

TOWN OF BARRE

CITIZEN BUDGET

TOUR



2004-2005

Saturday, February 21, 2004

ITINERARY

Coffee with K9 Tinzor

Municipal Building

Recreation Facility

Barre Town Gravel Pit

South Barre Fire Station

DPW Yard & Garage

Wilson Industrial Park

DPW Maintenance Facility

Upper Websterville Streets

East Barre Fire Station

East Cobble Hill Road

Deep Rock Fire District

BTEMS Station

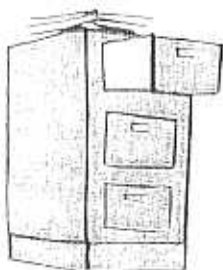
CITIZEN BUDGET TOUR

Saturday, February 21, 2004 - 8:00 A.M.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Municipal Building houses all of the Town's administrative functions (See department descriptions that follow.) as well as the police department located downstairs. In addition, it also serves as the meeting place for all Town Boards & Commissions, and an occasional State Board or Agency. The Washington County Center for Family Services hosts a playgroup in the Selectboard's meeting room on Wednesday mornings.

References to the **Town Manager's Office** incorporate five employees: the Town Manager, the executive secretary, the bookkeeper, the ambulance billing clerk and the management intern.



The executive secretary is the primary telephone receptionist for the Town Manager's Office in addition to providing general administrative support to the manager.

The bookkeeper computes payroll, maintains personnel records, handles accounts payable, maintains equipment records, deals with all employee benefit matters, and serves as co-administrator of the computer network.

The ambulance billing clerk is paid from the ambulance fund. She bills approximately 3,200 calls per year. A nine thousand dollar (\$9,000) purchase was made two years ago to upgrade current billing hardware and software.

The municipal management intern is a graduate or graduate student of a Master's degree program in public administration and is considered a full-time, one-year, temporary employee. The intern assists all Town departments with management issues while completing assigned projects and performing routine administrative tasks. Office space has been provided by the Police Department. The Town has received several inquiries this year and plans to send job announcements out to school several Graduate Public Administration and Policy programs in New England.

The Assessor's Office has one employee (or 60% of an employee). This employee is the other co-administrator of the computer system and maintains the sewer billing records, producing 2,200 bills annually. The balance of her time and pay (40%) are equally divided between the Sewer Fund and Data

Processing Department. Assessing services are contracted. The Assessor must meet all legal requirements of a town assessor and provide for some office hours on a weekly basis. All information is stored here in the office space provided.

Last year the town-wide property value reappraisal was undertaken. The development of new digitized tax maps and the installation of Geographic Information System (GIS) software were done to facilitate the process. Various miscellaneous equipment including a desk and computer were needed for this project. Expenses for the second half of the town-wide property value reappraisal were placed in 2003-2004 budget. The project is being paid for out of the Reappraisal Fund and is expected to be completed on time and on budget for the Grand List lodging in 2004. Very little, if any, reappraisal expenses should be included in this fiscal year 2004-2005.

The Planning and Zoning Department has a full-time planning and zoning officer, one fulltime administrative assistant, one part-time general office helper and one part time meeting clerk. A new electronic permitting software was purchased last year for \$13,000. Both the planning/zoning administrator and administrative assistant received new computers, so they can run multiple applications including the new permit tracking software at the same time. Also, this year a new digital recorder was purchased to record meeting minutes. This was split three ways between Planning and Zoning, Engineering, and the Clerk's Office for a total cost of \$700 to the town.

The Engineer's Office includes the engineer, one summer student helper (usually an engineering student from a nearby college), and 50% of an office clerk shared with the Town Clerk's office.

The Town Clerk's Office includes two and one-half employees plus the elected Town Clerk-Treasurer. The office collects all revenues (including utility fees), drafts all checks, and maintains an extensive index of all town land records. The Town Clerk-Treasurer is responsible for all elections and serves as treasurer to the school, performing some financial work on their behalf. Another responsibility of the Town Clerk is updating and maintaining the web-site for the Town. The Clerk-Treasurer's office purchased a new photocopier and several new computers last year. These new computers were necessary to run the new computer software upgrades we plan to have in the next few years. In addition, the 5-Year Building Plan calls for the replacement of the carpet in the Clerk's Office in FY '05. A new vault storage system is proposed in the 5-Year Equipment Plan for fiscal year 2006-7 this system will cost the town \$14,000. It is a necessity with all the land records being added to the vault due to the low interest rates



The **Municipal Building's** hot water baseboard heat, air conditioning, and fresh air (ventilation) systems are all maintained by the Town Engineer. In 1999 a maintenance person was employed for the summer who did some interior painting and a variety of repairs. To pay for the 1992 renovations/addition project, the Town borrowed \$500,000 to be repaid over 15 years. Annual debt service ranging from \$50,000 to \$31,000 will continue until 2007.

The break room received some needed attention several years ago with a new paint job and refrigerator. Added this year were curtains made by several town staff. A section of roof over the stairwell was fixed this fall. Pavement markings and lot sealer were applied near the rear entrance for handicap parking and near the police entrance last year. In this year's proposed budget \$2,500 is planned for the rest of the parking lot to be seal coated. Included in this year's building fund is the replacement of an original air condenser and an handler at a cost of \$2,500. The 5-Year building plan proposes to replace five more of these air condensers, one every year. Eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) is proposed for this year's 2004-2005 building fund budget to begin the parking lot lighting that will start at the rear police entrance and extend around the rear of the parking lot.

A Geographic Information System (GIS) was purchased last year to digitize all tax maps. This was particularly significant for the planning and zoning, but the reappraisal effort was facilitated through this purchase. The initial cost was \$27,875, which was paid for out of the Reappraisal Fund; however, future maintenance expense will be incurred under the planning and zoning department budget.

Another major expense last year was the purchase of a new telephone system for \$20,000. This new telephone system will have many capabilities including voicemail and the ability for an eventual town-wide telephone system at multiple remote locations. This project came well under budget. Therefore, the town purchased additional telephone equipment that will connect the DPW Vehicle Maintenance Facility to the Municipal Building telephone system. The extra cost was \$5,000.

A PC network installed in 1999 facilitates communication and access to information through sixteen (16) interconnected workstations. The barretown.org web site is up and running. To start the site, \$5,000 was budgeted for 2000-2001. Two thousand five hundred (\$2,500) was proposed to upgrade and enhance the web-site with code ordinances and the town charter in 2003-2004. The web-site is maintained by the Town Clerk. In the 5-Year Equipment Plan, for fiscal year 2005-2006, a new network server is proposed due to all the planned computer software upgrades over the last several years and upcoming years.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department works 24 hours a day, 7 days a week employing eight police officers and one clerk. The officers work 4, 10-hour shifts per week with overlapping shifts allowing for more than one officer to be on duty. The Chief and clerk work 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon - Fri. The Town currently staffs one full-time corporal, who assists the Chief with a variety of administrative responsibilities.

New last year was the addition of a K-9 unit. K-9 Tinzor and the department's full time Corporal comprise this unit. This unit is very useful to the police department for tracking of suspects and protection of officers. Several additional expenses were needed to fund this program.

The department's fleet now stands at five (5) marked patrol cars. A used 4WD Jeep was purchased last year to replace the one that was damaged in an accident. A new police car is purchased every year, so the oldest marked car is 5 years old. \$2,700 was approved for a new computer router to ensure compatibility with the state system last year, and \$2,750 is budgeted this year for new carpet throughout the department area.

This year the police chief requested the purchase of a new police car cage (\$410) for prisoners, a new light bar (\$1190), and a new computer (\$1900).

BARRE TOWN PARK / RECREATION DIVISION



The Town's largest park offers 4 tennis courts, a volleyball court, a basketball court, a skate park, a full-sized softball field, a full-sized baseball field, an all-purpose field, a soccer field, a running track, two picnic shelters, isolated picnic sites, and a walking/nature trail. The new ice rink located at the recreation and athletic complex directly behind the Barre Town School maintained by volunteers has been a nice winter addition to the facilities. This

year, lighting and a lean-to was added at the rink.

From mid-May through August, four different leagues use the softball field and three different organizations, ranging in age 13 to adults, use the baseball field. In September and October the ball fields are used for youth soccer, field hockey and school team sports. Due to the rise in popularity of soccer, lacrosse and field hockey, some people perceive a need for additional fields. The East Barre dam site offers potential for a practice field.

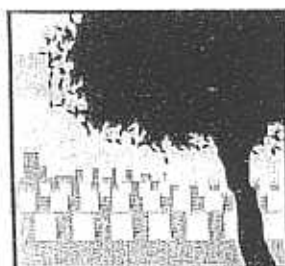
Presently the Town is in the process of designing a bike path from Lower Graniteville to the Barre Town park and school area. A 90%/10% State/Town grant is paying for a project manager (Robert Merchant), an engineer, (Dubois King) to study the path alternatives & ramifications, and the construction. The

total cost to the Town will be approximately \$89,000 of the total expenses (\$890,000). The Town budgeted its share of the administration and design costs last year and a Construction Fund has been designated for costs in 2003-2004. Donated right-of-ways from Rock of Ages and/or other owners could count towards the Town's share and seems fairly plausible at this time. This year the town could see the construction of this bike path when the state releases its portion of the funding from the grant.

The seasonal Recreation Department consists of 2 ½ employees plus the Maintenance Supervisor who is also the Cemetery Sexton. They maintain all of the main park and the playground equipment in the neighborhood parks. (Contractors mow the grass at the neighborhood parks.) The annual recreation budget averages \$110,000, but varies from year to year due to projects.

This year \$12,000 is proposed in the Building Fund to construct a fertilizer-shed addition. For a complete list of neighborhood playgrounds, see the Other Facilities section at the end of this booklet.

CEMETERY DIVISION



The Town owns and maintains three (3) cemeteries; the Wilson Cemetery in Lower Websterville; the Maplewood Cemetery on Farwell Street; and the West Hill Cemetery (retired) on Perry Road. An appointed 5-member commission oversees the cemetery operation adopting rules and regulations, setting rates for services, and making operational recommendations. Work is performed by a 2 ½ person crew led by the

Sexton who reports to the Town Manager; the employees work fulltime from May through October. Fees are charged for services and receipts from the sale of burial plots are divided between a perpetual care fund & the operating fund.

Service fees or sale of plots should fund most of the budget, however, business has been slow, and the Cemetery Fund is cash poor. As a result, any little discretionary spending for capital improvements has been suspended. For 2004-05 the proposed property tax support is \$22,250 to supplement operating costs. A new investment policy recently adopted by the Selectboard has generated greater interest revenues. Last year, \$7,485 was earned in interest alone. This year should be equally as good.

Last year, the Cemetery Commission spent \$3875 on re-paving the vault road at Wilson Cemetery. In the future, there is an interest in paving several gravel roads with in Wilson Cemetery. Proposed is the resetting of stones at Maplewood Cemetery for \$585. Last year, a new flag post was built and a marker was donated to dedicate the efforts of the many men and women who served in the military and are buried at the Maplewood cemetery.

BARRE TOWN GRAVEL PIT

The Lemieux pit was purchased in full, back in 1990, for \$140,00 and is expected to yield 225,000 cubic yards of material over the next 20-25 years. Since the pit was dormant until 1999 it should fulfill the Town's needs until at least 2019. Currently the Town spends \$30,000 per year on crusher services and \$3,500 per year to purchase waste granite for crushing & mixing with our material. The Public Works Department purchased a new gravel/sand screen to increase efficient output as per the equipment replacement schedule.

This area is also of interest due to the recent ACT 250 proceedings. Pike Industries is proposing a new quarry operation in the land adjacent to the Town property. They would need an easement to reach their land (located in Williamstown). This will not affect our ability to access our resources; in fact, Pike has proposed to make extensive upgrades to the access road. The Town did lease some space to Pike Industries last summer as a storage area for their pavement shavings.

The Police Department has also been going through ACT 250 hearings for a proposed shooting range in the same area. The outcome of the hearings will determine how the land will be used.

SOUTH BARRE FIRE STATION



South Barre completed a 2-bay 40' x 80' addition, costing \$171,946, in 2000-2001. \$125,000 was paid from the Building Fund - designated cash reserves and the balance - \$46,946 - was budgeted for in 2001-02 to

complete the interior finishes, a radio room, training room, kitchen, storage mezzanine over the kitchen/training room, and alterations to existing rooms. Personnel have already built their own lockers and gear racks. This year the fire chief proposed the repairing of floor drains (\$5,000).

The station's oldest engine/pumper, Engine 4 is back from refurbishment. It cost an estimated \$30,000.

TOWN GARAGE/ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department has 17 employees: a superintendent, an assistant superintendent, a shop attendant (parts clerk), two mechanics, and 12 field employees. Their pay and benefits are split between 5 different funds depending upon their primary duties and the projects on which they are working. The DPW's duties include vehicle maintenance, maintenance of

sewer and water systems, and all road maintenance. The DPW is also the town's labor pool for assisting other departments with all types of odd jobs. The complete list of 2004-05 paved highway projects is:

Lower Graniteville: Crest, Pearl, Compo, Dodge, Cedarbrook, portion of McLeod Hill (\$39,445)

Aljen Acres: Burnside, Grace, Meadow, Hillcrest, East St. Ext., Camel's Hump (\$44,635)

Trow Hill: Oak, Balsam, Willow, Spruce, Clove (\$41,000)

Apple Hill: Apple Blossom, Crab Apple, Cheney (portion) (\$58,752)

East Cobble Hill Road (\$57,000)

Hutchins Circle (\$11,797)

Meadows Drive, portion of Misty Mtn. (\$14,872)

Meadowbrook Road (\$2,362)

Plainfield Brook Road (\$49,867)

Sierra Lavin (\$62,912)

Rudd Farm and Daniels Drive (\$15,360)

Websterville Road (\$74,163)

Beckley Hill (\$14,148)

Last year \$18,000 was budgeted for telemetry at both the South Barre and Orchard Terrace Sewer pump stations. This year proposed is \$9,000 for telemetry at the flume sites. This telemetry allows the Town Engineer or Utilities person to remotely check the meters and to inform them in case of an emergency. No water or sewer system projects are planned for the upcoming year other than regular maintenance with an emphasis on storm drains and manholes.

The gravel road improvement projects for 2004-05 include sections of Richardson Road (2,500'), Cheney Road (1,800'), LePage Road (500'), Cutler Corner Road (1,540'), Phelps Road (2,000'), Apple Blossom and Crab Apple (entire), Sierra Lavin (3,500') and Holden Road. Preventative maintenance is planned for 12 other gravel roads.

The heart of the Highway Fund budget is represented by 4 budget account sections: Summer Maintenance, Winter Maintenance, Summer Construction and Retreatment. Summer Maintenance is charged for all road maintenance expenses except winter maintenance and signing. Labor and equipment are by far the largest expenses but significant dollars are spent on supplies and outside/contracted services including: gravel crushing, crack sealing, dust control, line painting and roadside mowing.

The town secured funding for renovation of the existing the town garage and the purchase and remodeling of a new building to serve as the maintenance facility through a bond. The need for such drastic measures will surely be recognized during the tour. The current building is 35 years old, and the Town's public works operation (although not in number of employees) has grown immensely over the years. Just the parts for the additional and different

types of vehicles the department maintains require much more space. The Superintendent's office, which is in need of serious repair, will be moved to the new facility. Basic building components like plumbing & doors need replacing, building systems (electrical) need improvement and unsafe, inefficient traffic patterns must be redesigned. Other work included in the project is a new break and locker rooms and a new bathroom. Also, as part of the renovation, filling the old vehicle maintenance pits will be filled and a new vehicle wash bay will be connected to the sewer system.

As a result of the bond issue, the Adam's Building was purchased and remodeled to replace the old town garage as the new DPW headquarters and vehicle maintenance facility. In this year's budget the Superintendent is requesting \$800 for small misc. furniture and equipment. The DPW is reusing old and buying stuff from state surplus facility to spread the money further. Last year only \$600 dollars was spent on misc. furniture and equipment. Town staff are building tire racks and shelving to help offset some of the costs of this project. They also plan to reconstruct the entrance to the new facility in the Spring.

Some improvements to the DPW garage have been completed in the past few years. Ten new energy-efficient doors were installed as was: a vehicle exhaust ventilation system for the mechanics' work area, new oil-fired area furnaces, a new large woodburning furnace & chimney and the roof on the bus work area was replaced 8 years ago. These improvements are considered part of the renovations but much more is needed.

Last year, several large capital equipment purchases were made including a new utility van for water and sewer operations, gravel screen; and a new large dump truck with plow and spreader. This year alone the Equipment Purchase Plan is financing over \$246,000 worth of equipment.

The salt storage building was built in 1998 with proceeds from a \$120,000 bond issue. The annual debt service for the 5-year term averaged \$25,000. Last year, the town paid all the debt off for the salt storage building. As a result, there is a net savings of \$25,000 which is reflected in the Highway Fund. This Salt storage facility places us ahead of the curve with regards to protecting groundwater from salt water runoff. In the 5-Year Building Plan, the sand shed is scheduled to be expanded by 50 percent (\$25,000). Paving the DPW Yard and Garage (\$32,700) is in the 5-Year Building Plan and scheduled for FY '06 - '07. This will help keep people and vehicles out of the mud, control dust for neighbors, and protect groundwater.

WILSON INDUSTRIAL PARK/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The extension of Parker Road allows ample space for future development in the WIP. However, additional drainage work and the creation of retention ponds will need to be done when new development is undertaken. Sewer Fund monies were borrowed to pay for the establishment of Parker Road several years ago. When additional lots are sold, that money will be returned with a 4.75% interest rate being paid. The Public Works Department in turn has gained the 5.5 acres that abuts Lot #2 and the public works yard. The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District uses 2 acres of the land for a recycling depot accessible through the industrial park.

The closing of Bombardier was an obvious blow to the growing vitality of the area. However, they continue to occupy the premises and their taxes are paid to date. Barre Town and Barre Area Development are working to attract business and provide park maintenance such as brush-hogging and the planting of new trees.

Economic development efforts are directed through 3 parties. Three thousand (\$3,000) dollars are donated to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC), whose main responsibility is financing. The CVEDC is the local contact with the state's economic development office. Barre Area Development (BAD) receives a \$5,000 per year donation for operating expenses. A Barre economic development coordinator promotes Barre Town and Barre City with both municipalities sharing equally in the expense; \$20,000 is budgeted for this program. The town is doing its share in economic development by providing sites for new businesses and by offering tax stabilization contracts to new businesses.

ALDRICH LIBRARY / EAST BARRE LIBRARY

The Aldrich Library is the public library for the citizens of Barre Town and Barre City as endowed by Mr. Aldrich prior to the municipal separation. Residents of Barre Town and Barre City serve on the Board of Trustees and both municipalities support the library's operating budget. Presently, the Town gives the library \$65,000 per year for operating expenses. In 1998 the voters of the Town and City approved \$500,000 bond issues for the library's renovation and addition project which expanded the library by 8,000 square feet and improved it with handicap accessibility, Internet access, a large public meeting room, and additional space for children's programs. The Town's annual debt service is currently about \$55,000 but will be reduced to approximately \$31,500 upon termination in 2013. The Aldrich Library is open to the public 44 hours per week and operates the East Barre Branch which is open 13 hours per week with morning hours on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Wednesdays it is open from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

EAST BARRE FIRE STATION/ FIRE DEPARTMENT

The 21-year-old East Barre Fire Station is in decent condition. The roof was replaced 6 years ago and 3 years ago 7 windows were replaced that did not close, seal, and secure. \$5,000 was also used to acquire efficient lighting in the truck bay. Because the station is one of the Town's emergency shelters a new emergency power generator was installed 4 years ago. Last year, a new furnace (\$4,500) was budgeted for the fire station. This year the 5-year Building Plan proposes the replacement of Bay door (\$6,500) and crack sealing and seal coating the parking lot (\$1,700).

A fire coat and pants washer (called an extractor) is now in place to keep turnout gear free of the harmful carbon particles that damage these expensive protective garments.

In 2001-02 a new rescue truck to replace R-1 budget item was purchased from the Equipment Fund. The \$169,000 purchase was right on budget and will be financed over the next 10 years. The rescue truck was needed to safely carry all the rescue equipment accumulated since R-1 was purchased in 1990.

The Fire Department consists of two companies, East Barre and South Barre, administered and managed by a Fire Chief (Larry Haynes) appointed by the Town Manager. As of January 1, 2003 the Fire Department is under a new officer structure. A newly created Deputy Chief position was established making him (Chris Violette) the highest ranking officer below the Chief. He has oversight of the department in the absence of the Chief, and he works with the Chief on administrative issues and all functions of the department. There are also now Assistant Chiefs in each station. This resulted in the elimination of the rank of 2nd Assistant Chief. Assistant Chiefs are in charge of their respective stations and help the Chief and Deputy Chief with functions at the command level of the fire department. Each station also has a Captain, a 1st Lieutenant, and a 2nd Lieutenant. Also new with this restructuring in 2003, the Chief selects his own officers with the Town Manager approval, and each officer position serves a 3-year term. Also, during this organizational restructuring, officers revised the department's "Standard Operating Guidelines" (SOG) to reflect recent department changes. The new SOG's went into affect on January 1st, 2004.

Approximately 40 firefighters are paid \$11 per hour to respond to emergency calls and \$2 per hour for attending bi weekly training sessions. Total labor expenses are budgeted at approximately \$41,500. The chief is requesting a \$1.00 an hour raise for all emergency calls.

The stations have similar fire-fighting equipment each with two pumpers, two tankers, and a 4WD truck for wildland fires. The major difference is that East Barre has two rescue (vehicle extrication) trucks. During the 1998-99 fiscal

year the department purchased new SCBA, 30 sets of turnout gear, and new rescue tools. It also developed an annual sinking fund payment of \$5,000 to save for future fire-fighting gear. This year will be paid to the Equipment Fund, from the Fire Department, for new purchases, repairs, maintenance, and operating expenses.

However, the Town does not provide all of the money for the fire department. The firefighters also raise money at the rabies clinic in South Barre, the chicken barbecue in East Barre, by burning fields or unwanted buildings, and through several other fundraising activities. East Barre also provides first response to a large portion (more than half) of Orange for a fee. The Department purchased two thermal imagers and a receiver with monies raised from fundraising and private donations. For example, this year the fire department received a \$5,000 grant from Hamford's to retrofit a portable pump on the back of a tanker truck.

The Barre Town Fire Department in recent years has been the beneficiary of several grants. The department received \$54,260 from Homeland Security to upgrade air packs (bring them up to current standards), hydraulic rescue tools, and a gas detector. Also, from Homeland Security the department received \$4,500 to purchase some radios and other gas detection equipment. Another grant was received from the Vermont Rural Task Force for the installation of a dry hydrant system, which will be installed in the East Hill area. Recently, the federal government awarded the department an \$84,000 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. This grant is a matching grant (90%/10%), Barre Town has budgeted for \$8,400 in FY '05.

Each station has designated response territories within Barre Town. If there is a structure fire, both stations are called immediately. If there is an auto accident in South Barre's territory, East Barre responds with rescue only; South Barre responds with a pumper for fire suppression. In 2002-2003, the department responded to 162 calls, 6 less than the year before. Twelve were classified as structure fires, which include chimney fires. Motor vehicle accidents (47) are by far the most frequent type of call.

Some of the equipment purchased last year was hose reels (\$1,600), piercing nozzles (\$1,200), and a portable folding tank liner (\$600) are all included in the managers budget. This year several pieces of equipment were requested: straight bore nozzles (\$1,300), shut off bails for automobile piercing nozzles (\$500), structural piercing nozzle (\$600), 3' pike pole for sheet rock (\$160), and replacement of 10 existing head harnesses (\$600).

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

BTEMS is now contracted to provide first response to Orange, Washington, Topsham, Plainfield, East Montpelier, Berlin and Calais until June 30, 2004. The U.S. Census Bureau's year 2000 population report for Barre Town and the 7 towns listed above is 19,013. These towns finance the

Ambulance Fund through an annual per capita fee equal to \$20. BTEMS retains all revenue from service calls.

The enlarged service territory requires 12 full-time positions each working a 24-hour day then having 2 days off. These 12 positions are divided into three 4-person teams with two 2-person teams working at all times, one at BTEMS on Route 302 and the other at the Berlin Fire Station. Rent is paid to the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department with the Berlin crew covering Berlin, Calais, and most of East Montpelier. An auxiliary crew (4 part-timers) work in 2-person teams 25 hours each week performing local transfers (about 1,500 per year) and providing coverage when the regular crews respond to emergencies.

Changes in scheduling and the use of two living quarters has caused an overhaul in department operations, however, expenses (mostly for wages) are growing commensurate with call volume (3,188 for 2002) and EMS personnel are working to increase the level of care provided to the Town through paramedic training.

Beginning February 4th, 2004 Barre Town EMS will begin the first phase in providing full-fledge paramedic emergency medical service. All three full-time paramedics must first work with a more experienced paramedic called a preceptor, as interns. This phase will take 3 months. The next phase allows paramedics to work independently without a preceptor but requires complete on-line medical control from a physician at CVH. This phase will take approximately 3 to 6 months. The final phase will take at least six months and no on-line medical control will be required before treatment begins. A supplemental \$1.25 per capita bill will be charged in order to start this preceptor phase.

An EMS Director, shared with Williamstown, oversees the department with time and expenses split 80/20. The fulltime EMTs help operate the department through their collateral (station) duties. For instance, one EMT is the purchasing agent, another is the training officer, another is the medical equipment manager. Completing these chores while on duty reduces the amount of administrative time needed from the Director.

The department uses six (6) ambulances. The department's newest ambulance, A-5, was put into service as the primary duty rig in the East Barre station in June of 2001. This unit is a Ford F-350 Super Duty truck, and is equipped exactly as the other four units. The East Barre Fire Department's Rescue-1 truck (an International diesel engine truck with an ambulance body) was refurbished as the Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU), the cost was \$25,000. Additional funds were needed to refurbish the vehicle with all necessary equipment; however, those costs should level to a simple supply use expense of around \$2,200 per year.

The practice of replacing the ambulance chassis and re-using the patient box might have to stop. Several of the patient boxes are getting old and rusting

out underneath. In the future the town might need to purchase entirely new ambulances.

The bank loans taken out at the time Barre Town purchased Barre Regional Ambulance Service (1990) have been refinanced through the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (1993) at considerable interest savings. The debt service payment, moved to the Ambulance Fund during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, currently costs the Town \$28,729.70, but will be reduced to \$20,600 by the bond's termination (2008).

OTHER FACILITIES

South Barre Sewer Pump Station

Orchard Terrace Sewer Pump Station

Numerous sewer flumes and meter points

300,000 gallon water tank – Websterville

250,000 gallon water tank w/ well – Waterman St.

Wilson Street Water Pump Station

Old Route 302 Water Pump Station

Cobble Hill Meadows storm water detention pond

Fire Department's Smoke Training Facility – Waterman St.

East Barre Playground

Upper Websterville Playground

Upper Graniteville Playground

South Barre Playground

East Barre Commuter Park n-Ride Lot

~ BUDGET FACTS ~

TAX RATES

<u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Town Rate</u>	<u>BTES Rate</u>	<u>SUHS Rate</u>
2003-04	1.0816		1.7984
2002-03	1.02749		1.75251
2001-02	1.05047		1.70953
2000-01	1.0024		1.5376
1999-00	.97	-	1.47
1998-99	.98	-	1.46
1997-98	.98	.946	.714
1996-97	1.00	.99	.75
1995-96	.93	.91	.68
1994-95	.92	.96	.68
1993-94	.89	.91	.60

- 1¢ on tax rate =

\$ 7.50 taxes due for property assessed at \$75,000;

\$ 10.00 taxes due for property assessed at \$100,000;

\$ 12.50 taxes due for property assessed at \$125,000;

\$ 15.00 taxes due for property assessed at \$150,000;

- At present tax rate property assessed at \$75,000 has \$2,160 total tax bill; \$100,000 has \$2,880 total tax bill; \$125,000 has \$3,600 total tax bill; \$150,000 has \$4,320 total tax bill;

- Properties assessed between \$100,000 and \$125,000 are very common in Barre Town.

- 1¢ on tax rate this year generates \$34,092 of property tax revenue.

Grand List Growth

2003	3,478,808
2002	3,339,717
2001	3,288,143
2000	3,201,052
1999	3,145,500
1998	3,019,000
1997	3,019,000
1996	2,912,200
1995	2,926,304

94.56 miles of Class 2 & 3 roads (+11.48 State roads)	7,602 population
31.8 sq. miles of territory	52 full-time employees