

# Part I

Town of Norwich

## Norwich Town Officers & Committees for 2011

### Elected Officials

#### Selectboard

Roger Blake .....2012  
Steve Flanders .....2012  
Christopher Ashley, Vice-Chair .2013  
Linda Cook .....2013  
Ed Childs, Chair .....2014

#### Town Clerk

Bonnie Munday .....2014  
Chris Wallace, Assistant

#### Town Treasurer

Cheryl Lindberg .....2014  
Neil Fulton, Debby Hall, Assistants

#### Agent to Prosecute & Defend Suits

Frank Olmstead .....2012

#### Cemetery Commission

Jay Van Arman .....2012  
Fred Spaulding, Chair .....2012  
Fred Smith, Jr. ....2013  
Demo Sofronas .....2014  
Robert Parker .....2015

#### Grand Juror

#### Justices of the Peace

Brooke Adler .....2013  
Joyce Childs .....2013  
Ernie Ciccotelli .....2013  
Nancy Dean .....2013  
Paul "Doc" Donohue .....2013  
Robert Gere .....2013  
Linda Gray .....2013  
Ann Harvey .....2013  
Nancy Hoggson .....2013  
Corlan Johnson .....2013  
Donald Kreis .....2013  
Fred Smith, Jr. ....2013

#### Listers

Ernie Ciccotelli .....2012  
Jonathan Vincent .....2013  
Liz Blum .....2014

#### Moderator

Warren Thayer .....2012

#### Norwich School Board

Neil Odell .....2012  
Lauren Morando Rhim .....2012  
Carey Callaghan .....2013  
Linda Addante .....2014  
Anne Day, Chair .....2014

#### Trustees of Public Funds

Douglas Rexford .....2012  
Deborah Hall .....2012  
Cheryl Lindberg .....2013

### Appointed Officials

#### Town Manager *(serves also as Collector of Delinquent Taxes and Emergency Management Director)*

Neil Fulton  
Nancy Kramer, Assistant

#### Bugbee Senior Center Representatives

Martha Drake, Paula Harris

#### Conservation Commission

David Hubbard .....2012  
William Pierce .....2012  
Genevieve Morinville .....2013  
Craig Layne .....2013  
Frank Olmstead .....2013  
Peter Silberfarb .....2014  
Stephen Gaughan, Chair .....2014  
Daniel Goulet .....2015  
Martha Graber .....2015

#### Development Review Board

Nancy Dean .....2012  
John Lawe, Chair .....2012  
George Loveland .....2013  
Stanley Teeter .....2013  
Ernie Ciccotelli .....2014  
Arline Rotman .....2014  
Folger Tuggle .....2014  
Don McCabe, alternate .....2012  
Bill Lyons, alternate .....2014

#### Emergency Management Coordinator

Jennie Hubbard

#### Energy Committee

Alan Berolzheimer, Chair  
Ames Byrd  
Linda Gray  
Jamie Hess  
Doug Iverson

#### Fence Viewer

Watt Alexander  
Liz Russell

#### Finance Committee

Evan Pierce, Vice-Chair .....2012  
Chris Rhim .....2012  
Keith Moran, Chair .....2013  
Joshua Durst .....2013  
James Dwinell .....2013

<b>Finance Officer</b> Roberta Robinson Jonathan Bynum, Assistant	Stuart Close .....2012 Scott Neuman .....2013 Clayton Simmers .....2013 John Starosta .....2013 Laura Duncan .....2014 Everett Logan .....2014 Bill Miles .....2014
<b>Fire Chief</b> Stephen Leinoff	
<b>Fire Warden</b> Linda Cook Steve Leinoff, Deputy	<b>Recreation Director</b> Jill Kearney
<b>GUV Solid Waste Man. District</b> Brion McMullan .....2012 Neil Fulton, Alternate .....2012	<b>Senior Action Council</b> Wanita Armstrong Dorothy Cloud Martha Drake, Chair Paula Harris, Secretary Mary Irene Moore Mary Rassias
<b>Health Officer</b> John Lawe, MD .....2012 Bonnie Munday, Deputy .....2013	<b>Surveyor of Wood and Lumber</b> David Hubbard
<b>Historic Preservation Commission</b> Bill Aldrich .....2012 Roger Blake .....2013 Peter Brink .....2014 Nancy Hoggson, Chair .....2014	<b>Town Service Officer</b> Linda Cook .....2012
<b>Milton Frye Nature Area Committee</b> Matt Buck George Clark Kate Emlin Lindsay Putnam Warren Thayer, Chair Stan Williams	<b>Transportation Committee</b> Lars Blackmore Carolyn Frye Lucy Gibson, Chair Jeff Goodrich Linda Gray Susan Hardy Jamie Hess John Lawe Sharon Racusin
<b>Planning Commission</b> Brooke Adler .....2012 Jeff Goodrich .....2012 Ralph Hybels .....2013 Anne Silberfarb .....2013 Richard Stucker .....2014 Tom Gray .....2015 Daniel Johnson, Chair .....2015	<b>Tree Warden</b> Jake Blum
<b>Police Chief</b> Douglas Robinson	<b>Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee RC Rep.</b> Jamie Hess .....2012 Jeff Goodrich, Alternate .....2012
<b>Public Works Director</b> Andy Hodgdon	<b>Upper Valley River Subcommittee CRJC</b> Genevieve Morinville
<b>Recreation Council</b> David Bibeau .....2012 Kris Strohhahn .....2012 Lisa Adams .....2012 Lars Blackmore, President .....2012 Kristin Brown .....2012	<b>Watershed Land Management Council</b> John Currier .....2012 David Hubbard, Chair .....2013 Sandra Haskell .....2014
	<b>Zoning Administrator</b> Phil Dechert Pam Mullen, Assistant

**Minutes Of The Annual Meeting, March 1, 2011  
Town Of Norwich, Vermont And  
Norwich Town School District**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Moderator Warren Thayer. The Moderator went over the guidelines for this meeting.

**Article 1.** *Elect a Moderator of the Town and School District meeting for one year.*

No Discussion.

**Article 2.** *Elect Town and School District Officers for terms starting in 2011.*

No Discussion.

**Article 3.** *Hear and act on the reports of the Officers of the Town and Town School District.*

No Discussion.

**Article 4.** *Authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of 16 VSA § 562(9).*

Neil Odell spoke to this article stating that it allows the Board to borrow money as the article reads. (Yes, 755; No, 146)

**Article 5.** *Shall the voters of the Norwich Town School District determine and fix the salaries of the School Board members in the sum of \$100 each per year in accordance with the provisions of 16 VSA § 562(5)?*

Linda Addante stated that last year due to economic times they reduced the salaries from \$500 to \$100. She noted that school boards across the state are paid differently. (Yes, 830; No, 66)

**Article 6.** *Shall the voters of the Norwich Town School District appropriate \$4,468,767, necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 728; No, 361)

**Article 7.** *Transact any other business that may legally come before the annual meeting of the Norwich Town School Board.*

No Discussion.

**Article 8.** *Approve a gross spending General Town Budget of \$3,815,455 plus unanticipated state and federal grants and gifts consistent with budgeted programs for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.*

Pete Webster, Town Manager, spoke to this article saying that unlike the school we do control our tax rate. He thanked the Finance Committee for their hard work and support.

There will be an increase in spending of \$129,000 this year; however, the overall budget will be down \$173,000 from the 2009 budget.

There will be no new programs this year. There is \$30,000 set aside for the Town-wide reappraisal between this year and next year. Health care is a continuing struggle, whether to stay on the existing plan for one more year and bring in a consultant to look at next year. We are being told that we are an aging and less healthy population. This year the cost is going up 17%. We have switched to an HSA and employees are paying into the plan. Last year salaries were frozen except for the Police and Fire. This year we are giving a 4% COLA to bring us in line with the union contracts. Merit bonuses have been eliminated as they did not work.

Highway has used about 38% of their budget. They are in good shape. Call outs are at about 45 for this year and they are down one man. They have just hired a new employee. There will be a citizen committee to overview the Highway Department and this will be helpful in forming next year's budget.

Cheryl Lindberg spoke on behalf of the Finance Committee saying that the Finance Committee on a vote of 5 to 1 supported this budget anticipating that a growth in the Grand List from new construction will be in the 2011 Grand List and may allow the Town Tax rate to remain level. (Yes, 864; No, 206)

**Article 9.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich establish a special purpose fund within the general fund to remain available as long as there are monies in the fund for planting trees under the direction and control of the Town Manager to receive insurance reimbursements resulting from damage to trees and grants and gifts for planting trees and appropriate \$7,255 to the fund?*

Jake Blum, the Tree Warden, spoke to this article saying the value of trees adds to the quality of the Town and trees also have an economic value. The Tree Warden is responsible for maintaining trees in the Town right of way. He would like to use the money from an insurance claim that came to the Town thus causing no expense to the taxpayer. He will also assist the Town Manager to apply for grants to plant trees. (Yes, 833; No, 223)

**Article 10.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$60,000 to the Town Reappraisal Designated Fund for the purpose of a Town-wide real property reappraisal, \$30,000 to be appropriated to the Town Reappraisal Designated Fund on July 1, 2011 and \$30,000 to be appropriated to the Town Reappraisal Designated Fund on July 1, 2012?*

Dennis Kaufman spoke to this article saying that over the years they have put aside the money they receive from the State and currently have accumulated \$150,000. They are asking for \$60,000 over the next two years to help pay for the reappraisal which will help correct the inequities in the Grand List. (Yes, 714; No, 324)

**Article 11.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,500 for the 250th anniversary celebration of Norwich's founding under the direction and control of the Town Manager to be available upon passage and any unspent funds as of June 30, 2012 be returned to the General Fund?*

Nancy Hoggson spoke to this article saying that for a few months a group has been meeting to plan for the 250th Anniversary celebration. Some events have been planned and more are being planned. Banners will go up and many other towns will also be celebrating and planning events. (Yes, 856; No, 211)

**Article 12.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$500 to the Senior Action Council?*  
No Discussion. (Yes, 888; No, 155)

**Article 13.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,500 to the Norwich American Legion?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 760; No, 267)

**Article 14.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$170,000 for the operating expenses of the Norwich Public Library Association?*

Lucinda Walker spoke to this article introducing Ann Waterfall as chair of the Board of Trustees. The Library has had another great year. Another 244 new members have joined this year. The Library offers e-books, audio books and a place for the kids to go after school. They have had 187 programs which attracted 4,700 people. A new strategic plan by Laura Osborne is based on keeping and adding new technology, collections and redesigning space and adding more visibility. (Yes, 975; No, 115)

**Article 15.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$9,536 to Advance Transit to provide public transportation services?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 987; No, 100)

**Article 16.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be paid to The Family Place to help support programs which benefit Norwich children?*

Arline Rotman who is a board member thanked the Town for last year's support. They expect to help more than 200 families this year. They help with childcare, they have play groups, and a lending library. They hope we vote to continue to support the Family Place. (Yes, 898; No, 170)

**Article 17.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,500 to Headrest?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 829; No, 216)

**Article 18.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,750 to SEVCA (Southeastern Vermont Community Action)?*

Ann Seibert spoke to this article saying that we are the most northern town of SEVCA. There is a store in Hartford across from the Haven and in the facility past the VA. They supply fuel assistance, weatherization, and family support programs. She believes this is a worthy cause. Lupien spoke stating that the Selectboard voted to increase this appropriation and the appropriation to the VNA by \$2,000.00. The new board next year will make the decision for keeping this increase in their appropriations. (Yes, 785; No, 256)

**Article 19.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$5,300 to the White River Council on Aging?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 821; No, 216)

**Article 20.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,000 to Windsor County Partners?*

Nancy Dean spoke to this article stating that every child needs an adult friend. They are very pleased with our past support and ask for our support next year. (Yes, 740; No, 281)

**Article 21.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,500 to WISE (Women's Information Service)?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 842; No, 217)

**Article 22.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,000 to Youth-In-Action?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 779; No, 261)

**Article 23.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$15,000 to the Cemetery Commission under 18 VSA § 5361 to supplement the interest from the Perpetual Care Trust Fund for maintenance of the Town Cemeteries?*

Robert Parker spoke for the Cemetery Commissioners saying there is no increase for the upkeep and care. They are using an outside group from the Vermont Offenders Work Program to mow the cemeteries. They tried them last year to do some work and have entered into an agreement for this year. They hope the cemeteries will be better kept. (Yes, 843; No, 204)

**Article 24.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,000 to the Upper Valley Trails Alliance?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 811; No, 255)

**Article 25.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$8,000 to the Norwich Historical Society and Community Center to assist with general operations?*

Nancy Hoggson thanked the Town for last year's support. The Historical Society is available for group meetings and saw slightly under 2,000 people last year. Hoggson encouraged people to come by and see Chad Finer's exhibit. (Yes, 749; No, 299)

**Article 26.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate the sum of \$15,600 to help support the home health, maternal and child health and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH?*

Nan Carroll spoke to this; she is a member on the board for the VNA & Hospice. They deliver high-quality medical care and made 1,756 home visits of which 77 were to Norwich residents. They have absorbed about \$55,434.00 in costs. (Yes, 957; No, 118)

**Article 27.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,093 to the Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeast Vermont in support of community services provided to Norwich?*

Ed Piper thanked us for our support. He stated that there have been considerable cuts and they are learning to do more with less. They aid families, children and people with drug and alcohol abuse transition back into the community. (Yes, 835; No, 206)

**Article 28.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$4,348 to The Child Care Center of Norwich to be used for one year income sensitive scholarships to Norwich children?*

Neil Odell thanked the Town for last year's money. The money gained is used to fund scholarships for Norwich families. (Yes, 852; No, 219)

**Article 29.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$500 to the Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community through volunteer service?*

No Discussion. (Yes, 785; No, 249)

**Article 30.** *Vote a five-year extension of the exemption from property taxes previously granted to The University Grange under the provisions of 32 VSA § 3840.*

Robert Parker spoke to this stating that the Upper Valley Community Grange holds a community breakfast every Saturday to help support the Grange. If they had to pay taxes they would have to close the Grange. He stated that the Grange has been in existence for 105 years. (Yes, 820; No, 212)

**Article 31.** *Vote a five-year extension of the exemption from property taxes previously granted to the Root District Game Club under the provisions of 32 VSA § 3840.*

No Discussion. (Yes, 611; No, 395)

**Article 32.** *Vote a five-year extension of the exemption from property taxes previously granted to the Beaver Meadow Union Chapel under the provisions of 32 VSA § 3840.*

No Discussion. (Yes, 818; No, 209)

**Article 33.** *Pursuant to 24 VSA § 2741(a)&(c) and 32 VSA § 3832(7), vote to renew and extend for five years the property tax exemption agreements between the Town of Norwich and the Norwich Fire District for two parcels of land owned by the Norwich Fire District, parcel #1 being approximately 350 acres lying southwest of Beaver Meadow Road and adjacent to Charles Brown Brook and parcel #2 being approximately 567 acres lying along Beaver Meadow Road and Tucker Hill Road; to exempt these lands from property tax and to keep in place the deeds conveying the development and recreation rights on said lands to the Town of Norwich, under which deeds the Norwich Fire District retained forestry and water rights. These development and recreation rights will revert to the Norwich Fire District if the tax exemptions are revoked, or if they are not extended by renewal when required.*

Vincent spoke to this article stating that the Fire District is a municipality and the land falls outside of their municipality. This agreement is to reduce what the Fire District has to pay in exchange for development rights. (Yes, 969; No, 90)

**Article 34.** *Require that taxes be paid in U.S. funds in two installments. The first installment will be due and accepted at the Town of Norwich Finance Office on or before 4:30 pm August 12, 2011 and the balance will be due at the same location on or before 4:30 pm February 10, 2012. Property tax adjustments from the State of Vermont will be applied to tax installments equally. An official United States Post Office postmark/cancellation (not a postage machine date) will determine the payment date for all mailed payments. Interest on overdue taxes will be charged at*

1% per month for the first three months and 1½% per month thereafter. All delinquent taxes will be subject to an 8% collection fee in accordance with Vermont Statutes after February 10, 2012. All taxes, interest and collection fees will be paid into the Town Treasury.

No Discussion. (Yes, 999; No, 60)

**Article 35.** *Transact any other business that may legally come before the annual Norwich Town Meeting.*

There was a round of applause for the four years Suzanne Lupien and the two years Sharon Racusin gave to the Town.

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Bonnie J. Munday, Norwich Town Clerk*

**Ballot Results**

**Articles 1 & 2, March 1, 2011**

Moderator (1 year)	Warren Thayer	949
Town Clerk (3 years)	Bonnie Munday	1,017
Treasurer (3 years)	Cheryl A. Lindberg	905
Dresden-Norwich School Director (3 years)	Linda Addante	912
Dresden-Norwich School Director (3 years)	Anne Day	896
Lister (3 years)	Liz Blum	606
	Dennis M. Kaufman	424
Lister (2 year unexpired term)	Jonathan Vincent	804
Lister (1 year unexpired term)	Ernie Ciccotelli	795
Selectman (3 years)	Ed Childs	820
Selectman (2 years)	Christopher R. Ashley	888
Selectman (2 year unexpired term)	Linda Cook	509
	Nancy Hoggson	290
	Don McCabe	277
Selectman (1 year unexpired term)	Stephen Flanders	841



**Minutes of the September 9, 2010  
Town of Norwich, Vermont  
Special Town Meeting**

Moderator Warren Thayer called this meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He explained that there are three articles to be voted on. Polls will open on Tuesday from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

**Article 1.** *Shall general obligations bonds or notes of the Town of Norwich in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$580,000), subject to reduction from available state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued for the purpose of financing in the acquisition of improved real estate located at 306 Main Street, and certain renovations for the future municipal use?*

Pete Webster spoke to this article saying that this is the fourth public forum on this opportunity. The Selectboard entered into negotiations with the Norwich Congregational Church to purchase the Parsonage. They agreed on a value of \$543,000.

The Town currently shares a parking lot and entrance way. We have an easement for parking and we will continue to have this easement. Regardless of the need now, this could expand our parking by 20 to 50 spaces. Also, space is very limited in Tracy Hall and this could give us the opportunity to expand. The Selectboard wanted a plan and the obvious use would be to use it for the Police Department. If we don't buy this, the property could be sold to someone else. Webster feels the need for the Town to have control of this property.

Ann Sargent speaking as a resident urged the Town to vote no. She feels that this is not the time for the Town to make this purchase, and that the space is not ideal for a Police Department. Also, we have not seen any real plans for improvements to the building. Sargent also noted that the school is facing a shortfall of \$280,000 and has added a teacher and we are paying for unexpected benefits.

Joshua Durst agreed with what Sargent said, adding that the Church seems to be in a rush and we are not sure what we would use it for. Liz Blum agreed, adding that we need to come up with \$250,000 for a Town-wide reappraisal. She said that the inspection showed some signs of possible mold and she does not understand the need for the building.

Antoinette Jacobson said she was undecided about her vote but she did remind us of what we went through as a Town with the Norwich Gateway.

Martha Graber spoke saying that the School Board tried very hard to pass a budget and that budget resulted in the cutting of a teacher. She feels that we should raise money to cover the deficit and restore the teacher.

Irv Thomae said that he would vote yes because we have an overcrowded Fire and Police Station and wonders how feasible it would be to try to reconstruct the Police Department on site. Where the Police Department is now was supposed to be a temporary site and this could be an opportunity that we may not see again.

Brooke Mohr spoke as a member of the Church and said that she will also vote yes. She stated that the Church is not in a rush and that this is happening at the Town's request. She said that there is a deadline in place and they will put it on the open market.

Webster said that the interest on this bond would be 45% lower than on a traditional tax-exempt municipal bond and that we have three years to spend the money. He did say that this opportunity may be ill timed.

Heidi Moran asked, if it is going to be purchased for the Town, how many employees would be housed there? She pointed out that we have very few employees who live in Town. She thanked the Board for all their hard work.

Jim Gold pointed out that the loan could not be prepaid. Could we approve a lower

cost and offer a lower price? Beth Ryan asked, if we were to turn this down and bid lower, what would we have to do? Would we have to go through this process again?

Norm Miller said he is in favor of this for the long-term view. He said the Town's layout is fragmented and this building would bring community unity. He said that the Town is relatively debt free and that we are a rich town. It could be used for youths and seniors and we could expand down the road.

Roger Blake spoke saying that there is evidence of mold in the basement and that it does have damp conditions. The likelihood of mold is high. After heat and humidity and using a dehumidifier you will still have the smell of dampness.

Suzanne Lupien pointed out that the Parsonage and Tracy Hall are contiguous.

Nancy Hoggson said, if we were going to spend \$1,000,000, she would rather see it go to a Fire and Police building. She said if there is a desire for meeting space the Historical Society has four meeting rooms available.

Webster spoke saying that the impact would be about \$2,400 and that he did not mean to imply that the Church was in a rush to sell. He is very grateful for the extra time they have given us.

Judy Butler asked what other departments need to be in Tracy Hall? Webster is looking at 50 years down the road and the office space we have available. We will be adding meeting space, Jill's long-term needs, and he feels that we will run out of space.

The Selectboard was asked how they feel. Roger Blake said at first he saw this as a good business decision. It allows for growth and if we outgrow what we have, what do we do? If we were to expand, this is the only way to go.

Sharon Racusin said that she is on the fence and she is still digesting all the information. The only redeeming factor is the land. She cannot imagine we will be growing and bursting at the seams. She will not vote for Article 1. She said that we need to fix the Police and Fire Departments.

Ed Childs will vote yes for all three articles. The Church has owned control for the last 100 years. This would not be likely to be available soon and it would not be available for growth. We would own and control the property and it would be good long-term planning.

Suzanne Lupien sees the benefits of both arguments and she is concerned for the Police and Fire Stations. She does not believe we will outgrow Tracy Hall. She is leaning to vote against this article.

Uwe Bagnato sees this as a rare opportunity. Thoroughly going through the pros and cons, he feels that in five or ten years from now what would we think if we passed on this golden opportunity? He is urging that we pass all three articles. He feels that we could do a good job and put the building to good use. The Town has little debt and has five years left on a \$900,000 bond.

Demo Sofronas said that the opportunity is now and we should buy now. We have time to make a plan.

Henry Scheier said that we are in excellent financial condition and he does not want people to think we are in financial disaster. We are in the business of planning and the Town is trying to do long-range planning. This gives us incentive to plan. He has lived here for 34 years and the Town has grown gracefully. Lauren Rhim asked if we know what restrictions or limitations there are? Webster said that he does not know of any limitations.

**Article 2.** *If Article 1 passes, shall additional general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Norwich in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$370,000) for a total of Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$950,000) subject to reduction from available state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued for the purpose of financing the acquisition of improved real estate located at 306 Main Street, and certain renovations for future municipal use?*

Webster stated this is the same bond with a bigger number. This gives us flexibility and we tried to compress to get a firm estimate to make the building ADA-compliant, sprinklers and to move walls. We have a three-year window to use this money. This means two years to decide what to do and one year to build. This quote does not address lead or asbestos abatements. Hoggson said that lead abatement is very difficult. We have to be very careful how this is done. Mohr said that the exterior of the building has been done.

Miller said that we could delay spending the money on the renovation while we figure out what to do. Webster said we could delay and bond two to three years from now but that we should take advantage of the low interest rate.

**Article 3.** *Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$25,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the Long Term Facility Study Designated Fund? Webster said this article gives us the opportunity to look at our needs. This would transfer \$25,000 from the undesignated fund to the Long Term Facility Study Designated Fund which has a current balance of \$10,000.*

Neil Fulton said that the money could be used to develop a plan for the Fire and Police facilities and see what the costs would be for these facilities. If the facility were to go out to bond we would have a good figure and make sure the information is available for Pete and the citizen committees to have a good number to work with.

Motion to adjourn, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.

### **Ballot Results – 976 Voters**

**Article 1** Yes, 261; No, 713; Blank 2

**Article 2** Yes, 210; No, 756; Blank 10

**Article 3** Yes, 360; No, 603; Blank 12; Spoiled 1

*Respectfully submitted, Bonnie J. Munday, Norwich Town Clerk*

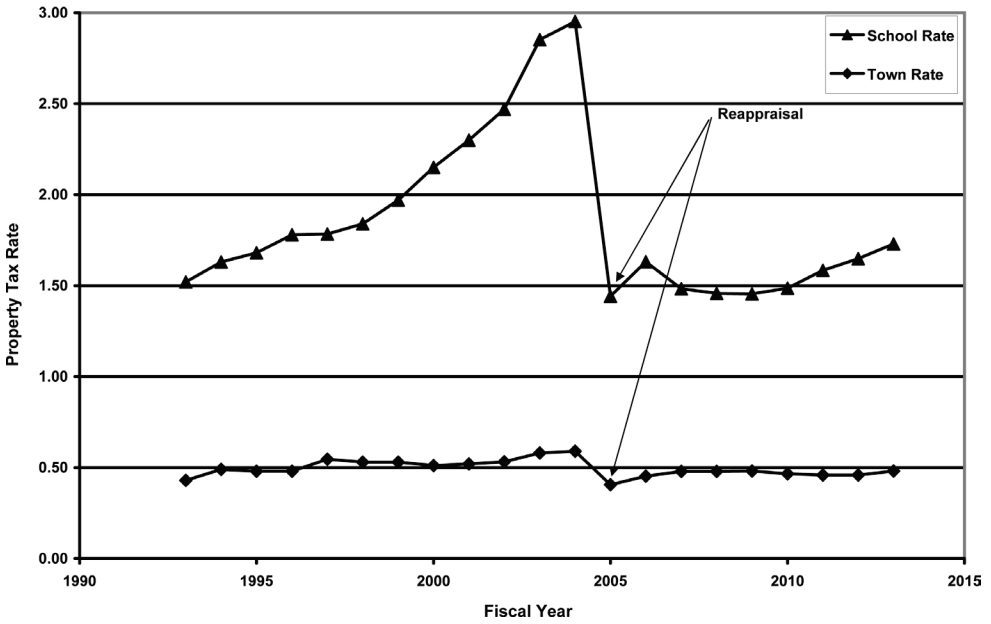
### **Norwich Finance Committee Budget Statement**

The proposed FY13 gross spending Town budget of \$3,936,364 (without monetary articles) represents an increase of \$82,154 over the FY12 budget of \$3,854,210 or 2.13%.

In a meeting held on January 10, 2012, the Norwich Finance Committee voted 4-0 to support the adoption of the proposed FY13 Town total expenditure budget of \$3,936,364 (without monetary articles). The members of the NFC voted to support the Town budget because they felt that after several years of relatively flat budgets and stable tax rates that the small increase to be experienced in the 2013 budget was reasonable.

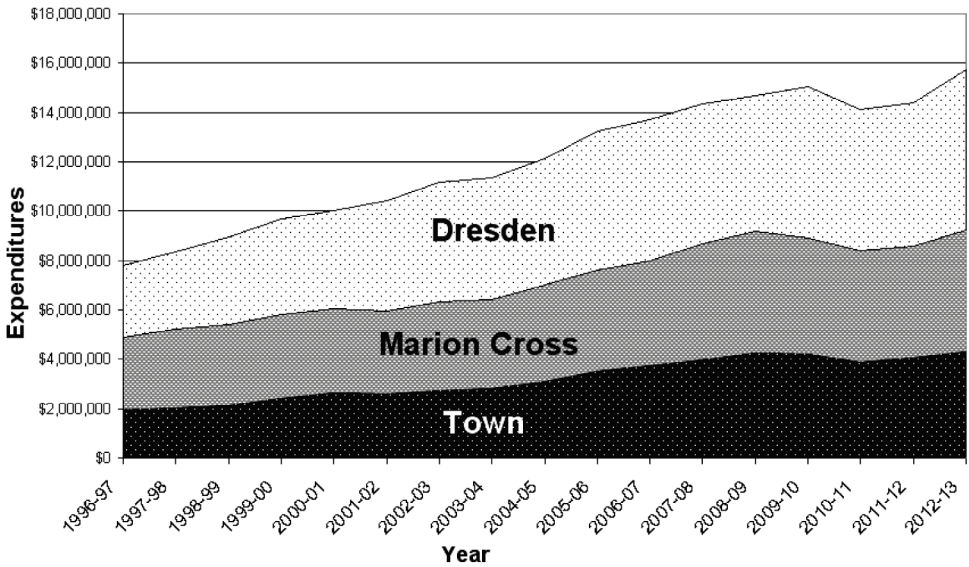
*Keith Moran, Chair (649-3910), Josh Durst, James Dwinell, Cheryl A. Lindberg*

## Town and School Homestead Tax Rates



## Norwich Town and School Expenditures

Total Budgeted Expenditures as Proposed to Voters



## Town of Norwich and Norwich School District Summary

### LOCAL GROSS EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

	FY11 Actual	FY12 Budget	FY13 Proposed	FY12-FY13 % Increase
Town (including Articles)	\$ 3,793,518	\$ 4,104,338	\$ 4,321,365	5.29%
Marion Cross School	4,470,023	4,469,267	4,927,189	10.25%
Dresden Assessment	5,754,672	5,842,945	6,512,909	11.47%
Total School	10,224,695	10,312,212	11,440,098	10.94%
Total Expenditures	\$ 14,018,213	\$ 14,416,550	\$ 15,761,463	9.33%

### TOTAL TAX RATE (Per \$100 of Assessed Value)

	FY11 Actual	FY12 Actual	FY13 Projected*	FY12-FY13 % Increase
Town Rate without Articles	\$ 0.4188	\$ 0.4125	\$ 0.4214	2.16%
Town Rate for Articles	0.0348	0.0410	0.0542	32.20%
Local Agreement Rate	0.0052	0.0053	\$ 0.0052	-1.89%
<b>Total Town Rate</b>	<b>0.4588</b>	<b>0.4588</b>	<b>0.4808</b>	<b>4.80%</b>
School Homestead**	1.5845	1.6482	1.7298	4.95%
School Non-residential**	1.4770	1.4960	1.4617	-2.29%
<b>Total Tax Rate</b>				
Homestead	\$ 2.0433	\$ 2.1070	\$ 2.2106	4.92%
Non-residential	\$ 1.9358	\$ 1.9548	\$ 1.9425	-0.63%

### AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED BY TAXES

	FY11 Actual	FY12 Estimated	FY13 Projected*	FY12-FY13 % Increase
Town	\$ 3,219,902	\$ 3,196,627	\$ 3,376,802	5.64%
Combined School***	\$ 10,944,004	\$ 11,348,465	\$ 11,732,944	3.39%
<b>Total taxes to be raised</b>	<b>\$ 14,163,906</b>	<b>\$ 14,545,092</b>	<b>\$ 15,109,746</b>	<b>3.88%</b>

\* Assumes an estimated Town Grand List on April 1, 2012 of \$710,000,000

\*\* Under the school funding system there are two different tax rates: one for homestead property and one for non-residential property. A homestead is the principal dwelling owned and occupied by a resident individual as the individual's domicile. All non-homestead property is classified as non-residential.

\*\*\* In September 2011 the Vermont Department of Education estimated that \$1,001,177 of the FY12 education tax collected was payable to the Education Fund.

At the time of printing of this report the income tax year 2010 information was not available. Based on January 2011 information from the Vermont Tax Department and based on income tax year 2009 and property taxes paid in 2010, 466 Norwich taxpayers received the following Property Tax Adjustments and Rebates:

421 received school property tax adjustments totaling \$1,219,114 (of these 136 also received circuit breaker tax adjustments totaling \$113,396), and 45 received renter rebates totaling \$37,905 for a total of \$1,370,415

**Norwich School District**  
**2012-2013 Estimated Tax Rate Calculation**

		Actual 2011-12	Estimated 2012-13	Chg	% Chg
1	Marion Cross School	\$4,469,267	\$4,902,189	432,922	9.69%
1a	<i>Deficit Reduction Article</i>	\$0	\$25,000		
2	plus Dresden Assessment	5,842,945	6,512,909	669,964	11.47%
2a	Total Expenditures	10,312,212	11,440,098	1,127,886	10.94%
3	less Revenues and Fund Balance (excl Voc Aid)	1,152,680	1,233,822	81,142	7.04%
4	equals Education Spending	\$9,159,532	\$10,206,276	1,046,744	11.43%
5	Estimated equalized pupils	622.44	632.50	10.06	1.62%
Calculation of Excess Spending Obligation	6	Adjusted ES/Eq Pupil	\$14,716	\$16,136	\$1,421 9.66%
	6a	Net Debt per Eq pupil	\$1,276	\$1,384	
	7	Adjusted ES/Eq Pupil for purposes of Excess Spending	\$13,439	\$14,753	
	8	Excess Spending Threshold	\$14,733	\$14,841	\$108 0.73%
	9	Per Pupil Spending above/(below) Threshold	(1,294)	(88)	
	10	Per pupil figure for Calculating District Adjustment	\$14,716	\$16,136	
	11	Base Amount	\$8,544	\$8,723	\$179 2.10%
	12	District Spending Adjustment	172.232%	184.987%	12.754% 7.41%
	13	Statewide Ed Tax Rate	\$0.87	\$0.870	\$0.00 0.00%
	13a	Equalized Homestead Tax	\$1.4984	\$1.6094	0.1110 7.41%
	14	Common level of appraisal	90.91%	93.04%	2.1% 2.34%
	15	Estimated nominal tax rate	\$1.6482	\$1.7298	0.0816 4.95%
	16	Income Sensitivity Percentage	3.10%	3.33%	0.23% 7.42%
	17	Non Residential Tax Rate	\$1.36	\$1.36	0.00 0.00%
	18	Divide by CLA	90.91%	93.04%	2.13% 2.34%
	19	Nominal Non-Residential Tax Rate	\$1.4960	\$1.4617	(0.0343) -2.29%

**Note:** Tax rate info preliminary and subject to state legislative changes.

**Town of Norwich Revenue Report**

	FY11 FINAL *	FY11 ACTUAL	FY12 ESTIMATE*	FY13 ESTIMATE*	FY13/12 % CHANGE
REVENUES-PAYMENT FROM REDUCTION IN FUND BALANCE	\$ 40,500		\$ 245,500	\$ 246,177	
PROPERTY TAX REVENUES					
TOWN PROPERTY TAX	\$ 2,929,054	\$ 3,219,902	\$ 2,907,745	\$ 2,991,801	2.81%
PROPERTY TAX FOR OTHER MONETARY ARTICLES	245,241	0	288,882	385,001	24.97%
RAILROAD TAX	0	0	0	0	
VT LAND USE TAX	100,236	101,283	100,000	107,576	7.04%
PROPERTY TAX INTEREST	20,000	28,884	20,000	20,000	0.00%
PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION FEE	15,000	21,182	15,000	15,000	0.00%
TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	\$ 3,309,531	\$ 3,371,251	\$ 3,331,627	\$ 3,519,378	5.33%
LICENSE & PERMIT REVENUE					
LIQUOR LICENSE	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	0.00%
DOG LICENSE	2,800	2,905	2,800	2,900	3.45%
HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES	450	386	450	400	-12.50%
PEDDLER LICENSE	50	25	50	50	0.00%
BUILDING/DEVELOPMENT PERMITS	5,500	8,916	7,500	6,500	-15.38%
LAND POSTING PERMIT	250	205	250	250	0.00%
TOTAL LICENSE & PERMIT REVENUE	\$ 9,400	\$ 12,787	\$ 11,400	\$ 10,450	-9.09%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE					
VT HIWAY GAS TAX	\$ 142,360	\$ 147,497	\$ 161,212	\$ 180,880	10.87%
VT ACT 60	15,000	15,162	15,000	15,000	0.00%
ST. OF VT LISTER TRAINING	400	399	400	400	0.00%
PILOT PAYMENTS	20,000	21,740	20,000	20,000	0.00%
VT NATURAL RESRCS	4,130	3,798	3,798	3,798	0.00%
LATE FEES-REVISED TAX BILLS		240	300	300	0.00%
EDUCATION TAX RETAINER	20,150	21,823	20,150	21,000	4.05%
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE	\$ 202,040	\$ 210,659	\$ 220,860	\$ 241,378	8.50%

Town of Norwich Revenue Report

	FY11 FINAL*	FY11 ACTUAL	FY12 ESTIMATE*	FY13 ESTIMATE*	FY13/12 % CHANGE
SERVICE FEE REVENUE					
RECORDING FEE	\$ 24,000	\$ 39,825	\$ 24,000	\$ 30,000	20.00%
RESTORATION	8,000	4,458	2,400	3,333	27.99%
DOCUMENT COPY FEE	2,200	2,837	2,200	2,500	12.00%
USE OF RECRDS FEE	400	366	400	375	-6.67%
VITAL STATISTIC FEE	400	1,532	1,000	1,300	23.08%
MOTOR VEHICLE RENEWAL FEE	400	312	400	325	-23.08%
PHOTOCOPYING FEE	500	13	250	250	0.00%
PASSPORT	750	500	0	0	
TRACY HALL RENTAL FEE	7,700	7,033	7,700	7,000	-10.00%
POLICE REPORT FEE	500	698	500	300	-66.67%
POLICE ALARM RESPONSE FEE	700	1,075	700	1,200	41.67%
SPECIAL POLICE DUTY FEES	1,000	112	1,000	1,000	0.00%
PLANNING DOC COPY FEE	150	9	100	100	0.00%
PLANNING MAPS	2,750	28	1,000	1,000	0.00%
RECREATION PROGRAM FEES	124,000	103,145	128,000	112,000	-14.29%
TRANSFER STATION STICKERS	150	156	15,000	19,000	21.05%
RECYCLING SOLID WASTE FEES	5,000	7,292	2,500	10,500	76.19%
TRASH COUPON	100,000	93,053	90,000	95,000	5.26%
TOTAL SERVICE FEE REVENUE	\$ 278,600	\$ 262,444	\$ 277,150	\$ 285,183	2.82%



	FY11 FINAL*	FY11 ACTUAL	FY12 ESTIMATE*	FY13 ESTIMATE*	FY13/12 % CHANGE
<b>GRANT REVENUE</b>					
HIGHWAY BRIDGE GRANT	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
FEMA MITIGATION GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
PLANNING GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
DRY HYDRANT GRANT	0	1,085	0	0	0
ST OF VT-BIKE & PEDE GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
NORWICH PARK & RIDE	0	0	0	0	0
HIGH RISK RURAL ROADS GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
INFRASTRUCTURE SURVEY GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
CONSERV COMM GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
VLCT PACIF GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
GOVERNORS HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT	0	4,246	0	0	0
05 ST. OF VT LAW ENFORCE GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
06 HMLND SECURITY GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
07 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT 97	0	0	0	0	0
08 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
FY08 AFG FIRE PREVENTION GRANT	0	424	0	0	0
FY09 AFG FIRE PREVENTION GRANT	0	0	0	0	0
	\$ 0	\$ 5,755	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
<b>OTHER TOWN REVENUES</b>					
TOWN REPORT	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,503	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,600	-12.50%
BANK INTEREST	26,000	13,433	11,300	7,500	-50.67%
INSURANCE CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0
TRANSFER IN FROM DESIGNATED FUND	0	0	0	0	0
ATHLETIC FIELD RENTAL	18,000	16,238	18,000	23,000	21.74%
<b>TOTAL OTHER TOWN REVENUES</b>	\$ 45,600	\$ 31,174	\$ 31,100	\$ 32,100	3.12%

Town of Norwich Revenue Report

	FY11 FINAL*	FY11 ACTUAL	FY12 ESTIMATE*	FY13 ESTIMATE*	FY13/12 % CHANGE
PUBLIC SAFETY REVENUES					
POLICE FINE	\$ 22,000	\$ 18,190	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	0.00%
PARKING FINE	500	130	500	500	0.00%
DOG FINE	200	50	200	200	0.00%
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY REVENUES	\$ 22,700	\$ 18,370	\$ 22,700	\$ 22,700	0.00%
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE					
DAILY OVER/SHORT	\$ 0	\$ (658)	0	0	0
VLCT LEADER PROGRAM	0	3,073	0	0	0
DONATIONS		1,760	0	0	0
AMBULANCE REFUND	0	0	0	0	0
REC SCHOLARSHIPS	0	0	0	0	0
TOWN CLERK	0	112	0	0	0
FINANCE DEPT	0	9	0	0	0
LISTER DEPT	0	9	0	0	0
POLICE DEPT	0	0	0	0	0
HIGHWAY DEPT	0	170	0	0	0
CONSERVATION COMM.	0	170	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	4,000	85	4,000	4,000	0.00%
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,560	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%
TOTAL FEES & SERVICES	\$ 562,340	\$ 545,749	\$ 567,210	\$ 595,811	4.80%
ALLOWANCE FOR TAX ADJUSTMENTS*			(40,000)	(40,000)	
TOTAL TOWN REVENUES	\$ 3,912,371	\$ 3,917,000	\$ 4,104,337	\$ 4,321,366	5.02%

\* Adjusted at time of setting tax rate.

**Town of Norwich Expenditure Budget/Report**

	FY11 Budget	FY11 Actual	FY12 Budget	FY13 Proposed	FY13/FY12 % Change
<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATION</b>					
SELECTBOARD STIPEND	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.00%
TOWN MANAGER WAGE	77,250	77,986	77,250	90,000	16.50%
TREASURER STIPEND	1,636	1,636	1,636	1,693	3.50%
ADMIN ASSIST WAGE	38,244	38,027	34,798	41,184	18.35%
FICA TAX	7,417	7,204	7,203	8,393	16.52%
MEDI TAX	1,735	1,778	1,685	1,963	16.52%
HEALTH INSUR	33,958	35,963	40,625	33,573	-17.36%
DISABILITY/LIFE INSURANCE	2,255	1,876	1,983	2,361	19.06%
DENTAL INSURANCE	900	803	900	840	-6.67%
VT RETIREMENT	5,775	6,060	5,796	6,784	17.06%
PROFESS SERVICES	35,000	20,778	40,000	48,000	20.00%
TOWN MANAGER RECRUITMENT	0	0	0	7,500	
TELEPHONE	700	562	700	700	0.00%
T MNGR CELL PHONE	650	383	650	650	0.00%
POSTAGE	300	374	300	300	0.00%
ADVERTISING	800	788	800	800	0.00%
T MNGR VEHICLE	3,600	3,614	3,600	3,600	0.00%
MILEAGE	200	172	200	200	0.00%
OFFICE SUPPLIES	800	1,723	1,000	1,000	0.00%
OFFICE EQUIP	600	0	600	600	0.00%
DUES/MTS/EDUC	1,000	1,645	1,000	1,150	15.00%
COMMITTEE	250	1,429	250	500	100.00%
CITIZEN ASSISTANCE	1,800	1,800	800	0	-100.00%
DESIGNATED FUND-TMGR VEHI	0	0	0	0	
MISCELLANEOUS	400	840	750	750	0.00%
GRANT MATCH	0	0	0	2,317	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 217,770</b>	<b>\$ 207,441</b>	<b>\$ 225,026</b>	<b>\$ 257,359</b>	<b>14.37%</b>

Town of Norwich Expenditure Budget/Report

	FY11 Budget	FY11 Actual	FY12 Budget	FY13 Proposed	FY13/FY12 % Change
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY/ABATEMENT					
JUSTICES WAGE					
FICA TAX	\$ 875	\$ 395	\$ 875	\$ 600	-31.43%
MEDI TAX	0	2	0	0	
DUES/MTS/EDUC	0	1	0	0	
POSTAGE	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	200	154	200	175	-12.50%
	\$ 1,075	\$ 552	\$ 1,075	\$ 775	-27.91%
STATUTORY MEETINGS					
POLLWORKERS WAGE					
FICA TAX	\$ 400	\$ 165	\$ 200	\$ 350	75.00%
MEDI TAX	0	0	0	0	
POSTAGE	0	0	0	0	
ADVERTISING	250	295	175	450	157.14%
PRINTING	150	0	200	225	12.50%
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,500	2,459	1,500	1,500	0.00%
VOTING MACH MAINT AGRMT	150	176	100	200	100.00%
VTG MCHN PROGRAMG	225	0	225	225	0.00%
TOTAL	4,200	4,102	1,600	4,200	162.50%
	\$ 6,875	\$ 7,196	\$ 4,000	\$ 7,150	78.75%

	FY11		FY11	FY12		FY13	FY13/FY12
	Budget	Actual		Budget	Proposed	% Change	
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>							
TOWN CLERK WAGE	\$ 44,503	\$ 45,113	\$ 46,283	\$ 47,903	3.50%		
ASST CLK WAGE	19,000	9,459	15,000	12,420	-17.20%		
FICA TAX	3,937	3,199	3,800	3,740	-1.57%		
MEDI TAX	921	748	889	875	-1.57%		
HEALTH INS	15,000	19,040	18,234	18,402	0.92%		
DISABILITY/LIFE INS	775	793	803	862	7.35%		
DENTAL INSURANCE	676	402	676	444	-34.32%		
VT RETIREMENT	2,225	2,269	2,314	2,395	3.50%		
DOG/CAT LICENSE	500	430	500	475	-5.00%		
VITAL STATISTICS	70	0	70	55	-21.43%		
RECORD RESTORATION	3,500	3,743	4,500	4,500	0.00%		
TELEPHONE	525	469	525	525	0.00%		
ADVERTISING	100	127	100	150	50.00%		
OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,800	2,069	2,800	2,800	0.00%		
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	600	0	600	600	0.00%		
SOFTWARE	500	152	500	3,850	670.00%		
DUES/MTGS/EDUC	225	283	275	275	0.00%		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 95,857</b>	<b>\$ 88,296</b>	<b>\$ 97,868</b>	<b>\$ 100,271</b>	<b>2.45%</b>		
<b>AUDIT</b>							
INDEPENDENT AUDIT	\$ 12,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,250	\$ 11,750	4.44%		
TOWN REPORT	6,300	4,938	6,000	5,500	-8.33%		
POSTAGE	575	417	575	500	-13.04%		
ADVERTISING	0	0	0	0			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 18,875</b>	<b>\$ 16,355</b>	<b>\$ 17,825</b>	<b>\$ 17,750</b>	<b>-0.42%</b>		

Town of Norwich Expenditure Budget/Report

	FY11 Budget	FY11 Actual	FY12 Budget	FY13 Proposed	FY13/FY12 % Change
<b>FINANCE DEPARTMENT</b>					
FINANCE ASSISTANT WAGE	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,222	\$ 15,600	\$ 32,448	108.00%
FINANCE OFFICER WAGE	44,368	44,539	46,143	48,450	5.00%
FICA TAX	3,681	3,323	3,828	5,016	31.02%
MEDI TAX	861	777	895	1,173	31.02%
HEALTH INS	7,499	8,000	9,118	26,038	185.57%
DISABILITY/LIFE INS	775	791	800	1,456	82.00%
DENTAL INSURANCE	429	402	400	840	110.00%
VT RETIREMENT	2,218	2,218	2,307	4,045	75.32%
PROFESS SERVICES	250	225	0	0	
TELEPHONE	500	438	500	500	0.00%
ADVERTISING	100	320	166	175	5.42%
PRINTING	100	64	75	75	0.00%
MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	0	0	0	0	
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,500	1,313	1,500	1,500	0.00%
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	0	0	875	250	-71.43%
SOFTWARE	650	688	650	700	7.69%
DUES/MTGS/EDUC	200	300	350	350	0.00%
BANK CHARGE	150	82	150	150	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 78,281</b>	<b>\$ 73,702</b>	<b>\$ 83,357</b>	<b>\$ 123,166</b>	<b>47.76%</b>
<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>					
TELEPHONE	\$ 1,000	\$ 737	\$ 800	\$ 750	-6.25%
POSTAGE METER RENTAL	950	612	950	750	-21.05%
POSTAGE	2,500	2,797	3,000	3,000	0.00%
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,500	1,457	1,500	1,500	0.00%
PHOTOCOPIER	2,500	2,572	2,500	2,500	0.00%
WEB SITE SUPPORT	250	335	350	350	0.00%
SERVER MAINTENANCE	3,600	2,069	3,600	3,600	0.00%
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	1,600	
DESIGNATED FUND-EQUIP	3,500	3,500	3,500	5,000	42.86%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 15,800</b>	<b>\$ 14,079</b>	<b>\$ 16,200</b>	<b>\$ 19,050</b>	<b>17.59%</b>