

LYNN, LYNN, BLACKMAN & MANITSKY, P.C.

November 22, 2017

Via E-Mail: shenry@smartshifttech.com

Seth Henry
402 Fiddlehead Lane
Fayston, VT 05673

RE: *FOI Request-District Financial Information*

Dear Mr. Henry,

I have been asked by the District to respond to your November 17, 2017 request for information. The subject line references a federal law. The body of the correspondence relies on the Vermont Public Records Act. We will treat the request as coming under the VPA.

We do not raise any objections to your request at this time. They do not, on their face, seek exempt materials. However, the request is extremely broad and seeks voluminous materials. I also understand many of the documents requested are stored off-site. It is possible that once we begin production that we will see either attorney-client privileged information or student information that we will need to redact as exempt.

The District evaluated what would be necessary to respond to your request. That process required more than 30 minutes. However, the District did not deem it appropriate to bill you for the time in excess of 30 minutes. In comparing your requests with its knowledge of stored materials, it concluded that responding to your requests would absorb staff time well in excess of the statutory maximum.

You are seeking specific financial information concerning seven different entities over the course of seven years. The materials sought are stored separately by entity and with other documents that are non-responsive. Some materials are stored digitally, but will be difficult to locate, print and preview. It will be an extremely consuming task to produce the requested information.

We believe that Angela Neill is the least costly appropriate employee to conduct the work. She has the minimum knowledge necessary to discern the documents you are seeking. She is paid \$38.75 per hour, inclusive of benefits.

It is our best estimate that the production will require 158.75 hours. That equals \$6,151.56 in charges for staff time. We also estimate that copying costs will exceed \$400.

We are happy to comply with your request, but given the significant resources that would be absorbed by the work, we request payment in advance. If the charges exceed the estimated cost, we will bill you for the difference. Any overage in the amount of payment will be refunded at the conclusion of the work.


It is worth noting that much of the information that you seek is available in the WWSU audits and annual budgets. Those documents are publicly available and are online.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

LYNN, LYNN, BLACKMAN & MANITSKY, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Lynn', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Pietro J. Lynn, Esq.
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