account were deposited in to this account.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 – \$52,634

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$52,760

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 0

2016 - \$ 0

2017 - \$ 0

2018 - \$ 0

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$10,000

In late 2017, the Town received notice from NH DOT that the box culvert bridge on Antrim Road just south of the trestle is on red list status. This bridge provides water to the Paper Mill from the river. Town officials met with Monadnock Paper Mill officials in early 2018 to better understand the importance of this bridge and their operations and then met again in the summer to do a visual inspection of the box culvert during the Mill's shut down. Based on information learned during those two meetings and remedial options available, the Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted \$10,000 funding for 2019.

Sidewalk Repair – Established in 2002 for *replacing the Town's sidewalks*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 – \$9

Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$9

Assets: Downtown sidewalk project – 2007

Downtown sidewalk project - 2015

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 0

2016 - \$ 0

2017 - \$ 0

2018 - \$ 0

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$ 1,000

There are no future sidewalk replacement plans in place. However, the Capital Reserve Fund does allow for repairs to the existing infrastructure. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee found value in adding funds in 2019 in the event any sidewalk components fail or need repair and as such, voted \$1,000 funding.

Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund – Established in 1999 for the purpose of *repairing, maintaining, and improving Town buildings*. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund after a Public Hearing.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$106,064
Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$106,287

Assets: Town Hall, VFW, Fire Station, HW Garage, Transfer Station, Water Pump House, Sewer Pump House, buildings at Newhall Field (two dug outs, “Colonel’s Perch”, Storage Building)

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 15,000
2016 - \$ 15,000
2017 - \$ 20,000
2018 - \$ 33,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$30,000

In early December the Selectmen learned that repairs are needed to the Town Hall roof and cupola in 2019 to remedy and prevent further water damage to the ceiling in the gymnasium. The Selectmen will be soliciting at least three bids because of the scope of the project. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted \$30,000 funding for 2019.

OTHER

Revaluation – Established in 2002 for revaluation costs. The Selectmen are Agents to expend from this Fund.

Balance as reported 12/12/18 - \$37,554
Balance as of 01/01/19 - \$37,632

Appropriation History: 2015 - \$ 0
2016 - \$ 12,000
2017 - \$ 12,000
2018 - \$ 12,000

2019 APPROPRIATION: \$ 0

The Town is required to undergo a full Revaluation in 2019 at a contracted cost of \$50,000. To ensure the totality of funds are in place for the project, the Selectmen will be adding \$15,000 to the Operating Budget rather than risk voters denying a Warrant Article for Capital Reserve Funding. The Capital Reserve Funding Committee voted not to fund this account for 2019.

There being no other business for the Capital Reserve Funding Committee, the Committee portion of the meeting concluded at 8:45 p.m. and the Selectmen rejoined their regular meeting.

GEP DODGE LIBRARY

2 Main Street~ 7 School Street #204, Bennington, NH 03442 ~ 603-588-6585
dodgelifrary1@comcast.net & dodgelifrary2@comcast.net
Website: www.dodgelifrary.com ~ Online Catalog: dodgelifrary.bibliionix.com
Facebook Page: GEP Dodge Library- Bennington, NH

Monday- 9-6PM, Tuesday 12-6PM, Thursday 12-8PM, Friday 12-5PM, Sunday 4-6PM

The GEP Dodge Library houses a materials collection of 28,510 items that includes 2,957 DVDs, 821 sound recordings, 20 periodical subscriptions, and three newspapers. In addition to our in-house collection, our patrons have access to a rotating collection of 560 DVDs and to STEAM collections belonging to the Nubanusit Library Cooperative and the NH State Library. Through our online catalog and a library card, our patrons have access to the *NH Overdrive* collection managed by the NH State Library that includes a digital collection of 29,514 e-books, 13,056 e-audio books and 25 e-periodicals. Our Library also has an additional subscription to *Tumblebooks*- an online collection of 991 titles which includes 306 animated talking picture books, 59 non-fiction titles, 82 National Geographic videos, 121 language lessons, 121 playlists and 278 games and puzzles. Through the NH State Library, our Library also has subscriptions to *Ancestry.com*, *Heritage.com*, *NHU-PAC*, (the Statewide Library Catalog), *Consumer Health Complete*, *EbscoHost*, *Explora for public libraries*, *Explora for grades K-8*, *Medline plus*, *Geni*, *Libri Vox*, *Newspaper Source*, *Novelist*, *Novelist K-8*, and *Project Gutenberg*. The Library also provides our patrons with library Museum Passes. Each year we evaluate our passes and, based on request and use, we determine the passes that are most popular and that give our patrons the best value. Our current passes are for: *The Currier Museum of Art* in Manchester, NH, *The Fells* in Newbury, NH, *Manchester Historic Association that includes the SEE Museum and the Millyard Museum*, *Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum* in Warner, NH, *The Museum of Fine Arts* in Boston, and *The Seacoast Science Center, Odiorne State Park*, in Rye, NH.

In 2018, 1,602 Bennington patrons checked out 19,494 print, audio and visual items from our own Library's collection. Through borrowing from the Library's physical and digital collections (rather than purchasing the items of interest), our patrons have saved \$329,578.71 just this year alone! Our top borrower saved \$6,561.11 just by using our Library!

At the end of 2017, the NH State Library's ancient inter-library loan system collapsed. This was the system that provided rapid access to the collections of all participating NH State Public Libraries and to some college and university collections as well. This was quite alarming. Inter-library loan provides our patrons with access to materials that are of rare and limited edition, are out of print, are too expensive for us to acquire, or are large popular serials that we do not have the room to shelf. In the early weeks of 2018, through a creative grassroots effort, Statewide libraries rapidly pulled together a cooperative inter-library loan system that is as effective, and possibly more efficient, than the old system. We now have the benefit of gaining direct access to most of each other's online catalogs, and for libraries without online catalogs (or libraries that cannot provide direct access to their catalogs), we can use NHU-PAC and old fashioned email to continue to borrow and loan. As a result, in 2018, we loaned 1,069 items and our patrons borrowed 710.

Our monthly *GEP TALKS* series continued in 2018. *GEP TALKS* is intended to highlight the talents, experiences and knowledge that local citizens have and are willing to share with others. *GEP Talks* are FREE and are held on the second Thursday of every month, at the Library from 7-8 PM.

Other programs held by the Library throughout the year include visiting speakers, musicians, book groups for all age groups, Story Walks, scavenger hunts, guessing games, STEAM activities (Legos,

Snap Circuits...), craft projects, various weekly, monthly and holiday activities, story times and visits from Pierce School students.

The Library participated in the sixth annual Rhubarb Festival which was again held at Sawyer Field. The Festival included live music, food, a petting zoo, and vendors. The Rhubarb festival kicks-off the Library's annual quilt raffle to raise money for the Library's building campaign. The beautiful handmade quilt is anonymously gifted to the Library. The raffle runs from the start of the Rhubarb Festival through mid-November. This year's quilt was won by former longtime Library Trustee, Lisa Shingler.

The 2018 Summer Reading Program was a music theme entitled '*Libraries Rock!*' The program kick-off was held at Pierce School with a concert by Steve Blunt. We also had two library firsts - a Karaoke night and two family movie nights. Other Summer Reading Program activities and events included twice weekly story times, two field trips, a bike rodeo, games, programs, ongoing in-house reading challenges, quizzes, craft activities, and a popular trivia night emceed by John Cronin. Thank you to our Summer Reading Program story time volunteers - Jill Wilmoth, Claudia Sysyn, Molly Eppig, and Jeannette & Addie Regis. Thank you to those who made the bike rodeo possible - Joe MacGregor who set up the course, Mike Munhall's assistance and publicity, Jason LePine and Jason Powers with safety and road rules, and to the Newhall Park Board for providing the perfect venue. Thank you to movie night technology experts, Peter Martel and Keith Nason who generously loaned their amazing equipment, time and know-how. Thank you to Masons Jon Manley & Arthur Dunham, who through the Masonic Bikes for Books program, annually donate a bike as reading incentive to a summer reading program participant. This year's bike was won by *Felicity Allen*.

Thank you to all of our generous patron citizens who help us in so many ways to keep the Library vibrant and running all year long! Besides serving as Trustees, Molly Eppig, Jill Wilmoth, Jeannette Regis and David McKenzie volunteer and donate their time and talents outside of their Trustee duties. Thank you to the many others, of all ages, who came to help, gave us all sorts of support and good cheer and who have made generous donations throughout the year: Joe MacGregor, Dwayne Searles, Mike Munhall, Chris Tarrío, Chris Maple, Peter Eppig, Robert Gross, Janice McKenzie, Uli & Evelyn Wilmoth, Meredith Desaulniers, Colleen Allen, Jon & Robyn Manley, Victoria Burnham, Carrie Whittemore & Blueberry Hill Designs, Deb & Rich Page, John & RoAnne Cronin, Debi Belcher & family, Joey Hodgen, Liam Richardson, MacKenzie Rice, Claudia Sysyn, Laurie MacKeigan, Kristie LaPlante, the Bennington Garage, Inc, Milford & Frankestown Masons, Betty Coffin Brooks, Linda Delay, Sally Westaway, Peter Martel, Keith Nason, Jason Lepine, Jason Powers, Newhall Park Board for use of the basketball court and facilities, the Bennington Historical Society for use of their meeting room for speakers and the book group, and to the Town of Bennington for sharing their VFW Hall, Sawyer Field & the upstairs of Town Hall.

'The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.'

~ Albert Einstein

Seek us out!

Leslie MacGregor, Director
Melissa Searles, Assistant Director
Jill Wilmoth, Trustee Chair
Molly Eppig, Trustee Treasurer
Jeannette Regis, Trustee
David McKenzie, Trustee Alternate

POLICE DEPARTMENT

I would like to start by thanking the citizens of Bennington for your continued support; the Police Department appreciates everything you do for us. I would also like to thank the Officers of the Bennington Police Department for everything they do. Their hard work and dedication is appreciated.

After many years of service, Officer Phil Marcellino has resigned his part-time position with the Bennington Police Department. He will be missed greatly. Thank you, Phil, for your service!

I have been asked by several residents about the new bail law and asked why we are lowering the bail on violent offenders. First, the Police Department does not set the bail. Bail is set by a Bail Commissioner, who is a representative of the Court. Secondly, the State of New Hampshire has passed a bail reform law. Basically, this law is set in place to allow those who cannot afford bail to have the same opportunity as those that can afford bail.

The heroin epidemic is still here. We responded to several calls again in 2018 involving heroin. This is a crisis that is not going away any time soon. With that said, the new marijuana law changes have brought many questions. Marijuana has been decriminalized in the State of New Hampshire and, contrary to the belief of some, it is not legal. It has been changed from a misdemeanor charge to a violation level offense, punishable by a fine. Smoking marijuana, then operating a motor vehicle still falls under the Driving While Impaired statute. This will be strictly enforced by all Police agencies.

I once again ask you as citizens, if you see something, say something. A simple noise complaint call generated by a citizen resulted in an arrest for heroin, marijuana and ready-made bombs. That is just one example of what a simple call to us can generate. Please don't hesitate to give us a call.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their support; we appreciate everything you do. I expect 2019 to bring new changes and challenges. With your help we can continue to make this community a safe and desirable place to live. We look forward to the new year!

Respectfully Submitted,

Bret Sullivan, Chief of Police

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bennington Fire and Rescue had no major changes during 2018. The officers and overall membership saw very little change allowing for a stable year. Zack Andersen completed his Level I and Level II Firefighter training giving the Town another highly trained member of the Department.

For 2018 Bennington Fire and Rescue responded to a total of 230 emergency calls - up from 187 in 2017 with 152 of them being medically based versus 118 in 2017. Department members also participated in many trainings and meetings to be able to better serve the community.

The team of officers worked very hard this year to reduce costs and found better ways to properly serve our community while reducing the operating budget going in to 2019. Maintaining our vehicles and equipment properly to achieve a longer life cycle is a priority along with life safety and protective items. In early December four air packs were ordered to replace out dated and expired units using Capital Reserve Funds with two more slated to be replaced in March of 2019.

Just a reminder that all tents - 400 square feet (example 20'x20') and larger – OR - any tent that will have more than fifty people (no minimum size) in it at one time REQUIRES an Occupancy Permit. The State of New Hampshire requires all residents, businesses or group functions to obtain a Permit at the time of installation and prior to use. This includes temporary uses (as little as one day). It is recommended that you reach out to Deputy Chief Keith Nason weeks prior to the planned installation to insure a smooth process.

If you are planning to burn brush please contact the Warden or one of the Deputy Wardens for a Burn Permit or you can obtain one online at: <https://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net>.

Lastly, please take the time to make sure that you have large and reflective numbers on both sides of your mailbox and on your residence if your house can be seen from the road as this will enable emergency services to locate your home quickly in the case of an emergency.

The entire Fire Department membership would like to thank the residents of Bennington for their continued support of the Fire Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Foster, Fire Chief
Matt Hall, Deputy Fire Chief
Keith Nason, Deputy Fire Chief
Jason Powers, Rescue Captain

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Bennington Emergency Management has had another eventful year serving the community. Director Keith Nason, Deputy Director Kristie LaPlante and Specialist Jason Powers have spent much of the year keeping an eye on weather and security related issues.

During 2018, the Emergency Management Team continued to work with and support the Police and Fire Departments. Continued training has focused on the community with specialized planning and training involving Pierce School. Monthly meetings have continued with members of each agency and school faculty to provide the safest possible environment for the students and teachers of Pierce School.

In 2018, Emergency Management was relatively uneventful other than dealing with some weather-related issues such as the rising water in North Bennington causing North Bennington Road near the Deering Town line to flood and be closed on several occasions and a few other minor issues.

Follow Bennington Emergency Management on Facebook and download the State of NH's ReadyNH app for your mobile phone. Please remember if you "See Something, Say Something".

As we continue to enhance our community involvement and education, we are encouraging anyone with comments, questions or ideas to contact us. Calls can be made to the Town Office during normal business hours or through the Police Department after hours. Email Keith at EMD@BenningtonNHfire.com or Kristie at DEMD@benningtonNHfire.com.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Nason, EMD

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department had a change in employees this year. John Plourde resigned and accepted employment with the Antrim Highway Department; filling the open position is Damon Beaudreau.

Late winter and spring mud season went well with minimal problems. This year, with the added Warrant Article (to Address Deferred Road Maintenance), we were able to pave Eaton Avenue, Starrett Road, Acre Street, Dodge Road, and the split entryway on Balch Farm Road. After under-drain was installed on the lower part of Pierce Hill Road and ditching was completed we were able to pave that road as well.

We also received extra money from the State of NH Highway Block Grant and installed guardrail on North Bennington Road along part of the river edge. We also purchased a new plate compactor, paved the new parking lot at Town Hall, and bought erosion stone for future road projects. Our road sealing project this year was to chip seal one mile of Bible Hill Road starting at the North Bennington Road intersection.

We screened and stockpiled winter sand as well as crushed and stockpiled gravel for making pug mill for next year.

I would like to thank Chris Davies for managing day to day operations at the Highway Department while I was out on leave the second half of the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary S. Russell, Road Agent

TRANSFER STATION

Recycling is becoming harder and harder the last few years with the volatile recycling market:

- Glass has seen a big down turn with companies going out of business making glass from used glass. It now cost us \$30 a ton in tipping fees to recycle glass; vendors then crush the material to make aggregate and sell the aggregate material.
- The plastics market has become increasingly smaller, with a recyclables market for #1 and #2 plastics only; #3 through #7 plastics are now going into our trash.
- Mixed paper is bringing in less revenue than two years ago.
- Two different loads of aluminum cans sent to the recyclables market this year yielded a net difference of \$500 in profit, even though the higher profit return resulted from a higher haul fee to a location further away.

We continue to keep a close eye on the markets and different vendors to achieve the highest return (or lowest cost) for our recyclables.

This year we purchased a used forty foot shipping container to store our used tires because our existing container did not hold the minimum load for a vendor. We have recycled the old container to store our e-waste.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Parker
Jeffrey Rose
Gary Russell

Solid Waste Committee

HOURS OF OPERATION

Wednesday	1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Your Conservation Commission has had a very productive year with regular activities and special events. Longtime Commissioner John Baybutt stepped down this year. We thank him for this guidance, leadership and good work over the years. Gary MacKinnon has joined the Commission and is already having an impact on our work. We are always looking for Bennington residents who are interested in the long-term preservation of the Town's resources. We particularly would like to encourage women and younger residents to bring their ideas to the Commission.

A function of the Commission is to regularly perambulate the Town's borders. This year Bennington's border with Hancock was perambulated on October 6. Joined by a Hancock Selectman, we found several monument markers that reaffirmed the border. The Greenfield town-line was walked with our new Town Administrator to give her reference for her discussions with Greenfield officials.

Another key duty of the Commission is the stewardship of the Bruce Edes Forest. We had a good turnout of participants for the Annual Bruce Edes Forest Walk. In the autumn Commissioners guided Pierce School students on walks through the Forest along with a naturalist from the Harris Center. It is important to the Commission that all residents know of the various free natural resources available to the Town's people. A new addition to the Town's resources is this year's purchase of the 112-acre former Samuel's property on the backside of Crotched Mountain. Spearheaded by the Frankestown Land Trust, the Bennington Conservation Commission aided in the purchase of the property through contact with private sources and a contribution from the Conservation Fund established by voters in 1995.

The Commission is grateful to several Town residents for their contributions to the project. This land is now permanently protected for a wildlife habitat and for public hiking. The Commission sponsored two walks this summer to show off the parcel.

Each year, the Commission sponsors the Earth Day Roadside Cleanup in late April. This year we had a banner turnout of town residents and collected a record quantity of bags full of trash. We are also appreciative of the regular roadside cleanups that the Scouts and the Democratic Town Committee undertake throughout the year. The end of June the Commission held its annual Contoocook River Float to show off the beauty of our featured natural resource to residents. As the Commission has done in recent years, it sponsored two Bennington middle school age students to attend a week-long camp at the Harris Center in Hancock.

A major project of the Commission which came to completion this year is the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). For two years, Town residents voted to allot monies to complete the NRI. This document is a result of a thorough study of Bennington's diverse physical land features, soils, water resources (watersheds, wetlands, bodies of water, groundwater), ecological resources (wildlife habitats, rare species), agricultural and forest soils, conservation lands, conservation focuses and includes recommendations

for future stewardship of our resources. The NRI is now an available resource that the Select Board and Planning Boards can use for governing the growth of Bennington. There is a copy of the NRI at the Dodge Library for public review and study.

Along with major actions the Commission will be continuing its regular activities into 2019. We look forward to even more people using the river and hiking various trails that make Bennington a unique place to live.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Germain and Michael Munhall, Co-Chairs

PLANNING BOARD

In New Hampshire, the Planning Board has several functions. Its adjudicative functions include regulation of land Subdivisions, review of Site Plans, and regulation of Excavations. Legislative functions include preparation and adoption of the Master Plan and the Capital Improvement Program and recommendation of changes to the Zoning Ordinance, which take the form of proposed Warrant Articles for voter approval.

In 2018 the Planning Board proposed two Warrant Articles to change portions of the Zoning Ordinance. The First Article made minor changes to the Signs Article. The second Article rewrote the definition of Home Occupations, changed the terminology from "Home Occupation" to "Home Businesses", and changed affiliated subsections to read "Home Businesses". Both Articles were passed by the voters.

During 2018, the Board considered and approved three Lot-Line Adjustment applications and one Subdivision application. In December the Town received an application for Site Plan Review for a conversion of a condominium development in the Commercial and Recreational Zone to transitional housing. The Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment will take up the matter in a joint Public Hearing scheduled for early January.

Respectfully Submitted,

David McKenzie, Chair
Sam Cohen
Chris Maple, Vice-Chair
Mark Mackesy, *ex-officio*
Donald Trow

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

2018 was a fairly normal year for Building Permit activity. I continued to assist property owners with Zoning and building questions, permit application, plan reviews, issuing permits, and performing inspections of buildings and trade work. Also in 2018 we introduced a "Single Trade Permit" specific to electrical, plumbing, and mechanical projects. I continue to receive excellent support from office staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dario Carrara
Building Inspector
Code Enforcement Officer

FEE SCHEDULE

Permit Application Fee	\$ 0.00
Residential Building – New	\$.25/square foot
Residential Building – Remodel	\$.15/square foot
Out Building without service (shed, barn, garage)	\$.10/square foot
Commercial Building – New	\$.30/square foot
Commercial Building – Remodel	\$.30/square foot
Electrical Permit	\$ 50.00
Plumbing Permit	\$ 50.00
Mechanical Permit (gas, oil, wood, heating, or HVAC)	\$ 50.00
Demolition Permit	\$ 25.00
Sign Permit	\$ 25.00
Zoning or Code violation penalty	Not more than maximum set by State Law

HUMAN SERVICES

The Town of Bennington saw a decrease in need for assistance in 2018; the primary need in our Town was for rent and electrical assistance.

The objective of our assistance program is to assist applicants in becoming more self-reliant while maintaining their lives and keeping their expenses at a minimum. Assisting applicants often requires follow-up meetings to assure applicants are staying on track and advising applicants to reach out to other agencies and utilize all resources available to them.

Applicants for assistance must fill out an application and provide required documentation. Applicants must also meet with me to discuss their situation and work towards a more financially sound budget. In an effort to process applications in a timely manner, all applicants are required to pursue referrals to other agencies, negotiate payment plans directly with their provider, and keep their appointments with myself and/or other agencies. No assistance will be granted without this information.

There are many resources available to those planning ahead (Electrical Assistance Program through the NH Public Utilities Commission or Fuel Assistance through NH OEP) as well as assistance for those finding themselves in actual need. Some of the agencies that are available for support and assistance include:

- The River Center
- Southern NH Services
- Local Food Pantries
- Social Security Offices
- Medication Programs
- Consumer Credit Counseling Services of NH & VT
- Local Churches

Again in 2018, Peterborough Rotary assisted with Operation Santa for families at Christmas who were in need.

The Welfare Office is located at Town Hall – appointments can be made by calling the Town Office at 588-2189.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Davidson, Human Services Director

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Facebook: Bennington Recreation Committee

The Bennington Recreation Committee is charged with organizing programs and events for residents year-round. Many of the events hosted by the Recreation Committee are free to participants. The Recreation Committee also sponsors outside groups who may charge a fee for membership and/or services.

Ongoing programs include ConVal Martial Arts, 4-H, and Girls Scouts. These programs meet in the Town Hall gymnasium and are open to both residents and non-residents. Membership fees are charged for participation in these programs. New members are welcome at any time throughout the year.

- 4-H: Days & Times Vary
- ConVal Martial Arts: Mondays at 5:15pm
- Girl Scouts: Sundays at 3:30pm

An Easter celebration for families was held in the Town Hall gymnasium on March 25th. The Bennington Congregational Church co-sponsored the event. The celebration included games, crafts, snacks, and treat-filled Easter eggs.

The annual Andy Mackenzie Fishing Derby was held at Cold Springs Pond on April 28rd. This event is hosted by the Bennington Sportsman Club and is open to Bennington residents ages 15 and under. Prizes were awarded to all participants.

Whittemore Beach was staffed with full-time beach attendants and lifeguards seven days a week. In addition to patron safety, staff is charged with light maintenance work including litter removal, raking, and overall upkeep of the beach area.

The Recreation Committee collaborated with the GEP Dodge Library staff for their Halloween party (October 26th) and Christmas party (December 7th). Both were held upstairs at Town Hall and included stories, games, and snacks for children and families in Bennington.

A town-wide Christmas celebration was held on December 4th thanks to collaboration with the Bennington Congregational Church. The afternoon included a petting zoo, story book walk, live nativity play, and a lighted truck & tractor parade. The Town Christmas tree was lit at the conclusion of the play. Residents enjoyed coffee, hot chocolate, and baked goods while watching the play.

In December the Bennington Rhubarb Festival Committee and the Recreation Committee met to discuss the future of the Festival, which is held the first Saturday of June at Sawyer Memorial Park on Route 202. Beginning in 2019, the Festival will become a Recreation Committee event. The Friends of the Library will attend the Festival as a vendor and hold a bake sale to fundraise. The Festival's original purpose was to raise funds for the Library Building Fund.

The Recreation Committee thanks the volunteers who make recreation activities in Bennington possible. New ideas and programs are always welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bethany & Jim Craig
Recreation Committee Co-Chairs

AVENUE A

TEEN + COMMUNITY CENTER

BENNINGTON & AVENUE A – BY THE NUMBERS!

57 Bennington residents used Avenue A last fiscal year (July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018)....

42 of those residents were TEENAGERS who participated in our programs!

OUR PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL TEENS FOCUS ON FOUR CORE AREAS:

HEALTHY LIVING – CREATIVE EXPRESSION – SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT – CAREER SKILL BUILDING

Our programs continue to grow! This fiscal year we launched new science/STEM programs, a woodworking program, yoga classes, and we expanded our music programs!

Bennington teens participate in Avenue A teen programs including...

- Art Workshops
- Open Mic Nights
- Woodworking Program
- Friday Open Hours
- Pick-Up Basketball
- High School Creative Writing Club
- Middle School Writers' Society
- Coding Club
- Teen Clothing Day
- Yoga Classes
- Annual Halloween Party
- Tabletop Game Club
- Improv Acting
- Teen Peer Support Group
- Middle School Afterschool Program
- Cooking Club
- Summer Science Program
- Expressive Art

We provide 15+ hours of teen programming every week!

Our programs run Monday – Friday during afterschool and evening hours
(when teens are most vulnerable to risky behaviors).

We also offer special weekend programs!

This year we've collaborated with great local organizations including—

**CONVAL END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER – THE ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB – GREAT BROOK SCHOOL
ANTRIM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – THE HOPE INITIATIVE – CONVAL HIGH SCHOOL**

as well as many other organizations throughout the region!

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

As of this writing, there are 1091 registered voters in Bennington: 278 Democrats, 322 Republicans, and 491 Undeclared. (Note: since the Libertarian candidate for Governor did not receive over 4% of the vote in the 2016 General Election, the Libertarian Party is no longer a party choice for the next two-year cycle).

Since the last election report, there has been much activity at the State level concerning voter registration, particularly over what it means to "live" in the State of New Hampshire. It all hinges on the word "*domicile*", which is enshrined in the New Hampshire Constitution. The Legislature, the Secretary of State, and the Courts have all weighed in, as well as the League of Women Voters and other organizations.

The right to vote is guaranteed by the New Hampshire Constitution, Article 11: "All elections are to be free, and every inhabitant of the state of 18 years of age and upwards shall have an equal right to vote in any election. Every person shall be considered an inhabitant for the purposes of voting in the town, ward, or unincorporated place where he has his domicile." But what is a domicile? Is it different from a residence? How long do you have to live somewhere before it becomes your domicile? Is it your domicile if you do not intend to stay very long?

The upshot of all this quibbling over a word played out this year like a Laurel and Hardy routine: First the Legislature passed a law, SB3, which, in a nutshell, required that persons wishing to register to vote in New Hampshire fill out a long and complicated form as well as providing "evidence of a verifiable action that establishes domicile." If they failed to do this on the day of voting, they had ten days to provide proof, after which the Supervisors of the Checklist were required to investigate those voters who didn't provide proof, up to and including "Requesting two or more municipal officers or their agents or state election officers or their agents to visit the address and verify that the individual was domiciled there on election day."

The law ended up in Court where evidence was heard about the confusing nature of the law, including how difficult the language on the voter registration forms was for the average layman to understand. A language expert determined that both the voter registration form and the follow-up form violated the best practices of plain language. For example, one sentence was ninety-seven words long and had the Grade Level of 23 (equivalent to that of a doctoral candidate)! There were concerns that the confusing forms would cause long lines at the polls. In the end, the Judge ruled that the law did not achieve the desired intent, which was to prevent wrongful voting. At the same time, the court determined that the law ran the risk of disenfranchising legitimate voters and causing the disparate treatment of different groups of people.

Unfortunately, the Court decision was not reached until October 21. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General filed an emergency motion stating that it was too close to the election to change the forms, and the court upheld their motion. So, we Supervisors were forced to use a voter registration form that was both long and

confusing. We apologize. And we thank all of you who struggled along with us to understand what those forms meant.

There is currently a Bill, HB 105, being considered in the NH House of Representatives, which seeks to repeal SB3. There is another Bill, HB 106, which clarifies the term "residence" by adding the words "for the indefinite future" to the current language: "Residence or residency shall mean a person's place of abode or domicile. The place of abode or domicile is that designated by a person as his or her principal place of physical presence for the indefinite future to the exclusion of all others." What these words do is protect the right to vote for homeless people, college students, hospital residents, and other groups of people who live in a place temporarily.

It is important for all of us as citizens to keep track of these issues that impact our sacred right to vote. Any erosion of our democracy affects all of us. And while these election laws are certainly not as eye-catching as a lot of the click-bait that's running around these days, they certainly deserve our attention. Please remain vigilant.

Remember to come to the polls with your photo I.D. If you are a new voter coming to register, be sure to bring something that ties you to your domicile: motor vehicle registration, driver's license, any other government or school I.D. with your residence on it, school enrollment forms, public utility bills, landlord agreements, real estate sales agreements, tax bills, an affidavit signed by the property owner where you live, or any other evidence that ties you to the place where you currently live. If you have recently moved and do not have these proofs, **YOU WILL BE ALLOWED TO VOTE** by signing an affidavit. Election officials in Bennington promise that we will do our best to make registering and voting as pleasant and painless as ever.

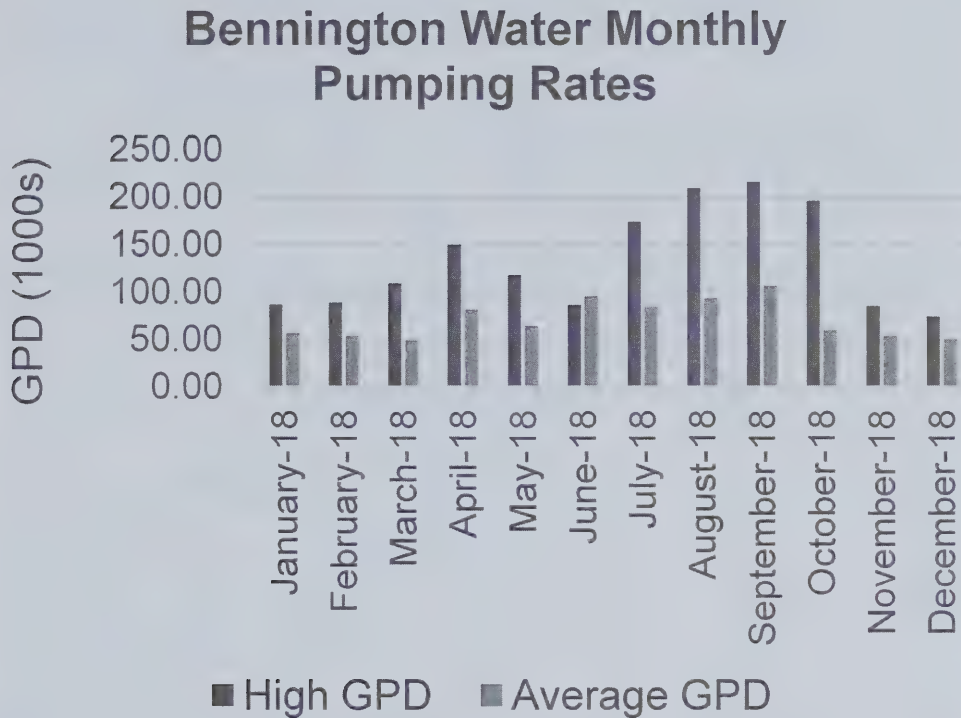
See you at the polls!

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Gibbons
Melissa Searles
Victoria Turner

WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

In the year 2018 the Bennington Water System has been running smoothly with only few minor leak repairs. A total of 25,715,600 gallons were pumped from the Bennington well with an average daily flow of 70,450 gallons per day (gpd). High average daily pump rate was 106,320 gpd in September to a low average pump rate of 50,070 gpd in December.



Three leaking lateral lines were repaired on Acre Street, Knightland Road, and Bible Hill Road. The quick response from the Bennington Highway Department in providing excavation support services, allowed these leaks to be addressed in an efficient and timely manner.

Based on water samples collected and analyzed throughout the year, Bennington water has been confirmed to be safe for drinking.

The development of the Water System Asset Management Program (AMP) started with a kick-off meeting held on May 23rd. During the summer, working with Antrim Water/Sewer Staff, the Dufresne Group (DG) surveyed the existing water lines, hydrants, valve boxes, and curb stops. This information was then transmitted to the Southwest Regional Planning Commission (SWRPC) which input this into the Bennington Water ArcGIS Online Map. Working with the Commissioners, SWRPC has developed a comprehensive online GIS map which is accessible from desk top computers and mobile devices such as smart phones or iPads. This online database will be updated on a continuing basis to electronically document all work done on and any problems, such as leaks encountered within the water system. SWRPC will be providing ongoing GIS support to the Town, not only for the water system, but also for the Town Sewer

System and other assets which the Town may wish to add in the future. A sample of that online GIS Map is shown below:



DG developed an inventory of water system vertical assets including, but not limited to, the well, pump house, storage tank, and the Route 47 Telemetry Vault. Based on the inventory of horizontal, the distribution network, and the vertical assets, DG provided a 47-page AMP Plan, a 26-page Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manual, and Bennington Water System data uploaded to the EPA CUPSS Program. The Commissioners will be updating the CUPSS program data on assets, O&M work tasks and financial information as pertaining to the Water System with future plans to add the Sewer System to the Bennington CUPSS data.

As part of the Water AMP effort, the Commissioners worked with Granite State Rural Water Association (GSRWA) to review the structure of water rates which were last updated in 2010. This is a work in progress with a target of completing this water rate review along with the sewer rates in 2019.

Final close-out meeting of the AMP effort was held on January 3, 2019. The \$20,000.00 from the NHDES Water AMP Grant is expected to be obtained in early 2019.

As a follow-on to the Water AMP effort, NHDES has approved Bennington for a \$30,000.00 forgiveness loan to develop a Sewer System AMP. Provided that the Warrant Article requesting

the Town's acceptance is passed, then the Commissioners will be working to obtain the services of an engineering firm to support this effort, along with working with SWRPC to develop an online GIS Map for the Sewer System and the GSRWA to complete the water/sewer rates study. It is expected that the Sewer AMP would be completed by the end of 2019.

The Bennington Sewer system includes 38 manholes, 30 8-inch collection lines (for total length of about 1.3 miles), 95 6-inch service connections (for a total length of about 0.3 miles), the Starrett Road Pump Station, and the 1.6-mile-long 6-inch force main to Antrim. Major repair item for the Sewer System was the replacement of the control board for the back-up generator at the Pump Station.

Expected maintenance items to be addressed in 2019, includes the five-year inspection of the water storage tank and reworking of the two sewage pumps at the Starret Road Pump Station. Other minor maintenance will be performed as so required.

The Water & Sewer Commissioners meet at 4:30 PM on the first Monday of each month. You are requested to make an appointment should you have any issue which you may wish to discuss.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Beck
Richard Reed
Dennis McKenney
Water Sewer Commissioners

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

During 2018, the Cemetery Trustees continued to focus on preserving and maintaining the Town Cemeteries in order to preserve the history contained within the cemeteries' walls and to keep the cemeteries in a manner so individuals can visit their loved ones that have passed. This work has included cleaning stones and making repairs to stones. The Cemetery Trustees would like to thank Jeremy Gagnon for his numerous years of service and commitment to keeping Evergreen and Sunnyside Cemeteries beautiful. We would also like to thank Peterborough Marble and Granite and Gravestone Services of New England LLC for the stonework completed in the Cemeteries. Lastly, thank you to Steve Carson for his care and services during families' difficult time of need.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Belcher
Joshua Segal
Melissa Clark
Bethany Craig, Alternate

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Bennington Energy Committee (BEC) was established in 2010 with the charge to help the Town find ways to save energy and thereby save money. A secondary objective is to help the Town's residents save energy. The vision of the BEC is to find ways for the Town to cut energy costs by 50% by 2020. The BEC will examine all aspects of Town energy use, including both indoor and outdoor usage.

The conversion of the Town's streetlights to light-emitting diodes (LED's) was completed in 2018. LED's give superior lighting with reduced wattage compared to the metal-halide lamps that were replaced. The cost of the \$10,030.95 project was paid for by a combination of a \$5,000 Warrant Article approved by the voters in 2017, \$1,230.95 from the Street Lighting portion of the Operating Budget, with a \$3,800 rebate offset.

At the end of the year the Committee was working in two areas: considering whether the solar power is feasible for the Town and inventorying the Town's indoor lighting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Molly Eppig
Peter Eppig
David McKenzie
Michael Munhall

Marriages Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<u>Date of Ceremony</u>	<u>Name of Bride & Groom</u>	<u>Residence</u>
06/16/2018	James Hall Jenny M Gilligan	Bennington, NH Hillsborough, NH
08/04/2018	Wayne E Dow Jr. Deborah J Pratt	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
08/18/2018	Jefferson T Lang Samantha L Young	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
08/25/2018	Henry P Payne Maureen S Higgins	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
10/28/2018	Alexander J Hautanen Shauna M Whittemore	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH
12/22/2018	Joshua E Smith Courtney E McKay	Bennington, NH Bennington, NH

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

Debra Belcher, Town Clerk

Births Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Name of Father and Mother</u>
04/29/2018	Micah Paul Prince	Keene, NH	Gregory and Victoria Prince
06/08/2018	Blaire Louise Chacos	Keene, NH	Justin and Emma Chacos
07/13/2018	Alexandra Delores Evans	Manchester, NH	Angela Elliott
07/18/2018	Theos Samson Somero	Bennington, NH	Waylon and Samantha Somero
08/31/2018	Branden Michael Guillemette Jr.	Peterborough, NH	Branden Guillemette and Kaitlyn Phillips
09/19/2018	Lucas Avit Dostaler	Peterborough, NH	Nicholas Dostaler and Elizabeth Smullen
10/04/2018	Jennifer Christina Kae Molloy	Peterborough, NH	Brian Molloy and Kelly Keenan
10/22/2018	Jacqueline Beth Hinton	Lebanon, NH	James and Amanda Hinton
12/08/2018	Hannah Lynn Concannon	Peterborough, NH	Franklin and Elizabeth Concannon

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, 2018

<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>
01/02/2018	Richard Goetz	Bennington, NH	Louis Goetz	Madeline Messenge
02/02/2018	Martha Clow	Lebanon, NH	Alfred Brigham Jr.	Thelma Weeks
02/08/2018	Richard Michlik Sr.	Bennington, NH	Stephen Michlik Sr.	Joanne Gackenback
02/17/2018	Barbara Sargent	Bennington, NH	Russel Quimby	Mary Runnells
04/07/2018	Barbara Parker	Bennington, NH	Gardner Glover	Edna Baker
04/12/2018	Walter Starkweather	Concord, NH	George Starkweather	Daisy Cook
04/22/2018	Geraldine Sweeney	Peterborough, NH	George Welch	Carrie Wilson
05/05/2018	Richard Delay Sr.	Concord, NH	John Delay Sr.	Marie Keaveny
06/29/2018	Harold Wilson Sr.	Bennington, NH	Herbert Wilson	Evelyn Rollins
09/28/2018	Stella Collins	Peterborough, NH	Harry Worth	Mabel Keith
11/18/2018	Carlton Lyman Sr.	Bennington, NH	Wilson Lyman	Edith Owms
11/19/2018	Forrest Ball	Bennington, NH	Francis Ball	Mary Sicca
12/01/2018	Janet Bramley	Bennington, NH	Albert Parisi	Loretta Lavoie
12/12/2018	Susan Byam	Bennington, NH	Walter Belida	Jennie Karczewski

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

Debra Belcher, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BENNING
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	Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to noon Thursday 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Welfare Director	By appointment

MEETING SCHEDULES

Cemetery Trustees	Second Tuesday of each month at 6:45 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
Energy Committee	First Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
Library Trustees	First Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. <i>at the Library</i>
Planning Board	Second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Recreation Committee	As needed, with proper notice
Selectmen	Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
Trustees of Trust Funds	As needed, with proper notice
Water/Sewer Commissioners	First Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**LIBRARY HOURS
588-6585**

Monday	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Noon - 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.

**RECYCLING/TRANSFER STATION HOURS
588-3407**

Wednesday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

New Hampshire State Library



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