WARNING
TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
2004

The legal voters of the Town of Charlotte are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Charlotte Central School Gymnasium in said Town on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at nine o'clock in the forenoon to act upon any of the following articles not involving voting by Australian Ballot, and to meet at the Charlotte Central School gymnasium in said Town on the same date to vote by Australian Ballot to begin at seven o'clock in the forenoon and to close at seven o'clock in the afternoon.

ARTICLE 1: To hear the reports of the Town officers and to act upon the same.

ARTICLE 2: Will the Town vote to have property taxes payable on or before November 15, 2004 and to have payments made to the Town Treasurer under
32 VSA § 4773?

ARTICLE 3: Will the Town adopt the Selectboard's budget of $1,970,634 for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 less anticipated revenues?

ARTICLE 4: Will the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year?

ARTICLE 5: Will the Town vote to establish the Improvement and Repair Reserve Fund in an amount not to exceed $25,000, with the Selectboard being authorized to expend monies in such fund for improvements and repairs of Town buildings and property without further voter approval?

ARTICLE 6: Will the Town vote to make the terms for the First Constable and Second Constable two-year terms?

ARTICLE 7: Will the Town vote to allow the use of voting machines for the registering and counting of votes?

ARTICLE 8: Will the Town vote to establish a Recreation Reserve Fund to be used for the purpose of improvement and construction of recreation facilities, and deposit into such fund all monies held in the Recreation Impact Fee Fund?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Town of Charlotte advise the Selectboard, the Governor and our State Legislators of the following: "Whereas the rising cost of health insurance is placing increasingly unsupportable burden on town and school budgets, the voters of the Town of Charlotte call upon the Selectboard, the Governor and our State Legislators to support and actively work for the creation of a Universal and Comprehensive Health Insurance System which is publicly financed and accountable to the citizens of Vermont and which will reduce costs by eliminating most current administrative expenses?" **(Advisory)**

ARTICLE 10: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to appoint a First Constable?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Second Constable?

ARTICLE 13: To elect Town officers.

Dated this 26th day of January, 2004 at Charlotte, Vermont.

Board of Selectmen

Charles Russell, Chair

Eleanor Russell

Paul Arthaud

Jennifer Cole

Frank Thornton

Received for record this 26th day of January, 2004. Mary A. Mead

Mary A. Mead, Town Clerk

ABSTRACT OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 4, 2003

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS: Charles Russell, (Chairman), Eleanor Russell, Jennifer Cole, Debbie Ramsdell & Paul Arthaud

MODERATOR: Jerry Schwarz

Jerry Schwarz called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM in the Charlotte Central Multi-Purpose Room. The officers were elected by Australian Ballot with the results on the following page. The polls were open from 7AM until 7 PM.

ARTICLE 1: Reports of the Town Officers were accepted by voice vote after a discussion surrounding Act 60, common level of appraisal and how it affects Charlotte.

ARTICLE 2: Article was passed by voice vote to have property taxes payable on or before November 17th and to have payments made to the Town Treasurer under 32 VSA § 4773.

ARTICLE 3: The Selectboard's budget of $1,773,906 was amended by Clark Hinsdale III to $1,740,000 and passed by voice vote. It was left up to the Selectboard which budget items would get reduced to come up with the total $33,906 reduction.

ARTICLE 4: The voters approved by voice vote to have the Town Clerk approve additions to the voter checklist pursuant to 17 VSA § 2144b.

ARTICLE 5: The voters approved by voice vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year.

ARTICLE 6: The voters approved by voice vote to approve expenditures not to exceed $450,000 from the Fire & Rescue Reserve Fund for the purchase of a properly equipped pumper truck and the purchase of a thermal imaging camera.

ARTICLE 7: Approval was given to the Town by voice vote to expend a sum not to exceed $4500 from the Recreation Fee Fund for use as the Town's financial match if it is awarded a grant from the State of Vermont for capital improvements to Town recreational facilities. The recreation committee said they were focusing on trails.

ARTICLE 8: An advisory motion to request immediate and ongoing action on legislative initiatives designed to promote energy efficiency in Vermont's homes, businesses, public buildings and transportation systems, and encourage expansion of modern renewable energy systems in the State of Vermont passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 9: An advisory motion was passed by voice vote to encourage every citizen and business owner in Charlotte to participate in the 10% challenge program to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions by at least 10% and ask community officials to reduce emissions of Town buildings and Town fleets by at least 10%.

ARTICLE 10: An advisory motion was passed, 42 to 21, to notify the President of the United States that the citizens of the Town of Charlotte oppose war with Iraq. An advisory motion to create a recreation committee that would be funded by a 2 cent increase on the tax rate was defeated by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned. Full text of Town Meeting Minutes available at the Town Clerk's Office.

COMPUTATION FOR DETERMINATION OF TAX RATE
MUNICIPAL & EDUCATION
2003-2004

				TAX RATE
MUNICIPAL GRANDLIST 2003			3,997,147	
EDUCATION GRANDLIST 2003			3,999,585	
TOWN BUDGET	1,740,000			
General Fund		1,053,500		
Less Revenue		(549,825)		
Less Current Use		(44,894)		
Less Surplus 02/03		(50,000)		
TOTAL GENERAL FUND			408,781	
Highway Fund		686,500		
Less Revenue		(192,676)		
TOTAL HIGHWAY			493,824	
Conservation Fund(.02)			79,943	
TOTAL DOLLARS TO RAISE FOR TOWN		**$982,548**		**.2459**
STATE DOLLARS TO RAISE			5,125,865	1.2816
LOCAL DOLLARS TO RAISE			4,228,121	1.0572
TOTAL EDUCATION TAX RATE				2.3388
TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAX RATE				.2459
TOTAL TAX RATE			**2.585 =**	**2.59**

ESTIMATED TAX RATE COMPUTATION (MUNICIPAL ONLY)
2004-2005

MUNICIPAL GRANDLIST 2004		5,000,000(estimate)	
TOWN BUDGET			
General Fund	$1,270,634		
Less Revenue	(658,305)		
Less Current Use(estimate)	(46,000)		
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		$566,329	
Highway Fund	$ 700,000		
Less Revenue	(192,496)		
TOTAL HIGHWAY		$507,504	
TOTAL DOLLARS TO RAISE FOR TOWN		**$1,073,833**	**0.2148**

Municipal Tax Rate Decrease over FY03-04 .03