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2011



Benton, NH  
Annual  
Report

2011

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Annual Report of Town Officers and Benton School District



## **This Town Report is dedicated to Marjorie Robitzer**



**Marjorie Robitzer**

**(1918 – 2011)**

This past year brought about the passing of Marjorie Robitzer , 93 after a brief illness. Known by Benton residents as “Marge”, she was the Town Clerk for several years before becoming a Selectman – a position she held and loved for 24 years until 2009. Her many years of dedication to the town will surely be missed and forever remembered by all those who knew her.



Town of Benton, New Hampshire  
Annual Report of Town Officers and Benton School District  
Year ending December 31 2011

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## Benton Town Officers

		Term	Expires
Board of Selectmen	Jeremy Elliott	3 yrs	2014
	Earl Tempelmeyer	3 yrs	2012
	John Hassell	3 yrs	2013
Assistant to the Selectmen	Richard Dickenson	1 yr	2012
Moderator	Gilbert Richardson	2 yrs	2012
Treasurer	Richard Dickenson	1 yr	2012
Auditor	Lyn Bandy	1 yr	2012
Tax Collector	Michael Stiebitz	1 yr	2012
Supervisors of the Checklist	Arthur Christopher	3 yrs	2013
	Nellie Dickenson	3 yrs	2012
	Katherine Plachetzki	3 yrs	2014
Ballot Clerk	Stephanie Saffo	1 yr	2012
Ballot Inspector	Maxine Tyler	1 yr	2012
Surveyor of Wood and Lumber	Joseph Boutin, Jr.	1 yr	2012
Trustee of the Trust Funds	Laura Richardson	3 yrs	2014
	Joyce Hassell	3 yrs	2012
	Martin Noble	3 yrs	2013
Planning Board	Kenneth Kealey	5 yrs	2016
	Richard Saffo, Sr.	5 yrs	2012
	Martin Noble	5 yrs	2014
	Wayne Chevalier	5 yrs	2015
	Jeremy Elliot	Ex Officio Member	
Sexton (Assistant)	Aaron Goodwin	1 yr	2012
	Jeremy Elliot	1 yr	2012
Police Officer/Director of Emergency Management	Vacant		



## Benton Town Officers (cont)

### Open Discussion Topics

1. The question has been raised whether the residents of the Town would prefer to pay their tax assessments semi-annually rather than annually. This may make things easier for some residents and will certainly help manage the Town's budget and cash flow. What is your opinion?
2. Sometime ago, the Town considered either painting the Town Hall building or installing siding. Do the residents want to do this? If so, what suggestions are there to raise money for the project?

Although we live in a small town, we have many responsibilities to ourselves, the town and the State. We fulfill our responsibilities by electing officers and agents who work, on our behalf, to keep Benton running, to keep our environs beautiful and our lives pleasant.

If you read the list of town officers, you will see the same name for more than one position; many people are 'doubling-up' to cover the available positions. Some have been filling these positions for many years, even decades. We need to share these duties and give all residents the opportunity to serve the town and gain insight into the town's operation and populace.

Yes, we all have our regular jobs and justly cherish our time off, but the town needs you and your skills. Please volunteer and help. Let's find out what new ideas new people can bring to the town.

Volunteer!

The Selectmen can now be reached by email. The address is: [bentonselectmen@gmail.com](mailto:bentonselectmen@gmail.com).

If you have business to be brought before the Select Board, please stop by the weekly meeting. The Selectmen meet every Monday evening at 6.30 PM at the Benton Town Hall. The meeting is informal and does not follow a prepared agenda.

# Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Grafton S.S.

March 13, 2012

Town of Benton

To the inhabitants of the Town of Benton qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Benton Community Building in said Benton on the second Tuesday of March next, the 13<sup>th</sup>, at seven o'clock in the evening to vote and act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1. To choose persons for the following positions and terms of service.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Selectman	3 years	2015
Assistant to the Selectmen	1 year	2013
Moderator	1 year	2013
Treasurer	1 year	2013
Auditor	1 year	2013
Tax Collector	1 year	2013
Supervisor of the Checklist	3 years	2015
Ballot Clerk	1 year	2013
Ballot Inspector	1 year	2013
Surveyor of Wood and Lumber	1 year	2013
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 years	2015
Planning Board	5 years	2017
Sexton	1 year	2013
Assistant to the Sexton	1 year	2012

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the officers and agents as printed. The Selectmen recommend this article.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$134,500 for general Municipal Operations.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Roads. The Selectmen recommend this article.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$100 to the existing Benton Fire Trust Capital Reserve Fund. Said funds to come from Unreserved Fund balance. Selectmen recommend. Unanimous vote.



ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 for purchase of Avitar accounting software. Software will allow direct interface with State accounting and automated generation of routine reports. The Selectmen recommend this Article.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,200 for purchase of a new computer, printer and associated software to support routine town business and running the Avitar accounting software.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will vote to increase the annual salary for the Tax Collector to \$1,500.00.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to increase the annual salary for the Town Clerk to \$1,500.00.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to modify the disabled exemption in accordance with RSA 72:37-b, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be as follows:

- Age 65 years up to 75 years: \$5,000.00
- Age 75 years up to 80 years: \$5,000.00
- Age 80 years and older: \$5,000.00

To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire state resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years.

In addition, the taxpayer must have an annual income of not more than \$13,400, or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$20,400; and own net assets not in excess of \$35,000 excluding the value of the person's residence or, if married, combined net assets not in excess of \$35,000, excluding the value of the residence.

A True Copy – Attest  
Selectmen of Benton

Earl Tempelmeyer \_\_\_\_\_

Jeremy Elliot \_\_\_\_\_

John Hassell \_\_\_\_\_



**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET 6/30/2011**

	ACT	Fund 10	Fund 70
	#	GENERAL	TRUST/AGENCY
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<u>Current Assets</u>			
CASH	100	19,933	-
INVESTMENTS	110		54,754
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RECEIVABLES	140	7,944	-
OTHER RECEIVABLES	150		-
Total Current Assets		<u>27,877</u>	<u>54,754</u>
 <b>LIABILITY &amp; FUND EQUITY</b>			
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	420	3,941	
ACCRUED EXPENSES	460		
DEFERRED REVENUES	480		
OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES	490		
Total Current Liabilities		3,941	
<u>Fund Equity</u>			
RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCES	753		
RESERVED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES	760		54,754
UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE	770	23,935	-
Total Fund Equity		<u>23,935</u>	<u>54,754</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity		<u>27,877</u>	<u>54,754</u>

**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
PREVIOUS TWO FISCAL YEARS PER RSA 32:11-a**

		<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>
<b><u>Special Education Expenses</u></b>			
1200/1230	Special Programs	84,515	81,213
1430	Summer School	4,430	4,434
2150	Speech and Audiology	-	-
2162	Physical Therapy	1,400	2,258
2163	Occupational Therapy	2,805	3,940
2722	Special Transportation	4,753	14,840
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>97,904</b>	<b>106,684</b>
 <b><u>Special Education Revenue</u></b>			
3110	SPED portion of State Adequacy	5,401	5,401
3230	Catastrophic Aid	-	-
4580	Medicaid	24,765	20,391
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>30,166</b>	<b>25,792</b>
 <b>District Cost for Special Education</b>		 <b>67,738</b>	 <b>80,892</b>
 <b><u>IDEA Entitlement Funds through SAU23</u></b>			
	Part A - Preschool	486	486
	Part B - Special Education	2645	2645



## Budget & Summary Analysis – Revenues

	Estimated 2011	Received 2011	Estimated 2012
Timber Taxes	\$4,000	\$1,388	\$4,000
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$3,000	\$3,117	\$3,000
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$45,000	\$48,992	\$45,000
Building Permits	\$300	\$275	\$300
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	\$700	\$562	\$700
Energy Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shared Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	\$14,000	\$16,250	\$14,000
Highway Block Grant	\$12,000	\$14,088	\$12,000
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	\$33,000	\$57,309	\$33,000
Interest on Investments	\$300	\$367	\$300
From Capital Reserve Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Totals	\$112,300	\$142,348	\$112,300

## Budget & Summary Analysis – Expenditures

	2011	2011	2012
	Approp	Expended	Proposed
Selectmen & Expenses	\$6,500	\$4,245	\$6,500
Election	\$0	\$0	\$2,200
Financial Administration	\$7,000	\$5,113	\$8,800
Revaluation of Property	\$6,000	\$4,974	\$6,000
Legal Expense	\$2,000	\$61	\$2,000
Personnel Administration	\$1,200	\$1,254	\$1,200
Planning & Zoning	\$200	\$0	\$200
General Government Buildings	\$5,000	\$2,757	\$5,000
Cemeteries	\$1,500	\$1,132	\$1,500
Insurance	\$2,500	\$1,677	\$2,500
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	\$2,000	\$1,717	\$2,000
Police	\$5,600	\$0	\$5,600
Ambulance	\$3,500	\$3,012	\$3,500
Fire	\$10,000	\$2,100	\$10,000
Other (Incl. Communications)	\$2,300	\$1,596	\$2,300
Highways & Streets	\$67,500	\$64,251	\$67,500
Street Lighting	\$250	\$193	\$250
Other (Roadside Mowing)	\$2,750	\$0	\$2,750
Pest Control	\$1,500	\$276	\$1,500
Administration & Direct Assist.	\$2,700	\$1,730	\$2,700
Interest	\$500	\$0	\$500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130,500</b>	<b>96,088</b>	<b>134,500</b>
Deposit to CRF for Roads*	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

\*The CRF for Roads is not calculated into the Operating Budget per NH Dept of Revenue.



## Comparative Statement of Appropriations & Expenditures

	2011 Approp	2011 Expended	2011 Unexpended	2011 Overdraft
Selectmen & Expenses	\$6,500	\$4,245	\$2,255	\$0
Election	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Administration	\$7,000	\$5,113	\$1,887	\$0
Revaluation of Property	\$6,000	\$4,974	\$1,026	\$0
Legal Expense	\$2,000	\$61	\$1,939	\$0
Personnel Administration	\$1,200	\$1,254	\$0	\$54
Planning & Zoning	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0
General Government Buildings	\$5,000	\$2,757	\$2,243	\$0
Cemeteries	\$1,500	\$1,132	\$368	\$0
Insurance	\$2,500	\$1,677	\$823	\$0
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	\$2,000	\$1,717	\$283	\$0
Police	\$5,600	\$0	\$5,600	\$0
Ambulance	\$3,500	\$3,012	\$488	\$0
Fire	\$10,000	\$2,100	\$7,900	\$0
Other (Incl. Communications)	\$2,300	\$1,596	\$704	\$0
Highways & Streets	\$67,500	\$64,251	\$3,249	\$0
Street Lighting	\$250	\$193	\$57	\$0
Other (Roadside Mowing)	\$2,750	\$0	\$2,750	\$0
Pest Control	\$1,500	\$276	\$1,224	\$0
Administration & Direct Assist.	\$2,700	\$1,730	\$970	\$0
Interest	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$130,500	\$96,088	\$33,966	\$54

Taxes bought by Town	\$10,103
Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund	\$10,000
Schools	\$448,936
Town Hall Heater	\$7,571
Town Hall Insulation	\$4,550
Total	\$481,160

## Report of the Treasurer

### Received from Tax Collector

Property taxes (Year 2007)	\$205.83
Interest and costs	\$417.52
Total 2007	\$623.37
Property taxes (Year 2008)	\$3,432.68
Interest and costs	\$1,367.98
Total 2008	\$4,800.66
Property taxes (Year 2009)	\$1,866.52
Interest and costs	\$206.52
Total 2009	\$2,073.04
Property taxes (Year 2010)	\$38,596.32
Interest and costs	\$1,124.06
Yield taxes	\$1,388.79
Total 2010	\$41,109.17
Property taxes (Year 2011)	\$317,186.86
Interest and costs	\$1.00
Total from Tax Collector	\$317,187.86
Received from the Town Clerk:	
Motor Vehicle Permits/Transfers	\$48,992.00
Vital Statistics - St. of New Hampshire	\$96.00
Dog Licenses issued	\$412.50
Return of bad checks	\$182.00
Total from Town Clerk	\$49,682.50
Received from the Selectmen:	
Pistol Permits	\$70.00
Building Permits	\$275.00
Hall Rental	\$80.00
Misc.	\$41.44
Total from Selectmen	\$466.44



## Report of the Treasurer (cont.)

### Received from State & Federal Sources

St. of N. H. - Hwy. Block Grant	\$14,088.55
St. of N. H. - Rooms & Meals Grant	\$16,250.31
U.S. Dept. of Ag., Forest Service	\$57,309.00
St. of N.H. – Judicial Branch reimbursement	\$100.00
FEMA reimbursement for Hurricane Irene	\$6813.58
Total Received from State & Federal Sources	\$94,561.44

Transfer of funds from Trustees of the Trust Fund \$30,000.00

Total receipts for 2011	\$541,125.40
Cash on hand as of 1/1/11	\$331,684.68
Bank interest	\$185.83
Less Selectmen's orders for 2011	\$657,791.09
Year-end Total Cash	\$215,204.82

### Acct. 30502 - Yield Account:

Cash on hand - 1/1/11	\$8,323.36
Deposits	\$31,440.68
Interest	\$17.89
Withdrawals	\$30,000.00
Year-end Yield Acct. Balance	\$9,781.93

### Bank of America - acct. no 1

Cash on hand as of 1/1/11	\$92,172.29
Deposits (2 accts. Combined into one)	\$20,043.58
Interest	\$349.52
Year-end Yield Acct. Balance	\$112,565.39

Respectfully Submitted

Richard A. Dickenson – Treasurer

# Payments by the Selectmen

## Selectmen:

Salaries & Expenses: \$4,245.75

## Financial Administration:

Salaries: \$2,358.75

General Office Expenses: \$2,061.74

N.H. Recorder of Deeds: \$61.08

Notices: \$435.00

Town Report: \$952.00

Total \$5,868.57

## Town Hall:

Fairpoint Communications: \$366.53

N.H. Elec. Co-op: \$1,007.19

Jock Oil \$1,563.46

Total \$2,937.18

## Cemeteries:

Salaries & Expenses: Total \$1,132.20

## Insurance:

Local Government Center Total \$1,687.20

## Regional Associations:

N.H. Assoc. Of Tax Collectors \$20.00

N.H. Town Clerks Assoc. \$20.00

N.H. Assoc of Assessing Officers \$20.00

Total \$60.00

Dispatch Service: Total \$1,596.00

Ambulance Service: Total \$3,012.50

## Payments by the Selectmen (cont)

### Fire Protection:

Twin State Mutual:	\$1,250.00
Haverhill Corner Fire Co:	\$750.00
Total	\$2,000.00

### Animal Control:

Animal Control Officer Expenses, IDS, St. of N.H.	
Animal Population Control:	Total \$276.41

### Roads:

Elliott Construction:	\$52,003.00
Materials and Supplies:	\$6,493.18
IP Trucking	\$300.00
Total	\$58,796.18

### Hurricane Irene Repairs:

Elliott Construction:	\$5,455.00
Material & Supplies:	\$609.10
Total	\$6,064.10

### Town Hall Insulation (As voted for by Town)

Superior Spray Foam Co.:	Total \$4,550.00
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### Town Hall Heater (As voted for by Town)

Dead River Co.:	Total \$7,571.22
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### Welfare:

Grafton Co. Senior Citizen Council:	\$400.00
North Country Council:	\$313.69
New Hampshire Elec. Coop:	\$230.16
Northern Human Services:	\$400.00
Tri County Community Action:	\$400.00
North Country Home Health & Hospice:	\$300.00
Total	\$2,043.85

### Social Sec. & Medicare:

Total	\$1,254.60
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### Assessing:

Purvis & Associates:	Total \$4,974.00
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## Payments by the Selectmen (cont)

Transfer of Funds to C.R.F. for Fires	Total	\$100.00
Transfer of Funds to C.R.F. for Roads	Total	\$10,000.00
Schools:	Total	\$448,936.00
Taxes Bought by Town	Total	\$10,103.00
Taxes paid by Town (2 years)	Total	\$80,582.35
Checks Written	Total	\$657,791.09

Selectmen of Benton  
Earl Templemeyer  
Jeremy Elliott  
John Hassell

# Report of the Town Clerk to the Treasurer

Year End Totals for 2011

Date: 01/12/2012

Motor Vehicle Permits Issued (438):	\$49,562.00
Dog Licenses Issued and Fines Collected (64/0):	\$444.50
Marriage Licenses Issued (0):	\$0.00
Vital Record Searches (12):	\$135.00
Fines/Penalties:	\$0.00
Reimbursed bounced check:	\$182.00
<b>Total Collected by Town Clerk for 2011</b>	<b>\$50,323.50</b>
Motor Vehicles:	\$48,992.00
Dog Licenses Issued and Fines Collected (64/0):	\$412.50
Marriage Licenses Issued (0):	\$0.00
Vital Record Searches (12):	\$96.00
Fines/Penalties:	\$0.00
Reimbursed bounced check:	\$182.00
<b>Total Submitted to the Treasurer for 2011</b>	<b>\$49,682.50</b>
Motor Vehicles:	\$570.00
Dog Licenses Issued and Fines Collected (64/0):	\$32.00
Marriage Licenses Issued (0):	\$0.00
Vital Record Searches (12):	\$39.00
<b>Total Retained by Town Clerk for 2011</b>	<b>\$641.00</b>

Michael P. Stiebitz Town Clerk

## Notes from the Town Clerk

2011 once again saw an incredible amount of volunteer effort expended at the Town Building through the efforts of The Beautify Benton Committee as well as the Selectmen and other willing volunteers. Thanks to all who pitched in. Many folks have told me that return of the Memory Tree was a welcome sight, and I am glad it came back.

As approved by voters at the Town Meeting, the Town Building has been completely insulated, and the furnace and water heater have been replaced with high efficiency units. From a non-technical perspective, I've noticed a big difference in the hall temperature when I first open the door on Monday evenings. This past summer, the rooms were cool, even though the outdoor temperatures had been high. This winter the hall seems to heat up much quicker than last year, and the furnace does not seem to run as much to maintain the temperature setting.

On a more somber note, Benton lost several long-time residents. June Chamberlin had been a fixture on the corner of Ingerson Road for decades. One resident told me that June always had her eye out for the neighborhood kids, making sure nothing untoward happened to them.

Marjorie Robitzer passed away in December, at the ripe age of 93+. She had been Town Clerk for several years, before she stepped up to Selectman. That, by the way, was the term she herself used to describe her position. She served as Selectman for 24 years, mostly as Chairman. Under her leadership, the Town kept spending low and as a result, taxes to a minimum. I can't leave the building on Monday nights without thinking of Marjorie as I dutifully turn the thermostat back down to 54 degrees. She was a remarkable woman and will be sorely missed, both in Town government, as well as in her personal life.

One last note on dogs: all owners of dogs over 4 months old must license them each year before April 30<sup>th</sup>. After May 30<sup>th</sup>, any license fee which remains unpaid can be increased by \$1.00 per month. Please make every effort this year to get your dogs licensed before April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael P. Stiebitz,

Town Clerk



## Tax Collectors End of Year Overview

2012	Credit	Debit
Prepay for 2012 Taxes	\$0.00	
Interest on 2011 Tax payment	\$1.00	\$1.00

2011	Credit	Debit
Taxes Committed This Year:		\$404,601.00
Yield Taxes		\$1,388.79
2011 Taxes prepaid in 2010	\$66.00	
Taxes Collected & Sent to Treasurer:		
Property Taxes	\$317,186.86	
Yield Taxes	\$1,388.79	
Subtotal	\$318,641.65	
Taxes Uncollected at year's end	\$87,414.14	
Refunds issued	(\$66.00)	
2011 Totals	\$405,989.79	\$405,989.79

2010	Credit	Debit
Taxes Uncollected at Beginning of 2011		\$37,747.90
Interest on Delinquent Taxes & Fees		\$987.39
Redemptions in 2011		\$620.00
Int. & Fees in Lien (Collected)		\$264.42
Interest & Fees after Lien		\$136.67
Taxes Collected & Sent to Treasurer:		
Lien paid before Town bought Liens (principle only)	\$2,552.50	
Property Taxes	\$25,092.40	
Interest on Delinquent Taxes & Fees	\$987.39	
Int. & Fees in Lien (Collected)	\$264.42	
Interest & Fees after Lien	\$136.67	
Conversion to Lien (after redemptions)	\$10,103.00	
Redemptions	\$620.00	
Abatements Granted	\$0.00	
2010 Totals	\$39,756.38	\$39,756.38

2009	Credit	Debit
Unredeemed Liens Bal. at Beginning of 2011		\$9,088.43
Interest on Delinquent Taxes & Fees		\$206.52
Taxes Collected & Sent to Treasurer:		
Redemptions	\$1,866.52	
Interest & Fees	\$206.52	
Unredeemed Lien Bal. at end of 2011	\$7,221.91	
2009 Totals	\$9,294.95	\$9,294.95

## Tax Collectors End of Year Overview (cont)

2008	Credit	Debit
Unredeemed Liens Bal. at Beginning of 2011		\$4,856.45
Interest on Delinquent Taxes & Fees		\$1,367.98
Taxes Collected & Sent to Treasurer:		
Redemptions	\$3,432.68	
Interest & Fees	\$1,367.98	
Unredeemed Lien Bal. at end of 2011	\$1,423.77	
2008 Totals	\$6,224.43	\$6,224.43

2007	Credit	Debit
Unredeemed Liens Bal. at Beginning of 2011		\$205.85
Interest on Delinquent Taxes & Fees		\$417.52
Taxes Collected & Sent to Treasurer:		
Redemptions	\$205.85	
Interest & Fees	\$417.52	
Unredeemed Lien Bal. at end of 2011	\$0.00	
2008 Totals	\$623.37	\$623.37

Bounced check repayments & fees	\$6,573.00
Abatement for Inv. Return	\$0.00
Grand Total	\$372,403.10
Total funds delivered to Treasurer in 2011	\$372,403.10

## Schedule of Non-Taxable Property

Name.	Map	Lot	Acres RSA 75:1	Land RSA 75:1
Dept of Agr. US Forest Serv	WMNF		24041.3	\$21,614,100
State of NH Forest Div.	6	7	401.0	\$335,000
State of NH Glencliff Home	6	7	107.0	\$239,000
State of NH Glencliff Home	6	3	0.5	\$21,500
Town of Benton Crowther Lot	2	52	0.3	\$18,000
Town of Benton Mt. View Cmty	1	113	0.9	\$2,300
Town of Benton Mt. View Cmty	1	114	1.3	\$25,700
Town of Benton High St. Cmty	6	4	0.6	\$1,400
Town of Benton East Cmty	1	29	0.3	\$800
Town of Benton Comm. Bldg.	1	18	0.2	\$27,000
Town of Benton Old Twn Hall Lot.	1	126	0.05	\$15,500
N. Benton Union Society	1	32	0.7	\$22,000
Benton Bible Chapel	1	49	1.4	\$36,000
Benton Bible Chapel Parsonage	1	58	1.7	\$36,800
<b>Total of Non-Taxable Property</b>			<b>24557.2</b>	<b>\$22,395,100</b>



## Summary of Inventory Valuation

<b>Land, Improved and Unimproved</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Value</b>
Under Current Use (Incl Conservation Restriction)	4763.4	\$290,055.00
Residential Land (Incl. Commercial)	2,055.90	\$9,684,500.00
Total Taxable Land		\$9,974,555.00
Tax Exempt Land	24175.2	\$22,395,100.00
Tax Exempt Buildings		\$8,638,200.00
Housing		
Residential (Incl. Commercial)		\$15,404,800.00
Manufactured Housing (per RSA 674.31)		\$970,500.00
Total Taxable Buildings		\$16,375,300.00
Public Utilities		\$772,866.00
Total Assessments		\$27,122,721.00
Less Elderly Exemptions (1)		-\$15,000.00
Less Public Utilities		-\$772,866.00
Final Total of Inventory Valuation (at full tax rate)		\$26,334,855.00
State Education Tax (per thousand)		\$2.37
Local Education Tax (per thousand)		\$11.06
County Tax (per thousand)		\$1.57
Town Tax (per thousand)		\$0.06
Total Tax Rate (per thousand)		\$15.06
Tax to be raised from Inventory minus Utilities		\$396,598.00
Utilities (taxed minus State School Rate)		\$9,803.00
Veterans War Service Credit		-\$2,100.00
Penalty for Non-returned Inventory		\$300.00
Total Amount to be raised		\$404,601.00

# Minutes of Previous Year Town Meeting

## Annual Town Meeting Warrant

### Town of Benton

Grafton S.S.

March 8, 2011

The annual Benton Town Meeting was opened at 7:00PM by the Moderator, Gil Richardson. A motion was then made to adjourn to the School District meeting. The motion was seconded, and by voice vote, the Town Meeting was adjourned to the School District meeting. The Town Meeting was reconvened at 7:40PM.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Town Clerk, Treasurer, Auditor, Tax Collector, Ballot Clerk, Ballot Inspector, Sexton, an Assistant to the Sexton, an Assistant to the Selectman and a Surveyor of Wood and Lumber for a term of one year, a Supervisor of the Checklist, a Selectman and a Trustee of the Trust Funds for a term of three years, a member of the Planning Board for a term of 5 years and any other agents or officers necessary for the ensuing year.

The following Town Officers were elected after a voice vote:

Town Clerk	1 Yr Term	Michael P. Stiebitz
Treasurer	1 Yr Term	Richard A. Dickenson
Tax Collector	1 Yr Term	Michael P. Stiebitz
Auditor	1 Yr Term	Lyn Bandy
Ballot Clerk	1 Yr Term	Stephanie Saffo
Ballot Inspector	1 Yr Term	Maxine Tyler
Sexton	1 Yr Term	Aaron Goodwin
Sexton Assistant	1 Yr Term	Vacant
Selectmen's Assistant	1 Yr Term	Richard A. Dickenson
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber	1 Yr Term	Joseph N. Boutin Jr.
Supervisor of the Checklist	3 Yr Term	Katherine Plachetzki
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 Yr Term	Laura Richardson
Selectman	3 Yr Term	Jeremy S. Elliott
Member of the Planning Board	5 Yr Term	Kenneth Kealey
Other Agents as Required		None

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the officers and agents as printed. The Selectmen recommended this article.

Motion made to accept, seconded and discussion ensued. Laura Richardson stated she really liked the new (large) format of the Town Report. Gil remarked that the Town Government was pretty frugal, as the Town ended up with \$31K unspent from last year's budget.

The article was then passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,500 for General Municipal Operations.

Motion made to accept, seconded, and passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$5,000 for the purchase and installation of attic and basement insulation for the Community Building. Said funds to come from Unreserved Fund Balance. The project will be checked and any further decisions will be reconsidered before Town Meeting 2012.

Motion made to accept, seconded, and discussion ensued. Earl Tempelmeyer explained that this was a redo of last year's failed article for a grant to winterize the Town Building. The contractor who had made the bid is willing to do it this year for the same price, as long as it can be done in the warm weather. The foam for warm weather application is less expensive, so he can afford to give us the same deal.

Earl reviewed the plan to spray the walls in the crawl spaces as well as applying insulation in the attic.

The article then passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund for Roads. The Selectmen recommend this article.

Motion made to accept, seconded, and discussion ensued.

Earl explained that the Bond Issue that the Selectmen had planned to have on the Warrant did not come to pass, due to a misunderstanding regarding the required intervals between posting the Bond Issue meeting and the Town Meeting. He stated that there will be a an article on the warrant for next year's meeting which will cover a Bond for the repaving of Howe Hill Road as well as Tunnel Stream Road.



John Elliott expressed concern about the current state of sections of Howe Hill Road which are, in his opinion, in imminent danger of washing out. After some addition discussion, the Selectmen agreed to see what can be done with this year's budget to patch any such sections as a stopgap measure until next year's Bond can take care of the whole road.

The article was then passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will vote to appropriate \$100 to the existing Benton Fire Trust Capital Reserve Fund. Said funds to come from Unreserved Fund balance. Selectmen recommended this article. Majority vote is necessary to pass.

Motion made to accept, seconded, and discussion ensued. Laura Richardson, a Trustee of the Trust Funds, explained that the State can force any dormant Trust Fund balances to be deposited in the General Fund. That is why it is imperative to maintain some activity in all funds from year to year.

The article was then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$8000 for the purchase and installation of a new heating system for the Community Building. Said funds to come from Unreserved Fund Balance. The project will be checked and any further decisions will be reconsidered before Town Meeting 2012.

Motion made to accept, seconded, and discussion ensued. John Hassell, one of the Selectmen, reminded the audience that the purchase and installation of the backup generator from last year's warrant meant that the Town Building now has a 300 gallon propane tank on-site. Because of this fact, we can now replace the aging oil-fired hot air furnace with a much more efficient propane version and eliminate purchasing and storing fuel oil. (The current furnace failed to start during one of the "below zero" spells this winter and caused the pipes to freeze underneath the building.) At the same time, the plans are to eliminate the current electric hot water heater and install a propane-fired "On Demand" water heater. This will consolidate our energy purchases and give us the best rate on propane, as well as reduce our electric bill somewhat. John stated that the new furnace will have a slightly higher output than the current one, which means it should run less.

Ken Kealey pointed out that one issue with propane is that one is "locked in" to a single supplier. John admitted that this is a fact, but that he had surveyed the four major local propane suppliers and had negotiated a good deal with Dead River. We will not pay any demurrage on the tank, and they will let us purchase what we need, when we need it.

The article was then passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1200 for the layout and completion of an additional section of burial plots in the Mountain View Cemetery. Section will be above the previous section and parking lot completed in 2001. Said funds to come from Unreserved Fund Balance. This amount cannot be exceeded in 2011. The project will be checked and any further decisions will be reconsidered before Town Meeting 2012.

Motion made to accept, seconded, and discussion ensued. A question was raised as to how the Selectmen arrived at the \$1200 figure. It turns out that when the original expansion was performed, the topsoil that was removed to create the site was sold for \$1200 and the money deposited into the Unreserved Fund.

Another question was raised about the cost of cemetery lots. The lots currently cost \$75 per one 50 ft<sup>2</sup> lot. Scott Roden was concerned that this figure does not cover the actual cost to the Town for the maintenance of the cemetery. It was suggested that someone conduct an informal survey of neighboring towns to see what lots go for on the “open market”. The Town Clerk asked Scott if he would mind performing this job and reporting his findings back to the Selectmen so they might decide whether or not to increase the cost of a lot. Scott agreed to let the Selectmen know what he finds out.

The article was then passed by voice vote.

As all of the scheduled business had been attended to, a motion was made to adjourn the Town Meeting, it was seconded, and the meeting was adjourned on a voice vote. Afterwards, all of the newly elected officials and agents present were sworn in by the Moderator, Gil Richardson.

A True Copy – Attest

Town Clerk of Benton

Michael P. Stiebitz \_\_\_\_\_

## Vital Statistics for 2011

### Deaths

### Died

Ned Marsh	(Glenclyff Home)	05/26/2011
June Chamberlin		09/14/2011
Helen Garland	(Glenclyff Home)	12/02/2011
Marjorie Robitzer		12/16/2011

### Marriages

### Births

July 15, 2011	Sawyer Elliott Plachetzki, son of Katherine and David Plachetzki, in Woodsville, NH
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# Report of the Trustees of the Trust Fund

For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Funds donated to the Town of Benton are in the custody of the Trustees. Donations are distributed as specified by the donors. Funds received during the year are deposited in a savings account until they can be transferred into the appropriate financial tool. Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank in Woodsville, NH holds all funds.

## Year 2011 Donations – Cemetery Trust

Lorna Boutin	\$ 150.00
Roger Stearns	\$ 50.00

## Status of the Funds is as follows:

### Trust Fund Savings

Woodsville Guaranty Savings # 617453	\$ 1,520.02
--------------------------------------	-------------

### Cemetery/Common Trust Fund

Woodsville Guaranty Savings # 662141	\$12,870.54
--------------------------------------	-------------

### Capital Reserve Fund - Highways/Roads

Woodsville Guaranty Savings # 655898	\$30,020.23
--------------------------------------	-------------

### Capital Reserve Fund – Fires

Woodsville Guaranty Savings # 617456	\$ 4,715.48
--------------------------------------	-------------

### Revaluation Trust Fund

Woodsville Guaranty Savings #655901	\$ 3062.31
-------------------------------------	------------

### Expendable Trust – Schools

Woodsville Guaranty Savings # 659291	\$54,754.03
--------------------------------------	-------------



## Report of the Trustees of the Trust Fund (cont)

**TOTAL HELD IN TRUST BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUND = \$106,906.62**

Distributions of Interest at the end of 2011 from the Cemetery/Common Trust Fund

For cemetery use	\$ 21.15
For the schools	\$ 4.49
For the highway account	\$ 4.05
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 29.69

Respectfully submitted,

Trustees of the Trust Fund

Laura Richardson

Martin Noble

Joyce Hassell

# 2011 Benton School District School Warrant

School Warrant

State of New Hampshire

March 8, 2011

The meeting opened at 7:02 PM.

## Article 1

To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year.

Gilbert W. Richardson

## Article 2

To choose a School Clerk for the ensuing year.

Michael P. Stiebitz

## Article 3

To choose one School Board Member for a term of three years expiring in 2014.

Alexandra Noble

Allie accepted the position but stressed that it is time for others to step up and do their part. She explained that there are usually meetings every other month, with an average of 5 hours per month of workload. There is no paperwork to do, as the SAU takes care of that. They also send out advance notices of upcoming meetings, as well as agendas for those meetings. She will be glad to work with any interested party to get them up to speed and will be happy to hand over the responsibilities in midstream.

#### Article 4

To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Maxine Tyler

#### Article 5

To choose an Auditor for the ensuing year.

Lyn Bandy

#### Article 6

To hear reports of Agents, Committees, or Officers chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Article 6 was moved, seconded, and after some discussion, accepted by voice vote.

Allie Noble brought up the fact that we are getting a 10% discount from the SAU for sending all of our students there. She also presented some costs for other school districts in our area and on the whole, we are paying less. She also explained that the increase in next year's school budget is a result of 2 kindergarteners as well as 2 "contingency" students, coupled with a small increase in SAU costs.

John Elliott asked why, when Social Security is not giving any cost of living raises, the School District is.

Bruce Labs explained that the State of New Hampshire has stopped funding any portion of the retirement costs. The SAU must pick these up. He explained that they had indeed tried to cut costs, trimming 10 positions, resulting in a savings of \$500K. Unfortunately the SAU has lost some of students, resulting in higher costs for those who are left. It was also pointed out that fuel surcharges from the transportation providers will be hitting the budgets as well.

Bruce did have one bright note, the standardized test scores for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have improved considerably and we have some of the highest scores in the area.

Article 7

To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for support of schools, for the payment of salaries of school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This article is exclusive of any other article on the warrant. (The School Board recommends \$546,966.00)

Article 7 was moved, seconded, and after some discussion, accepted by voice vote.

Article 8

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Article 8 was moved, seconded, and since there was no discussion, accepted by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM. All new officers present were sworn in at the closing.

A true copy

Attest:

Michael P. Stiebitz

Michael Stiebitz

Benton School District Clerk

Benton, New Hampshire



# Ray Burton – Report to the People 2011



## Raymond S. Burton

338 River Road  
Bath, NH 03740  
Tel. (603) 747-3662  
Car Phone (603) 481-0863  
E-mail: [ray.burton@myfairpoint.net](mailto:ray.burton@myfairpoint.net)

Executive Councilor  
District One

**Report to the People of District One**  
Ray Burton, Executive Councilor, District One

The Governor and Council have had a busy year since being sworn in to office on January 6, 2011. We meet approximately every two weeks to dispose of official business brought to us from the Governor's Office and the Departments of NH State Government.

The Governors Advisory Commission in Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) submitted our recommendations for the 10 year transportation plans for air, rail, highway and other public transportation to Governor Lynch on December 15, 2011. The Governor will review it and submit his recommendations to the NH House and Senate by January 15, 2012. It is now up to the NH House and Senate Committees to come to conclusions by July 12, 2012 on what our roads, bridges, airports, rail systems, and public transportation will be for the next ten years. Find your local state Senator and Representative by going to <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/wml.aspx>. Another valuable resource is your local library and town/city clerks. Speak up and let them know what you believe should be done to maintain and improve our public transportation!

Hurricane Irene caused millions of dollars worth of damage to not only town and state road systems, but also caused major river/stream bank erosion. One of the best sources for FEMA and related matters is Chris Pope, Emergency Manager Director, at NH Dept. of Safety. His direct line is 545-5842. NH DOT and NH Environmental Services, Depts. of Safety and local town/city agencies coupled with private construction companies deserve lots of credit for putting back together roads and bridges for safe and timely travel.

A very important function and duty of the Governor and Executive Council is to find citizens to volunteer on the dozens of State Boards and Commissions. If you are interested please send your letter of interest and resume to Jennifer Kuzma, Governor's office 107 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301 tel 603-271-2121.

2012 is an election year. The NH Secretary of State has a very valuable political calendar with all appropriate dates for filing for office, financial reports, and election dates plus much more. Call NH Secretary of State at 271-3242 or my office for a copy or go to: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/polcal2012-13forweb.pdf>.

District Health Councils offer a lively forum to discuss health issues- federal, state and local. If you would like to serve on one of the three District Health Councils in Council District One please send me your name and contact information.

My office has NH Constitutions, official tourist maps, and other information. I always enjoy speaking and participating in local events.

I am at the service of this District. It is an honor to hear from you!

### COOS COUNTY:

Berlin, Carroll, Clarksville,  
Colebrook, Columbia, Dalton,  
Dixville, Dummer, Errol,  
Gorham, Jefferson, Lancaster,  
Milan, Millsfield, Northumberland,  
Pittsburg, Randolph, Shelburne,  
Stewartstown, Stark, Stratford,  
Whitefield

### SULLIVAN COUNTY:

Charlestown, Claremont, Cornish,  
Croydon, Grantham, Newport  
Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee

Ray Burton



### Towns in Council District #1

#### CARROLL COUNTY:

Albany, Bartlett,  
Chatham, Conway, Eaton,  
Effingham, Freedom, Hart's Loc.,  
Jackson, Madison, Moultonborough,  
Ossipee, Sandwich, Tamworth,  
Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Wolfeboro,

#### GRAFTON COUNTY:

Alexandria, Ashland, Bath,  
Benton, Bethlehem, Bridgewater,  
Bristol, Campton, Canaan,  
Dorchester, Easton, Ellsworth,  
Enfield, Franconia, Grafton,  
Groton, Hanover, Haverhill,  
Hebron, Holderness, Landaff,  
Lebanon, Lincoln, Lisbon,  
Livermore, Littleton, Lyman,  
Lyme, Monroe, Orange, Orford,  
Piermont, Plymouth, Rumney,  
Sugar Hill, Thornton, Warren,  
Waterville Valley, Wentworth,  
Woodstock

#### BELKNAP COUNTY:

Alton, Belmont, Center Harbor,  
Gifford, Laconia, Meredith,  
New Hampton, Sanbornton, Tilton

**Appendix A - Annual Report of the Benton School District**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**of the**  
**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**July 1, 2010- June 30, 2011**

**DISTRICT OFFICERS**

**SCHOOL BOARD**

Alexandria Noble, CHAIR	Term Expires 2014
Lara Saffo	Term Expires 2012
Wayne Chevalier	Term Expires 2013

**OTHER DISTRICT OFFICERS**

Gilbert Richardson.....	Moderator
Maxine Tyler.....	Treasurer
Lyn Bandy.....	Auditor
Michael Stiebitz.....	Clerk

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Bruce C. Labs

**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL WARRANT MINUTES  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MARCH 8, 2011**

The meeting opened at: 7:02 PM.

**ARTICLE 1**

**To choose a Moderator for the coming year.**

Gil Richardson

**ARTICLE 2**

**To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year**

Michael Stiebitz

**ARTICLE 3**

**To choose one School Board Member for a term of three years expiring in 2014.**

Alexandra Noble

Allie accepted the position but stressed that it is time for others to step up and do their part. She explained there are usually meetings every other month, with an average of 5 hours per month of workload. There is no paperwork to do, as the SAU takes care of that. They also send out advance notices of upcoming meetings, as well as agendas for those meetings. She will be glad to work with any interested party to get them up to speed and will be happy to hand over the responsibilities in midstream.

**ARTICLE 4**

**To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.**

Maxine Tyler

**ARTICLE 5**

**To choose an Auditor for the ensuing year.**

Lyn Bandy

**ARTICLE 6**

**To hear reports of Agents, Committees, or Officers chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.**

Article 6 was moved, seconded, and after some discussion, accepted by voice vote.

Allie Noble brought up the fact that we are getting a 10% discount from the SAU for sending all of our students there. She also presented some costs for other school districts in our area and on the whole, we are paying less. She also explained that the increase in next year's school budget is a result of 2 kindergarteners as well as 2 "contingency" students, coupled with a small increase in SAU costs.

John Elliott asked why, when Social Security is not giving any cost of living raises the School District is.

Bruce Labs explained that the State of New Hampshire has stopped funding any portion of the retirement costs. The SAU must pick these up. He explained that they had indeed tried to cut costs, trimming 10 positions, resulting in a savings of \$500K. Unfortunately the SAU has lost some students, resulting in higher costs for those who are left. It was also pointed out that fuel surcharges from the transportation providers will be hitting the budgets as well.

Bruce did have one bright note, the standardized test scores for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have improved considerably and we have some of the highest scores in the area.



**ARTICLE 7**

**To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This Article is exclusive of any other Article on the Warrant. (The school board recommends \$546,966.00)**

Article 7 was moved, seconded, and after some discussion, accepted by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 8**

**To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.**

Article 8 was moved, seconded, and since there was no discussion, accepted by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM. All new officers present were sworn in at the closing.

A true copy

Attest:

*Michael P. Stiebitz*

Michael Stiebitz  
Benton School District Clerk  
Benton, NH

**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL WARRANT  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the School District of Benton in the County of Grafton, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said district on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2012, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening to act upon the following subjects:

- ARTICLE 1: To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 2: To choose a School District Clerk for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 3: To choose one School Board Member for a term of three years to expire in 2015.
- ARTICLE 4: To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 5: To choose an Auditor for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 6: To hear reports of Agents, Committees, or Officers chosen and pass any vote related thereto.
- ARTICLE 7: To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This article is exclusive of any other article on the warrant. (The school board recommends \$573,815.00)
- ARTICLE 8: To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate up to fifteen thousand (\$15,000) dollars to be added to the previously established Benton Tuition and Education Expendable Trust Fund, such amount to be funded from the year-end undesignated fund balance available on June 30, 2012. (The school board recommends this article.)
- ARTICLE 9: To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands at said Benton this 30th day of January, 2012

A True Copy of Warrant – Attest:

Alexandria Noble, Chairman

Wayne Chevalier

Lara Saffo

BENTON SCHOOL BOARD

**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED BUDGET 2012 - 2013**

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>2010-2011 EXPENSES</u>	<u>2011-2012 BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED BUDGET</u>	<u>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</u>
10.6.1100.561	REGULAR TUITION TO HAVERHILL	392,126	404,676	386,854	(17,822)
10.6.1200.330	SPECIAL ED PROF SERVICES	352	0	400	400
10.6.1200.561	SPECIAL ED TUITION TO HAVERHI	43,264	51,000	73,250	22,250
10.6.1200.564	SPECIAL ED PRIVATE TUITION	27,713	0	0	0
10.6.1230.564	FRENCH POND TUITION	5,152	0	10,078	10,078
10.6.1231.564	KING STREET TUITION	4,732	18,926	20,155	1,229
10.6.1300.562	RIVERBEND TUITION	3,734	7,468	15,106	7,638
10.6.1430.561	SUMMER SCHOOL TUITION - LEA	4,434	3,240	1,830	(1,410)
10.6.1430.564	SUMMER SCHOOL TUITION - PRIV,	0	1,700	1,200	(500)
10.6.2150.330	SPEECH	0	640	240	(400)
10.6.2162.330	PHYSICAL THERAPY	2,258	1,739	2,907	1,168
10.6.2163.330	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	3,940	6,440	7,695	1,255
10.6.2311.111	BOARD SALARIES	600	600	600	0
10.6.2311.220	BOARD PAYROLL TAXES	46	46	46	0
10.6.2311.260	WORKERS' COMP	254	249	238	(11)
10.6.2311.520	LIABILITY INSURANCE	2,764	3,000	2,850	(150)
10.6.2311.540	ADVERTISING	199	180	180	0
10.6.2311.810	DUES/FEES	868	1,010	900	(110)
10.6.2313.111	TREASURER SALARIES	200	160	200	40
10.6.2313.220	TREASURER PAYROLL TAXES	15	15	17	2
10.6.2313.260	WORKERS' COMP	84	85	79	(6)
10.6.2313.534	POSTAGE	26	20	31	11
10.6.2313.610	SUPPLIES	9	20	21	1
10.6.2314.111	DISTRICT MEETING SALARIES	62	63	63	0
10.6.2314.220	DISTRICT MEETING PAYROLL TAX	5	6	6	0
10.6.2314.260	WORKERS' COMP	27	26	26	0
10.6.2317.111	AUDIT SALARIES	50	50	50	0
10.6.2317.220	AUDIT PAYROLL TAXES	4	5	5	0
10.6.2318.330	LEGAL FEES	0	250	250	0
10.6.2321.310	SAU MANAGEMENT SERVICES	13,306	16,261	17,962	1,701
10.6.2721.510	REGULAR TRANSPORTATION	24,468	24,141	25,376	1,235
10.6.2722.510	SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION	14,840	4,200	4,200	0
10.6.2723.510	RIVERBEND TRANSPORTATION	309	750	1,000	250
10.6.5252.930	TRANSFER TO TRUST FUND	20,000	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total:</b>		<b>565,840</b>	<b>546,966</b>	<b>573,815</b>	<b>26,849</b>

**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REVENUES**

	2010-2011 <u>ACTUAL</u>	2011-2012 <u>REVISED</u>	2012 - 2013 <u>BUDGET</u>		<u>+/-</u>
<b>Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes</b>	<b>5,681</b>	<b>23,935</b>	<b>15,000</b>		<b>(8,935)</b>
<u>Local</u>					
1111 District Appropriation	275,434	300,003	326,360		26,357
1510 Interest	(17)	-	-		-
1400 Transportation fees	4,661				-
1980 Refund from Prior Year					-
5252 Transfer from Expendable Tr	63,000	-			-
<u>State</u>					
3111 State Adequacy Grant	120,189	120,189	120,189		-
3112 State Adequacy Tax	58,502	62,436	66,730		4,294
3230 Catastrophic Aid	-	-	-		-
3241 Vocational Education Tuition	4,477	2,240	7,700	70%	5,460
3242 Vocational Transportation	287	136	666	70%	530
<u>Federal</u>					
4580 Medicaid Reimbursement	20,391	17,000	20,000		3,000
4590 Education Jobs Funding		3,857	-		(3,857)
4810 National Forest Reserve	17,170	17,170	17,170		-
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>569,775</b>	<b>559,983</b>	<b>573,815</b>		<b>13,832</b>
Transfer to Expendable Trus	20,000				-
<b>TOTAL BUDGET AND ARTICLES</b>	<b>589,775</b>	<b>546,966</b>	<b>573,815</b>		<b>26,849</b>

SCHOOL TAX RATE

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ESTIMATED</u>	<u>CURRENT</u>	
	<u>2011-2012</u>	<u>2012 - 2013</u>	<u>VALUATION</u>	
local property tax rate	\$11.06	\$12.03	\$0.97	\$27,127 per \$1,000
State property tax rate	<u>\$2.37</u>	<u>\$2.53</u>	<u>\$0.16</u>	\$26,354 per \$1,000
<b>Total School Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$13.43</b>	<b>\$14.56</b>	<b>\$1.13</b>	

2/3/2012



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Once again I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak to the taxpayers of Benton.

Like most schools in the state we continue to use test scores to inform us of the progress of each of our students so that we take more and more time to help students get to grade level in both reading and in math.

We continue to work hard to build skills in our students through allowing them additional time in both language arts and in Math especially for those students who are below grade level. We continue to offer after school programs for those students who need extra help with homework and for those who need to understand new material that they are working on during regular class time.

In June of 2011 the New Hampshire Legislature adopted the recommendation of the New Hampshire Department of Education to move to the K-12 Common Core State Standards for literacy and for Mathematics. These standards were developed through a joint project of the National Governors Association Center for Best Practice and the Council of Chief State School Officers. These standards have been adopted by forty-four states for the purpose of providing a uniform, rigorous and clear standard to build on for all of the states participating.

Each of the schools in SAU #23 are working together to prepare and to update our curriculum to reflect the new expectations of the Common Core Standards. Students will be testing on these new expectations in the 2014-15 school year and the students in this year's Kindergarten will be the first students tested when they enter third grade. We will anticipate the standards to be fully used in all of our classrooms by the fall of 2013.

We have been trying to provide quality programming for our three and four year olds. This has been done so that all children will enter our schools ready to learn. We know that without this attention in literacy some children who enter kindergarten will be at a disadvantage from their peers. It is possible that they will never catch up without intervention being given even at that young age. We want to be able to evaluate and identify those students who have needs early so we can get them on the right track when they are young. The older they become the more difficult and more costly it is to correct. We will continue to provide quality instruction and good nutrition for these young students.

I urge you to visit our website, [www.sau23.org](http://www.sau23.org) for more information about the schools and the things we are working on. It contains much information and is updated on a regular basis.

I want to once again thank all of the voters and taxpayers for their continued support of the students in our communities. We realize how expensive it is to educate these students and I assure you we work every day to maintain your support and your trust; we will never take that support for granted.

It continues to be a privilege and an honor to serve you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce C. Labs  
Superintendent of Schools

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23  
REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S AND  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S SALARIES**

One-half of the School Administrative Unit expenses are prorated among the school districts on the basis of adjusted valuation. One-half is prorated on the basis of average daily membership in the schools for the previous school year ending June 30. The Superintendent of SAU #23, during the 2011-2012 school year will receive a salary of \$100,644. There is no Assistant Superintendent or Business Administrator at SAU #23 at this time.

The table below shows the pro-ration of the salary to each school district:

Superintendent Salary		
Bath	12,399	12.32%
Benton	2,033	2.02%
Haverhill Cooperative	65,952	65.53%
Piermont	10,417	10.35%
Warren	9,843	9.78%
TOTAL	\$100,644	100%

**HAVERHILL COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TEACHER QUALITY REPORT SPRING 2011**

Education Level of Faculty and Administration at Each School

	BA	BA+15	MA	MA+30
WES Teachers	6.6	12	4	2
WES Administration			1	
HCMS Teachers	8.5	4	12.5	6
HCMS Administration			1	1
WHS Teachers	6.2	14.7	6.5	3
WHS Administration			1	1

Number of Teachers with Provisional (Intern) Certification

Woodsville Elementary School	0
Haverhill Cooperative Middle School	1
Woodsville High School	0

Number of Core Academic Courses Not Taught By Highly Qualified Teachers

Woodsville Elementary School	0
Haverhill Cooperative Middle School	1
Woodsville High School	0

**PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW**

As a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or Legal guardian, you have the right to know:

1. Who is teaching your child;
2. The qualifications and experience of your child's teacher(s).

For information concerning your child's teacher(s), please contact the Superintendent's Office at:

SAU #23  
2975 Dartmouth College Highway  
North Haverhill, NH 03774  
603-787-2113

A copy of the Haverhill Cooperative School District Title One  
Report Card is available at each school

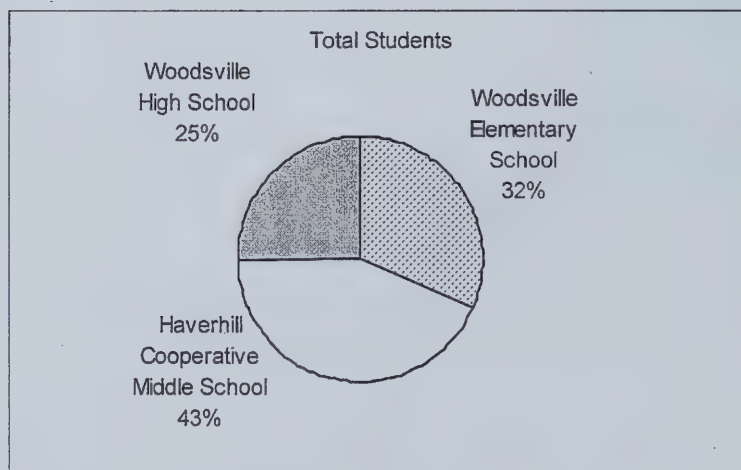
**REPORT OF THE BENTON SCHOOL  
DISTRICT TREASURER  
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2010 TO JUNE 30, 2011**

Cash on Hand, July 1, 2010	\$ 2,951.48
Total Revenues Received	592,398.64
Total School Board Orders Paid	-575,417.53
Cash on Hand June 30, 2011	\$ 19,932.59

Maxine Tyler, School District Treasurer

**BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STUDENTS TUITIONED TO HAVERHILL  
COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2010-2011**

	<u>Total Students</u>	<u>Total Tuition Costs Per School</u>
Woodsville Elementary School	11	\$115,325.07
Haverhill Cooperative Middle School	14	\$166,383.34
Woodsville High School	9	\$104,583.83
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>\$386,292.26</b>





**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23 REVENUES**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>		
	<b><u>2011 - 2012</u></b>	<b><u>2012 - 2013</u></b>	<b><u>+/-</u></b>	
<b>LOCAL REVENUE OTHER THAN ASSESSMENT</b>				
1320	Tuition - French Pond	113,556	120,930	7,374
1321	Tuition - King Street School	227,112	241,860	14,748
1325	Tuition - Summer School	11,063	12,000	937
1950	Itinerants	254,797	277,809	23,012
1951	Speech/ Language	215,292	275,029	59,737
1951	Occupational Therapy	98,800	95,000	(3,800)
1951	Physical Therapy	26,500	30,300	3,800
1510	Interest	2,000	500	(1,500)
5210	Indirect Costs from SAU IDEA C	-	-	-
	Use of Fund Balance	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<b>Total Other Revenue General Fund</b>	<b>1,024,120</b>	<b>1,128,428</b>	<b>104,308</b>
<b>1111</b>	<b>DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>804,998</b>	<b>809,082</b>	<b>4,084</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>1,829,118</b>	<b>1,937,510</b>	<b>108,392</b>
	FUND 22 - GRANTS	<u>277,858</u>	<u>266,566</u>	<u>(11,292)</u>
<b>TOTAL SAU BUDGET INCLUDING GRANTS</b>		<b>2,106,976</b>	<b>2,204,076</b>	<b>97,100</b>

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23 APPROVED BUDGET - SUMMARY**

<u>DEPARTMENT NUMBER / DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>2011 - 2012 APPROVED BUDGET</u>	<u>2012 - 2013 APPROVED BUDGET</u>	<u>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</u>
1100 ITINERANT TEACHERS	177,512	190,423	12,911
1230 FRENCH POND PROGRAM	222,585	233,815	11,230
1231 KING STREET PROGRAM	199,457	229,526	30,069
1430 FRENCH POND SUMMER SCHOOL	9,762	10,680	918
1431 KING STREET SUMMER SCHOOL	1,301	1,320	19
2120 ITINERANT GUIDANCE	29,880	30,059	179
2150 SPEECH/LANGUAGE	215,292	275,029	59,737
2162 PHYSICAL THERAPY	26,500	30,300	3,800
2163 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	98,800	95,000	(3,800)
2212 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	538	595	57
2213 STAFF DEVELOPMENT	450	450	-
2220 TECHNOLOGY SUPERVISION	51,355	57,327	5,972
2311 SCHOOL BOARD	6,577	6,631	54
2313 DISTRICT TREASURER	3,079	2,680	(399)
2317 AUDIT	5,900	6,075	175
2318 LEGAL COUNSEL	800	800	-
2321 OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT	542,546	534,401	(8,145)
2330 SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMIN.	175,102	171,509	(3,593)
2540 SAU-WIDE PUBLIC RELATIONS	1,000	740	(260)
2620 BUILDING & RENT	30,000	30,000	-
2640 EQUIPMENT RENTAL, MAINT. & INS.	4,480	1,850	(2,630)
2810 RESEARCH, PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT	3,100	2,100	(1,000)
2820 COMPUTER NETWORK	22,452	25,450	2,998
2832 RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING	500	600	100
2835 STAFF PHYSICALS	150	150	-
SUBTOTAL GENERAL FUND	1,829,118	1,937,510	108,392
IDEA GRANTS	277,858	266,566	(11,292)
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>2,106,976</b>	<b>2,204,076</b>	<b>97,100</b>

Posted as required per RSA 194-C:10

<u>DISTRICT ASSESSMENT SHARES</u>	<u>2011 - 12</u>	<u>2012 - 2013</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
DISTRICT			
BATH	99,176	101,459	2,283
BENTON	16,261	17,962	1,701
HAVERHILL	527,515	522,505	(5,010)
PIERMONT	83,317	86,814	3,497
WARREN	78,729	80,342	1,613
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>804,998</b>	<b>809,082</b>	<b>4,084</b>

# NOTES







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