



BERLIN TOWN NEWS

Berlin Community Festival and Parade
September 25, 2006

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*Berlin Municipal Office
108 Shed Road
Berlin, Vermont 05602*

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Clerk	229-9298
Town Offices	223-4405
Administrator	Ext. 305
Treasurer/Tax Collector	Ext. 302
Lister	Ext. 303
Office Assistant	Ext. 300
Zoning Admin/Health Officer	Ext. 304
Sewer Commission	Ext. 307
Administrators – Fax	223-4404
Clerk/Treasurer – Fax	229-9530
Conservation-Recreation Commission	Ext. 305
Berlin Historical Society	223-1203
Highway Department	223-7337
Police Department	
Emergency	911 or 223-4400
Other Business	223-4401
Fire Department	223-5531
Emergency	911 or 223-5555
Other Business	
Station # 1	223-5531
Berlin Elementary School	223-2796
Union High School # 32	229-0321
Washington Central Supervisory Office	229-0553

Visit our Website at www.berlinvt.org

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Berlin’s 2006 Town Meeting was well attended with lively discussions, as is Berlin’s tradition. A final budget of \$2,032,439.00 was approved and votes cast for Selectboard members. Board members are Pat McDonald, Chair; Don Blanchette, Vice-Chair; Kitty Langlois, Secretary; Brad Towne and Laura Plude. Regularly scheduled meetings are held on the first and third Monday of every month. In an effort to reach out as many residents as possible, meetings are now being shown on Adelpia and Central Vermont Television. Meetings will also be shown on Trans-Video Cable Television. The dates and times of showings are listed on the agenda of each meeting.

Following Town Meeting, the Board began working on many key issues and projects:

Municipal building renovations started on July 17, 2006 and are estimated to be completed on September 11, 2006. Final expenses will be under the original budgeted amount of \$186,000. Staff needs to be commended for their patience in dealing with some difficult conditions while construction progressed. Thanks also go to Don Blanchette, Otto Kinzel, Ray Tanguay, Rosemary Morse, Police Department, Highway Department, Patti Lewis and to Fecteau Homes, NICOM Coatings, and Pike Industries for their support and participation.

The grand list totaling \$2,545,251.73 was completed and a municipal task rate of \$.6264 was set by the Selectboard on July 12, 2006. A priority list was established to include Budget development; implementation of a required Town-wide reappraisal; oversight of various projects with particular focus on the development of the capital budget and town center/TIF district; community enforcement and safety; and maintenance and improvement of the Town’s infrastructure (roads and bridges, water and sewer). The Capital Budget and Program Committee has been reviewing the Road Surface Management System (RSMS) developed for Berlin by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. The RSMS will receive final approval by the Planning Commission and Selectboard and will be used to establish infrastructure priorities, both for capital improvements and maintenance. The Selectboard has established a project summary document to keep track of the various projects and commitments made by the Board.

An immediate priority is the reconditioning of the Chase Brook Road Bridge. The Selectboard has worked closely with the Town’s Road Superintendent Richard Tetreault, Town Administrator Ray Tanguay, and representatives from the Agencies of Transportation (AOT) District 6 and Natural Resources to identify an appropriate course of action. The bridge has been temporarily shored up to ensure safe passage while the Town applies for an AOT grant. Bridge reconstruction will begin in late Spring/early Summer 2007.

Richard Tetreault (Tate) submitted his resignation to the Selectboard on August 21, 2006. Tate has given the Board an end date of September 15, 2006 and has graciously offered to assist in training his replacement. The Board would like to thank Tate for his years of service to the Town and wishes him well in his new and exciting endeavor. The Board will be conducting a thorough search for a new Foreman and hope to have someone on board as soon as possible.

In addition, the Selectboard is working with Ray Tanguay to update all Town ordinances and personnel policies and procedures. The Board is also reaching out to neighboring municipalities to identify areas, such as emergency management, where we can work more closely together and use available resources to

Continued on page 6

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BERLIN CONSERVATION AND RECREATION BOARDS

It's been a busy year for the Commission, as we continue work on the Berlin Pond Watershed/Irish Hill Preservation Project and several other conservation and recreation initiatives. Our efforts on Irish Hill seek to insure watershed integrity, provide recreational opportunities, and protect wildlife habitat. Recent and planned future work includes exploring the creation of an alternate, less strenuous trail to the ridgeline as well as continued WHIP (wildlife habitat incentive program) activity. The WHIP program includes the mowing of the old Stewart farm fields, continued apple tree releases, and the removal of the invasive plant species Common Buckthorn and Shrub Honeysuckle.

The Commission also attended a Natural Resources Conservation Service summer workshop on Irish Hill where we learned to identify invasive species and explored control strategies for the area. If you're interested in learning about what invasive species may be present on your property or elsewhere in your area, please visit www.vermontagriculture.com/invasive.htm for a concise list of plants to look out for. Those who wish to recreate on the Irish Hill trails, but may not be familiar with the trail system, will find maps of the network at the Darling Road trailhead on Brookfield Road. The trails provide a great opportunity for our community to enjoy nature, get great views of Berlin Pond, and exercise in our own backyard.

Planning for the Berlin to Montpelier section of the Central Vermont Regional Bike/Pedestrian Path continues with the hope that the project will go out to bid in spring 2007. Optimistically, construction could then begin in summer 2007. This section of the trail would be a 10-foot-wide paved path extending from the old Ames shopping plaza to Berlin's border with Montpelier at the Winooski River crossing along an unused rail bed. Montpelier would build its connector from the Winooski River to join with its exiting Stonecutter's Way path at Granite Street.

We would greatly appreciate any volunteers who could help the Commission release apple trees, tag Common Buckthorn and Shrub Honeysuckle, and clear brush from trails on town property this fall. Once again, adult volunteers are also needed to help flood and snow-blow the Berlin ice rink. Please contact Jenn Ingersoll, 229-0407 to volunteer.

TOWN CENTER TASK FORCE QUARTERLY REPORT

Throughout the summer, the Town Center Task Force members have been meeting jointly with the Planning Commission gaining knowledge about the proposed parcel and its potential as a new town center for Berlin. Meeting jointly has facilitated better communication and coordination between the committees and is an efficient use of everyone's time. Future joint meetings will be scheduled as needed.

To keep town issues coordinated, we are networking with representatives of the Berlin Water Supply Committee, the Berlin Economic Development Advisory Council, and the Selectboard. Thanks go out to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission for providing the planning maps that our committee needs from time to time.

Using planning grant funding, the Planning Commission retained the firm of Wilbur Smith in April, to study infrastructure issues surrounding roads, water and sewer that may be needed. The Town Center Task Force and the Planning Commission will utilize the information in the development of the town center master plan. A final report is anticipated in October.

On July 26, members of the joint PC/TCTF met with City of Winooski officials who outlined the important steps that they followed when redeveloping their new town center. They developed a timeline with tasks to be accomplished and Berlin members are now working on their own list of critical tasks that must be accomplished in a well organized and methodical process.

We have discovered that there is much community development work to do and all of it will need to be supported by a common town vision of the town center. As was the case with Winooski, Berlin will begin the critically important process of master planning the site, to include land uses which are integral to a town center and which will provide active and dense land uses that people will enjoy coming to. Strong public participation will be at the core of the master plan development and town vision. The master plan will provide the long-term vision for Berlin's new town center and act as our guide to developing it. We will keep you apprised as events unfold in the near future.

We would like to thank Andrea Silbermann for keeping the PC/TCTF meetings staffed and organized.

Keith Robinson, Co-Chair
Shirley Fortier, Co-Chair
Paul Irons
Stanley Walker

Patricia McDonald
Nat Shambaugh
Gary Dubray
Dan Bagalio

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BERLIN FIRE WARDEN

It has been a good summer and I have enjoyed talking with many of you about outdoor burning. **Smoky Bear** has been contacted and he will travel to town on September 23rd for Berlin Community Days. Smoky plans to be in the parade, as well as visit the events at the school and fire station.

Once again it is important to remind folks that permits are required by both State law and local Berlin ordinance for most outside fires. Again this week fire trucks from Berlin responded to a reported fire that turned out to be an individual burning brush without a permit! A waste of volunteer personnel and resources that could have been easily avoided with a simple phone call.

In Berlin there are three people that can issue burning permits:

Peter Noyes, Town Fire Warden: 223-5600 or 272-6449

Nick Garbacik, Deputy Fire Warden: 223-2098

Robert Simon, Deputy Fire Chief 223-5531

If we aren't available please leave a message and we will do our best to get back to you. Calling at least a day ahead is a good idea.

If you have any questions please give me a call.

See you at Berlin Community Days!

Peter Noyes
Berlin Town Fire Warden

Berlin Community Festival and Parade

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Special Thanks To:

Central Vermont Rotary Club
Central Vermont Runners Club
Dubois Construction
Duke Energy Field Services
Northstar Fireworks

Berlin Community Festival and Parade

Saturday September 23, 2006

Sponsored by:  **Banknorth**

Schedule of Events

Pancake Breakfast at the Civil Air Patrol Hanger at the Knapp State Airport - 6:45 AM – 11:00 AM

- Fly-In or Drive-In Pancake Breakfast Sponsored by the Civil Air Patrol. All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast \$5.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 3 – 10. Aircraft on display, tours, information and more!

WDEV - Live Radio Broadcast 9:30 AM – Berlin Mall – Town Center - Sponsored by Central Vermont Medical Center.

Community Festival Parade 10:00 AM - Central Vermont Rotary Club. The Community Festival Parade starts at the **Berlin Mall** and proceeds north to Fisher Road and south on Paine Turnpike North to the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department. Public parking will be allowed on the west side of Fisher Road and Paine Turnpike North. Parade spectator vantage points include the Berlin Mall and Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce. Honorary Parade Grand Marshal - Norbert Rhinerson.

Irish Hill Hike 12:30 PM - Join Berlin Conservation & Recreation Commission member Jenn Ingersoll for a moderate hike (approx. 3 miles round trip – 2 hours) up Irish Hill to “the lookout,” which features commanding views to the east. We’ll meet at the Irish Hill trailhead at Darling Road on Brookfield Road (upper road of Berlin Pond). Bring hiking boots or rugged trail shoes, bug repellent, water, and a light snack. Adults and children over 10 years (or experienced hikers under 10 years) are welcome. No Rain Date.

Young Eagles at the Knapp State Airport - The Young Eagles Program will be offered by the EAA Chapter 613 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Parents interested in giving their child a safe, enjoyable flying experience, should be at the Knapp Terminal during those times. Youth ages 8-17 will be assigned to a pilot on a first come first serve basis. Free. Check the Young Eagles Web Page at www.eaa.org for more information.

Radio Controlled Aircraft Demonstration Knapp State Airport - 8:00 AM – 12 Noon - Sponsored by the Vermont Modelers Club. See some great flying.

Berlin Volunteer Fire Department BBQ Starts at 12 Noon - Menu: 1/2 chicken dinner or pulled pork sandwich with baked beans, cole slaw, iced tea or lemonade, and sheet cake. Adult 1/2 chicken - \$10.00 • Family of 4 (2-1/2) & (2-1/4) chicken \$30.00. 1/4 Chicken for seniors and children \$8.00. Pulled pork \$8.00. Tour the Fire Station. Live music by “**Swinging Over 60**”. Raffle with great prizes.

BERLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 12 NOON – 3:00 PM

Family Games and Activities by PTNA – Enjoy activities such as face painting, balloon animals, children’s bingo, beanbag toss, games, and much more! Purchase a chance for Cow Plop Bingo. Milking Contest. Food concession - baked goods, beverages, popcorn & pizza. Merchandise for sale - books, toys, knick-knacks, and aprons. The very popular children’s (inflatable) Junior Obstacle Course will be set up from 12-3 sponsored by the Recreation Commission and Central Vermont Runners Club. The VanGo Book Mobile will also be on hand. Hope to see you and your family!!!!!!

Central Vermont Rotary Club Yard Sale at the Berlin Elementary School - 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Central Vermont Rotary will be holding their 15th Annual Last Chance Yard Sale on September 23rd, 2006 as part of the Berlin Community Festival and Parade. The yard sale will benefit the Central Vermont Rotary Club, which serves the communities of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Marshfield, Middlesex, Plainfield and Worcester. The club has sponsored many community events, such as the World Santa project, U-32 Scholarships, Green Up Day in Berlin, the Dictionary Project in East Montpelier, Exchange Students and an International project in Honduras. Last year nearly 1000 people attended this huge yard sale. Everything from “soup to nuts” is available.

Mark LeGrand and The Lovesick Bandits 12:00 Noon - 3:00 PM and 5:00 - 8:00 PM - Presented by Blue Cross - Blue Shield of Vermont, Central Vermont Medical Center and Dubois Construction. Mark LeGrand and the Lovesick Bandits bring a timeless expression of the very best of “Vintage Honkey Tonk Music” to the delight of fans young and old. Exquisite renditions of classic songs by Johnny Cash, Buck Owens, and Hank Williams, just to name a few, as well as Mark’s finely crafted originals. This band brings back the neon lights and sawdust floors of yesteryear, yet there is nothing museum like about this music. It’s as fresh and alive as a brand new Saturday night. Soulful singing and tight harmonies, stellar guitar work from Dan Haley and the thumpin’ stand up bass playing of Noah Hahn deliver the cutting edge of today’s real honkey tonk country blues music.

Wagon Rides 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM – Wagon Rides will be offered by Buck’s Horse Drawn Rides at the Elementary School to benefit the Berlin Conservation and Recreation Commission. \$2.00 per person. Drawn by Buck’s Oberlander Drafts.

Berlin Historical Society and Planning Commission Displays - Then and Now pictures, maps, artifacts, information, and a lot more! Visit with members of the Historical Society and at the same time learn more about the future from the Planning Commission. Yesterday and Tomorrow, Today!

Berlin Police Department, Fire Department, Rescue Services, and Highway Department Cruisers, Fire Trucks, Rescue Equipment, Highway Department Equipment and much more! Meet Smoky the Bear.

THE FESTIVAL FINALE

Berlin Elementary School – Bring your lawn chair or blanket

U-32 Washington DC Trip Benefit Supper - Let U-32 cook for you. Relax at the Concert and Fireworks. Hot dogs, hamburgers and several other choices at popular prices. Bring the entire family and join us.

Mark LeGrand The Lovesick Bandits Band - 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Fireworks at 8:00 PM

Presented By TD Banknorth Vermont and Northstar Fireworks

A fabulous display of fireworks to end our Community Festival. Enjoy the show!

The Berlin Community Festival and Parade is possible through the help and support from TD Banknorth, Dubois Construction, Central Vermont Rotary Club, Duke Energy Field Services, Casella Waste Management, Courtesy Motors, Heney Realtors, Green Mountain Credit Union, Berlin Mall, Blue Cross - Blue Shield, Central Vermont Medical Center, Northstar Fireworks, Berlin PTNA, Acorn Properties, Berlin Conservation and Recreation Commission and all of the activity sponsors and participants. Thanks to all Town Departments and Offices.

For Information Call - Town of Berlin - Town Administrator’s Office – 223.4405 -
www.berlinvt.org

BERLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Richard Turner

The Berlin Historical Society has been searching for a permanent home ever since it's inception in 1982. We were very lucky to be remembered in Harold Woodbury's will and acquired his house at Berlin Corner in 1996. This would have given us a place to house our collection but being an old house with lots of upkeep required we were unable financially to maintain it. So we sold the property which gave us the means to make an offer to the town for space in the town office building. The town accepted our offer of \$30,000 this spring after the vote to renovate the interior of the building passed on town meeting day. As we write this article the renovation is almost complete. We should be moving in sometime in early September.

Our entrance is to be the old police department entrance facing the parking lot. At this time we have not made any plans for having dates to be open to the public. In the future this will be a distinct possibility. However, we will open the doors upon request and help anyone who is looking for information. Any one of our Societies officers may be contacted. Their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses may be found on the Berlin website.

BERLIN PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE

By Carl Parton

After several dedicated and hard working years of service to the Town of Berlin the Planning Commission chair person, Marilyn Miller, has resigned. Her energy organizational skills and knowledge will be missed and difficult to replace. Because of that loss the Berlin Planning Commission (PC) is actively seeking new members to help with an interesting agenda of work for the upcoming year. Currently, the Planning Commission is meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7PM.

One item that we have been working on is planning the Town Center. The Town Center Task Force (TCTF) and the engineering group, Wilbur Smith and Associates, are currently working on a more detailed water availability analysis, a traffic pattern alternative and a detailed site soil evaluation for the town center area. Their findings will be reported over the next few months in joint TCFT and PC meetings. I encourage all Berliners to attend these meetings and share your thoughts and concerns to be part of this interesting and exciting process.

The Berlin Planning Commission is the reporting point for the Capital Budget Committee, the Town Center Task Force, Berlin Economic Development Committee, the "get Berlin a Post Office" investigatory committee, and the group working on the Road Surface Management System. We are also working on re-formatting the Berlin sub-division regulations to make them easier to follow and understand for landowners seeking to make minor sub-divisions. We are the filter and conduit to the selectboard for carefully thought out evaluations and recommendations on many of the major issues facing Berlin.

It is imperative for the Planning Commission to find new, knowledgeable and community minded members to fill our three vacant positions. I encourage anyone to contact the Berlin Zoning Administrator or Town Administrator if you would like to find out more information about how to get involved.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Continued from page 1

the benefit of the region and the people we serve. The Board is planning on reconstituting the Berlin Post Office Committee in conjunction with the work being done by the Town Center Task Force.

Members of the Selectboard want to thank staff, volunteers and citizens who have worked so hard and been supportive of Town initiatives and issues. The Board welcomes all comments and participation and hopes to see everyone at the Berlin Parade and Festival scheduled for September 23, 2006. The Board is pleased to announce that Norb Rhinerson, President of the Berlin Historical Society and a member of the Cemetery Commission and Sewer Commission, was unanimously selected to serve as the Honorary Parade Marshal. See you then!

Sincerely,
Pat McDonald, Chair

CEMETERY COMMISSION

By Norb Rhinerson

The Berlin Cemetery Commission is continuing to improve the 9 cemeteries under their control.

Ongoing work is the normal mowing program where each cemetery is mowed and trimmed every other week. We make sure that all of the cemeteries are in excellent shape for Memorial Day. Our contractor Norman Desrochers has worked for us now for 3 years and is doing a very good job.

The budget provided for us by the Town each year allows us to do the normal maintenance plus a few limited special projects. This year the special projects include new granite posts and fencing of the Johnston-Sawyer Cemetery on Route 12 at the Railroad overpass and the replacement of 9 unrepairable monuments at the East Road Cemetery, which is directly across Industrial Lane from Blue Cross - Blue Shield. The cost of each replacement monument installed is about \$260 and they have the same text as that of the monument being replaced.

Over the years many monuments have broken off and have been reassembled by the use of a mastic and when this finally does not work any more other means must be found to make sure graves are properly identified. We have come to the conclusion that a marble replacement stone is the answer and have done the first of them this year. If we are able to find added budget money in the future we will continue with the replacement program as we may have up to 25 or 30 similar situations in other cemeteries, with more to be done at East Road.

In the past our Committee has considered installing one or more Columbarium units in the vacant area at the East Road Cemetery. Each unit would have up to 150 niches. This recognizes a need for such a facility in our area and the plan would be to use any profits from such an installation to help support increased maintenance of all the Berlin Cemeteries and relieve the Town Cemetery Budget.

We intend to approach the Selectboard in the near future with this proposal.

BERLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September Schedule of Events

- 9/18 Kids on the Block
Presentation for Grades K-4 2 – 3 p.m.
School Board meeting @ 6 p.m.
- 9/19 Berlin School Open House 6:30 – 8 p.m.
- 9/21 U-32 Open House
- 9/23 BERLIN COMMUNITY FESTIVAL
- 9/25 PICTURE DAY !
- 9/27 & 28 Cooperative Health Screening

www.berlinschool.org

Please give me a call at 223-2796 with your comments and suggestions.

Thank you.
Charles Watson, Principal

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

By Andrea Silbermann

I am very pleased to be your Zoning Administrator and Town Health Officer since January 5, 2006. I look forward to meeting and working with you on all your local permitting needs. It has been a very busy year thus far, with 23 more zoning applications logged than last year.

My regular office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. On Development Review Board and Planning Commission meeting nights, I am available to meet with you the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 12:00 pm until 7:00 pm, and the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 11:00 am until 7:00 pm. Please feel free to stop by and visit with me. I can also be reached by telephone at (802) 229-2529 ext. 2 or email at Zoning@BerlinVT.org.

SEWER COMMISSION

By Rob Allen, Chair

COMMISSIONERS: Jim Hartson; Henry LaGue; Dana Marineau; Norbert Rhinerson

The Commission Members continue to work to improve the sewer lines and keep maintenance costs as low as possible. We are in the process of eliminating the Anderson Pump Station on Granger Road and easements are being obtained to eliminate two other pumping stations on Industrial Lane. Two new pumps have been purchased and installed at the Shaws Pump Station. This should reduce the recent high maintenance costs at this station. Maintenance Supervisor Ron Mercier has just completed cleaning selected sewer lines and has submitted a small list of repairs that need to be done to existing manholes and this work has been authorized.

The Sewer Commission has an office in the Town Office Building. This office is open from 8:00 to 3:00 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and from 8:00 to 12:00 on Thursdays. If you have questions for the Commission you can call Mary Wissell at 229-0320 Ext 307 or choose 6 from the directory.

BERLIN REAPPRAISAL TO BEGIN NEXT SUMMER

The Town of Berlin is preparing for a town-wide reappraisal to be effective April 1, 2008. The Town is required by state law to maintain property assessments close to market value with a high degree of equity.

The Town solicited and received competitive proposals from several appraisal firms. The Vermont Appraisal Company was selected for a combination of reasons including their experience in Vermont reappraisals, competitive fee structure, willingness to work with the Berlin Listers and knowledge of Central Vermont real estate values. The Selectboard is pleased with their experience and track record.

The Town expects the appraisers to inspect the interior and exterior of all properties they have permission to view. Property owners have the right to decline an inspection. Even though this true, the goal is to assure the highest level of equity possible. This is achieved by verifying factual information on the real estate through interior and exterior inspections.

The project is expected to be in full swing next summer. We expect to send letters to property owners shortly before the appraiser is due to be in your neighborhood. Appointments can be made through the Berlin Listers Office. The project is due to begin next July (2007) and be completed in the following twelve months. The Vermont Appraisal Company will be conducting four (4) public meetings during the course of the process to keep you informed. You are welcome to contact the Town Offices in the meantime at 223-4405, should there be any questions.

Note: The common level of assessment or "CLA" is a measure of the relationship between assessments and market values. The CLA is supposed to remain at or above 80% of market value. The coefficient of dispersion or "COD" is a measure of equity in assessed values. The smaller the COD the higher the degree of equity in assessed values. The COD is supposed to remain below 20.

Pat McDonald, Chair
Selectboard

BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The officers and I are eagerly awaiting the completion of the municipal building renovations. The renovations will bring in a new era of modern facilities and the ability to provide essential services to our community. We at the police department thank each of you for your guidance and assistance throughout this project.

It has been a while since I have updated the community on the demographics of the police department and its personnel.

Personnel: Our present compliment of officers is fourteen officers and one full-time staff position. We presently have seven full-time, fully certified positions. Out of the seven positions two are female with the remaining five positions filled by males. Of the seven part-time positions maintained at this time there are two female and five male officers. One of the part-time positions is currently being staffed by Sergeant Leary. His primary focus is on fraudulent criminal activities (check fraud, ATM thefts, embezzlements, etc) .The entire department with the office staff is presently five females and ten males. We maintain a very proactive and professional police unit.

Scheduling & Shifts: The full-time officers presently work a 4-10 schedule. They work four, ten hour shifts and presently have three days off. The part-time officers work schedule is very flexible with shifts presented at monthly meetings. These shifts have been varied in length from 4 -10 hour shifts. Using we attempt to have these shifts cover times when additional coverage is a benefit to the full-time staff and our citizen base. Unfortunately, the budgeted allotted for this coverage is extremely limited (less than twenty hours weekly).

Special Detail Contractual Obligations: The police department has a contract in place with the Central Vermont Medical Center. The contract initially was to provide special coverage at the hospital primarily in the Emergency Room. The days and hours were set at three nights weekly (Thursday-Friday-Saturday), with the hours of coverage between 9PM to 2AM. Over the years the contract has expanded to seven days a week schedule and coverage hours of 7PM to 3AM. At times the shift schedule changes slightly to provide for additional police related issues. These shifts are presently filled by our off-duty staff (both part-time and full-time). The entire expense for this project is paid for with CVMC funds.

Since the inception of this contract it has been a noted benefit to all participants (CVMC and the Town of Berlin). The contract has allowed us the ability to station an officer at the hospital at shift times when it was necessary to respond frequently for ongoing complaints. This has benefited the department with maintaining an officer's presence on the road within the community during these shift times. The issues encountered while stationed at CVMC were notably emergency calls that required immediate responses and were extremely time consuming. It has been a pleasure to work with the professionals at CVMC and their forward vision on community service and its benefits for our community.

During the next quarterly newsletter I would like to address current criminal activity and the police department's proactive approach to investigation and reduction of criminal behavior through patrol function activities.

In closing, we hope to see you at the Berlin Community Festival on September 23, 2006. The police department will be distributing current public safety brochures and related safety items for home use. See you there.

Respectfully,
William Jennings
Chief of Police





Municipal Office Building
108 Shed Road
Berlin, VT 05602

Berlin Community Festival and Parade
September 23, 2006