



6 Washington Street  
Barre, VT 05641  
(802) 476-7550  
[www.aldrichpubliclibrary.org](http://www.aldrichpubliclibrary.org)

February 22, 2016

Barre Town Budget Committee  
c/o Tom White, Budget Committee Chair  
PO Box 116  
Websterville, VT 05678-0116

To the members of the Barre Town Budget Committee:

Thank you for listening to the library's presentation last week. We were sorry to miss you on the bus tour last Saturday and would like to extend a special invitation to the Budget Committee to visit the Main Branch of the library and see for yourself what has been happening here. I would be very happy to give you a tour on either Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of March at 5:30pm or Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Please do let me know which time is most convenient for the committee. I would also be happy to meet with members at other times if neither of those days work.

Attached is a letter from Joe Preddy, our investment manager, that should answer the questions raised about the library's finances last week. In 2014, the York Endowment earned \$71,731 in interest, dividends, and realized gains, and it distributed \$112,564 to cover the library's operating expenses. In 2015, it earned \$45,349 and distributed \$90,301. As Mr. Preddy expresses in his letter, relying on distributions at that rate jeopardize the endowment's future. At a 5% rate of return and an 8% drawdown rate, the York endowment would last only 18 years before reaching \$0.

We are grateful for the opportunity to keep the Town updated on all that is happening at Aldrich and to ensure the library's needs are known as you undertake the difficult task of developing a municipal budget. Because we understand so well the challenges of operating within tight budget constraints, we always appreciate the support the Town shows to the library in its own budget. I hope to see you all at the library soon.

Sincerely,

Sarah Costa  
Director, Aldrich Public Library