Town of Tunbridge, Vermont 2023 Annual Report Of Town Officers



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Elected Town Officers

Moderator	Israel Provoncha	Term Expires	2024
Selectboard	John O'Brien Gary Mullen Mike McPhetres	Term Expires	2024 2025 2026
Listers	Daniel Ruddell Darlene Miller Deb Mullen	Term Expires	2024 2025 2026
Auditors	Betsy Race Anissa Morrison Linda Hoyt	Term Expires	2024 2025 2026
Town Grand Juror	Vacant	Term Expires	
First Constable	Vacant	Term Expires	2024
Second Constable	Vacant		2024
Cemetery Commissioners	Ben Tucker Baxter Doty Dennis Cilley	Term Expires	2024 2025 2026
Trustee of Public Funds	Liz York Rob Howe Matthew Frost	Term Expires	2024 2025 2026
Library Trustees	Tractile W 11050		2020
Library Trustees	Anna Dechart Lynne Hadley Laura Ketchum Michael Krauthamer Cheryl Metcalf	Term Expires	2024 2025 2025 2026 2026
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Joseph Paquin	Term Expires	2024
Justice of the Peace	Elected November 8, 2022 – term thro Gordon Barnaby, Amy Frost, Marsh John O'Brien, Helen O'Donnell, Ma	a Higgins, Robe	

Additional Town Officers and Representatives

Administrative Assistant

Mariah Cilley

ADA Coordinator

Position open

Conservation Commission

Scott Beavers Betsy Gaiser Jory Innes

Cheryl McCarty

Maureen McCullough

Eliza Minnucci Evan Reiss Michael Sacca

CVSWMD

Position open

Fence Viewers

Gary Mullen John O'Brien Jon Pease Jr.

Fire Warden

Brenda Field

Floodplain Administrator

Daniel (Rudi) Ruddell

Grants Manager

MaryAnn Caron

Green-Up Coordinator

Position open

Health Officer

Jodi Hoyt

Tunbridge Representatives to the following Boards:

First Branch Ambulance

Barbara LaFrancis Judy Tucker

Chelsea Senior Center

Susan Pirie

Planning Commission

Brenda Field Amy Frost Laura Ginsburg Israel Provoncha Dan "Rudi" Ruddell

Janet Wells Shane Young

Pound Keeper (Dogs only)

Tammy Mullen

Recycling Coordinator

Position open

Road Foreman

Rodney Hoyt

Service Officer

Mike McPhetres

Surveyor of Wood/Timber

Paul Harwood

Town Clerks

Mariah Cilley

Bonnie McCrillis, assistant

Town Hall Supervisor

Judy Howe

Town Nurse

Jodi Hoyt

Town Treasurer

Rebecca Hoyt

Tree Warden

James Ludwig

South Royalton Rescue

John Durkee Bob Sponable

Dave Kimball

Two Rivers Regional Commission

Michael Sacca

Warning of Town Meeting

The Voters of the Town of Tunbridge are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Tunbridge Central School on the 5th day of March, 2024 at 10:00 am to transact the following town business:

- Art. 1 To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.
- Art. 2 To hear the reports of Town Officers, Collector of Delinquent taxes, Auditors, Library, Listers, Cemetery Commission, Planning Commission, Recreation, Selectboard, Treasurer, and Trustees of Public Funds.
- Art. 3 Shall the voters authorize payment of real and personal property taxes on Friday, November 1, 2024, by delivery to town offices postmarked on or before that date, with delinquent taxes having an interest charge of 1 % per month or fraction thereof for the first 3 months and 1 ½ % each month pursuant 32 V.S.A. § 5136, to thereafter and an 8% penalty charged against them from the due date?
- Art. 4 Shall the voters authorize Town Treasurer, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791 to collect current taxes?
- Art. 5 Shall the voters authorize general fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$ 782,610.00 of which \$462,745.00 shall be raised by taxes?
- Art. 6 Shall the voters authorize highway fund expenditures of \$1,185,935.00 of which \$1,040,585.00 shall be raised by taxes?
- Art. 7 Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$49,500 to support the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department Inc.?

Art. 8 Shall the Town appropriate \$21,245 to support the following social services, pursuant to 24 V.S.C. ~ 2691?

ORGANIZATION	APPROPRIATION
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$1,200
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$500
Chelsea Area Senior Center	\$2,000
Clara Martin Center	\$2,019
Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation	\$677
Neighbors Helping Neighbors	\$500
Public Health Council of the Upper Valley	\$669
Safeline	\$750
Tri Valley Transport (Formerly Stagecoach)	\$1,600
The Art Bus	\$800
The White River Partnership	\$250
Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaire	ed \$150
Vermont Family Network	\$250
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$150
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100
Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH	\$2,780
One Planet After School Program	\$3000
Orange County Parent Child Center	\$1,000
Orange Country Restorative Justice Center	\$350
Orange County Child Advocacy Center	\$1500
White River Natural Resource Conservation	\$1000
TOTAL	\$21,245

Art. 9 Shall the town allow the Selectboard to move ahead with a noise ordinance following state statute?

Art. 10 To elect all Town Officers as required by law

Selectboard for a term of 3 years

Lister for a term of 3 years

Lister for a term of 2 years

Auditor for a term of 3 years

Cemetery Commission for a term of 3 years

Trustee of Public Funds for a term of 3 years

Library Trustee for a term of 3 years

Collector of delinquent taxes for a term of 1 year

First Constable for a term of 1 year

Second constable for a term of 1 year

Town Grand Juror for a term of 1 year

Art. 11 Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to adopt the Declaration of Inclusion?

Art. 12 If there are surplus funds from this current fiscal year (FY24) shall the voters approve the surplus funds to be moved to the funds that the Selectboard sees fit?

Art. 13 Other Business

Voter Registration Information:

Beginning January 1, 2017, eligible persons may register to vote on any day up to and including the day of the election. Registration is available during all normal business hours of your town or city clerk's office on days preceding the election and during polling hours on Election Day. 17 V.S.A. § 2144

You may also register to vote online.

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Dated this	day of	, 20

Pre-town meeting will be Tuesday, February 20th, 2024 Selectboard Meeting via Zoom at 6pm and at the Town Offices (find link on Town website, under Selectboard)

Selectboard Chair	
Vice Chair	
Secretary	

TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 7, 2023

Please note that these are condensed minutes. Original minutes are available at the Town Clerk's office or tunbridgevt.org

- Art. 1. Israel Provoncha elected Moderator for ensuing year.
- Art. 2. Town Officers Report read and accepted.
- Art. 3. The Town voted to pay real or personal property taxes on or before November 1st of 2023.
- Art. 4. The Town authorized the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes.
- Art. 5. The Town voted to approve the budget of the General Fund for the fiscal year 2023-2024. The Town voted to approve general fund expenditures of \$741,554.96 of which \$450,239.96 shall be raised by taxes.
- Art. 6. The Town voted to approve the budget of the Highway Fund for the fiscal year 2023-2024. The Town voted to approve the highway fund expenditures of \$1,114,593.75 of which \$ 969,243.75 shall be raised by taxes.
- Art. 7. The Town voted to appropriate \$58,800.00 to the Tunbridge Fire Department, Inc.
- Art. 8. The Town voted to appropriate \$15,395.00 to support various organizations.
- Art. 9. The Town voted to establish a reserve fund to be called the ARPA Fund to be used for funding ARPA selected projects in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804.
- Art. 10 The Town voted move surplus funds from FY'23 into the ARPA Fund.
- Art. 11. Elected officers are required by law.

Three-year terms: Selectboard: Mike McPhetres, Lister: No nominations, Auditor: Linda Hoyt, Cemetery Commission: Dennis Cilley, Trustee of Public Funds: Matt Frost, Library Trustees: Michael Krathamer and Cheryl Metcalf.

One-year terms: Collector of Delinquent Taxes: Joseph Paquin, First Constable: No nominations, Second Constable: No nominations, Town Grand Juror: No nominations.

- Art. 12 The Town voted to create a Highway Building Capital Improvement Fund.
- Art. 13. The Town voted to equally divide the surplus funds from FY22 between reducing taxes and the Highway Building Capital Improvement Fund.
- Art. 14. Other Business:

Kay Jorgensen: Chili Cookoff on Saturday. Friday March 31st will be the Winter Evening talk on bears. Fred Pond: Questions about the Transfer station hours. Expanded hours during the pandemic. Wednesdays and Saturday hours will be set for the foreseeable future. John O'Brien gives an overview of what is going on in the State Legislature. Randy Chapman asks O'Brien to talk about the Affordable Heating Act. Betsy Gaiser asks if there is a bill to reorganize the County Sheriff's Department. Joe Paquin states that there is something in the works

Number of voters on the checklist- 1133 Number of voters in attendance- 141

Selectboard Report

As a Selectboard, we try to keep it simple. We try to be accessible, transparent and fair. We'll try to keep this report the same way.

If our tax dollars match our values, it's clear what we value in Tunbridge: education, roads, and a well-run town. The Selectboard is responsible for those last two.

Running a municipality has never been as challenging as it is today. Tax payers are maxed out, and yet, year after year, budgets go up, mandates—funded and unfunded—multiply, extreme weather events are becoming increasingly extreme and alarmingly frequent. Climate change alone could bankrupt Tunbridge. What's to be done?

We try to strike a balance, nothing fancy. Our budget for the coming year is up a tad, but increases are either unavoidable (like health insurance hikes) or reflect policy (we value our town employees). Every year, we go over every line item in the budget and make an estimate of what to do in the coming fiscal year: a little up, level fund, or trim. This budget is put together with common sense and a bit of science. Having access to past years' budgets and actuals gives us a pretty good indicator of what future revenue and expenses might look like. We do make mistakes, but more often it's a case of "Didn't see that coming." War in Ukraine. Pandemic. Floods. Mudpocalypse. As our Road Crew Foreperson, Rodney Hoyt, said recently, "It seems like we're getting more mud seasons than winter now." Our budget reflects the day-to-day necessities of a municipality, and, when we see an opportunity, it follows that old motto: Be prepared.

GENERAL FUND

- The proposed General Fund budget for FY 24/25 is \$782,610.00, of which \$462,745.00 is to be raised in taxes.
- > The proposed General Fund does not change the tax rate. The budget is up by 3%.
- The federal COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) is at 2.2%. Raises for non-highway employees are 5%.

In the last year, with much resident input, we chose how to spend the ARPA funds made available to every town in Vermont. Monies were set aside to weatherize the Town Offices Building and to retrofit the electrical wiring in the Town Hall. We invested in the South Royalton Rescue squad's future headquarters and a First Branch health hub. We funded a solar array for our municipal buildings and the digitization of land records. No big headline stuff, but commitments that will either save taxpayers money, preserve our assets or put a down payment on our collective well-being.

We decided to support our Fire Department's need for a new engine, and our Town Nurse's request for more hours to meet demand. To figure out a long-term policing solution is a priority in the coming year—it will certainly cost far more than we've ever spent on law enforcement, but being safe in our town is a value we can all agree on.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The proposed Highway Budget for FY 24/25 is \$1,185,935.00 of which \$1,040,585.00 is to be raised by taxes.

The proposed Highway Budget will raise the tax rate by about 5 cents. This is a budget increase of 7%. Raises for Highway Department employees are 10%.

Selectboard Report, continued

One line item you never see is "Experience." How much is experience worth? Our Road Crew understands water and weather better than most meteorologists. They know every ditch and every culvert on every road in town. A milk truck driver recently told our Chair that of all the towns he has to pick up milk in, Tunbridge has the best-maintained roads. Our hats are off to our Road Crew—and the contractors who work with them (starting with Loftus Construction). Year in, year out, they do a great job with a tight budget. And things don't always go as planned. In addition to the mercurial weather, increasingly, new equipment doesn't work quite right; "brand new" isn't a synonym for "no problems." Fortunately, a warranty usually covers the fix, but not having a dump truck, the grader or loader or backhoe available makes any job that much harder for the Highway Department. But somehow, they keep on truckin'. They are a resilient bunch.

If we were to drive through Tunbridge, on VT Route 110, where do we see evidence of community? Where do we see cars parked? That's a sure sign of participation. In North Tunbridge, we pass the school, its parking lot packed during school days, but just as much when a basketball game is going on in the gym or skaters are making figure 8' on the rink out back. Further along there might be harvest supper or wild game supper at the Grange. Across the road, the North Tunbridge General Store is bustling, perhaps a big buck is being reported. What are all those pickup trucks parked across the First Branch? It must be Rec Department Softball Tournament in full swing. If it's Wednesday night, the Tunbridge General Store might be humming with live music; if it's Friday, the Tunbridge Library might be SRO listening to a Winter Evenings speaker; If it's a Saturday night, a Shindig might be dancing the night away at the Town Hall; if it's Sunday, the Church has filled both sides of the street, if it's Tuesday night and Legal Trails are on the Selectboard agenda, the Town Offices might be a hot spot. The Memorial Day Parade fills every parking spot in the whole village. The Tunbridge World's Fair fills the whole village and every lawn, too. We also notice when the Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival, or the Ranger or the Sheep and Wool Festival are in town. For a rural town of 1,300, we offer a lot. We are a community of communities. If it's the first Tuesday in March, there's another chance to participate. It's Town Meeting Day in Vermont. Come, listen, speak, vote, amend, run for office, eat good food, leave with a pie.

Gary Mullen, Chair (802-889-3323, barn or 802-889-3242, house; theflyingfarmer29@gmail.com) Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair (802-272-6108, cell or 802-728-3390, shop; farmallfix@yahoo.com) John O'Brien, Clerk (802-889-3474; bellwetherfilms@yahoo.com) Administrative Assistant, tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com
For office hours visit tunbridgevt.org.



Howe Lane, July 2023

General Fund Report & Proposal

				Actual FY '24	Proposed
	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	as of 12/31/23	Budget FY '25
General Fund Income					
Tax Revenues					
Current Property Taxes Collected	\$375,557.25	\$198,500.31	\$450,239.96	\$189,619.70	\$462,740.19
Property Tax Adjustment Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
School Overpayment	\$0.00	\$21,639.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education Billing Fee Retention	\$0.00	\$4,436.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Deficit Tax Collected	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Civil Fines	\$100.00	\$167.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
State Current Use Payment	\$200,000.00	\$243,642.50	\$220,000.00	\$242,350.00	\$230,000.00
PILOT	\$1,900.00	\$2,463.67	\$2,000.00	\$2,643.67	\$2,400.00
State Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Planning Commission Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CVSWMD Grant	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$478.40	\$0.00
Nurse Grant		\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$328.72	\$0.00
ARPA Grant Revenue		\$173,547.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
General Fund Bank Interest	\$1,000.00	\$4,860.16	\$1,500.00	\$3,198.50	\$2,000.00
Refunds and Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$2,690.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$578,557.25	\$658,748.11	\$673,839.96	\$438,618.99	\$697,240.19
Clerk Revenues					
Town Donations	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dog Licenses	\$900.00	\$987.50	\$900.00	\$70.00	\$900.00
Liquor	\$115.00	\$162.50	\$115.00	\$185.00	\$165.00
Marriage Licenses	\$200.00	\$130.00	\$200.00	\$75.00	\$200.00
Green Mountain Pass	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$8.00	\$0.00
Property Posting Fees	\$0.00	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00
Cannabis Fees	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Recording Fees	\$15,000.00	\$16,294.50	\$15,000.00	\$3,404.00	\$15,000.00
Copy and Vault Fees	\$3,000.00	\$4,510.25	\$3,000.00	·	\$3,500.00
Subtotal	\$19,215.00				
Miscellaneous Income	• •	• •	. ,	. ,	. ,
Grant Manager Grant Reimbursement			\$14,000.00		
Lister Education Grant			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Treasurer Income					
Building Rent	\$500.00	\$2,240.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,390.00	\$2,000.00
School Treasurer Fee	7500.00	72,2 1 0.00	71,000.00	72,330.00	72,000.00
Subtotal	\$500.00	\$2,240.00	\$15,000.00	\$2,390.00	\$2,000.00

	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	Actual FY '24 as of 12/31/23	Proposed Budget FY '25
Delinquent Tax Income	Januaget 1 1 20	7.000.01110			20.0.80011 20
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$5,000.00	\$16,212.88	\$5,000.00	\$3,655.46	\$5,000.00
Penalty on Delinquent Taxes	\$3,000.00	\$17,015.06	\$3,000.00	\$13,896.61	\$3,000.00
Delinquent Taxes Collected	\$0.00	\$220,398.12	1 2 / 2 2 2 2	\$173,889.08	1 - 7 - 2 - 2 - 2
Tax Sale Fees	\$0.00			. ,	
Subtotal	\$8,000.00	\$253,626.06	\$8,000.00	\$191,441.15	\$8,000.00
Transfer Station Income	-	-		-	
Transfer Station Tickets	\$25,000.00	\$30,460.63	\$25,000.00	\$12,868.93	\$25,000.00
Metal Recycling & Transfer Income	\$500.00	\$313.20	\$500.00	\$483.00	\$500.00
Subtotal	\$25,500.00	\$30,773.83	\$25,500.00	\$13,351.93	\$25,500.00
Total Revenues	\$631,772.25	\$967,797.75	\$741,554.96	\$651,877.02	\$752,605.19
General Fund Expenses					
Selectboard Expenses					
Selectboard Wage	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00
Selectboard Employer FICA	\$313.00	\$1,063.16	\$500.00	\$370.64	\$500.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00	\$795.25	\$0.00	\$52.42	\$0.00
Legal Fees	\$2,000.00	\$16,152.75	\$10,000.00	\$8,156.40	\$15,000.00
Town Audit	\$15,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
Consulting Fees	\$1,000.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Training	\$2,000.00	\$200.00	\$2,000.00	\$484.00	\$1,000.00
Staff Appreciation	\$600.00	\$863.60	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Snow Removal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mowing & Property Maintenance	\$1,400.00	\$160.00	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00
Copier Rental & Maintenance	\$2,500.00	\$2,436.73	\$2,500.00	\$1,122.97	\$2,500.00
Liability Insurance	\$20,000.00	\$26,598.59	\$20,000.00	\$5,805.03	\$27,000.00
VLCT Unemployment	\$750.00	\$761.00	\$1,000.00	\$111.00	\$1,000.00
Workers' Compensation	\$16,000.00	\$18,616.91	\$16,000.00	\$6,182.97	\$18,000.00
Postage	\$3,500.00	\$3,347.22	\$3,500.00	\$1,863.50	\$3,500.00
Printing	\$500.00	\$117.72	\$500.00	\$210.50	\$500.00
Tunbridge Quarterly	\$3,500.00	\$3,787.72	\$3,500.00	\$1,825.25	\$4,000.00
Mileage	\$200.00	\$161.79	\$500.00	\$199.12	\$500.00
General Office Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$5,121.02	\$5,000.00	\$4,091.74	\$5,000.00
Street Lights	\$5,500.00	\$5,829.45	\$5,500.00	\$2,986.46	\$6,000.00
Grant Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Computers & Office Equipment	\$20,000.00	\$12,340.65	\$15,000.00	\$3,719.22	\$15,000.00
Operating Dues	\$6,500.00	\$7,071.76	\$8,000.00	\$6,828.86	\$8,000.00
County Taxes	\$40,000.00	\$38,457.60	\$40,000.00	\$39,435.60	\$40,000.00
Tax Abatements	\$0.00	\$23,327.91	\$0.00	\$4,167.23	\$0.00
State Payment Overpayment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	Actual FY '24 as of 12/31/23	Proposed Budget FY '25
Debt Service: Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Debt Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
General Office Miscellaneous	\$7,000.00	\$5,458.14	\$4,000.00	\$3,320.95	\$4,000.00
Subtotal	\$158,313.00	\$196,068.97	\$159,750.00	\$94,983.86	\$173,750.00
Administrative Assistant Wages & Benefits					
Administrative Assistant Wages	\$7,800.00	\$0.00	\$7,800.00	\$0.00	\$7,800.00
AA Employer FICA	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
AA Health Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$8,400.00	\$0.00	\$8,400.00	\$0.00	\$8,400.00
Town Clerk Expenses					
Town Clerk Wage	\$30,500.00	\$30,410.32	\$33,500.00	\$16,678.74	\$35,025.19
Assistant Town Clerk Wage	\$4,500.00	\$9,886.98	\$16,800.00	\$6,130.00	\$16,380.00
Town Clerk Employer FICA	\$3,500.00	\$3,659.91	\$3,800.00	\$2,050.79	\$3,980.00
Town Clerk Employer Contributions	\$2,021.25	\$2,171.45	\$2,021.25	\$1,085.76	\$2,101.00
Town Clerk Health Insurance	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.20	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.10	\$8,000.00
Town Clerk Dental	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Town Clerk Vision	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Town Clerk State Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$48,521.25	\$54,128.86	\$64,121.25	\$29,945.39	\$65,486.19
Lister Expenses					
Lister Wages	\$30,700.00	\$24,068.93	\$31,700.00	\$9,710.81	\$28,035.00
Lister Employer FICA	\$2,350.00	\$1,841.30	\$2,300.00	\$742.91	\$2,145.00
Lister Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$33,050.00	\$25,910.23	\$34,000.00	\$10,453.72	\$30,180.00
Treasurer Expenses					
Treasurer Wages	\$29,000.00	\$28,785.07	\$32,100.00	\$16,009.00	\$33,635.00
School Treasurer Stipend	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Assistant Treasurer Wage	\$2,500.00	\$2,870.20	\$2,000.00	\$2,603.41	\$8,320.00
Treasurer Employer FICA	\$3,200.00	\$2,421.63	\$2,750.00	\$1,423.88	\$3,220.00
Treasurer Employer Contribution	\$1,260.00	\$1,439.25	\$1,685.25	\$840.47	\$1,850.00
Treasurer Group Insurance	\$9,000.00	\$9,761.09	\$10,500.00	\$5,352.23	\$13,000.00
Treasurer Dental	\$500.00	\$406.44	\$500.00	\$203.22	\$450.00
Treasurer Vision	\$200.00	\$151.08	\$200.00	\$75.54	\$165.00
Treasurer Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$45,660.00	\$45,834.76	\$49,735.25	\$26,507.75	\$60,640.00

	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	Actual FY '24 as of 12/31/23	Proposed Budget FY '25
Auditor Expenses					
Auditor Wages	\$4,000.00	\$2,845.05	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Auditor Employer FICA	\$420.00	\$217.64	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Postage for Town Report	\$600.00	\$627.19	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Printing of the Town Report	\$3,600.00	\$7,800.00	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00
Subtotal	\$8,620.00	\$11,489.88	\$9,600.00	\$0.00	\$9,550.00
Delinquent Tax Collector					
Delinquent Tax Collector Wages	\$0.00	\$14,899.46	\$0.00	\$12,208.14	\$0.00
Delinquent Tax Collector Employer FICA	\$1,000.00	\$1,139.82	\$1,000.00	\$933.92	\$1,500.00
Tax Sale Fees	\$0.00	\$461.55	\$0.00	\$133.09	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$1,000.00	\$16,500.83	\$1,000.00	\$13,275.15	\$1,500.00
Election Expenses					
Election Wages	\$3,000.00	\$235.32	\$660.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Election Stipends	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Election Employer FICA	\$200.00	\$18.00	\$115.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Election Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Election Machine	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Subtotal	\$5,200.00	\$253.32	\$775.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00
Technology: IT Stipend	\$1,077.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grants Manager					
Grants Manager Wages	\$0.00	\$18,275.00	\$28,000.00	\$12,087.50	\$0.00
Grants Manager FICA	\$0.00	\$1,398.07	\$2,000.00	\$924.75	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$19,673.07	\$30,000.00	\$13,012.25	\$0.00
Public Safety Expenses					
Ambulance Services	\$56,740.00	\$56,737.00	\$66,078.46	\$49,460.22	\$70,034.00
Sheriff	\$10,000.00	\$4,927.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,756.25	\$10,000.00
Dog Catcher Wages	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Dog Catcher FICA	\$40.00	\$38.25	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
Constable Wages	\$800.00		\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Constable FICA	\$70.00		\$70.00	\$0.00	\$70.00
Health Officer	\$400.00		\$400.00	\$7.12	\$800.00
Flood Coordinator Stipend	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Flood Coordinator FICA	\$40.00	\$38.25	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00
Emergency Preparedness	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Town Nurse Wages	\$12,000.00	\$5,685.00	\$18,000.00	\$8,030.92	\$24,000.00
Town Nurse FICA	\$920.00	\$434.92	\$920.00	\$598.43	\$1,800.00
Nurse Grant Expenses		\$829.48		\$154.01	
Subtotal	\$85,010.00	\$69,689.90	\$95,468.46	\$60,006.95	\$111,704.00

				Actual FY '24	Proposed
	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	as of 12/31/23	Budget FY '25
Transfer Station Expenses					
Transfer Station Attendant Wages	\$9,400.00	\$9,617.59	\$10,300.00	\$5,265.79	\$11,440.00
Transfer Station Attendant FICA	\$720.00	\$735.60	\$800.00	\$402.76	\$875.00
Trash Disposal	\$20,000.00	\$17,783.42	\$20,000.00	\$10,611.42	\$22,000.00
Removal of Metal Bin	\$4,000.00	\$3,029.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,595.00	\$4,000.00
Recycling Disposal	\$10,000.00	\$7,513.56	\$10,000.00	\$4,873.34	\$10,000.00
Hauling of Trash and Recycling	\$22,000.00	\$18,987.55	\$22,000.00	\$8,805.30	\$22,000.00
Compost Fees	\$2,500.00	\$2,220.40	\$2,200.00	\$1,146.60	\$2,300.00
Trash Container Rental Fee	\$3,000.00	\$3,050.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,575.00	\$3,200.00
Casella Fees	\$3,000.00	\$8,620.91	\$10,000.00	\$3,185.08	\$10,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,500.00	\$1,516.09	\$2,000.00	\$17.11	\$2,000.00
Propane	\$400.00	\$197.20	\$400.00	\$71.82	\$300.00
CVSWD GRANT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$193.40	\$0.00
MSP Grant Expense	\$0.00	\$285.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$1,500.00	\$60.88	\$0.00	\$71.96	\$1,500.00
Grounds Maintenance FICA	\$200.00	\$4.67	\$0.00	\$5.50	\$200.00
Subtotal	\$78,220.00	\$73,621.87	\$84,700.00	\$38,820.08	\$89,815.00
Library Building Expenses					
Repair & Maintenance	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Town Hall Expenses					
Town Hall Supervisor Wages	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$763.50	\$2,000.00
Town Hall Cleaning	\$1,900.00	\$1,776.50	\$2,000.00	\$936.00	\$2,000.00
Town Hall Supervisor FICA	\$115.00	\$114.72	\$115.00	\$58.40	\$190.00
Town Hall Cleaning FICA	\$150.00	\$135.95	\$190.00	\$71.61	\$190.00
Cleaning of Town Hall	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Repair & Maintenance	\$6,500.00	\$8,383.75	\$6,500.00	\$370.00	\$2,000.00
Phone & Internet	\$1,000.00	\$1,341.26	\$1,000.00	\$625.62	\$1,300.00
Maintenance Supplies	\$150.00	\$22.87	\$150.00	\$212.29	\$150.00
Electricity	\$2,000.00	\$1,208.98	\$2,000.00	\$645.08	\$2,000.00
Propane	\$400.00	\$19.85	\$400.00	\$583.38	\$750.00
Heating Oil	\$4,000.00	\$6,043.79	\$7,000.00	\$1,598.07	\$7,000.00
Deposit Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Town Hall Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$17,715.00	\$20,797.67	\$20,855.00	\$5,913.95	\$17,580.00
School Generator Expense					
School Generator Repairs &					
Maintenance	\$850.00	\$0.00	·	\$0.00	
Subtotal	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$850.00

	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23		Actual FY '24 as of 12/31/23	Proposed Budget FY '25
Town Office Expenses					
Town Office Cleaning Wages	\$3,800.00	\$3,425.50	\$4,050.00	\$1,692.00	\$4,050.00
Town Office Cleaning FICA	\$300.00	\$262.03	\$300.00	\$129.49	\$300.00
Cleaning of Town Office	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Town Office Repair & Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$610.48	\$3,000.00	\$1,925.81	\$3,000.00
Phone & Internet	\$4,200.00	\$2,672.12	\$4,200.00	\$1,286.10	\$2,600.00
Maintenance Supplies	\$500.00	\$304.88	\$250.00	\$44.96	\$500.00
Electricity	\$2,500.00	\$1,296.77	\$2,500.00	\$738.31	\$2,000.00
Generator Propane	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6.92	\$1,000.00
Generator Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Heating Oil	\$3,500.00	\$3,289.05	\$7,000.00	\$1,015.75	\$5,000.00
Subtotal	\$17,800.00	\$11,860.83	\$21,300.00	\$6,839.34	\$18,950.00
Fund Transfers					
Transfer to Recreation Fund	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
Transfer to Cemetery Fund	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$19,000.00
Transfer to Library Fund	\$77,036.00	\$77,036.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
Transfer to Reserve Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer to Capital Improvements	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Appropriations	\$18,438.00	\$18,438.00		\$15,395.00	
Transfer to TVFD Equipment	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
Transfer to ARPA Fund		\$220,991.40		\$0.00	
Fire Department Appropriation	\$45,500.00	\$45,500.00		\$58,800.00	
Subtotal	\$193,974.00	\$414,965.40	\$156,000.00	\$230,195.00	\$158,000.00
Total Expenses	\$636,097.00	\$961,750.59	\$741,554.96	\$529,953.44	\$752,605.19
Surplus Deficit	-\$4,324.75	\$6,047.16	\$0.00	\$121,923.58	\$0.00



Road damage on Howe Lane, July 2023

Highway Report and Proposal

Highway Income

	8			Actual FY '24	Proposed
	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	as of 12/28/23	Budget FY '25
Highway Revenue					
Deficit Tax	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Overweight Permits	\$350.00	\$360.00	\$350.00	\$5.00	\$350.00
State/ERAF Grant Money	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$29,570.32	
State Aide for Roads	\$120,000.00	\$128,730.60	\$130,000.00	\$132,545.38	\$130,000.00
Other State Grants	\$0.00	\$42,900.00		\$0.00	
Federal/FEMA Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
ARPA Grant	\$0.00	\$224,341.08		\$0.00	
Metal Recycling	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Refunds and Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$2,877.94		\$0.00	
Diesel Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Insurance Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Property Tax	\$873,205.13	\$873,205.13	\$969,243.75	\$969,243.75	\$1,065,585.00
Trustees of Public Funds Transfer	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
Auditor Adjustment	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Total Revenue	\$1,013,555.13	\$1,287,414.75	\$1,114,593.75	\$1,131,364.45	\$1,210,935.00

Highway Expenses

				Actual FY '24	
				as of	Proposed
	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	12/28/23	Budget FY '25
Highway Expenses					
Highway Employee Expenses					
Foreman Wages	\$71,300.00	\$36,730.70	\$81,000.00	\$39,197.50	\$85,050.00
Road Crew Wages	\$177,750.00	\$169,222.13	\$202,500.00	\$95,303.65	\$212,605.00
Garage Cleaner	\$1,880.00	\$858.50	\$1,010.00	\$468.00	\$1,010.00
Highway Employer FICA	\$19,100.00	\$15,755.56	\$21,700.00	\$10,289.45	\$22,770.00
Garage Cleaner FICA	\$150.00	\$65.68	\$80.00	\$35.75	\$80.00
Retirement Contributions	\$13,075.13	\$10,297.70	\$14,883.75	\$7,061.35	\$16,400.00
Highway Group Health Insurance	\$42,500.00	\$46,636.29	\$50,100.00	\$25,571.79	\$55,000.00
Vision	\$800.00	\$671.52	\$800.00	\$335.76	\$700.00
Dental	\$1,900.00	\$1,701.60	\$1,900.00	\$850.80	\$1,800.00
Uniforms	\$4,000.00	\$4,241.82	\$4,500.00	\$2,376.10	\$5,000.00
Subtotal	\$332,455.13	\$286,181.50	\$378,473.75	\$181,490.15	\$400,415.00

Highway Report and Proposal, continued

	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	Actual FY '24 as of 12/28/23	Proposed Budget FY '25
Highway Maintenance	Dauget 11 23	Actual 1 23	Duugetti 24	us 01 12/20/25	buuget 11 23
Garage Repair & Maintenance	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$720.94	\$1,500.00
Radios	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
1995 Truck #1 Maintenance	\$6,000.00	\$2,768.33	\$7,200.00	-\$1,813.07	\$4,000.00
2015 Freightliner #2 Maintenance	\$8,000.00	\$6,861.29	\$9,600.00	\$924.28	\$3,000.00
2017 Freightliner #3 Maintenance	\$7,500.00	\$7,787.55	\$9,000.00	\$1,952.05	\$7,000.00
Chevy Truck #4 Maintenance	\$6,000.00	\$2,265.54	\$7,200.00	\$1,867.77	\$3,000.00
2009 Freightliner #5 Maintenance	\$0.00	\$2,877.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2014 Freightliner #6 Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$37,552.41	\$12,000.00	-\$7,920.71	\$12,000.00
2011 Case Loader Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$540.05	\$3,600.00	\$1,678.15	\$3,600.00
1998 Case Backhoe Maintenance	\$1,500.00	\$936.53	\$1,800.00	\$2,183.01	\$1,800.00
2005 John Deere Grader Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$6,248.49	\$12,000.00	\$81.98	\$5,000.00
2006 Challenger Tractor Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$848.73	\$3,600.00	\$115.95	\$1,500.00
Rake Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Generator Maintenance	\$200.00	\$91.85	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$240.00
Chainsaw Maintenance	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$240.00	\$6.97	\$240.00
Steam Cleaner Maintenance	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$240.00
Sander Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00
Plow Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$636.08	\$3,600.00
Hone Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Chloride tank maintenance	\$200.00	\$157.95	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Tool Maintenance	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Equipment Rental	\$1,000.00	\$257.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Contracted Services	\$30,000.00	\$18,911.00	\$36,000.00	\$16,441.00	\$36,000.00
Subtotal	\$102,300.00	\$88,104.66	\$114,360.00	\$18,374.40	\$89,370.00
Utilities			\$0.00		
Phone	\$750.00	\$727.05	\$900.00	\$295.72	\$750.00
Electricity	\$2,800.00	\$2,396.72	\$3,360.00	\$1,056.55	\$3,000.00
Heating Oil	\$8,500.00	\$9,437.24	\$10,000.00	\$764.83	\$10,000.00
Subtotal	\$12,050.00	\$12,561.01	\$14,260.00	\$2,117.10	\$13,750.00

Highway Report and Proposal, continued

	Budget FY '23	Actual FY '23	Budget FY '24	Actual FY '24 as of 12/28/23	Proposed Budget FY '25
Highway Supplies					9
Garage Supplies	\$8,000.00	\$9,196.97	\$9,600.00	\$5,963.14	\$10,000.00
Maintenance Supplies	\$15,000.00	\$23,194.76	\$30,000.00	\$3,667.11	\$30,000.00
Diesel	\$50,000.00	\$73,101.72	\$75,000.00	\$30,554.78	\$75,000.00
Gas	\$1,500.00	\$1,359.96	\$2,000.00	\$947.37	\$2,000.00
Gravel	\$150,000.00	\$146,795.95	\$175,000.00	\$130,909.95	\$200,000.00
Sand	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$17,990.00	\$90,000.00
Road Salt	\$25,000.00	\$12,821.74	\$25,000.00	\$6,500.67	\$25,000.00
Chloride	\$20,000.00	\$5,977.50	\$10,000.00	\$6,900.00	\$7,500.00
Culverts	\$12,000.00	\$12,503.60	\$15,000.00	\$4,190.00	\$15,000.00
Signs	\$1,500.00	\$662.37	\$2,000.00	\$3,280.61	\$2,000.00
Guardrails	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$8,059.88	\$1,000.00
Subtotal	\$369,000.00	\$370,614.57	\$434,600.00	\$218,963.51	\$457,500.00
Highway Projects					
Flood Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60,440.01	\$0.00
Grant Materials	\$0.00	\$3,675.60	\$0.00	\$7,070.50	\$0.00
Grant Work	\$0.00	\$74,550.00	\$0.00	\$29,046.23	\$0.00
Garage Building Improvements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$391.30	\$0.00
Bridge Repair	\$20,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
Subtotal	\$20,000.00	\$79,725.60	\$20,000.00	\$96,948.04	\$20,000.00
Highway Miscellaneous					
Transfer to ARPA	\$0.00	\$270,612.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Garage Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	\$2,900.82	\$1,000.00	\$664.86	\$3,000.00
Miscellaneous Materials	\$750.00	\$714.45	\$900.00	\$602.08	\$900.00
Subtotal	\$1,750.00	\$274,227.41	\$1,900.00	\$1,266.94	\$3,900.00
Fund Transfers					
Transfer to Equipment Fund	\$106,000.00	\$106,000.00	\$106,000.00	\$106,000.00	\$131,000.00
Transfer to Paving Fund	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
Transfer to Disaster Relief	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00		\$0.00	\$25,000.00
Transfer to Garage Building Fund					\$25,000.00
Subtotal	\$176,000.00	\$176,000.00	\$151,000.00	\$151,000.00	\$226,000.00
Total Expense	\$1,001,505.13	\$1,287,414.75	\$1,114,593.75	\$670,160.14	\$1,210,935.00
Surplus/Deficit	\$12,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$461,204.31	\$0.00

Appropriations Proposal

ORGANIZATION	APPROPRIATION	REPORT PAGE NUMBER
ORGANIZATION	AITKOTKIATION	NONIDER
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$1,200	50
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$500	49
Chelsea Area Senior Center	\$2,000	53
Clara Martin Center	\$2,019	54
Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation	\$677	55
Neighbors Helping Neighbors	\$500	48
One Planet After School Program	\$3,000	56
Orange County Child Advocacy Center	\$1,500	57
Orange County Parent Child Center	\$1,000	56
Orange County Restorative Justice Center	\$350	58
Public Health Council of the Upper Valley	\$669	59
Safeline	\$750	60
The Arts Bus	\$800	61
The White River Partnership	\$250	69
Tri-Valley Transit	\$1,660	62
Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$150	64
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$150	65
Vermont Family Network	\$250	*
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100	67
Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH	\$2,780	68
White River Natural Resource Conservation	\$1,000	*
Total Requested	\$21,305	

^{*}Auditors' note: Report not received.



Route 110/Monarch Hill Box Bridge, Summer 2023

2024 Dog and Wolf Hybrid Licenses

A dog or wolf-hybrid **MUST** be licensed on or before APRIL 1, 2024, or when it becomes six (6) months of age during the year or within 30 days of acquiring the dog or wolf-hybrid. I cannot accept a certificate of rabies unless a licensed veterinarian administered the vaccine in accordance with State Statues section 3581 of Title 20. Spayed and neutering certificates must be filed when licensing.

For the purpose of licensing a dog or wolf-hybrid, a current vaccination against rabies means that:

- A dog or wolf-hybrid of less than one year of age has been vaccinated.
- A dog or wolf-hybrid of one or more years, but less than two (2) years of age has been vaccinated within the preceding 12 months; or
- A dog or wolf-hybrid of two (2) or more years of age has been vaccinated within the preceding thirty-six (36) months.

Rabies vaccinations are good for three (3) years if the dog is two (2) or more years of age.

The fees below include a \$5.00 assessment for each license sold. The Clerk shall forward the fees collected to the State Treasurer's Office on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of January, May and September each year. The funds collected under the subsection are to be used for the Rabies Control Program and the Spay/Neuter your pet program. There is a 50% penalty for late license registration. Puppies, new dog(s) or wolf-hybrid(s) licensed after October 01, pay half the yearly license amount.

License Fees: \$9.00 Neutered/Spayed Dog or Wolf-Hybrid \$13.00 Non-neutered/non-spayed Dog or Wolf-Hybrid

Dog ReportJanuary 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Sex	#	Rate	Fees	State	Farm	Late Fees	Total Fees
Neutered	76	\$4	\$304	\$386	-	\$38	\$728
Spayed	84	\$4	\$336	\$420	-	\$30	\$786
Male	6	\$8	\$48	\$30	\$10	\$8	\$96
Female	11	\$8	\$88	\$55	-	\$8	\$151
Female	10	\$4	\$40	\$50	-	\$8	\$98
Male	7	\$4	\$28	\$35	-	\$2	\$65
Male	1	\$30	\$30	\$5	-	-	\$35
Neutered	1	\$9	-	-	-	-	\$9
Male	1	\$26	\$26	\$5	-	-	\$31
Totals	208		\$910	\$996	\$10	\$94	\$2,010

Respectfully submitted, Mariah Cilley Town Clerk

Treasurer's Report

This year has been a nail biter so far! I thought last year was a rough one. No one prepared me for this past year. I know this report is supposed to just focus on the fiscal year that ended in June of 2023, but so much has happened since then that I am sure many of you are curious as to how we are handling everything and what it looks like for our finances.

First, last year at Town Meeting we voted to move all surplus into the ARPA fund. We voted to do this because of how as a town decided to use our ARPA funds. We used them to pay our operating costs, more specifically our payroll costs for both the General Fund and the Highway fund. This meant that I used money kept in the ARPA fund to pay all the employee costs including benefits. Then we put all the surplus from using ARPA money back into the ARPA fund so that we can use the money on the projects the selectboard had selected. Unfortunately, I did not consider the wording of that article when it was written last year which stated we must move all surplus into that fund. Which resulted in all surplus money, not just surplus created by the ARPA funds, had to be transferred in to ARPA fund account. After a discussion with the selectboard we moved the surplus not associated with the ARPA funds into the disaster relief fund.

Which brings us to our current fiscal year and the flooding that happened in July. We are very fortunate for the forethought of our road foreman and selectboard to create the disaster relief fund a couple of years ago. The money we have put aside in the disaster relief fund to pay for most of the damages of this summer's flooding. We are still working with FEMA to try to recover some of that money. At this time, we are uncertain if we will need to borrow money to finish the fiscal year.

I want to make my usual reminders about tax season. April is right around the corner, and we are either in the middle of our tax returns or thinking about them soon. Homestead Declarations are due April 15th. It is important that you do this paperwork with the State of Vermont on or before that deadline, even if you ask for an extension on your tax returns. You can always amend the forms with the State if things change. If you try to file after this date, there will be a fine for doing so on your property taxes. If you need help with this process do not be afraid to ask me or a Lister. We are always happy to help. If you do not do your own taxes, please check with whomever files them to make sure that your Homestead Declaration was filed. Out of state tax preparers may not know to file the Homestead Declaration form.

Other information, we do have a really lovely credit card system set up on our website now. You can either use a credit card with a 3% transaction fee charged by the company or you can pay like you were using a check which comes with the fee of \$1.50. I have been very happy with this company and hope that anyone who has used it has also had a similar feeling.

As always please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. You can call me by phone at 802-889-3571 or you can email me at treasurer@tunbridgevt.org. I try to be in the office M-F from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Sincerely, Rebecca Hoyt, Tunbridge Town Treasurer

Tax Report for 2022-2023 Tax Rate Calculation

	Tax Rate	x 1% Grand List	Total to be raised
Municipal			
General Fund	0.1914	\$1,630,501.00	\$312,078.11
Highway	0.5348	\$1,630,501.00	\$871,932.87
Appropriations	0.0113	\$1,630,501.00	\$18,424.71
Veterans	0.0044	\$1,630,501.00	\$7,174.08
Local Agreements	0.0023	\$1,630,501.00	\$3,750.15
Fire Department	0.0279	\$1,630,501.00	\$45,491.00
Education			
Homestead	1.4073	\$645,551.58	\$1,386,443.86
Non-Residential	1.482	\$985,180.00	\$956,707.37
	Total Ta	xes to be raised	\$3,603,491.69
2	2022-2023 Taxes Collected		\$3,445,285.49
			_
*2022-2023 Delinquent Taxes			\$158,206.20

^{*}This is the amount of Delinquent Taxes before penalties and interest has been added. For the amount that is still owed with penalties and interest added please consult the Delinquent Tax report.



Oxen Barn, Tunbridge Fairgrounds

Fund Reports of all Funds as of June 30, 2023 Main Operating Funds

The income for these accounts is raised from property taxes and other revenues.

	General Fund	Highway Fund	Total
See details on:	Page 9	Page 15	
Ending Balance FY' 2021-2022	\$ 471,391.26	\$ 214,606.88	\$ 727,066.33
FY' 2021-2022 Starting Cash Balance			
Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$198,500.31	\$873,205.13	\$1,071,705.44
Tax Revenues *	\$14,617.63	\$2,877.94	\$17,495.57
Other Revenue **	\$55,423.58	\$15,360.00	\$70,783.58
Grants (State & Federal)	\$180,347.73	\$267,241.08	\$447,588.81
State Revenues ***	\$243,642.50	\$128,730.60	\$372,373.10
School Overpayment	\$21,639.94	\$0.00	\$21,639.94
Delinquent Tax Income	\$253,626.06	\$0.00	\$253,626.06
Total Income	\$967,797.75	\$1,287,414.75	\$2,255,212.50
Starting Cash Balance + FY'21-22 Income	\$1,439,189.01	\$1,502,021.63	\$2,941,210.64
Total Expenses	\$961,750.59	\$1,287,414.75	\$2,249,165.34
Ending Cash Balance	\$477,438.42	\$214,606,88	\$692,045.30
Loans & Other Liabilities	0	0	0

^{*} Tax Revenues: PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes), civil fines, bank interest, Ed. Billing fee retained, refunds and reimbursements

Other Operating Funds

The income for these accounts transferred from General Fund, Highway Fund, donations and/or fundraising.

	Recreation Fund	Library Fund	Cemetery Fund
	Page NA	Page 20	Page 33
Ending Balance FY'2021-2022	\$24,498.74	\$49,502.72	\$12,522.85
FY'22-23 Beginning Fund Balance	\$24,498.74	\$49,502.72	\$12,522.85
Income: General & Highway Fund Transfers	\$9,000.00	\$77,036.00	0
Donations, Fundraising, Trust Fund	\$27,229.58	\$29,865.65	\$12,300.00
Total Income	\$36,229.58	\$106.901.65	\$12,300.00
Total Expenses	\$41,340.51	\$103,421.78	\$17018.38
Subtotal for the year	(\$5,110.93)	\$3,479.87	(\$4,718.38)
Ending Fund Balance*	\$19,387.65	\$52,982.59	\$7,804.47

^{*}Total is FY'22-23 Beginning Fund Balance plus Subtotal for the year.

^{**} Other revenue includes: Clerk Fees, Transfer Station, Building Rent, Permits, Highway Trust Funds, & Donations.

^{***} State Revenues: State Current Use Tax and State Aid for Roads

Fund Reports of all Funds as of June 30, 2023

Reserve Funds

The income for these accounts is raised through taxes for a specific purpose.

	Highway Equipment Fund	TVFD Equipment Replacement Fund	Paving Fund	Capital Improvement Fund	Bridge Fund	Disaster Relief
Beginning						
Balance	\$130,340.10	\$243,358.85	\$32,537.40	\$72,770.82	\$50,033.29	\$106,384.97
Income	\$108,469.86	\$33,261.62	\$165,259.39	\$5993.30	\$191,964.34	\$26,521.29
Expenses	0	0	\$14,349.44	0	\$212,377.57	0
Year's Subtotal	\$108,469.86	\$33,261.62	\$150,909.95	\$5993.30	(\$20,413.23)	\$26,521.29
Ending Fund	_					
Balance	\$238,809.96	\$276,520.47	\$183,437.35	\$78,764.12	\$29,620.06	\$132,906.26

Reserve Funds, continued

The income for these accounts is raised through taxes for a specific purpose.

	Conservation Commission Fund	Reserve Fund	Town Forests	Town Hall Lift Fund
Beginning Balance	\$1,460.00	\$60,468.40	\$37,281.69	\$0
Income	\$6,000.00	\$750.43	\$41,431.52	0
Expenses	\$2,336.12	0	\$26,820.00	0
Year's Subtotal	\$3,663.88	\$750.43	\$14,611.52	0
Ending Fund Balance	\$5,123.88	\$61,218.83	\$51,893.21	\$0

Special Revenue & Trust Funds

The income for these accounts is receive through other sources for a specific purpose.

	Record Restoration & Preservation Fund	Fuel Assistance Fund	Reappraisal Fund	ARPA Grant Fund	Combined Trust Funds
Beginning Balance	\$14,354.66	\$6,788.65	\$129,612.29	\$198,411.14	\$1,018,128.86
Income	\$3,859.54	\$84.26	\$10,276.89	\$293,192,40	
Expenses	0	0	0	\$7,630.57	
Year's Subtotal	\$3,859.54	\$84.26	\$10,276.89	\$285,561.83	
Ending Fund				_	_
Balance	\$18,214.20	\$6,872.91	\$139,889.18	\$483,972.97	\$1,203,603.74

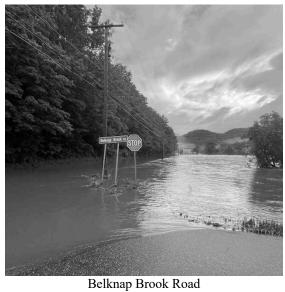
General Fund Orders July 2022 – June 2023

	ı
Access Mobility	\$375.00
Aubuchon	\$101.44
All Metal Recycling	\$2,251.00
All Temp	\$750.00
Amazon Capital Services	\$838.43
Apex Software	\$235.00
Association Vermont Conservation	\$50.00
Backroad Audio Works	\$100.00
Becky Hoyt	\$52.98
Bethel Mills	\$179.09
Bonnie McCrillis	\$88.07
Brenda Field	\$39.83
Casella Waste Mgt. Inc.	\$58,289.87
Central Vermont Pest Control	\$225.00
Central Vermont Solid Waste District	\$1,337.00
Charter Communications	\$319.95
Cutting Edge Portable Toilets	\$250.00
Darlene Miller	\$255.77
Dave Eddy Electric	\$1,425.21
Dead River Company	\$217.05
De Lage Landen Financial Service	\$1,737.48
Eastern Sales	\$366.00
EC Fiber	\$3,908.12
First Branch Ambulance	\$24,255.00
Geoff Hansen	\$1,970.00
Go Daddy	\$1,034.79
Green Mountain Power	\$8,335.20
IDS	\$137.14
Irving Energy	\$3,289.05
Janet Zug	\$667.85
Jodi Hoyt	\$429.14
Kevin L. Rogers Inc.	\$6,043.79
Linda Hoyt	\$627.19

Magee Office	\$966.60
Mariah Cilley	\$99.00
Michael Barnaby	\$160.00
Microsoft	\$2,730.36
Michael Howe	\$520.00
NEMRC	\$1,237.36
NSO Insurance	\$116.00
Orange County Sheriff's Department	\$4,927.00
Orange County Treasurer	\$38,457.60
Pitney Bowes	\$3,075.28
Porter Woodwork LLC	\$2,500.00
RB Technologies	\$5,699.00
SB Signs	\$144.00
Securshred	\$120.00
South Royalton Rescue	\$32,482.00
Spaulding Press Inc.	\$10,549.95
Staples Inc.	\$5,201.74
Shopify	\$111.01
Snowdog Construction	\$1,350.00
Stizel, Paige, & Fletcher, PC	\$461.55
Sullivan, Powers & Co. PC	\$18,000.00
Swasey & Sons Plumbing & Heating	\$515.48
Tax Abatements	\$23,327.91
Tarrant, Gillies, & Shems	\$16,152.75
The Herald of Randolph	\$901.48
Todd Sensenich	\$4,818.00
Two-Rivers Ottauquechee	\$2,112.00
US Postal Service	\$1,718.71
Vermont Bar Association	\$25.00
Vermont Dept. of Environmental	\$1,765.00
Vermont Dept. of Health	\$83.00
VLCT	\$2,838.00
VLCT Employment Resource	\$761.00

VLCT PACIF	\$45,215.50
VMCTA	\$180.00
VT Fire Extinguisher	\$1,023.00
VT Tree CO. LLC	\$450.00
Zoom	\$167.99
Subtotal General Fund Orders	\$351,144.71
Transfers to Other Funds	
Recreation Fund	\$9,000.00
Capital Improvement Fund	\$5,000.00
Cemetery Fund	\$9,000.00
TVFD Equipment	\$30,000.00
ARPA Fund	\$220,991.40
Library	\$77,036.00
Credit Card Fees & Bank Fees	\$795.25
Appropriations	
Central VT Adult Education	\$1,200.00
Central VT Council on Aging	\$500.00
Chelsea Senior Citizens	\$1,500.00
Clara Martin Center	\$2,019.00
Green Mountain Economic	Φ.σ.σ.π.ο.ο.
Development	\$665.00
Green-Up VT	\$100.00

General Fund Grand Total	\$961,750.59
Subtotal Personnel	\$194,845.23
Health Benefits	\$18,318.81
Retirement	\$3,610.70
FICA	\$13,523.92
Wages	\$159,391.80
General Fund Personnel	
Subtotal Appropriations Orders	\$58,226.00
VT Rural Fire Protection	\$100.00
VT NH Visiting Nurse Association	\$2,780.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$150.00
VT Assoc. for the Blind	\$150.00
Vermont Family Network	\$250.00
Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors	\$500.00
Tunbridge Fire Dept.	\$45,500.00
Tri-Valley Transport	\$1,600.00
The Arts Bus	\$800.00
Safeline	\$2,862.00
Public Health Council of the UV	\$662.00
Orange County Special Investigation	\$1,000.00
Orange County Restorative Justice	\$350.00
Orange County Parent Child Center	\$1,000.00



Highway Orders July 2022 – June 2023

	1
Allegiance Truck	\$1,857.44
Allstate Construction Inc.	\$5,977.50
ATCO	\$238.15
ATG Lebanon, LLC	\$40,430.19
Aubuchon Hardware	\$476.61
Beauregard Equipment Inc.	\$3,143.63
Bernie Dargie	\$70.00
Big State Industrial	\$194.67
Button's Store	\$16,179.20
Capital Steel	\$608.00
Cargill Inc.	\$12,821.74
Champlain Valley Equipment	\$848.61
Chappell Tractor	\$5,290.46
Cody Chevrolet	\$1,196.28
Consolidated Communications	\$727.05
Corner Stop Mini Mart	\$1,359.96
Evans Motor Fuels	\$73,101.72
Foley Services Inc.	\$4,241.82
Future Supply Corp	\$3,849.00
Green Mountain Power	\$2,396.72
H. P. Fairfield	\$951.86
Heights Machinery	\$271.38
Irving Energy	\$9,437.24
James Ware	\$23.29
J.L. Smith	\$38,216.00
Judy Howe	\$243.03
K&S Construction	\$48,700.00
Kevin L. Rogers, Inc.	\$2,790.00
Lawson Products Inc.	\$398.46
Lowell Mcleod, Inc.	\$2,877.94

Lucky's Trailer Sales Inc.	\$1,921.72
Matheson Tri-Gas Inc.	\$107.00
Matt Loftus	\$14,920.00
Mcleods	\$2,061.80
McCullough Crushing, Inc.	\$146,936.81
Michael Howe	\$151.00
NEAPWA	\$75.00
North Country Welding Supply, LLC	\$455.85
Pete's Tire Barn	\$12,353.49
Pickett's, Inc.	\$70,170.00
Powerplan	\$6,163.95
Randall Hoyt	\$1,500.00
Royal Auto Parts	\$4,664.64
Sabil & Sons Inc.	\$5,203.48
Shane Ballou	\$2,464.00
Sonny Moses	\$100.00
Tenco Industries Inc.	\$4,122.16
Thomas Hoyt	\$213.07
United Ag & Turf Northeast	\$158.57
United Construction & Forestry	\$302.54
Upper Valley Equipment Rentals	\$150.00
Vermont Tree Company	\$1,300.00
Viking-Cives of Vermont	\$1,552.57
VLCT PACIF	\$1,000.00
VLCT PACIF Claims	\$1,000.00
VT Fire Extinguisher	\$102.00
Worksafe	\$662.37
Zonar Systems	\$132.96
Subtotal – Highway Orders	\$558,862.93

Miscellaneous Orders July 2022 – June 2023

Recreation Orders		
Alta Equipment	\$3,850.00	
Aubuchon Hardware	\$953.42	
Big Green T's	\$10,992.50	
Central Supplies	\$355.05	
Corner Stop Mini-Mart	\$971.57	
Cutting Edge Portable Toilets	\$2,205.00	
Dan Sherburne	\$669.30	
Green Mountain Power	\$789.76	
Howe Enterprises Inc.	\$430.00	
Janet Zug	\$130.00	
Kathy Galluzzo	\$9,722.23	
Randolph Youth Baseball	\$1,000.00	
Sandy's Restaurant	\$1,815.23	
Seth Johnson	\$284.32	
Stateline Sports	\$5,039.50	
Swiss White River	\$839.09	
United Ag & Turf	\$217.02	
Subtotal Recreation Orders	\$40,263.99	
Payroll/Stipends	\$1,000.00	
FICA	\$76.52	
Total Recreation Orders	\$41,340.51	
Cemetery Maintenance Ord	lers	
Baxter Doty	\$117.90	
SB Signs	\$2,471.32	
The Herald of Randolph	\$311.76	
Orange County Property Management	\$14,029.00	
Rutland Herald	\$43.40	
	\$45.00	
Total	\$17,018.38	
Bridge Fund Orders		
Hook Construction	\$212,377.57	
Total	\$212,377.57	

Paving Fund Orders		
Blaktop Inc	\$849.44	
Freshcoat Asphalt	\$13,500.00	
Total	\$14,349.44	
Library Fund		
Able Library	\$28.00	
Amazon Capital Services	\$426.94	
Charter Communications	\$92.90	
Consolidated Communications	\$98.82	
Daryl Seitchik	\$698.00	
Dr. Heat	\$293.00	
EC Fiber	\$1,512.93	
Elaine Howe	\$44.61	
Eliza Minnucci	\$720.00	
Geoff Hanson	\$150.00	
Gillespie Fuels	\$5,432.00	
Green Mountain Library Consortium	\$871.48	
Green Mountain Power	\$1,350.66	
Islene Runningdear	\$50.00	
Laura Ketcham	\$449.10	
Mariah Cilley	\$44.90	
Mariah Lawrence	\$420.00	
Michael Millard	\$75.00	
Monica Horowitz	\$245.13	
Mastercard	\$20,623.66	
Outpatch LC3C	\$260.00	
Paul Perley Cellos	\$50.00	
Priority Express	\$1,096.75	
Russell Lewczuk-Jensen	\$1,830.00	
Staples	\$41.76	
VT Fire Extinguisher	\$40.00	
Subtotal Library Fund	\$36,945.64	

Library Personnel		
Wages	\$44,605.00	
FICA	\$3,972.37	
Retirement	\$2,069.11	
Health	\$15,829.66	
Subtotal Library Fund Personnel	\$66,476.14	
Total Library Fund	\$103,421.78	
ARPA Grant Fund Orders		
Brook Field Service	\$5,200.00	
Gillespie Fuel	\$2,430.57	
Total	\$7,630.57	

Conservation Commission Fund Orders			
Nature Connect	\$150.00		
Orianne Society	\$186.12		
Porter/Kiosk to PO	\$2,000.00		
Total	\$2,336.12		
Town Forest Fund			
Matt Loftus	\$3,920.00		
Shane Young	\$22,750.00		
Nature Connect	\$150.00		
Total	\$26,820.00		
Total Miscellaneous Orders	\$425,294.37		



Tree clean-up after July micro-burst.

Town Payroll July 2022-June 2023

Barnaby, Michael	\$	8,874.41
Bogardus, Andrew	\$	280.00
Caron, Maryann	\$	18,275.00
Cilley, Mariah	\$	33,596.32
Fisk Rodney	\$	774.06
Galluzzo, Kathy		250.00
Galluzzo, Matt	\$ \$	250.00
Henault, Emma	\$	882.00
Higgins, Marsha	\$ \$ \$	8,542.00
Horonitz, Monica	\$	595.00
Howe, Judy	\$	10,647.50
Hoyt, Jodi		5,685.00
Hoyt, Linda	\$ \$	1,361.62
Hoyt, Rebecca	\$	28,785.07
Hoyt, Rodney L.	\$	36,730.70
Hoyt, Thomas S.	\$	54,983.76
Johnson, Seth	\$	250.00
Lawrence, Mariah	\$	25,553.00
McCrillis, Bonnie	\$	9,840.00
McPhetres, Michael	\$	1,250.00
Miller, Darlene	\$	8,549.36
Moriarty, Maureen	\$ \$ \$	2,760.00
Mullen, Deborah	\$	232.50
Mullen, Gary	\$	1,550.00
Mullen, Tammy	\$ \$ \$	500.00
Murawski, Shari	\$	235.32
O'Brien, John K	\$	1,250.00
O'Donnell, Helen L.	\$	6,637.71
O'Donnell, Jola	\$	2,870.20
Paquin, Joseph M.	\$ \$	14,899.46
Race, Betsy	\$	1,483.43
Ruddell, Daniel P.	\$	9,196.34
Ware, James A.	\$	55,609.45
Wight, Lawrence	\$	58,628.92
Subtotal Gross Wages	\$	411,808.13
FICA	\$	33,394.05
Retirement	\$	15,977.51
Health Benefits	\$	83,157.88
Subtotal Benefits	\$	132,529.44
		,
Total Town Payroll	\$	544,337.57

Auditors' Report

In accordance with Title 24 V.S.A., which requires the town auditors "examine and adjust the accounts of all town and town school district officers and all other persons authorized by law to draw orders on the town treasurer" and "report their findings in writing and cause the same to be mailed or otherwise distributed to the legal voters of the town at least 10 days before the annual meeting", we have prepared this Annual Report of Town's financial status.

- The Tunbridge Auditors have examined and reconciled (with the town treasurer) all town transactions and accounts for FY 2022-2023.
- The Tunbridge Auditors reconcile the town checking account monthly.

According to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns 2008 Handbook for Locally Elected Auditors, "it is the auditors' function to present and easy-to-understand picture of the town's finances to the people of the town." The intent of our arrangement is to show the "financial health of Tunbridge" with clarity. We have presented reports of outside organizations but have not conducted any audits on those accounts.

Town Report Deadlines

Groups operating with a fiscal year ending in June should submit reports by the December 1st. Groups that operate with year ending in January should submit by January 15th.

The stable financial picture of town accounts presented in this report is evidence of the trust voters place in town officials. As Auditors, we want to the thank voters and town leaders for planning ahead.

Respectfully, Anissa Morrison, Betsy Race, and Linda Hoyt

Auditor's Estimate of Taxes

As voted and proposed

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
	As Voted	As Voted	As voted	As Proposed
Town				
General Fund *	\$356,903.51	\$375,557.25	\$450,239.96	\$462,745.00
Highway Fund	\$825,790.00	\$873,205.13	\$969,243.75	\$1,040,585.00
Fire Department Appropriation	\$41,900.00	\$45,500.00	\$58,800.00	\$49,500.00
Appropriations	\$16,326.00	\$18,438.00	\$15,395.00	\$21,245.00
Total Town	\$1,240,919.51	\$1,312,700.38	\$1,493,678.70	1,574.075.00
Total Tax Rate (billed)	0.7713	0.7721	0.8748	0.9596
School				
School Residential (billed)	1.5872	1.4073	1.3691	To be determined
School Non-Residential (billed)	1.5617	1.4820	1.5222	To be determined
NOTE: The extent to make the final and the Count List				

^{*} This includes all transfers to other funds.

NOTE: The actual tax rate is set in August each year based on the Grand List.

Town Budget History

General Fund Total			
Year	Budget	Percent Change	
18-19	\$585,469.36		
19-20	\$602,365.00	2.89%	
20-21	\$623,653.00	3.53%	
21-22	\$611,503.51	-1.95%	
22-23	\$631,772.25	3.31%	
23-24	\$741,554.96	17.38%	
24-25	\$752,602.19	1.48%	
	General Fund Person	ınel*	
Year			
20-21 A	\$151,960.32	Tereent enange	
21-22 A	\$148,238.85	2.44%	
22-23 A	. ,		
23-24 B	\$233,676.50	28.24% 22.91%	
24-25 B**	\$222,721.19	-4.68%	
A=actual base	ed on orders B=as budgeted		
*includes wages, FICA, benefits for administrative assistant, town clerks, listers, treasurers, auditors, DTC, elections, grants manager, dog catcher, constable, flood coordinator, nurse, transfer station, town hall supervisor, cleaning			
**no budgete	ed amount for grants mar	nager	
	Highway Fund Tot	tal	
Year	Budget	Percent Change	
18-19	\$830,060.00		
19-20	\$899,845.00	8.41%	
20-21	\$984,495.00	9.41%	
21-22	\$961,140.00	-2.37%	
22-23	\$1,013,555.13	5.45%	
23-24	\$1,114,593.75	9.97%	
24-25	\$1,210,935.00	8.64%	

High Fund Personnel								
Year	Budget	Percent Change						
18-19	\$263,000.00							
19-20	\$278,995.00	6.08%						
20-21	\$308,095.00	10.43%						
21-22	\$302,440.00	-1.84%						
22-23	\$332,455.13	9.92%						
23-24	\$378,473.75	13.84%						
24-25	\$400,415.00	5.79%						
Library Fund Appropriation								
Year	Budget	Percent Change						
18-19	\$57,224.00							
19-20	\$60,090.00	5.01%						
20-21	\$74,065.00	23.26%						
21-22	\$77,774.00	5.01%						
22-23	\$77,036.00	-0.95%						
23-24	\$80,000.00	3.85%						
24-25	\$80,000.00	0.00%						
Fi	re Department Appro	priation						
Year	Budget	Percent Change						
18-19	\$31,300.00							
19-20	\$39,050.00	24.76%						
20-21	\$43,450.00	11.27%						
21-22	\$41,900.00	-3.57%						
22-23	\$45,500.00	8.59%						
23-24	\$58,800.00	29.23%						
24-25	\$49,500.00	-15.81%						

Cemetery Commissioners' Report

The Cemetery Commissioners would like to begin its report by thanking the Tunbridge people that mowed cemeteries on a volunteer basis throughout the mowing season: Kay Jorgensen (Jorgensen), Scott and Patricia Beavers (Ward Hill), Tom Hoyt (Drew), Nancy Howe (Riddle), Brian Clark (Dickerman), David Race (Kelsey Mountain), Nancy and Randy Chapman (Old Spring Road), Scott and Anne Palmer and Philip and Ruth Hall (Whitney Hill). These volunteer mowers help to keep the costs of mowing to the town down. If you are interested in mowing a cemetery near your place, please call a member of the Cemetery Commission for permission. This is necessary as the town insurance policy will not cover damage to property or self unless the volunteer is identified in the town insurance policy. Orange County Property Management, LLC mows 11 of our 21 cemeteries.

The budget we present represents a continuation of the same level of maintenance and restoration the town expects. We are trying to preserve our invested funds to the best of our ability.

The maintenance/repair work scheduled for 2023 was unable to be completed by the monument company. We have been assured that we are first on their list for 2024, so the work should be completed this year.

If you notice a cemetery that looks uncared for, please call one of the cemetery commissioners.

Respectfully submitted, Baxter Doty Dennis Cilley Ben Tucker



South end of North Tunbridge Village, July 2023

Cemetery Commissioners' Budget

	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Actual as of 1/1/2024	Budget Proposed FY 2025
Maintenance					
Initial Balance		\$12,522.85		\$7,804.47	
Income					
Town Maintenance Appropriation	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$16,000.00
Trustees Public Funds Transfer	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Sale of lots				\$100.00	
Donations		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Maintenance Income		\$12,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$14,100.00	\$19,000.00
Expenditures					
Mowing	\$12,000.00	\$14,029.00	\$15,300.00	\$8,502.00	\$17,000.00
Miscellaneous		\$400.16			
Flags	\$1,200.00	\$2,471.32	\$1,200.00		\$1,500.00
Maintenance	\$500.00	\$117.90	\$500.00	\$480.00	\$500.00
Legal Fees					
Total Maintenance Expenditures		\$17,018.38	\$17,000.00	\$8,982.00	\$19,000.00
Ending Balance		\$7,504.47	\$0.00	\$12,922.47	
Restoration					
Income					
Town Restoration Appropriation	\$0.00		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Donations for Restoration		\$300.00			
Total Restoration Income		\$300.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Expenditures					
Restorations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Total Restoration Expenditures		\$0.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Ending Balance		\$7,804.47	\$0.00	\$15,922.47	
Total Funds Requested from Town of Tunbridge FY 2025 (tax dollars)					\$19,000.00

Listers' Report

Listers assess the Fair Market Value for each property in town, and we try to be as equitable as possible. Despite our best efforts, Tunbridge will be in line to conduct a town-wide reappraisal since we have exceeded the 20% COD threshold specified in Vermont Statutes as a prompt to conduct one. We are unsure of the exact schedule, as 62% of Vermont towns are statutorily mandated to conduct a town-wide reappraisal this year. That number currently outweighs the capacity to find qualified assessors to conduct this work. There is a lot of work going on to address these challenges, involving town and state employees as well as the Legislature.

The last three years of sales throughout Vermont have seen rapid fluctuation, impacted heavily by changes in work patterns (more frequently conducted remotely than in the past) plus the impacts of a pandemic and a changing climate. Vermont has become an even more appealing place to live for many reasons, and we have seen many sales in the last 3 years exceed the town-assessed value.

Equitability applies both within town (reflected in our Coefficient of Dispersion, or COD) and between towns (reflected in our Common Level of Appraisal, or CLA). These numbers both come from an annual statewide Sales Study based on the previous 3 years of sales. The primary purposes of this statistical study are two-fold: 1) equally distribute the burden of taxes amongst property owners (COD), and 2) develop an equalization adjustment to bring each town's Grand List to fair market value and thus level the field between towns when calculating education taxes (CLA). The tax bill you receive each fall, assessed on property value, has a component for the Municipal tax voted on at town meeting, plus the Equalized, statewide Education tax.

Changes have been so rapid, but unevenly dispersed geographically, that the Vermont legislature voted in 2023 to get rid of the CLA as a threshold for mandating a town-wide reappraisal. Last year 65% of Vermont towns were bound (by thresholds based on both CLA and COD) to conduct a reappraisal. Despite the change to a threshold based solely on exceeding 20% COD, more than 60% of towns exceeded this threshold. This included a number of towns that had just conducted reappraisals within the last 3 years.

The last town-wide reappraisal in Tunbridge was in 2010. Our COD is now 21.14%, and the CLA is 79.50%.

Tunbridge had 55 total sales from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023, with 13 valid (i.e., not family members, divorce, life estates, subdivisions, etc.; valid sales listed in table below).

Our annual cycle includes:

- Updating our assessments ("lodging of the Grand List Abstract") in early June, with values based on "as-is" status of April 1
- Grievance date in mid-June to early July (You may grieve any year, but only at that time; date is posted locally, in the Randolph Herald, and on the Town of Tunbridge website. We are required to mail the owner a notice if we change the value; you may also request a notice even if there is no change)
- Tax bills go out in mid-August, due once a year on November 1 (though taxes are not technically our job, we work closely with the Town Treasurer in ensuring a high level of service to our town)

This year our quarterly rotation for site visits is in the Southeast corner of town. Our goal is to update pictures and see if there are any changes to the property, such as new construction or possible depreciation that may have occurred. We are happy to discuss any changes or concerns. Email is the easiest contact method. You may also call the office (details below) to let us know what works best.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

• File HOMESTEAD DECLARATION and PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENT CREDIT each year on or before APRIL 15 (Forms HS-122 and HS-144). Failure to declare by April 15th may subject you to a late filing penalty EVEN IF YOU FILE AN EXTENSION for your income taxes. (https://myvtax.vermont.gov/WebFiles/instructions_popup.html)

- No transfer will be included in the 2024 Grand List unless it is recorded on or before April 1st, and properties are assessed as they stand on that date.
- Business and rental use are declared on your homestead declaration

A few statistics from the 2023 Grand List:

- 1,042 Total Parcels (includes tax-exempt, Town-owned, and "Inactive" parcels currently combined with a contiguous property under same owner)
- 881 Taxable Parcels
- 17 Veteran Exemptions
- 217 Enrolled in Current Use
- 452 Taxable Homesteads
- 1,638,319.00 taxable Grand List

Our usual office hours are Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Darlene is often in on Thursday as well, same hours. You may call us (802) 889-3571 or email lister@tunbridgevt.org

Tunbridge Board of Listers: Daniel (Rudi) Ruddell, Darlene Miller, Deb Mullen

VALID PROPERTY SALES

DATE	BUYER	SELLER	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	ACRES	PRICE
3/22/2023	WHITMAN, AUSTIN & ARRIGONI, VICTORIA -TR	UPPER VALLEY LAND TRUST	21 GILLEY RD	MISC LAND	153.2	\$380,000
3/8/2023	MCGUIRE, JAMES & WRIGHT, AMY	VAN DYK, ALISON	189 MONARCH HILL RD	MISC LAND	113.1	\$525,000
2/24/2023	ABERGEL, JOEL & EILEEN	BOGARDUS, MICHAEL & AMY	222 MONARCH HILL RD	1 1/2 ST. DWELLING, LAND	5	\$384,000
10/31/2022	GUY, PETER	FRARY, ADRIAN & ELIZABETH	9 MILL RD	DOUBLEWIDE/ OUT- BUILDINGS/ LAND	9.15	\$230,000
10/24/2022	DUBRINO, JARED M	GOULET, JACOB	80 SAWYER HILL RD	MISC LAND OPEN AND WOODED	11	\$105,000
9/27/2022	HARBIN, ANGELA & POWELL, MATTHEW S	CONNER, ADDIE	311 VT ROUTE 110	1 1/2 ST DWELLING/ LAND	1.34	\$380,000
9/6/2022	MIX, MARIE	DURKEE, FRANK P	169 WHITNEY HILL RD	1 ST DWELL- ING/LAND	7.6	\$265,000
8/9/2022	FOULK, ABIGAIL & WAS- SERMAN, RICHARD - TR	TROTIN, DOMINIQUE & GAIL	84 SPRING RD	1 ST DWELL- ING/LAND	4.2	\$370,000
8/2/2022	MILSTONE, BARRY & VICTORIA-TRUSTEES	HIGGINS, GAVIN J & JACQUELINE M	185 WHITNEY HILL RD	1.5 ST DWELLING/ SHOP/LAND	17.35	\$730,000
7/8/2022	GREEN HILLS TRUST	BAKER, RYAN & KAREN	113 SPRING RD	MISC LAND W/ SUBDIV PLAN	60.5	\$150,000
7/5/2022	GABRIEL, DAVID C & ELISSE M	GEFELL, WILLIAM & CAROLYN BANAS	26 DREW RD	1 1/4 ST DWELLING/ BARN-OFFICE/LAND	38.6	\$730,000
7/5/2022	HUNT, ELIZABETH	WINTERS, ANTHONY& CHARLES F. EMMONS	92 GILLEY RD	LAND, SMALL CAMP	40	\$125,000
6/7/2022	MCCLINTOCK, JOHN & MEAGHAN	PARROTT, DEBORAH	480 VT ROUTE 110	1 ST DWELL- ING/LAND	1.8	\$325,000

Delinquent Tax Report

Current Delinquent Taxpayers

Tax Sale 2/22/2024		Tax Sale Summer 2024		
Abbruzzese		Bates	Hoyt	
Billings		Blakeney (2)	Joseph	
Broe (2)		Britch	Kirkwood	
Brown		Cavanaugh	Lang	
Christian NRG Mission		Clague	Mason	
Coogan		Del Core	Menkiti	
Lockyear		Fletcher	Sanders	
Moses		Galluzzo	Staff	
Salls		Haluch	Stockwell	
Stavaski (3)	Stavaski (3)		Van Dusen	
*All taxes older than 2021 are included in the 2/22/24 tax sale. Tax Sale properties subject to change.			Welch	
	Others with Deline	quent Taxes		
	Angel	Mix		
	Barnaby	Needs		
Barnaby		Pierpont (2)		
Barnaby		Rollins		
Hall		Strong		
Magoon		Vermont Rte 110		
	Milstone	West		

Delinquent Taxes as of 1/1/2024

Delinquent Tax Year	Total Delinquent Taxes
2023	\$70,470.01
2022	\$18,178.47
2021	\$9,733.40
2020	\$7,584.89
2019	\$4,762.97
2018	\$3,261.10
2017	\$285.57
Total	\$114,276.41

Town of Tunbridge Delinquent Tax Policy

- A. As soon as the warrant has been received, and each month afterwards, the tax collector will send a notice to each delinquent taxpayer indicating the amount of the taxes, penalty, and interest owed.
- B. Only payment arrangements that will pay the bill in full before the due date of next year's bill will be accepted.
- C. If the tax on personal property is not paid in full within 10 days of the notice, the tax collector will seek the authorization of the Selectboard to place a lien on the property.
- D. Mortgage holders and lien holders will be notified of the delinquent taxes 30 days after the first notice has been sent to the taxpayer and again prior to tax sale.
- E. Partial payments will be applied first to the interest portion of the amount due, and the remainder will be divided proportionally between the principal of the tax and the 8% fee.
- F. If the amount due is less than \$500 and no satisfactory payment arrangements have been made in one month, or if the prior payment agreement has not been met, the tax collector will file a complaint with small claims court. The taxpayer will be responsible for all court fees as determined by the court.
- G. If the amount due is \$500 or more and no satisfactory payment arrangements have been made in one month, or if the prior payment arrangement has not been met, the tax collector will begin the following actions to conduct a tax sale of the property or as much of the property as is necessary to pay the tax, plus costs and fees:
 - 1. The collector will notify the taxpayer and all mortgage and lien holders of the tax sale decision, the date by which payment must be received, and the costs to expect once the sale process begins.
 - 2. If the deadline date has passed and full payment has not been received, the collector will proceed with a tax sale according to the procedures specified in 32 V.S.A §5252.
 - 3. Costs of preparing and conducting the sale, including legal fees up to a maximum of 15% of the amount of the delinquent tax, will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer.
- H. Each taxpayer has the right to apply for any abatement of property taxes based on any of the grounds listed in 24 V.S.A. § 1535.
- I. If no one purchases the property at tax sale, or if, in the judgement of the tax collector, proceeding with the tax sale is inadvisable, the tax collector shall collect the delinquent taxes using any or all of the methods permitted by law.

Best,
Joseph Paquin
Collector of Delinquent Taxes
josephmpaquin@gmail.com

Trustees of Public Funds Fiscal Year 2023 Town Report

This written report and financial statement cover the time period from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 (FY23). By the time you receive the Town Report, the reporting period will be more than eight months in the past, so the report will not reflect the most recent conditions or activities.

The Trustees manage seven accounts: the Public Cemetery, Village Cemetery, School Library, Fire Department, Town Highway, Special Projects, and Public Library accounts. In FY23, we received several requests for distributions to beneficiaries of the managed funds, and we made distributions as requested. Specifically, we made net distributions of:

- \$3,000.00 from the Public Cemeteries fund;
- \$15,000.00 from the Town Highway fund; and
- \$4,000.00 from the Public Library fund.

This year's report reflects a contribution of \$118,076.23 to the Village Cemetery from a resident's generous legacy left to the Town. The Trustees are grateful for that generosity and for the commitment to the Town's future that it reflects. We continue to encourage readers of this Report to consider making even modest gifts to Town funds to ensure that those funds will continue to benefit future generations of Tunbridge residents, just as we benefit now from prior generations' gifts.

The Trustees have not historically engaged in active trading within the Town's accounts, and we do not have any plans to change our investment approach. We nevertheless do occasionally rebalance our accounts based on the advice of our investment advisor and may incur fees at that time. Rebalancing is an exercise to ensure that we maintain a prudent balance of investments between equities (i.e., stock), debt (i.e., bonds) and cash; from time to time the proportion of an account invested in a given class of asset may deviate from our plan due to over- or under-performance of that asset class (e.g., strong performance of the stock market may lead to an overconcentration of a fund's assets in stocks). We therefore do not expect to incur significant future trading fees in future years, absent a necessary rebalancing, a change in broker, or some other unforeseen event or change in policy.

As we have stated in prior years' reports, the Trustees' policy is to encourage beneficiaries to request distributions that do not exceed their interest income, so as to preserve principal. In addition, the Trustees maintain a standing policy of allowing distributions of no more than four percent (4%) of an individual fund's principal amount at the time of the request. For example, if a fund has a principal amount of \$100,000 at the time of the request, the Trustees would usually permit a distribution of \$4,000.

The Trustees will, however, make distributions from the principal amount as part of the standard four percent distribution. The Trustees weigh the long-term goal of preserving each trust's principal against the short-term needs of the account beneficiaries and may on a case-by-case basis deviate from standard policies if they deem it is in the best interests of a beneficiary.

The Trustees monitor the broad investment and economic climates and have from time to time imposed temporary moratoria on distributions in response to poor market performance. When such a policy is in effect, the Trustees permit distributions only in response to "emergency requests" for funding.

Trustees of Public Funds, continued

All of our funds posted solid gains in FY23. The performance of individual Public Funds accounts varies due to individual investment decisions we have made for each of those funds. The returns for the Public Cemeteries, Village Cemetery, School Library, Fire Department, Town Highway, Special Projects, and Public Library accounts are respectively: 8.39%, 5.09%, 9.93%, 14.83%, 10.27%, 12.78%, and 9.60%.

Remember that the above stated returns are for the period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. <u>They do not reflect present returns.</u> There will be more reporting and commentary on FY24 in next year's town report, and we encourage anyone having questions or comments to contact us.

Respectfully submitted January 14, 2024.

Liz York (Secretary) Rob Howe (Treasurer) Matt Frost (Chairman)

	Beginning Asset Value as of			Investment	End Balance	
	6/30/22	Withdrawals	Contributions	Earnings	6/30/23	Return
Public Cemeteries	\$109,347.63	-\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,169.14	\$115,516.77	8.39%
Village Cemetery	\$43,628.17	\$0.00	\$118,076.23	\$8,063.29	\$169,767.69	5.09%
School Libraries	\$145,453.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,447.38	\$159,901.17	9.93%
Fire Department	\$34,661.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,140.12	\$39,802.00	14.83%
Town Highway	\$434,608.81	-\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$44,625.43	\$464,234.24	10.27%
Special Projects	\$41,826.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,345.42	\$47,171.86	12.78%
Public Library	\$192,700.79	-\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,508.73	\$207,209.52	9.60%
TOTAL	\$1,002,227.51	-\$22,000.00	\$118,076.23	\$105,299.51	\$1,203,603.25	



The day after the deluge $\sim July\ 11,\ 2023$

Tunbridge Public Library

Tuesday 10-5; Wednesday 3-6; Thursday 10-5; Friday 3-6; Saturday 9-1
Library Director, Mariah Lawrence
Assistant Librarian, Theresa FitzGerald
Assistant Librarian, Maureen Moriarty
Special Programs, Russell Lewczuk-Jensen
tunbridgelibrary.org/tunbridgelibrary@gmail.com/802-889-9404

The Tunbridge Public Library is a community space that fosters the spirit of exploration and life-long learning, promotes the sharing and appreciation of stories, and supports a diverse and thriving rural community.

Growing Community ~ One Story at a Time

Last fall after over 40 years of service to the library, we held a wonderful surprise party to celebrate Assistant Director, Marsha Higgins, as she headed into retirement. Her presence in this space is deeply missed. Anytime she walks through the library arbor to check out a giant stack of books, we stop whatever we are doing and all run out to the walkway to greet her. I think most of the town can agree she has been an incredible presence in our lives and we are so grateful for her energy, positive attitude and amazing book recommendations.

The library has been working hard to encourage creativity and growth through book clubs (we have 3!), and writing groups (2!). Through these connections we have the opportunity to share thoughts on a story, or to be vulnerable and tell our own story in a safe space. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have an idea for a club, or would even like to lead one. Every one of our writing groups and book clubs started with an idea from a community member.

We are so grateful for our partnership with First Branch schools. Through monthly field trips, our vibrant after school program, and the ease with which kids can take the bus here I am proud to say we have had the opportunity to meet almost every single student at both of the schools. What a wonderful thing to brag about.

The library now hosts a monthly knitting group called, "Knitting Wellness". This is a space to slow down, be present with a project and connect with others. "Imagination Fridays" bring in a wide variety of ages, as staff member, Russell, leads the board game *No Thank You Evil* followed by the tabletop card game *Magic the Gathering*. Our weekly "Bumblebee Garden" playgroup just passed its one-year anniversary and the regularity with which we get to admire adorable babies is balm for our soul. Dimpled knuckles and the smell of play dough can be found within our walls every Thursday from 10:30-12.

The library makes use of the weekly courier delivering and lending books from all over the state and sometimes beyond! The Interlibrary Loan service expands our book selections to all patrons, provides multiple copies for our book clubs, as well as providing teachers with specific titles they need for the classroom.

The upcoming Solar Eclipse has been a big source of inspiration and excitement for the library. You may have seen some of our passive programs set up such as one cup LEGO challenges, community puzzle, 3D models, and the specific enhancement of our collection on this topic. You also may have attended our Solar Eclipse Crafternoon! Don't forget to travel north on April 8th to be in the path of totality. Connect with the library if you need a ride or want to connect with others to carpool to a viewing spot!

Through recent surveys for our strategic plan we heard you when you said you were interested in more Community Events! Because we also love a party, this was no problem. Book parties, community concerts on

our new stage, an upcoming play, movie nights and more are in the mix. If you have an idea for a community event, connect with us! We are always looking for new inspiration.

The library is actively working on increasing the space we have available to offer to the community for working creatively, independently or in small groups. We hired an architect familiar with the building and our mission, to help us draw up plans to restore the beautiful space upstairs. At the time of writing this, funding for the project has not been secured but we are in the process of seeking out grant opportunities to make this dream a reality. We look forward to updating you all in the near future.

Programs and events make a library exciting. Displays and a large, rich collection are helpful. Interlibrary loan services, book clubs, and book giveaways make more titles accessible. But without you, amazing patrons and community members, without your attendance and your choice to prioritize walking under that fairy tale arbor and into our doors, all of these things would be nothing. The purpose of a library in a small town especially, is to provide opportunity to connect. Whether it's a Saturday morning and you are stopping in to buy a dump ticket and the crazy librarian makes you check out a book that matches your outfit, or you need a book to stave off loneliness now that your kids have grown or your partner has passed on, or you are nursing your newborn babe and you need advice and comfort and understanding- we are grateful you keep turning to the library. This space is meant for all of us, please connect if there is anything that you would like to see happening here.

Finally, we want to thank the community for its amazing dedication to volunteerism, without it running the library would be next to impossible.

Mariah Lawrence

Tunbridge Public Library Budget

			<u>, </u>		
	21/'22	22/'23	22/'23	23/'24	24/'25
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
Revenue					
Town allocation	\$77,774.00	\$77,036.00	\$77,036.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
Investment distribution	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Fundraising/Donations	\$13,699.00	\$9,500.00	\$13,239.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
Friends of Library	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,159.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00
Grants received	\$8,198.00	\$0.00	\$7,292.00	\$5,000.00	\$7,500.00
Other Revenue	\$1,280.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	
Total Revenue	\$112,951.00	\$96,536.00	\$106,751.00	\$104,500.00	\$104,500.00
Expense					
Wages, FICA, retirement, training	\$49,100.00	\$60,086.00	\$49,722.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
Health insurance	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$15,659.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Books/circulation/courier	\$4,664.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,680.00	\$7,000.00	\$8,000.00
Programs & Events	\$4,347.00	\$5,750.00	\$5,372.00	\$6,500.00	\$7,000.00
Grant spending (primarily programs)	\$6,890.00	\$0.00	\$6,134.00	\$0.00	
New equipment/technology/furniture	\$2,807.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,091.00	\$2,950.00	\$2,000.00
Supplies	\$2,213.00	\$1,600.00	\$4,188.00	\$3,500.00	\$4,000.00
Utilities (internet, electricity, propane)	\$6,765.00	\$9,100.00	\$8,081.00	\$7,790.00	\$8,000.00
Repair & Maintenance	\$8,380.00	\$2,300.00	\$804.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,500.00
Other (postage, fees)	\$655.00	\$1,700.00	\$3,064.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,000.00
Total Expenses	\$85,821.00	\$96,536.00	\$99,795.00	\$104,500.00	\$104,500.00
Balance (to Library Fund Balance)	\$27,130.00	\$0.00	\$6,956.00	\$0.00	

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department

This past year was a good year for TVFD. In 2023 we responded to 4 medical assist calls, 6 motor vehicle accidents, 7 mutual aid calls, 1 structure fire, 5 alarm activation calls, 1 wildland fire, 4 storm/flooding calls, 2 service calls, 1 building collapse, and 2 car fires for a total of 33 calls for the year.

One of the highlights of the year was the ability to add a UTV to our fleet of trucks. This was purchased with money we have raised over the last few years at our coin drop, and Memorial Day BBQ. This is a multipurpose vehicle. It has a skid unit mounted in the bed that will carry 70 gallons of water and five gallons of foam to help with wildland fires. The skid unit also has a place to strap a stokes basket to allow us to extricate a patient from the woods, or allow access to a medical patient when the dirt roads are not able to support an ambulance. We have had two calls for this so far; one for a lost hunter and one for a patient that was not able to get to the hospital during the flooding this summer.

This year's budget has decreased due to dispatching. Before last year's budget was written, we attended many meetings with the State of Vermont discussing the fact that they will no longer be dispatching for us in the near future and we would be responsible for finding a new dispatching service. As of now, that has not happened and they are still our dispatch service. We do not know when this change will happen. We will set aside the money we received in the budget last year for when this does happen.

We have been fortunate to add a few new members over the last few years, and currently have two fire-fighters going through the Firefighter 1 course offered by the State of Vermont hosted in Bethel. This course is approximately 225 hours of classroom and practical training. This is a huge commitment and everyone at the fire department thanks them for this commitment.

For the past three years we have been working on designing a new fire truck to replace our 1991 pumper truck and our 1992 rescue truck. We are combining the two trucks into one. This new truck designed to be a multi-purpose truck able to do everything from draft and supply water during a fire, respond to car accidents with extrication tools. It will have a SCBA refill station to allow us to refill our air bottles at a fire scene. It will also be able to fill in as an attack pumper if our main attack pumper is out of service, or on another call.

As always, the Fire Department is welcoming new volunteers. If you are interested in joining or would like to receive information about joining the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department, please stop by a meeting any Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. or email Tunbridge.fire@gmail.com.



Silt covered fairgrounds, July 2023

Respectfully, Simon Bradford, Chief; Mike Morrison, Deputy Chief; Shawn Young, Assistant Chief; Matt Loftus, Captain; Mike Ware, Captain

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department Budget

Operating Expenses	2022-2023 Budget	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Proposed
Dispatch Expenses	\$1,600.00	\$1,334.59	\$13,500.00	\$1,600.00
Electricity	\$1,750.00	\$1,268.26	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00
Gas – Building	\$3,000.00	\$2,358.77	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Diesel & Gas – Trucks	\$100.00	\$135.32	\$100.00	\$100.00
Firefighter Medical	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Insurance – General	\$11,500.00	\$11,400.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
Compensation	\$6,000.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
Maintenance - Fire Station	\$2,500.00	\$4,402.12	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Maintenance - Radio & Equip.	\$6,000.00	\$9,276.63	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00
Maintenance - Trucks	\$5,000.00	\$3,970.92	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$600.00	\$475.22	\$0.00	\$600.00
Supplies	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Telephone	\$1,100.00	\$1,292.17	\$1,100.00	\$1,400.00
Foam	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Training	\$1,000.00	\$243.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Bookkeeper	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
Worker's Compensation	\$1,600.00	\$1,457.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,800.00
Total	45,500.00	46,014.00	58,800.00	49,500.00
	= /4 /2000	4551716416		s (20 /2000
FUND NAME	7/1/2022	ADDITIONS	SUBTRACTIONS	6/30/2023
GENERAL FUND	\$27,742.71	\$76,516.35	-\$88,534.15	\$15,724.91
BUILDING FUND	\$33,582.76		40.00	\$33,582.76
TRUCK FUND	\$60,294.62	\$87.24	\$0.00	\$60,381.86
FRIENDS OF THE FIRE DEPT.	\$10,805.81	\$43.38	\$0.00	\$10,849.19
EQUIPMENT FUND	\$55,942.64		\$0.00	\$55,942.64
ENDOWMENT FUND	\$27,516.14	\$63.23	\$0.00	\$27,579.37
MORGAN STANLEY INVESTMENTS	\$24,950.79	\$3,013.30		\$27,964.09
TOTALS	\$240,835.47	\$79,723.50	-\$88,534.15	\$232,024.82



First Branch Ambulance Report

FIRST BRANCH AMBULANCE

Serving the Towns of Chelsea, Tunbridge, and Washington

P.O. Box 74 • CHELSEA, VERMONT 05038 · 802.685.3112 • FAX 802.685.2030

The First Branch Ambulance Board of Directors and crew would like to thank the townspeople. We have received continued support from the community members, and we would like to recognize the generous support. The donations and support are greatly appreciated by the service.

First Branch is a 501c3 non-profit transporting ambulance service for the towns of Chelsea, Tunbridge, and Washington. First Branch answered over 400 emergency calls with another 800+ home visits in 2023. We strive to provide the highest quality care and service for our communities.

In 2023, we ordered a new 2024 Ford F-350 4x4 ambulance to be delivered in 2025 with a price tag of \$300,000 a \$100,000 increase from our 2019 truck. We welcomed two new members this year Emma Colby of Chelsea, VT and David Poulin of Washington, VT.

First Branch continues to face new challenges every year from staffing, funding, or worldwide pandemics. 2023 has been no different, the cost of business has increased dramatically from staff pay to equipment prices. Ambulance services are required to carry state of the art equipment for all emergencies when needed no matter the size of the ambulance service. We carry over \$150,000 worth of equipment on a \$300,000 truck. These costs and others not listed here mean we need your help with town funding and fundraising more than ever before to help. Insurance payments only cover some of the expenses of the modern-day ambulance service. We are prepared for any emergency at any time as a paramedic level ambulance we carry 36 different medications for all emergencies. We carry other equipment like intubation equipment with the ability to use multiple different airway treatments. We carry a cardiac monitor that has multiple purposes including EKG, AED, PAC-ING, and blood pressure ability. We can start IVs, draw labs, treat trauma and are expert patient movers with multiple tools.

First Branch Ambulance service is always looking for community members to join. With a two-year commitment, the service will pay for an individual to take a class. We meet monthly for training as well as attending local and state training courses. Please contact a member or call the station if you are interested in this opportunity.

We would like to thank all members of the First Branch Ambulance service for their continued dedication to our communities. Without our members we would not have the service that we have; one that our communities always rely on.

We look forward to continuing to provide this service to our communities in 2024 and beyond and we're grateful for the continued support.

Sincerely, Chase Ackerman, Director First Branch Ambulance

Auditors' note: no budget summary provided

South Royalton Rescue

No report received by 2/1/24

Tunbridge Recreation Committee

No report or budget received by 2/1/24

Tunbridge Better Bones

The free Better Bones balance and weight-bearing exercise program is offered at the Town Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 p.m. It aims to increase bone density for those at an age when bone mass is lost and osteoporosis is a concern. Anyone can drop in for a session. A doctor's permission is requested for those who continue with the program. For information contact Kay Jorgensen at 889-5528 or kjayvt@gmail.com.

Tunbridge Fuel Loan Assistance Program

For the over a decade the Fuel Loan Assistance Program has worked to help local residents meet their heating needs without going into debt. The State of Vermont offers grants to Tunbridge residents through Capstone Community Action. The Tunbridge Fuel Loan Assistance Program attempts to bolster this by offering no-interest loans.

The Fuel Loan Assistance committee is always looking for additional members to help connect residents with existing resources, including fuel grants and weatherization resources. Are you interested in getting involved? We'd welcome your help. Our committee is looking to connect with other organizations and find better ways to help residents stay warm without having to go without needed food, medicine, or other essential services. We are hoping to learn about the successes of other communities, to develop ways to connect residents in need with locally sourced wood.

If you would like to learn more, send an email to tunbridge.fuel.assistance@gmail.com.



Route 110, July 10, 2023

Tunbridge Conservation Commission

The Tunbridge Conservation Commission was established in 2017. Our mission by state statute is to advise the town and public on natural resource topics and issues, and coordinate activities that promote natural resource education and stewardship. The duties of the Commission encompass the study and inventory of the natural resources of Tunbridge including: surface and groundwaters, soils, unique or fragile biological sites, scenic and recreational resources, plant and animal life (especially rare and endangered species), and prime agricultural and forest land. Commission duties also include informal counsel to the Planning Commission and Selectboard as well as the development of educational activities for the public to further the understanding and preservation of local resources and conservation needs.

2023 Highlights:

- ➤ Welcomed one new member to the commission
- Continued vernal pool inventory and monitoring of identified pools
- Maintained membership in the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions
- ➤ Received a donation from the AVC of \$6,000, of which \$2,000 went to the town kiosk, \$2,000 to environmental education and outreach, and \$2000 to a new conservation fund, with gratitude to Michael Sacca for his efforts
- Applied for three ARPA fund allocations from the Selectboard
- ➤ Enacted parts of our strategic plan from the 2022 consultation with the Agency of Natural Resources
- ➤ Planned and presented a Winter Evenings talk series, including living with black bears, the secret lives of wood turtles and land stewardship with the White River Land Collaborative
- Partnered with the Forest Committee to share bonfire cooking and a community walk
- ➤ Hosted Green-Up Day and continued a partnership with the Recreation Committee for Green-Up Day events
- ➤ Hosted a presentation with Tyler Brown, Vermont Fish and Wildlife, about beavers and beaver damage control measures
- ➤ Coordinated a wildflower walk with a local landowner to highlight a unique and undisturbed wetland ecosystem
- ➤ Collaborated with the White River Partnership along with 14 volunteers to clean up and remove trash from the lower First Branch. We collected 33 tires, 300lbs of trash, 1 yard of scrap metal, multiple bottles of toxic waste, and one four-wheeler
- > Participated in the Randolph area Christmas Bird Count

Future Events:

- ➤ Winter Evening talk series at the library Jan 12, Feb 9, and March 8, 7:00pm
- ➤ Green Up Day
- ➤ Walks/talks summer series: Discover Tunbridge
- First Branch monitoring and clean-up

Respectfully submitted, Betsy Gaiser, Scott Beavers, Jory Innes, Evan Reiss, Cheryl Metcalf, Eliza Minucci, and Bryan Kalleberg

Tunbridge Planning Commission

This past year, the Planning Commission turned its focus to the issue of flood hazard mitigation. And what a timely decision that was as our town was hit hard by flooding this past year and is facing some big repairs. Fortunately, we already had a scoping grant in the works - the BRIC grant (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities - which was formally awarded in November. This grant will enable us to hire an engineer in 2024 to help support our selectboard, road crew and contractors in planning work to shore up the intersection of waterways and roadways in the town corridor. We hope to follow up this scoping grant with an implementation grant to preserve the key access paths for emergency vehicles and community members in the event of the next (and inevitable) flooding event.

And speaking of flood hazard mitigation, this year the United States Geological Society (USGS) and FEMA are updating their flood maps. The Town of Tunbridge is currently using hard copies from the 1980s so this is a welcome step into the 21st century. The new maps will be compiled over a 5-year period using LIDAR technology and we should have working maps available to review by late winter. We have begun the process of reviewing our town's Flood Hazard Bylaws as a first step to updating our maps.

Janet Wells led the successful collaboration with Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Planning for a Sidewalk Scoping Grant Matching Fund to focus on how we can make transit between key buildings safer, equitable, and accessible for everyone. As part of the grant process, a public presentation and forum was held to answer questions, discuss options, and gather input. We will be able to use up to \$9,900 for sidewalk matching funds from the previously awarded ARPA money.

Under the continued leadership of Jonathan Bicknell, the Trails Committee met monthly throughout 2023. The committee held community listening sessions on recreational use and had a wildlife biologist speak on trail impacts on wildlife. The committee also applied for and was awarded a recreational grant for work in the Town Forest to include signage, parking, and benches. Work on this is pending as the committee awaits the go ahead.

Our next Hazard Mitigation plan will be due in 2025 and our next Town Plan revision will be due in 2029. In the meantime, our continued focus will be on planning for an uncertain climate future and trying to stay a step ahead of the next flood/hazard event!

Special thanks to Maryann Caron for her successful and ongoing work of securing funds for Planning Commission work and our town.

Respectfully submitted, Brenda Field, Amy Frost, Izzy Provoncha, Dan "Rudi" Ruddell, Janet Wells, Shane Young

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors 802-889-3437

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors coordinates and provides basic services at no charge to town residents through the efforts of volunteers. We are a non-profit organization whose operating costs (primarily phone service) are supported by the generosity of Tunbridgians who allocate funds at Town Meeting, and by donations, which may be sent to TNHN, P.O. Box 22, Tunbridge, VT 05077.

A few of the services offered by Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors are:

- · Rides (see below)
- · Pick up of prescriptions or other goods from stores
- · Cooking meals for people who are ill or otherwise unable to cook for a short time
- · Minor repairs or painting, minor home improvements, changing a lock*
- · Changing a flat tire or jump-starting a car
- · Simple repairs to household appliances*
- · Help lifting or moving large objects
- · Delivery of library books or Food Shelf items
- · Help with gardening, lawn care, or stacking firewood
- · Shoveling snow off walkways and steps
- · Other reasonable requests

Rides could include transportation to and from nearby medical appointments, church and other local events, car repair/service appointments and shopping trips. If the trip is a long one, please be aware that some drivers may need riders to contribute to the cost of gas due to high fuel prices.

Anyone needing help with something should call 802-889-3437. We do our best to find a volunteer who is available for your request at a specific time and date. However, on occasion that is not possible, especially if advance notice is not given.

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers. To join our list, please contact any of the board members listed below or call 802-889-3437. We respect and value your willingness to help your neighbors.

Current Board Members: Michael O'Donnell, President – 802-763-8985; Jory Innes, Vice President – 802-299-9249; Pat Howe, Treasurer – 802-889-5512; Sarah Priestap Porter, Secretary; Helen O'Donnell; Claire Brock.



State highway debris removal

^{*}Please note that the cost of any materials needed falls on the person requesting help.

Tunbridge Historical Society

The Tunbridge Historical Society had another exciting and active year bringing lots of programming to the town. The Memorial Day presentation covered the military service of Tunbridge women while the annual Tunbridge Speaks in July had a panel of local women sharing their experiences growing up in Tunbridge. In August the Historical Society presented a unique program that covered the history of the Tunbridge Cornet Band including a performance of the music from the era. For the fair, members of the Historic Society helped put together and man another wonderful display covering the history of transportation! Finally, the always-popular annual Ghost Walk was held at the Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Other highlights that rounded out the year were the creation of a YouTube channel, a webpage on the town site, and a Venmo account. In addition, the Historical Society successfully received a Vermont Historic Preservation grant to help make repairs on the Baptist Church in North Tunbridge. We would like to thank all of the community members and supporters who have worked hard to both create the programming and who show up to support us!

The Tunbridge Historical Society works to foster community and cultivate a sense of place through the collection, preservation, and presentation of the town's history. The Historical Society is always looking for more members - please consider joining us! We meet quarterly: check out our Facebook page and webpage for more information about events and meeting dates. The Tunbridge Historical Society is strictly volunteer run and relies on donations to put together our programming; any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Email us: president@tunbridgehistorical.org

Central Vermont Council on Aging

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is dedicated to the mission of supporting older Vermonters to age with dignity and choice. CVCOA services are available to those age 60 and up, caregivers, and families. For more than 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonters to remain independent for as long as possible. CVCOA serves 54 towns throughout the Central Vermont region.

CVCOA makes a difference in the lives of older Vermonters by connecting them to the network of benefit programs and services that they need to thrive, free of charge. CVCOA utilizes town funding to provide individualized support to Tunbridge residents through case management, information and assistance, options counseling, resource and benefit enrollment (nutrition, transportation, mental health counseling, legal services, etc.), long-term care planning, health insurance counseling, family caregiver support, connection to wellness and social activities, and more.

CVCOA supported 31 residents of Tunbridge. CVCOA Case Manager Karen Eddy was designated to serve older adults in Tunbridge.

CVCOA served 4,040 unduplicated clients from 07/01/2022 through 06/30/2023. CVCOA mobilized 497 volunteers through our AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP and general volunteer programs. These volunteers served over 40,000 hours, providing direct service, delivering meals on wheels, supporting nutrition sites, leading wellness classes, offering companionship and creative encouragement, and more.

All of us at CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of **Tunbridge for their ongoing commitment** to the health, well-being, independence, and dignity of older Vermonters in the Tunbridge community.

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education in Tunbridge

Local Partnerships in Learning

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc. (CVABE), a community-based nonprofit organization has served the adult education and literacy needs of Tunbridge residents for fifty-eight years.

CVABE serves as central Vermont's resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for individuals (ages 16 - 90+) in:

- ➤ Basic skills programs: reading, writing, math, computer and financial literacy
- English Language Learning and preparation for U.S. citizenship
- ➤ High school diploma and GED credential programs
- Academic skill readiness for work, career training and/or college

<u>Tunbridge is served by our learning centers in Bradford and Randolph</u>. The sites have welcoming learning rooms with computers, laptops and internet access to support instruction. CVABE staff and volunteers also teach students at the library or other local sites as needed.

<u>Last year, one Tunbridge residents enrolled with CVABE.</u> Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups. Each student has a personalized education plan to address his/her learning goals. These goals might include: getting or improving a job, earning a high school credential, helping one's children with homework, budgeting and paying bills, reading important information, obtaining a driving license, preparing for college, gaining citizenship, and more.

Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72% chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves, and 70% of adult welfare recipients have low literacy levels.

By helping to end the cycle of poverty, your support changes the lives of Tunbridge residents for generations to come.

CVABE provided free instruction to 446 people last year in the overall service area of Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties. It currently costs CVABE \$3,726 per student to provide a full year of instruction. Nearly all students are low income. Over 70 community volunteers work with CVABE's professional staff to meet the large need for these services while keeping overhead low.

We deeply appreciate Tunbridge's voter-approved *past* support. This year, your level support is again critical to CVABE's free, local education services. Only a portion of CVABE's budget is comprised of state and federal support. Funding is needed each year from the private sector and from the towns and cities we serve, to ensure we can help the neighbors who need education for a better life.

For more information regarding CVABE's adult education and literacy instruction for students, or volunteer opportunities, contact:

Bradford Learning Center 24 Barton Street - Suite 1 Bradford, Vermont 05033 (802) 222-3282

www.cvabe.org

Randolph Learning Center 10 South Main Street – PO Box 84 Randolph, Vermont 05060 (802) 728-4429

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District

137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 | cvswmd.org | 229-9383

December 2023

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. CVSWMD's mission is to provide education, advocacy, and services for residents and businesses in reducing and managing their solid waste in order to protect public health and the environment. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment has been established at \$1.00 for fiscal year 2025.

Tunbridge currently does not have an appointed representative to CVSWMD's Board of Supervisors. Please contact administration@cvswmd.org for more information.

CVSWMD continues to provide valuable programs and services to its residents, including:

- Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC): The ARCC is located in Barre City, Vermont. We work with the State of Vermont to recycle TVs, computers and computer peripherals, architectural paint, household batteries, mercury bulbs and thermostats for free for Vermont residents. We also accept dozens of hard-to-recycle items that cannot be recycled in curbside recycling. In FY23, 352,978 lbs. of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill. ARCC operations came to an abrupt halt on July 10 when the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River surged through the facility, destroying most of our equipment and leaving up to three feet of mud in its wake. While simultaneously conducting emergency operations for our member towns, CVSWMD staff, with aid from FEMA and the State, began what would become a 5-month cleanup and refitting of the ARCC with a reopening on November 27.
- <u>Grants:</u> CVSWMD continues to offer several grant programs: the Organizational Waste Reduction and Reuse Program (OWRRP); the Municipal Services Program (MSP); the Emergency Municipal Solid Waste Response Program (EMSWRP); and the School Zero Waste (SZW) program. In FY23, CVSWMD awarded \$23,312 in grant funding to towns, businesses, organizations and schools in our District. Green-Up Day grants totaling \$5,964 were also distributed. The town of Tunbridge received \$5,000 through our Municipal Services Program.
- Outreach and Education: CVSWMD maintains its website with useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what is landfill banned (and how to dispose of those), what can be recycled at our Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, and an A-Z Guide providing guidance to dispose of all types of waste. CVSWMD provides monthly newsletters and is active on social media, communicating waste management information and program updates to residents. Our knowledgeable staff provides guidance to residents and local businesses regarding all their waste management questions and concerns. CVSWMD's Outreach program continues to offer Waste Warrior trainings and composting workshops to District residents and event organizers.
- <u>Household Hazardous Waste:</u> In FY23, CVSWMD held five one-day collections throughout the District and helped 533 resident households dispose of 43,593 lbs. of hazardous waste. CVSWMD is currently working to open a year-round collection facility in Berlin that will collect wastes that are labeled for and sold for home use. The District has reached a host-town agreement with the Town of Berlin for siting our "Eco-Depot," and is in the process of acquiring permitting and purchasing the property with a goal of

opening in January 2025. Vermont's Department of Environmental Conservation has provided a generous grant to facilitate the project. In time, CVSWMD hopes to consolidate all its operations on the 5.2-acre site.

- <u>School Program:</u> In FY23 the CVSWMD School Zero Waste Program reached 4600 students, grades K-12, through 165 classroom/schoolyard programs, cafeteria visits, etc. Topics presented and initiatives supported included living more sustainably, engaging in the "Rs" (recycling, repurposing, reusing, etc.), utilizing food scraps as a natural resource, classroom worm composting, special recycling initiatives, etc. Support was also provided to school food services departments in reducing cafeteria waste, and school custodial in proper disposal of books, batteries, mercury-containing bulbs, and electronic waste through the CVSWMD ARCC, as well as the management and proper disposal of school-generated hazardous waste, including via District collection events.
- <u>Compost and Zero Waste:</u> CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to District residents at discounted rates. We will also continue to offer our Event Kit and Bin Loan programs on a first-come, first-serve basis to help reduce and manage waste at events held within the District. These programs have been put on hold due to our inventory being destroyed by the July flooding, but we plan to re-establish them as soon as possible.
- <u>Emergency Operations</u>: In the aftermath of the July flood, CVSWMD teams cruised the streets of Montpelier and Barre, pulling paint cans, fluorescents, motor oil, batteries and a slew of other items that had been mixed with regular trash, in order to prevent their transport to the landfill. The District also called all member towns to offer organized collection events. These were provided in Barre City and Barre Town (who generously accepted drop-offs from neighboring Williamstown, Orange and Washington), where we partnered with Department of Environmental Conservation staff to ensure that collected items were handled and packaged correctly. Additionally, CVSWMD played a major role in connecting towns with vital State and Federal subsidized debris remediation programs.

CVSWMD posts useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what items are banned from the landfill (and how to dispose of those), what items can be recycled at our Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, Act 148, details about our special collections, and an A-to-Z Guide listing disposal options for many materials. For specific questions, call (802) 229-9383.



Micro-burst tree damage

Chelsea Area Senior Center

P.O. Box 44 Chelsea, VT 05038 802-685-2290 Serving Chelsea, Tunbridge, and Vershire

2023 Year End Report

The nutrition program served a total of 9,356 meals. The total program cost per meal was \$9.03 and we only receive and average donation of \$2.97 per meal. We are making every effort to keep the elderly in their homes where they are happy and comfortable.

We have a case manager/ advocate worker who helps the seniors with information on such items as fuel assistance, SSI, Medicare/Medicaid, and other problems. If you are in the need for some help, call Karen Eddy at 802-763-2907. If you have problem getting a hold of her call the CVCOA Help line at 802-477-1364

We offer a health training exercise program and have health speakers and entertainment come to the center. If you need foot care, please call Rae Dunican (she will go to your home) at 1-802-558-0418 there is a cost of \$20.00.

The Center fundraises by rest area bake sales, quilt raffles, Flea Market booths and selling Christmas wreaths. We do have a Facebook page (Chelsea Area Senior Citizen's Center)

We provide transportation to some to and from the meal site. Call the Senior Center if you need a ride to the center for dinner.

Since March of 2020 we have had to change a lot. We are serving indoor meals on Mondays only. We are also offering a curb-side pick-up. All you have to do is call the center at 685-2290 before 9:30 am on Monday and/or Friday and we will give you a time to pick-up your meal. We have two coolers, one for the hot meal and one for the cold meal, at the side entrance. You just come and take from both coolers at the time we give you. The staff is sterilizing several times a day. We are doing everything to keep all healthy. We do also still offer the Meals on Wheels.

We appreciate the community for donating local vegetables and moneys. Thanks to all who donated any items.

We appreciate the interest and financial support given by the United Church of Chelsea, area businesses and the towns of Chelsea, Tunbridge, and Vershire.

Respectfully submitted, Susan H. Pirie, Director

Clara Martin Center

Child and Family Services Ayers Brook., Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-4466

Farmhouse PO Box, Bradford, VT 05033 (802) 222-4477

Safe Haven 4 Highland Ave., Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-5233

Community Support Services 24 South Main St., Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-6000

East Valley Academy 579 VT Rte. 14 So., East Randolph, VT 05041 (802) 728-3896

Regional Alternative Program

Norwich Avenue, Wilder, VT 05088 (802) 295-8628

Adult and Children Outpatient Services 1483 Lower Plain Rd., Bradford, VT 05033 (802) 222-4477

Central VT Substance Abuse Services (CVSAS) 100 Hospitality Drive, Berlin, VT 05601

(802) 223-4156

Wilder

PO Box 816, Wilder VT 05088

(802) 295-1311

Clara Martin Center provides a multitude of services throughout greater Orange County to best meet the needs of community members in a holistic approach. These include individual, couples, and group therapy and services for co-occurring mental health and substance use. We also offer psychiatric consultations and evaluations and medication management services. Services are confidential and include:

- **Outpatient Counseling**
- **Psychiatric Services**
- Short-term crisis intervention
- School and Home-based services
- Education for families
- Community resource assistance

- **Hospital Diversion**
- Walk-in Clinic
- Vocational Services
- Alcohol and other drug treatment
- Respite Care
- 24-hour emergency system

Clara Martin Center is your local community mental health agency, providing behavioral health and substance use services to the greater Orange County and the greater Upper Valley area for the last 57 years. Clara Martin Center's broad range of programs serve children, families, couples, and individuals. Services are confidential and include counseling, psychiatric services, consultations, short term crisis intervention, school and home-based services, education for families related to emotional and behavioral challenges, community resource assistance, alternatives to hospital care, respite care, housing, vocational services, substance use treatment, a walk-in clinic and 24-hour emergency services. We strive to meet the care needs of the communities we serve, and provide services that meet the needs of the individuals that have entrusted their care to us.

FY23 TOTAL SERVED AT CMC		TOTAL SERVED Tunbridge		
Children & Family Services	463	Children & Family Services	26	
School Services	102	School Services	1	
JOBS	71	JOBS	2	
Adult Services	677	Adult Services	23	
CSP Services	160	CSP Services	6	
Supportive & Transitional Housing	15	Supportive & Transitional Housing	1	
Substance Abuse Services	284	Substance Abuse Services	7	
Corrections Services	94	Corrections Services	2	
Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	293	Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	9	
Access	662	Access	19	
CCBHC Services	1,081	CCBHC Services	26	
Total Served – unduplicated	2,191	Total seen:	66	

Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation



Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation (GMEDC) is one of twelve statewide Regional Development Corporations (RDCs), serving a 30-town region in Orange and northern Windsor counties. Our primary function is to develop economic vitality and prosperity consistent with the goals of the communities we serve.

In FY2023, dues from member towns contributed \$19,273 of our annual operating budget of \$220,183. Town dues are assessed at \$0.50/resident, as determined by population data from the VT Department of Health and the U.S. Census Bureau. Further operating revenue comes from business memberships and federal, state, and other funding sources. *Your support helps provide client-specific economic development services free of charge and available to municipalities, new entrepreneurs, established and expanding businesses.* Services include business development guidance, relocation support, and project development; for requests that are beyond our level of expertise, GMEDC has a ready referral network to meet client needs. Additionally, the RDCs work collectively throughout the legislative session to promote the needs and interests of the business community across the state. GMEDC and our local partners have assisted 100+ businesses and municipalities seeking additional information on economic development activities, local business projects, funding opportunities, legislative action and more.

FY2023 activities included:

- > Supporting numerous funding applications for capital investment, brownfield assessment and redevelopment, project planning and pre-development, totaling over \$5 million in funding to our service area.
- > Securing state funding to implement a third round of the successful small business technical assistance program, providing small grants and administrative support to match specific business needs with service providers.
- Leveraging a \$1.5 million Economic Development Administration partnership for the Randolph Innovation Hub to hire staff and rebrand as Cultivator: Where Community Collaborates, gathering community input to map the way forward.
- ➤ Continued support of the \$300,000 Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Working Communities Challenge White River Valley Consortium project, working to improve housing opportunities in 14 towns in the White River Valley.
- > Ongoing partnership with Orange County Parent and Child Center to develop a new, \$6 million child-care facility offering 88 new seats in the Randolph region.
- ➤ Closeout of \$500,000+ Environmental Protection Agency-funded brownfield clean-up of former Valley Motors site in Bethel.

On behalf of the GMEDC Board of Directors and all of our members, I would like to thank the Town of Tunbridge for your continued support and partnership. For further information, call us at (802) 295-3710 or visit our website at www.gmedc.com

Erika C. Hoffman-Kiess, Executive Director

One Planet After School Program

One Planet seeks to create a dynamic learning environment after school and during the summer that inspires and supports students in becoming compassionate global citizens and lifelong learners.

During summer 2023 the FBUD One Planet Summer Camp engaged 42 children in grades K-6 with exciting theme-based projects for five weeks. Summer activities ranged widely depending on the week's theme. The five themes this year included Fairy & Fantasy, Under the Sea, The Night Sky, Let's Create, and Camping Week. Students also participated in a number of exciting field trips. Campers traveled to The Fairbanks Museum, Circus Smirkus, Union Arena, Artistree, and Get Air. Students also took weekly swim lessons at Storrs Pond in Hanover and took full advantage of their beautiful hiking trails on each trip.

One Planet summer programming also continued to offer our Counselors-in-Training program giving local middle school students the opportunity to join the program giving them leadership roles and the power to make decisions. Finally, our summer camp had three amazing high school aides as a part of our staffing team this summer, all of whom attend local high schools in our region. Our high school staff bridge the gap between adult staff, CITS, and campers, bring wonderful energy to our program, and are strong role models for our elementary students.

Thanks to the support of the Town of Tunbridge, we were able to continue to offer families reduced summer pricing. We also provided a sliding scale and scholarships for those families in need. Parents were truly grateful to see their kids smiling, connecting with their peers and having a summer camp experience.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to continuing to serve the local community in partner-ship with the Town of Tunbridge.



693 Vermont Rte.110 Tunbridge, VT 05077

www.orangecountypcc.org 802-685-2264

One of 15 parent child centers in Vermont, the Orange County Parent Child Center strengthens families with young children and connects them to their communities. We accomplish this through an array of different support including in home, community and center based. We serve families regardless of income.

OCPCC's programs include: Children's Integrated Services Family Support and Family Support Nursing, Welcome Baby visits, free community playgroups, Early Care & Education, parent education, concrete supports and resource & referral services. We are a public pre-k partner under Act 166.

You can learn more at www.orangecountypcc.org

Last year, with the continued support of your community, we were able to provide 445 services to Tunbridge residents.

Orange County Child Advocacy Center



Dear Citizens of Tunbridge,

The Orange County Child Advocacy Center (CAC) serves as a central agency through which reports of suspected child abuse can be channeled for investigation and victim recovery. The CAC is a fully Accredited Member of the National Children's Alliance (NCA). We share with NCA the passion to minimize the traumatic effect of child abuse upon the children and families of our community. CAC is a non-profit organization serving Orange County to assist family's in the discovery, intervention, treatment and prevention of child sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and children affected by violence. We provide a safe comfortable environment for the forensic quality and child appropriate interviews, training for professionals and collateral referral services for victims and their non-offending family members. Our agency serves families of all socio-economic levels and is committed to providing quality services regardless of the ability to pay. Please visit orangecountycac.org to learn more.

In 2022 Orange County SIU and CAC served 86 new families of which 76 were children. We conducted 63 on-site forensic interviews and were able to refer 39 children and 2 adults for counseling services. In addition, we continue to provide community awareness and education at no cost, in an effort to provide adults with the ability to recognize, react and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse and increase each school district's ability to complete the legislatively mandated ACT 1 initiative also known as Child Sexual Abuse Awareness training for Educators, Community Members and Student's in grades K-12. The Orange County Child Advocacy Center is requesting funds in the amount of \$1,500 to continue our efforts in supporting families in your community.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Orange County Child Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team, we want to thank you for your continued support and dedication. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Respectfully Submitted, Michele Thurston, Program Coordinator 802-685-4712

Orange County Restorative Justice Center

Orange County Restorative Justice Cente (OCRJC) is a community-based restorative justice agency, offering cost-effective alternatives to the Family, Criminal, and Civil Courts and the State Corrections system. We remain committed to our mission and vision building and advocating for just communities by providing restorative programs to address legal issues, wrongdoing, conflict, and the needs of harmed parties; and connecting participants to services that improve the health, well-being and positive behavior of individuals and the community. We want the everyday life in Orange County communities to be safe, just and provide opportunities for all people to thrive.

We offer 11 programs to Orange County residents: Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA), Community Restorative Practices training, Court Diversion, Driver's License Reinstatement, Pre-Trial Services, Reparative Panels, Restorative Re-entry after Incarceration, Safe Driver Education, Transitional Housing, Victim Assistance and the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, 289 people were referred to us for services. Local volunteers provided 1,203 hours of their time to support 272 Restorative Meetings. We served 62 harmed parties (victims) and distributed \$9,107 in restitution to those who experienced losses due to crime. OCRJC helped: 53 people connect with counseling services, 17 people access our emergency support fund, and 22 people reinstate their driver's license. We secured 4 apartments for transitional housing and had 70 people in our Safe Driver program.

In FY23, OCRJC worked with six people who live in or whose incidents took place in Tunbridge. For each incident referred to OCRJC, the person responsible and the individuals impacted by the crime are offered services.

OCRJC's FY23 operating budget was \$534,247. We are proud to be supported by appropriations from every town in Orange County. The Town of Tunbridge appropriated \$350 for FY23 to support our work. OCRJC requests \$350 in 2024 to support ongoing programs.

Thank you for your support! For additional information, find our website at https://ocrjvt.org or contact Jessica Schmidt, Executive Director, at 802-685-3172 or info@ocrjvt.org.



From Sherlock's Field



Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

The Public Health Council of the Upper Valley (PHC) is our region's trusted leader in public health, supporting the people, professionals, and organizations who, together, make our communities healthier places to live, work, and play. Our mission is to improve the health of all Upper Valley residents.

We do this in four keyways:

- 1. Unify the public health priorities of the region to promote collaboration and progress towards shared goals.
- 2. Work alongside health and human services organizations and policy makers to develop actionable plans and best practices to address the community's priorities.
- 3. Aggregate and disseminate important public health information across the region and bring people together to share ideas, experiences, and expertise.
- 4. Function as a backbone support for underserved members of the community by serving as fiscal sponsor for program development, providing technical assistance, and advocating for health equity.

PHC is recognized by the State of New Hampshire as one of its regional public health networks and collaborates closely with White River Junction District Office of the Vermont Department of Health.

Our work in 2023 included:

- Released a new Community Health Improvement Plan that describes the collaborative strategies partners will use to address community health priorities.
- Hosted regular meetings for PHC partners to share information and provide opportunities for problem solving.
- Distributed COVID test kits to social service organizations for vulnerable residents.
- Provided staff support to Upper Valley Strong as the coalition responded to the July flooding.
- Hosted six flu clinics in rural communities with support from Dartmouth Health, Geisel School of Medicine and local partner, providing over 1,500 free vaccines.
- Served as host for the Upper Valley Community Health Equity Partnership, a program funded through a grant from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Collaborated with local school districts and the Hartford Community Coalition to provide summer meals for children in the region.

PHC appreciates the opportunity to serve the residents of Tunbridge and will continue to work hard to meet your needs in 2024. For more information about PHC, visit us at www.uvpublichealth.org.



Safeline

P.O. Box 368, Chelsea, VT 05038 safelineinfo@safelinevt.org (802) 685-7900 office (800) 639-7933 24/7 hotline

Safeline, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides free confidential services for victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and stalking in Orange County and northern Windsor County.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, Safeline provided 2,325 services for 262 victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual abuse. Safeline provided 128 services for 12 victims and their support people who identified themselves as residents of Tunbridge. It is likely that these statistics are understated, as victims often choose not to give any identifying information out of fear for their own safety. Services were provided for 11 females and one male who experienced domestic violence (8), rape (1), family violence (1) and child sexual violence (2). Assistance was provided for 16 Relief from Abuse protection orders, one child sexual violence situation plus others.

Safeline provides free and confidential services, including: crisis support, safety planning, medical advocacy, economic empowerment, financial education and legal advocacy. Day shelter services, a resource library and information and referrals are also available.

In addition to providing direct services, Safeline is a resource to the community at large and is committed to changing the culture of violence in our society. As part of this work, Safeline offers a full-range of prevention education activities for community organizations, faith communities, youth groups and other groups seeking information about domestic and sexual violence. This year we provided information for the Tunbridge Welcome Committee and at the Tunbridge Fair.

We thank the voters for your support as we work to end domestic violence and sexual abuse in Tunbridge.

The Arts Bus

With a mission of empowering children to find joy & authentic self-expression through the arts, The Arts Bus has a never-ending journey of creative exploration. In 2023, the big green bus headed into new horizons with a charge to 'Go & Grow', expanding our service area from Central Vermont to statewide with a huge & colorful variety of art enrichment programs for classrooms, in & after school, summer camps, public libraries, facilities, town events, maple houses & farms! We continued with our award-winning Ever After Kids Program, Art from the Start (for pre-K children) and New RouTEEN (for 12-16 year olds), while providing free art supplies like paints, brushes, markers, crayons, paper, glue, and 3D building pieces through our Go Big & Go Home initiative. And, we were positively thrilled to receive a grant from Vermont Children's Trust Foundation to purchase & custom wrap a new minibus for all-weather, year-round access to young artists.

Throughout the year, The Arts Bus took over 1,500 children statewide on artistic adventures through time with S.T.E.A.M. based art from the Vikings in the form of rune & zodiac resins; showed how to glow with the flow of acrylic painting; traveled the world with crafts from every continent; used wood based forms to paint fairy & furry forests, wax wooden snakes, and scorch mushrooms & chests; deployed the Puppet Factory to make 100 sock puppets in 3 days; created characters with elves, sprites, egg folk, gems and fuzzy socks; created music with Ida Mae Specker; and made wearable art with bandanas, hair clips, t-shirts, hats, gloves & backpacks. At every stop, we gave away free art supplies including wooden figurines, markers, paints, brushes, paper, crayons, finger puppets, costumes, masks and what we had to give to empower each child's creative exploration.

In and around Tunbridge, The Arts Bus had another joyous year of art adventure in the afterschool program at the elementary school with both kits & classroom teaching, had a full-week STEAM-powered adventure at Chelsea/Tunbridge summer camp, and traveled to numerous local area public events where Tunbridge's children and families showed their creative talent! We are delighted to service this special town and already have embarking on the same and more for 2024.

There is no charge to climb aboard The Arts Bus and we are driven to provide a creative resource right where our communities need it. Because our mission finds us at the crossroads of limited public art education resources and ever-increasing costs to raise a family & run a village, we seek grants every year to bring our services to communities like Tunbridge so anyone can have the opportunity to come aboard. As in years' prior, we are requesting \$800.00 in town appropriations from Tunbridge for the 2024 fiscal year to support The Arts Bus to help fuel our journey. To learn more and see pictures of the little artists' creations you make happen, we invite you to our Facebook page @artsbusyt or to visit our website www.artsbusyt.org.

Tri-Valley Transit (TVT)

Thank you for the Town of Tunbridge's generous support last year. During the past four years, your support helped us provide an annual average of **193 free Dial-A-Ride trips for Tunbridge residents** either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles. An additional **168 riders boarded public buses at Tunbridge bus stops**. *TVT's Dial-A-Ride and Public Bus Systems provided a total of 180,335 rides for the year*. All of TVT's transportation programs enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment, and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

Dial-A-Ride Programs

Focus on specialized populations including elders, persons with disabilities and low-income families/in-dividuals who are unable to access the bus system. Dial-A-Ride offers direct access from home to: medical treatments, meal site/senior programs, adult day care services, pharmacies, food shopping, social services, vocational rehabilitation, radiation & dialysis, substance abuse treatment, and other destinations that enhance riders' quality of life.



Bus System

Promotes economic development, energy conservation, mobility independence and quality of life. Tunbridge residents can access the 89'er Commuter Route to access stops along the I-89 corridor to the Hanover, Lebanon, White River Jct. area for access to educational and employment opportunities, medical appointments, and shopping.

The state and local grants through which we provide these services require us to raise up to 20% "local match" dollars. TVT's requests from towns account for approximately 5% of the match requirement.

Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission

The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission is your regional planning commission. We are governed by a Board of Representatives appointed by each of our 30 member towns. We work to make the area better today, and to articulate a vision for a thriving regional economy that enhances the Region's outstanding quality of life. The following are highlights from our work in 2023.

Technical Assistance on Planning Issues

Our staff support your local officials by being a wealth of information on many subjects, enabling them to serve you better. We provide advice on zoning, capital budgeting, and preventing flood damage; review solar and cell tower projects; stay abreast of state and federal initiatives so that local government can take advantage of these; and have worked hard to address the region's housing crisis. The Municipal Technical Assistance Program has supported eligible towns in identifying project opportunities and funding sources to undertake those projects. TRORC staff have also assisted numerous towns with revisions to municipal plans, bylaws and studies.

Economy and Public Health

This year, TRORC supported the Region's talented artists, food producers, and other parts of the creative economy sector through training and networking events. We also were able to provide many small businesses with grant funds to weather Covid-19, as well as guidance to towns on using their federal recovery funds. TRORC also helps identify and clean contaminated parcels of land for reuse.

Emergency Management and Preparedness

TRORC staff continued to serve as liaisons between Vermont Emergency Management and local emergency responders, organizations, and town officials on emergency planning. TRORC assisted several communities with updating their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, helping to reduce future damages from disasters and enable greater state and federal funding when they do happen. When disasters happen, we actively become part of the state and local long-term recovery process and have done so most recently with the July floods.

Energy/Climate Change

TRORC assisted towns on Enhanced Energy Plans to save money for communities and further the State energy goal of meeting 90% of energy needs from renewable sources by 2050. TRORC has continued working to support member towns through assessing town buildings for energy conservation upgrades. We also work on state-level climate policy and local adaptation measures.

Transportation

TRORC also worked with towns to get funding to implement road improvement projects. We also work to support our transit agencies, build park and ride lots, and help towns with traffic counts and speed studies.

In Tunbridge this past year, TRORC helped complete the Local Emergency Management Plan. Staff assisted the town on a grant to improve ditching and culverts on Whitney Hill Road. TRORC is also supporting the town as the project manager for the town's Village Walkability Scoping Study. Staff assisted the town with applying for and receiving energy assessment grants for the Town Office and the Town Hall.

We are committed to serving you, and welcome opportunities to assist you in the future.

Respectfully submitted, Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director William B. Emmons III, Chairperson, Pomfret

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

During the 2023 Fiscal Year, The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired saw continued success in client services, innovative programs, and community outreach initiatives. Moving forward, it is exciting to imagine the strides we will make in enabling blind and visually impaired Vermonters to be more independent, develop adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life.

SMART Device Training Program: 550 Vermont residents received SMART training in FY23, the highest number in the program's five-year history. Also, during FY23, VABVI secured \$100,000 of partial program funding from the State of Vermont. In order to fully fund SMART, whose budget is more than twice that amount, VABVI has recently announced our several-year Second Century Endowment Campaign.

PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning and Support) Group: PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. While many clients have been pleased with the reintroduction of in-person meetings in FY23, opportunities to join virtually remain available for maximum flexibility. 42 clients attended PALS meetings in FY23.

HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence): The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills.

IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience): IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. This June, IRLE brought 13 visually impaired students to Rock Point by Lake Champlain. Activities included outdoor sports, nature walks, and living in cabins. Fun was had by all!

Community Outreach

VABVI continues to innovate new projects which will connect the local community to our services and cause. After more than a year of development, an accessible tactile sign is slated to be installed in Burlington's Waterfront Park by the end of 2023. Additionally, the New Americans Project will soon offer free vision screenings for local refugee community members.

In Fiscal Year 2023, the agency provided services to a total of 1,083 Vermont residents. This total includes one adult and one student in Tunbridge and 31 adults and 12 students in Orange County.

For more information about VABVI's services or volunteer opportunities, please contact Samantha Gougher, Development Associate, at *sgougher@vabvi.org*. Thank you very much for your support!

Vermont Center for Independent Living TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE

For over 44 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'23 (10/2022-9/2023) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 140 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 4 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 178 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 115 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 73 individuals with information on assistive technology; 41 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 379 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served 17 people and provided 7 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is in downtown Montpelier (although we are working from home as our office (along with so many others) was devastated in the July flood and we have four branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY'23, 4 residents of **Tunbridge** received services from the following programs:

- ➤ Home Access Program \$11,743.00 spent on home modifications
- > Sue Williams Freedom Fund \$1,500.00 spent on assistive technology
- ➤ Information Referral and Assistance

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

Vermont Department of Health



White River Junction Local Health Office 118 Prospect St., Suite 300 White River Junction, Vermont

Toll free: 888-253-8799 | Main line: 802-295-8820

E-mail: <u>AHS.VDHOLHWhiteRiverJunction@vermont.gov</u>

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The White River Junction Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Northern Windsor and Southern Orange counties. Some highlights of our work in 2023 are below. For more information, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/white-river-junction

Collaboration with Partners

The White River Junction (WRJ) staff works with over 30 diverse health care and social service organizations in the Greater Upper Valley Integrated Services Team (GUVIST). GUVIST is making services and support for community members of all ages more efficient, effective, responsive and appropriate to the desires of those in need. To learn more about this initiative, visit <u>uvpublichealth.org/guvist/</u>

Addressing Health Equity

Our Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program helps pregnant people and families with children under age 5. We provide healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and referrals to community resources. Our office understands that not having transportation can make it difficult to get services. Our office has the most access points in the state with our nutritionists hosting clinics at seven satellite sites. If you would like to learn more visit www.healthvermont.gov/local/white-river-junction/wic-white-river-junction/wic-white-river-junction

Planning For and Responding to Emergencies

Our Emergency Preparedness Specialist, Immunization Nurse, Epidemiologist and other staff have worked with the Upper Valley Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to help our communities. They have spent hundreds of hours conducting COVID testing, administering COVID and Mpox vaccinations, investigating over 210 infectious disease cases and collecting kits for water testing during flood recovery. Learn more about the MRC at uvpublichealth.org/featured-partner-upper-valley-medical-reserve-corps/

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including its audited financial statements, visit the VLCT website at www.vlct.org.

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD) (802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

The Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property, and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, designs installations, and finds financial resources to support the costs of construction. During the 26+ years of the program, 1,177 grants totaling nearly \$2.8 million have been provided to Vermont towns for the installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

The Rural Fire Protection Program is managed by the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD). VACD is the membership association of Vermont's fourteen Natural Resources Conservations Districts, whose mission is to work with landowners and communities to protect natural resources and support the working landscape throughout the state.

We have made several adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program in recent years, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project (\$15,000 for a couple special case projects). New rural fire protection systems, along with repair, replacement, relocation, and upgrades of existing systems, and drafting site development, are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2023 was \$199,158 of which \$82,374 was paid in grants to support the construction and repair of 17 rural fire protection projects throughout Vermont. The remaining budget covered site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Division of Fire Safety of the Vermont Department of Public Safety, through annual appropriations by the Vermont Legislature. In addition, the program receives support from the US Forest Service through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. Unfortunately, these grants do not completely cover the costs of the program. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. In FY 2023, we received over \$9,375 in town appropriations from 90 towns. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

235 Vermont communities have benefitted from the Rural Fire Protection program. Our goal is to extend this support to all Vermont towns and continue to assist local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources, thereby improving the safety and welfare of Vermont communities.

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire Home Health, Hospice and Pediatric Services

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is one of the oldest and largest non-profit providers of in-home healthcare services in the region. VNH is committed to providing the highest quality care throughout all stages of life, from maternal child care to end of life hospice care, and everything in between. Providing individuals and families with the care they need within the comfort of their own home allows them to maintain comfort and dignity throughout their time of care.

VNH services reduce cost associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, VNH made 216 in-home visits.

- **Home Health Care**: 16 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Hospice Services**: 1 resident who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Skilled Pediatric Care**: 3 residents for well-baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

VNH serves many of Tunbridge's most vulnerable citizens – the frail elderly and disabled, at-risk families, people with terminal illnesses, children with chronic medical needs and the uninsured and underinsured. We are dedicated to delivering outstanding home health and hospice services that enrich the lives of the people we serve.

It is with your help that we are able to provide services like this to those in need. Tunbridge's annual appropriation to VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely, Anthony Knox Community Relations Manager



Brenda and Jodi delivering post-flood water tests

White River Partnership 2023 Annual Report

The White River Partnership (WRP) is a member-supported, nonprofit organization formed in 1996 by a group of local people who shared an interest in keeping the White River healthy. The WRP envisions a White River valley in which individuals and communities work together to make informed decisions that result in clean water, fewer flood damages, improved access to the river, and more. Here are some highlights from our work in 2023:

- WRP staff and 35 volunteers completed the 6th year of our White River Water Trail Stewardship Program, monitoring river access sites every month during the summer to remove trash and to report hazardous conditions. We started the season and ended the season with river cleanup events in sum, 125 volunteers removed 5,000 pounds of trash from the river in Bethel, Hartford, Pomfret, Randolph, Rochester, Royalton, Sharon, Stockbridge, and Tunbridge.
- WRP staff and 25 trained volunteers **completed the 23nd year of our water quality monitoring program**, testing bacteria, conductivity, and turbidity at 22 swimming holes in 13 towns including the Tunbridge Fairgrounds and Tunbridge Town Pool Tributary sites every two weeks from late May through early September. We shared results via email, our website, and our Facebook and Instagram pages.
- The WRP worked with willing landowners, partners, and a youth work crew to plant 4,140 native trees and shrubs along the White River and its tributaries at four sites to improve water quality, fish and wild-life habitat, and flood resilience.
- The WRP engaged 1,400 students and teachers from 32 schools including the First Branch School in Tunbridge in hands-on education programs that raise awareness about watershed health, including cray-fish sampling & identification, Freshwater Snorkeling with the Green Mountain National Forest, Trout in the Classroom with Greater Upper Valley Trout Unlimited, waterbugs sampling & identification, wildlife track & sign monitoring along the river, and more!

For more information

White River Partnership
PO Box 705, S. Royalton, VT 05068
(802) 763-7733, info@whiteriverpartnership.org
www.whiteriverpartnership.org and www.facebook.com/WhiteRiverPartnership



Tunbridge Vital Statistics			
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Town of Tunbridge, Vermont

Permit Information

The following is intended as **basic information** on the most common kinds of permits, but is **not a complete list.** If you think you may need a permit, get help from an attorney, engineer, or other knowledgeable party.

Local Zoning: Tunbridge **does not** have zoning. You **do not** need a zoning permit from the Town for any building.

Driveway: You **do** need a driveway (access) permit to connect to a town road or state highway. Contact the Town Clerk for additional information.

Flood Plain Zoning: If your project is in the flood hazard zone near the White River (Town Clerk has a map) there are requirements and you need approval. The Town adopted this regulation so that people in Tunbridge can get flood insurance.

Act 250 Permits: Most projects except farm buildings and single-family houses (and sometimes even them too) require an Act 250 permit from the state. The requirements are complicated; more information is available at www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/permit.htm.

Historic District: Unless you need to get an Act 250 permit you **do not** need any special permit to do work in our Historic District.

Septic Permits: The state **requires** a septic permit for **any new or altered** septic system. Talk to the Town Clerk for additional information.

Well Permits: Well drilling must be performed by licensed well-drillers; who should know the current regulations. To be legal, a well must be a certain distance from the nearest septic system, whether on your property or not. No well may be drilled in a public right of way.

Building Permit: Tunbridge does not have building permits, however there are restrictions on building within the flood plain (see above). The state requires a building permit for any building that is **not** a single-family owner-occupied home or a farm building. The permit is from the Division of Fire Prevention; the Barre office covers Tunbridge. Visit www.vtfiresafety.org for more information.

Energy Certification: The state has adopted a new energy code. It applies to **every new building** that is heated, **including single family homes.** Mobile homes are exempt. Owner-built/owner-occupied homes are exempt, but must have a certificate showing the degree of compliance. The energy code is not retroactive to existing buildings except when they are remodeled. For more information call the Energy Code Assistance Center at 888-373-2255 regarding homes.

Electrical and Plumbing: You are allowed to personally do electrical work in your own home. Similarly you can do plumbing work in your own home **except when** it is connected to a public water supply. **Nearly all** other electrical or plumbing work needs a permit and license.

Gas Fitting: Nobody except a licensed gas installer may do any gas fitting.

Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors: Smoke detectors are required in most buildings in Vermont, **including** single family homes. Smoke detectors must be of the photoelectric type. Carbon monoxide detectors are required in most buildings including new single-family homes or any home if it is sold or transferred. Both kinds of detectors are a good idea. For more information go to www.dps.state.vt.us/fire/smoke

Proposed Noise Ordinance

Pursuant to the authority of 24 V.S.A § 2291 (14) and 24 V.S.A Chapter 59.

ARTICLE I- PURPOSE

In order to protect the comfort, quiet, repose, health, peace, or safety of others within the immediate vicinity of the noise or disturbance, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Tunbridge adopt an ordinance to prohibit and/or appropriately regulate a person or persons from making or continuing any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonably loud noise or disturbance.

ARTICLE II- REGULATION

No person or persons shall make or continue, or cause to be made or continued, any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonably loud noise or disturbance with disturbs, destroys, or endangers the comfort, quiet, repose, health, peace or safety of others within the immediate vicinity of the noise or disturbance. Although intended as examples only, and not exclusive of other acts constituting a violation of this Article, the commission of one or more of the following acts, if done in such a manner, shall be deemed a violation of this Article.

- a. Electronic sound producing devices. The playing or use of an electronic sound producing device in such manner or with such volume at unreasonable hours. For the purpose of this subsection, the term "electronic sound-producing devices" shall include any radio, phonograph, stereo, television set, amplified musical instrument, loud speaker, tape, cassette or compact disc recorder or any other similar device. On Sunday through Thursday, the hours between 10:00pm and 7:00am shall be deemed unreasonable whenever any person shall make complaint of the disturbance during such hours. On Friday, Saturday and special holidays, (New Years Eve and Fourth of July) the hours between 1:00 am and 7:00 am shall be deemed unreasonable whenever any person shall make complaint of the disturbance during such hours. The complaint of the disturbance, shall also be deemed a violation as well.
- b. Vocal Disturbances. Yelling, shouting, whistling, singing, or making any other loud vocal disturbances which are deemed to be objectionable because of volume, frequency or beat and is not muffled or otherwise controlled.
- c. Devices to attract attention. The use of any drum, musical instrument, loud speaker, amplifier, or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the playing of musical instruments by persons practicing or performing in a school or town band, orchestra or participating in or practicing for an authorized parade or assembly in a public place.
- d. Dogs, cats and other animals. The keeping of any dog, cat or other animal which shall become a nuisance to another person in the vicinity where such dog, cat or other animal is kept, by frequent or continued barking, howling, yelping or screaming. Customary agricultural activities are exempt from this Ordinance.
- e. Construction noises. The excavation, erection, demolition, alteration, or repair of any buildings, structure, property or street between the hours of 9:00pm and 7:00am, except for necessary emergency repairs to protect property of persons when such activity utilizes motorized or powered tools or equipment.
- f. Trash removal. The removal of household and commercial trash by authorized commercial trash haulers utilizing mechanized conveyances from all residential areas between the hours of 9:00pm and 6:30am.

ARTICLE III- EXEMPTIONS

Emergency vehicles operated by fire, police or rescue agencies and public works or public utility vehicles when used during snow operation or emergency repairs to service are exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance.

ARTICLE IV- ACTS NOT SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED

The commission of any act not specifically prohibited by any other section or subsection of this chapter shall be deemed a violation of this chapter if it is determined that such act will make or continue any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonably loud noise or disturbance, or any noise or disturbance which disturbs, destroys or

endangers the comfort, quiet, repose, health, peace, or safety of others within the immediate vicinity of the noise or disturbance.

ARTICLE V- AUTHORITY

No owner or occupier of premises, or any person who has been given lawful permission to use or control any premises, shall knowingly permit a violation of this Ordinance by another person on such premises.

ARTICLE VI- PENALTY

A person who violates any provision of these regulations shall be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for each offense. Each week that a violation is continued shall constitute a separate offense. Any fines collected under this section shall be paid over to the Town of Tunbridge.

ARTICLE VII- INTERPRETATION AND SEPERABILITY

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and the general welfare. Whenever the requirements of this Ordinance are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rule, regulation or ordinance, the most restrictive or that imposing the higher standard shall govern.

Should any court of competent jurisdiction determine any provision of the Ordinance to be invalid, such judgement shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part other than the part so declared to be invalid.

Effective Date

This ordinance, or amendments thereto, shall become effective 60 days after adoption. If a petition is filed under 24 V.S.A § 1973, the taking effect of this ordinance shall be governed by that statute.

DECLARATION OF INCLUSION

The Town of Tunbridge condemns racism and welcomes all persons regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age or disability and wants everyone to feel safe and welcome in our community.

As a town, we formally condemn discrimination in all its forms, commit to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community, and will strive to ensure all our actions, policies and operating procedures reflect this commitment.

The Town of Tunbridge is and will continue to be a place where individuals can live freely and express their opinions.

Helpful Information

Town Clerk Administrative Asst. to Selectboard Town Listers/ Treasurer Town Garage Town Public Library Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors	Phone Numbers 889-5521 889-5521 889-3571 889-3319 889-9404 889-3437
Animal Control Officer First Constable Second Constable Fire Permits	Vacant Vacant Vacant 889-5548
Emergency Fire and Ambulance VT State Police Royalton Police Orange County Sherriff	911 911 234-9933 763-8961 685-4875
Bethel Family Health Center Central VT Medical Center Chelsea Health Center Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center Gifford Medical Center VT Poison Center NH Poison Center	234-9913 229-9121 685-4400 603-650-5000 728-7000 658-3456 1-800-562-8236
Chelsea Animal Hospital Country Animal Hospital	685-3232 234-5999
CVSWMD	1-800-730-9475
Tunbridge Central School Chelsea Public School White River Valley Supervisory Union	889-3310 685-4551 763-8840

Office Hours:

Town Clerk: Monday- Thursday 8:00 am-2:00 pm

Administrative Assistant: Mariah Cilley: tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com

Treasurer: Monday- Friday 8:00 am-12:00 pm **Listers:** Tuesday and Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Library: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 am-5:00 pm; Wednesday & Friday 3:00 pm-6:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am-

1:00 pm

Selectboard Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month

Planning Commission: Third Wednesday of each month

School Board: Second Wednesday of each month **State Representative:** John O'Brien 889-3474