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May 12, 2016

Selectboard
Town of Charlotte, Vermont
P.O. Box 119
Charlotte, Vermont 05445

This letter is to confirm our understanding of the terms and objectives of our engagement.

## SCOPE OF SERVICES

We are prepared to perform an audit of the financial statements of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016.

Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the Town of Charlotte, Vermont's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the Town of Charlotte, Vermont's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited.

1. Management's Discussion and Analysis, if presented.
2. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis – General Fund.
3. Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – VMERS Defined Benefit Plan.
4. Schedule of Contributions – VMERS Defined Benefit Plan.

The following other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that other information.

1. Combining Balance Sheet – Non-Major Governmental Funds.
2. Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Non-Major Governmental Funds.
3. Combining Balance Sheet – Non-Major Special Revenue Funds.
4. Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Non-Major Special Revenue Funds.
5. Combining Balance Sheet – Non-Major Capital Projects Funds.
6. Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Non-Major Capital Projects Funds.
7. Combining Schedule of Net Position – Private Purpose Trust Funds.
8. Combining Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Private Purpose Trust Funds.
9. Schedule of Taxes Raised.

## AUDIT OBJECTIVES

The objective of our audit is the expression of an opinion about whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to previously when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards for financial audits contained in "Government Auditing Standards", issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and will include tests of the accounting records of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the Selectboard of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or may withdraw from this engagement.

If circumstances occur related to the condition of your records, the availability of sufficient, appropriate audit evidence, or the existence of a significant risk of material misstatement of the financial statements caused by error, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets, which in our professional judgment prevent us from completing the audit or forming an opinion on the financial statements, we retain the right to take any course of action permitted by professional standards, including declining to express an opinion or issue a report, or withdrawing from the engagement.

We will also provide a report (that does not include an opinion) on internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements as required by "Government Auditing Standards". The report on internal control and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states (1) that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control on compliance, and (2) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards" in considering the Town's internal control and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose. If during our audit we become aware that the Town of Charlotte, Vermont is subject to an audit requirement that is not encompassed in the terms of this engagement, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance that an audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards for financial audits contained in "Government Auditing Standards", may not satisfy the relevant legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements.

## AUDIT PROCEDURES – GENERAL

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from errors, fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, or violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Town. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, "Government Auditing Standards" do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and "Government Auditing Standards". In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential, and of any material abuse that comes to our attention. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We may also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about your responsibilities for the financial statements; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by generally accepted auditing standards.

## AUDIT PROCEDURES – INTERNAL CONTROL

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the Town and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to "Government Auditing Standards".

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards and "Government Auditing Standards".

## AUDIT PROCEDURES – COMPLIANCE

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to "Government Auditing Standards".

## OTHER SERVICES

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements and related notes of the Town of Charlotte, Vermont in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles based on information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under Government Auditing Standards and such services will not be conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statement services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgement, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

## MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; following laws and regulations; and ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and all accompanying information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and for confirming to us in the representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving management, employees who have significant roles in internal control, and others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants and for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements, or abuse that we report.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon or make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that you are responsible for the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; that you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; that the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

With regard to using the auditor's report, you understand that you must obtain our prior written consent to reproduce or use our report in bond offering official statements or other documents. With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements and related notes and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

## AUDIT ADMINISTRATION

Richard Brigham, CPA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them.

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

The audit documentation for this engagement is our property and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of our personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

We will provide copies of our reports to the Town of Charlotte, Vermont; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

In the event we are required to respond to a subpoena, court order or other legal process for the production of documents and/or testimony relative to information we obtained and/or prepared during the course of this engagement, you agree to compensate us for the time we expend in connection with such response, and to reimburse us for all of our out-of-pocket costs incurred in that regard.

In the event that we are or may be obligated to pay any cost, settlement, judgment, fine, penalty, or similar award or sanction as a result of a claim, investigation, or other proceeding instituted by any third party, then to the extent that such obligation is or may be a direct or indirect result of your intentional or knowing misrepresentation or provision to us of inaccurate or incomplete information in connection with this engagement, and not any failure on our part to comply with professional standards, you agree to indemnify us, defend us, and hold us harmless as against such obligations.

To ensure that our independence is not impaired under the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct, you agree to inform us before entering into any substantive employment discussions with any of our personnel.

This engagement letter is contractual in nature, and includes all of the relevant terms that will govern the engagement for which it has been prepared. The terms of this letter supersede any prior oral or written representations or commitments by or between the parties. Any material changes or additions to the terms set forth in this letter will only become effective if evidenced by a written amendment to this letter, signed by all of the parties.

Our audit engagement ends on delivery of our audit report. Any follow-up services that might be required will be a separate, new engagement. The terms and conditions of that new engagement will be governed by a new, specific engagement letter for that service.

## FEE ARRANGEMENTS

Based on our knowledge of the accounting system and the regulations and guidelines, we have determined that the audit services can be performed for a fee of $14,100 provided that the books are closed and reconciled and our to do list is completed prior to our commencing fieldwork.

Fees for any other accounting services we provide will be billed based on the time of the individuals performing these services at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket expenses.

Any extended services will only be performed upon authorization from the Town. We will provide you with an estimate of the costs of any additional services before we proceed.

Our procedure is to bill on a monthly progress basis for work performed to date. Accounts are due and payable upon receipt. A finance charge of one percent (1%) per month will be charged on balances over thirty (30) days.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

We are prepared to commence work as soon as formally engaged. Fieldwork will be completed with the final reports issued by December 1 provided that the books are closed and reconciled and our to do list is completed by September 15. We will submit a draft audit report by November 15 for review and acceptance prior to the final reports being issued.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for five (5) years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by a federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

If the terms are acceptable to you and the services are in accordance with your requirements, please sign in the space provided and return an executed copy of this letter to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Sullivan, Powers & Company
by: Fred Duplessis, CPA

SULLIVAN, POWERS & CO.
Certified Public Accountants

We understand that the purpose of this is to clarify the services to be performed by you and the fee arrangements. We hereby confirm to you that we agree to the contents of this letter.

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Dated:_____