



R O C H E S T E R



V E R M O N T



T O W N R E P O R T



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Cover Design: Norm Christiansen

Cover History: Nancy Woolley

Town Website: www.rochestervermont.org

It takes a lot to bring this Town Report together! Thank you Nancy Woolley for all of your hard work over the past 25 years! And thank you for your guidance this year as we navigate new waters of creating this report!

All our love,
Julie & Kristen

Pace & Hawley, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

VT License #092.0000709

The Select Board
Town of Rochester, Vermont

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Rochester, Vermont, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022 (not presented herein), which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. Our independent auditor's report and the Town's audited financial statements are available at the Town Office.

We have not been engaged to audit the financial data as presented in the Town Report. Accordingly, we express no opinion on such financial data.

Pace & Hawley, LLC

Berlin, Vermont
January 5, 2023

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Warning

**Town of Rochester, Vermont
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TO BE HELD**

**MONDAY NIGHT ~ March 6, 2023~ 7:00 PM
Rochester School Auditorium**

The legal voters of the Town of Rochester, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Rochester School Auditorium, 222 South Main Street, in said town on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. to transact the following business:

- Article 1.** To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.
- Article 2.** To elect all Town Officers required by law:
1. To elect a Selectboard Member for a 3-year term.
 2. To elect a Lister for a 3-year term.
 3. To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a 1-year term.
 4. To elect a Library Trustee for a 5-year term.
 5. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds for a 3-year term.
 6. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term.
- Article 3.** Shall the voters authorize payment of real taxes in four (4) installments, with due dates being Tuesday, August 15, 2023, Wednesday, November 15, 2023, Thursday, February 15, 2024, and Wednesday, May 15, 2024, by physical delivery to the tax collector before 4:00 PM on those dates with postmarks not accepted as proof of delivery?
- Article 4.** Shall the voters authorize total highway and general fund expenditures of \$ 1,313,277 of which \$ 921,967 shall be raised by taxes?
- Article 5.** Shall the voters appropriate \$ 49,935 towards operating expenses of the Rochester Public Library?
- Article 6.** Shall the voters appropriate \$ 21,420 to continue funding the North Star Recycling program from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024?
- Article 7.** Shall the voters appropriate \$ 8,000 to fund the Reappraisal Reserve Fund?
- Article 8.** Shall the voters approve the creation of a SkateSpace Donation Reserve Fund and authorize transfer of the donations received from the Mascoma Bank GoFundMe Account and monies previously appropriated by the Town for SkateSpace?

Article 9. Shall the voters approve the creation and appropriate \$ 12,000 to Highway Grant Projects Reserve Fund?

Article 10. Shall the voters appropriate \$ 1,000 to fund the Tennis Reserve Fund?

Article 11. Shall the voters vote to appropriate the following sums as requested by these community agencies:


Central VT Council on Aging	3,000.00
Clara Martin Center	2,066.00
Green Up Vermont	100.00
Orange County Parent Child Center	250.00
Quintown Senior Center	9,849.00
SafeLine, Inc.	250.00
Tri-Valley Transport (formerly Stagecoach)	1,300.00
Vermont Rural Fire Hydrant	100.00
VNH – Visiting Nurse Association	4,800.00
White River Partnership	875.00
WomenSafe	250.00

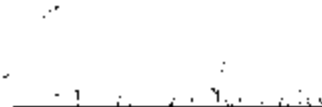
Total S22,840.00

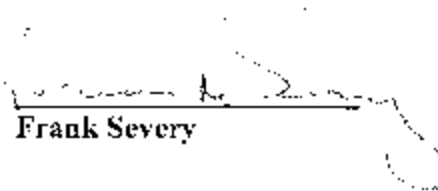
Article 12. To transact any other legal and proper business to be brought before said meeting.

Dated at Rochester, Vermont this 25th day of January 2023.

ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD


Doon Hinderyckx


Patricia Harvey


Frank Severy

Received at ROCHESTER this 25 day of January 2023 for Recording

Attest:

 Julie Smith, Rochester Town Clerk



Annual Town Meeting
March 28, 2022
7PM
Rochester High School Auditorium

The legal voters of the Town of Rochester, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Rochester School Auditorium, 222 South Main Street, in said town on Monday, March 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. to transact the following business:

Current Moderator Dan McKinley was not available to attend the annual Town Meeting. Ethan Bowen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He noted we will go through the warning and to review the amended warning, which will have some changed numbers on article 5. Public comments will be held to 5 minutes. Ethan read the Annual Town Meeting Warning.

Article 1. To elect a moderator for the ensuing year. Doon nominated Dan McKinley to hold the position for the upcoming year. The article was moved by Burma Cassidy-Wissner and seconded by Barbara Shenton. Doon appointed Ethan be a replacement for tonight's meeting. All in favor. So, voted.

Article 2. To elect all Town Officers required by law:

1. To elect a Selectboard Member ~ 3-year term
2. To elect a Town Clerk for a 3-year term.
3. To elect a Town Treasurer for a 3-year term.
4. To elect a Lister for a 3-year term.
5. To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a 1-year term.
6. To elect a Library Trustee for a 5-year term.
7. To elect a Library Trustee to the remaining 1-year balance of a 5-year term.
8. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds for a 3-year term.
9. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term.

Martha Slater nominated Doon Hinderyckx as a selectboard member to run for a three-year term. Kathryn Schenkman seconded the nomination. No further nominations. Walter Gaulb moved to close. Lois Bond seconded. All in favor. Ethan called the clerk to submit one ballot in the name of Doon Hinderyckx. So, voted.

Nancy Woolley nominated Julie Smith as Town Clerk. Mason Wade seconded. No further nominations. Lois Bond moved to close. All in favor of closing nominations. All in favor of Julie Smith nominated as Town clerk for a three-year term. Ethan called the clerk to submit one ballot in the name of Julie Smith. So, voted.

Joanne McDonnell nominated Julie Smith as Town Treasurer for a three-year term. Seconded by Susie Smolen. No further nominations. Ethan entertained a motion to close nominations. Kelly Kelly moved for no further nominations. Seconded by Dane Coolley. All in favor. All in favor of Julie Smith as Town Treasurer for three-year term. Ethan instructed clerk to submit one ballot in the name of Julie Smith. So, voted.

Martha nominated Caroline Meagher to succeed herself. Jessica Arsenault seconded. No further nominations. All in favor. So, voted. Caroline Meagher is a lister for a 3-year term

Kristen LaPell nominated Rebecca Klein as the Delinquent Tax Collector for a one-year term. Burma Cassidy-Wissner seconded. No further nominations. All in favor of Becky Klein as Delinquent Tax Collector. So, voted.

Brenda Goupee nominated Barbara Shenton as the Library Trustee for a 5-year term. Susie Smolen seconded. No further nominations. All in favor. So, voted

Diane White nominated Doreen Jones to fulfill the remaining 1-year balance of a 5-year term as the Library Trustee. Barbara Shenton seconded. No further nominations. All in favor. So, voted.

Nancy Woolley nominated Sandy Pierce as a Trustee of Public Funds for a 3-year term. Seconded by Kathryn Schenkman. No further nominations. All in favor. So, voted.

Tom Paquette nominated Michele Schnabel as a Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term. Nancy Woolley seconded. No further nominations. All in favor. So, voted.

Ethan thanked all the candidates for serving.

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §4791?

Barb Shenton moved the article. Burma Cassidy-Wissner seconded the article. No discussion. All in favor. So, voted.

Article 4. Shall the voters authorize payment of real taxes in four (4) installments, with due dates being Monday, August 15, 2022, Monday, November 15, 2022, Wednesday, February 15, 2023, and Monday, May 15, 2023, by physical delivery to the tax collector before 4:00 PM on those dates with postmarks not accepted as proof of delivery?

Kelly Kelly moved the article to the floor and was seconded by Robert Meagher. No discussion. All in favor. So, voted.

Article 5. Shall the voters authorize total highway and general fund expenditures of \$ 1,295,460 of which \$ 864,807 shall be raised by taxes?

Ethan read the original article Shall the voters authorize total highway and general fund expenditures of \$ 1,397,011 of which \$966,359 shall be raised by taxes. Lois Bond moved the article. Robert Meagher seconded. Doon proposed amending article 5 of the total expenditures to \$1,295,460 of which \$864,807 shall be raised by taxes. Doon explained the discrepancy. He explained the original number is including all the appropriations and articles. He said in doing so we would be double voting on the articles and appropriations. Robert Meagher seconded the proposal. No further discussion on the amendment. All in favor. So, amended. Ethan read the

amended article once more. Mason asked if he could ask a question about the budget. Mason noted he was disappointed to not see a letter from the Trustees of Public Funds explaining which way we are headed with the investments, especially after the climate initiative that we passed in 2020. He thought it would be good to see how town officials publicly relate to that. Doon asked for a trustee to explain. Sandy explained the investment personnel are local, live in Vermont, work for a Bank. She said they have tried to keep their investments local. She explained they invest the money where we make the best return on our money. She said they have reduced the fossil fuel investments and have quite a lot invested in solar. She is not sure what the percentage is. She said the goal is to make as much back on the returns as possible for the future of our town. Mason asked why the report was not submitted. Sandy explained the chair was away and, in the future, they will make sure one is submitted. Cindy Sutherland asked how much money is being delegated from the Trustees to the town for school, or something else. Doon noted if you look on page 27 of the Town Report it will show the Trustees will be giving the town \$72,000.00. Amy Wildt is working on the funds that go to the school. This information is separate from the town and will be discussed through the school. Discussion about the \$12,000 paid to the high school for heat was brought up. Doon noted it was used to keep the building from freezing up. Kathryn spoke to that about the feasibility study and in order for the building to be accessible to the consultants there was a condition by the school district that Rochester pay an additional \$15,000.00 to help in heating the building this year. Doon added this is money spent this year and not included in the budget we are voting on which comes into play on July 1, 2022. No further discussion. Ethan called the question. Moved by Burma Cassidy and seconded by Robert Meagher. All in favor. So, called. Ethan read the question with the amended figures. All in favor. So, passed.

Article 6. Shall the voters exempt real property in Rochester Village owned by Rochester Community Care Home, Inc., d.b.a. Park House, a non-profit tax- exempt organization providing services and housing for low income and other elderly persons from property taxes for five (5) years (FY23 – FY27), pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §3840.

Joanne McDonnell moved the article and was seconded by Kelly Kelly. Joanne McDonnell thanked everyone in town for giving the Park House the exemption to help with their budget. Walter Gaulb asked what the taxable value of the building would be. Ethan said without figures in front of us we would have to get back to him on that question. No further discussion. All in favor. So, passed.

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate \$ 48,314 towards operating expenses of the Rochester Public Library.

Burma Cassidy-Wissner moved the article and was seconded by Suzie Smolen. Rebecca Klein complimented what a lovely library we have in Rochester. She commented that budget and finance, week after week go through line by line of the budget to find small ways to reduce amount to be raised by taxes. She thought since the library has shown a balance in their checkbook back to 2019 of unrestricted funds in the amount of over \$8,000.00 left over. In 2020 there was over \$10,000 left of unrestricted funds and in 2021 there was \$8,900 left over in the unrestricted funds. Becky noticed in the town report for this current year the trustees allotted \$4,000 to offset the money they would ask the town for. In this coming budget they are only

asking \$1200.00 to offset. She noticed one other thing, the trustees have two investment funds, the Kirkpatrick and Wing funds. The Wing fund is restricted, whereas the Kirkpatrick is unrestricted. She said in 2020 they didn't use any of the money they could have drawn out. They have a schedule to take out \$3,326.00 out of Kirkpatrick. In 2020, they didn't take out any and in 2021, they only used half. In this current budget they have not used any and asked if they had. Barb Shenton stated they had not. Becky Klein said they have only 3 more months to go. Becky Klein made a motion to amend the library's appropriation to \$44,314.00. Lois Bond seconded the motion. Walter Gaulb was not in favor because of the buildings aging process. Cindy Sutherland responded that she is opposed to the amendment. Jeff Gephart spoke about the town Building audits in the point of saving energy. He spoke about the deterioration of the building and the exterior of work needed to stabilize and save the building. Becky shared that the budget of the library is an operating budget. She knows there is \$36,000 in an annual campaign and didn't know if it was earmarked for the building. Bud Venturini noted in the past few years have been less than usual when it comes to operations. Its hard to base number this coming year based on the past few years. Ethan read the amendment change. Took it to vote. The article was defeated. Mason Wade amended the amount of the library article to increase to \$50,000.00. Burma Cassidy-Wissner seconded it. Barb Shenton spoke thanking everyone for voting her in. She wanted to clarify that the townspeople understand the building is owned by the town and has the building reserve fund. Voting the money into the library's budget wouldn't necessarily be going to pay for the building. No further discussion. Ethan read the amended article raising the library budget to \$50,000. Took it to vote. The amendment was defeated. Ethan stated we are back to the original article. All in favor. So, passed.

Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate \$ 20,400 to continue funding the "Fast Trash" and Recycling program from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Amy Wildt moved the motion. Kelly Kelly seconded. Joanne McDonnell asked if Hancock or Granville chip in anything towards it? Doon explained they pay separately to ABLE Waste. They don't pay it to Rochester, they pay directly to ABLE. No further discussion. All in favor. So, passed.

Article 9. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$ 105,080 for the purchase of a Western Star Tandem Truck for the Highway Department.

Moved by Burma Cassidy and seconded by Robert Meagher. Mason asked to define the money borrowed, and if that is the amount what is the interest? Doon noted the details can be found on page 28. The amount is not locked in just yet but thought the interest is about 2.9%. No further discussion. All in favor. Article passes

Article 10. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$ 65,165 for the purchase of a Ford F550 4x4 Crew Cab truck for the Fire Department.

Robert Meagher moved the article and Burma Cassidy-Wissner. No discussion. All in favor. Article 10 passes

Article 11. Shall the voters appropriate \$ 9,000 to continue funding the Town Buildings and Property Reserve Fund?

Kelly Kelly moved the article. Robert Meagher seconded it. No discussion. All in favor. So, passes.

Article 12. Shall the voters appropriate \$ 1,000 to continue funding the Tennis Reserve Fund for on-going and future court maintenance?

Moved by Robert Meagher and seconded by Susie Smolen. Mason asked why they are not included in the Rec fund budget. Doon explained the Tennis courts is town owned property and required physical upkeep. Doon shared the Rec committee budget is for activities. Mason Wade asked if the tennis courts could be moved from the flood plains. Doon said it would not have a good place or the funding to move it. No further discussion. All in favor. So, article 12 passes.

Article 13. Shall the voters vote appropriate the following sums as requested by these community agencies:

Central VT Council on Aging	3,000.00
Clara Martin Center	2,066.00
Green Up Vermont	100.00
Orange County Parent Child Center	250.00
Quintown Senior Center	9,849.00
SafeLine, Inc.	250.00
Tri-Valley Transport (formerly Stagecoach)	1,300.00
Vermont Rural Fire Hydrant	100.00
VNH – Visiting Nurse Association	4,800.00
White River Partnership	875.00
WomenSafe	250.00
Total	\$22,840.00

Robert Meagher moved the article and Amy Wildt seconded. No further discussion. All in favor. So, article passes

Article 14. To transact any other legal and proper business to be brought before said meeting.

Vic Ribaud spoke as a co-chair on behalf of committee of plan to repurpose the High School building. He updated the status of the project. He said there is a 2-page summary of the history of the project. He commented on the model of the project is to enable the building with new tenants to be self-sustaining over time with rental income, pay for the expenses to operate the building on an annual basis. There is a significant amount of work to be done to the building to make it sustainable over a period of time. The heating system, electrical panel, windows on and on. The consulting architects that are paid with the grant we received estimate the work to be about 2-

million dollars or more in the final scope of what the building will be used for. Over time we hope to find grant funds available to support. The intention is to find tenants to make a provisional commitment to come to the building contingent of the upgrades made to the building. The plans mentioned in the back of the town report are potential day adult care, childcare, makerspace, co-working offices and an art and learning hub. Vic Ribaudo shared this summer there will be a warned town meeting to hear the output of this committee's work, what recommendation will be made and put it to a town vote. There are several alternate possible scenarios for the building. One is to find a buyer and potential tenants. Another option is to be left as is. School board has no additional money to put into it. Another option is to demolish. It would be a large cost to do. One study found it could cost \$700,000 to take it down. Working toward a way to make this an asset to the town. Kathryn spoke and shared they are talking to some people who have serious interest in the building. The issue they have in terms of commitment is that the town doesn't own the building right now. They will need to submit a proposal with reliable tenants. She said in their proposal there are some components that can't really sustain that portion of the building and that is the arts. The tenants will need to pay their way. The consultants have estimated if the town were to acquire the building the costs to sustain it yearly would cost \$97,000. This amount broken down for each taxpayer looks like \$9.70 per \$100,000 in value of property. Kathryn said it's been an honor to do the work and has been many hours of work. She welcomed questions. Mason asked about the flood plains and the insurance to cover the building. Vic spoke and assured the consultants have a way to mitigate that process since only a portion of the building is in the 100-year flood plains. Cindy Sutherland asked if the Town office would be able to move to the high school and sell the town office to offset the costs. Vic said it would have to go to the selectboard and there is talk of that possibility. Diane Teetsel asked if the consultants have looked at asbestos or PCB's in remediation. Vic answered the consultants have considered that thought in their process. Rob Gardner stated said by an elder in town the decision to buy the high school is going to be one of the most important financial decision the town makes in decades. His message is public information and the importance of even the bad news shared. Kathryn shared when the full report is revealed to the town, this town will make a decision. She said it's been their job to get the information out there. Jeff Gephart asked people to stop by and pick up a copy of the climate initiative report. Walter made a comment about how he lives on Brook Street and wanted to give a shout out to the wonderful job the road crew has done this year. Ethan gave a shout out to Katie for her wonderful job of running the microphone for the evening.

Motion to adjourn. Seconded by Suzie Smolen. All in favor. So, adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm
Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith

Who's Who in Local Government
A Publication of the Office of the Secretary of State ~ 2018

Serving in local office is a great way to give something back to our community. So why don't you take a turn? Here are the offices you can choose from:

Officials Elected at Town Meeting

Moderator ~ Runs the Annual and Special Town/School Meetings. Should have a good sense of humor, be good at group process, and have experience following Roberts Rules of Order.

Selectboard Member ~ General supervision and control over town; enacts ordinances, regulations, and policies for town; oversees town property and personnel; prepares, presents, and manages budget; oversees roads, including laying out, discontinuing and reclassifying roads. Sits as local board of health, liquor control commission and sewer commission. Should know the town well, be able to understand all sides of complex issues, and have very thick skin.

Town Clerk ~ Records, preserves, and certifies the public records of the town. Issues dog, marriage, civil union licenses and motor vehicle, snowmobile, and motorboat renewals. Runs the local elections, serves as clerk of the Board of Civil Authority, and hears tax abatement requests and tax appeals. Should have the patience of a saint and be a good ambassador for the town.

Town Treasurer ~ Keeps the town and school accounts (unless a separate school treasurer is elected), invests money (with the approval of the legislative body), keeps a record of the taxes voted, and pays orders drawn on him or her. Should be very precise, detail oriented and good at math.

Lister ~ Appraise property within the town for the purpose of property tax assessment. Should be able to be polite, yet firm, and not oversensitive to criticism.

Collector of Delinquent Taxes ~ Collects delinquent taxes for the town and conducts tax sales. Should be good with numbers and able to work with people who are in difficult circumstances.

Trustee of Public Funds ~ Manages, invests, and reports on real and personal property held in trust by the town. This includes cemetery trust funds. Should like investing money.

Cemetery Commissioner ~ Responsible for the care and management of the town's cemeteries. Terms are for five years.

Justices of the Peace ~ Elected every two years. Duties of the Justices of the Peace fall into five categories of responsibilities: elections, tax abatement & appeals, marriages, oaths & Notary and Magistrate.

Board of Civil Authority ~ Members of Selectboard, Town Clerk, Justices of Peace

Local Officials Appointed by the Legislative Body

Health Officer ~ Appointed by the Commissioner of Health to a 3-year term upon recommendation of the Selectboard. Enforces rules and regulations for the prevention and abatement of public health hazards.

Constable (First & Second) ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Operating under Vermont Statutes, in some towns the constable is the town's local law enforcement officer, with all powers of search, seizure and arrest within the town. In other towns the constable only has the power to serve civil process, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, destroy unlicensed dogs, kill injured deer, remove disorderly people from town meeting, and, if the First Constable, to collect taxes, if no tax collector is elected. Should be good at de-escalating and resolving conflicts.

Planning Commissioners ~ Appointed unless town votes to elect. Duties include preparing a municipal plan, making recommendations on matters of land development, conservation, and preservation, and to participate in a regional planning program. Makes site plan and subdivision permit decisions unless there is a Development Review Board in town. Should have a good working knowledge of all aspects of the town and be able to listen to many sides of an issue.

Zoning Administrator ~ Appointed by the Planning Commission with the approval of the Selectboard. Approves or denies applications for zoning permits. Administers the municipal bylaws literally. Enforces regulations pertaining to the Zoning Ordinance.

Fire Warden ~ Appointed by the State Fire Commissioner with approval of the Selectboard. Prevents forest fires in the town by enforcing the laws designed to prevent forest fires. Issues permits for open burning within the Town. Term is for five years.

Road Commissioner ~ Appointed by the Selectboard, the Road Commissioner has no independent authority, but assists the Selectboard in overseeing town highways. Should have experience with town highways and be a good communicator.

Regional Planning Commission Representative ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Helps develop the regional plan and assess municipal land use plans but has no independent authority.

Animal Control Officer (Pound keeper) ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces ordinances and cares for the animals that are impounded within the town.

Humane Officer ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces State and Federal regulations surrounding the humane and proper treatment of all animals. Works closely with Animal Control Officer & Constables.

Emergency Management Coordinator ~ Responsible for the organization, administration and operation of the Town's committee that is formed for emergency management. The coordinator is under the direct control of the Selectboard but may coordinate his or her emergency management efforts with neighboring towns and cities and with the state emergency management division, and with the federal government.

Tree Warden ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Plans and implements a shade tree preservation program for the purpose of shading and beautifying public places. Recommends the removal of diseased, dying, or dead trees which create a hazard to public safety or threaten the effectiveness of disease or insect control programs.

Town of Rochester Elected Officials

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Moderator	Dan McKinley	2023
Selectboard:	Frank Severy	2023
	Patricia Harvey	2024
	Doon Hinderyckx, Chair	2025
Town Clerk	Julie Smith	2025
Town Treasurer	Julie Smith	2025
Listers:	Louis Donnet	2023
	Jessica Arsenault	2024
	Caroline Meagher	2025
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Rebecca Klein	2023
Library Trustees:	Doreen Jones	2023
	Kelly Kelly	2024
	Anthony Goupee	2025
	Sandy Lincoln	2026
	Barbara Shenton	2027
Trustees of Public Funds:	Michael Harvey	2023
	Barbara Dehart	2024
	Ann Pierce	2025
Cemetery Commissioners:	Thomas Paquette	2023
	Nancy Woolley	2024
	Marvin Harvey	2025
	Joe Schenkman	2026
	Michele Schnabel	2027
Justices of the Peace	Kevin Dougherty	Feb. 1, 2025
	Brenda Goupee	Feb. 1, 2025
	Michael Harvey	Feb. 1, 2025
	Rebecca Klein	Feb. 1, 2025
	Annette West	Feb. 1, 2025
Board of Civil Authority	Town Clerk, Selectboard, Justices of the Peace	Term Expiration
Windsor-Rutland Rep.	Kirk White	2025
Addison County Senators	Christopher Bray	2025
Representing Rochester	Ruth Hardy	2025

Appointments

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Asst. Town Clerk/Treasurer	Kristen LaPell	
Selectboard Clerk	Julie Smith	

Appointments (continued)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Road Commissioner	Frank Severy	2023
Road Department:	John Champion, Foreman	
	Dana Spalding	
	Ted Smith	
Water Commissioners	Selectboard	2023
Sewer Commissioners	Selectboard	2023
Sewer Plant Operator	Terry Severy	
Assistant	Cody Bowen	
Water Plant Operator	Terry Severy	
Assistant	Cody Bowen	
On-Site Wastewater Officer	Doon Hinderyckx	2023
On-Site Wastewater Officer	Frank Severy	2023
Planning Board & Board of Adjustment	Dan McKinley	2023
	Sandy Haas	2024
	Julie Martin	2024
	Christine Meagher	2025
	Greg White	2025
	David Curtis	2026
	Steven Cocci	2026
	Doon Hinderyckx	ex officio
Zoning Administrator	Doon Hinderyckx	2023
Fire Chief (elected by Fire Dept)	Terry Severy	2024/12/31
1 st Asst. Chief (elected by Fire Dept)	Raymond Harvey	2024/12/31
2 nd Asst. Chief (elected by Fire Dept)	Kevin Dougherty	2024/12/31
Fire Warden	Ray Harvey	2027/6/30
Health Officer	John White	2024/10/31
Emergency Management Director	Mickaela Richardson	2023
Emergency Management Alternate	Doon Hinderyckx	2023
Regional Emerg. Management Coord.	Mickaela Richardson	2023
Regional Emerg. Management – 2 nd	Terry Severy	2023
White River Valley Amb. (WRVA) Rep	Vic Ribaud	2023
WRVA Alternate	James Bowen	2023
Tree Warden	Selectboard	2023
Law Enforcement	Windsor County Sheriff's Dept.	Contract
Constable	Dillon Dudley	2023
2 nd Constable	Vacant	2022
TRORC Transportation/Planning Rep.	Pat Harvey	2023
TRORC Transportation Adv. Comm.	Doon Hinderyckx	2023
TRORC Energy Representative	Jeff Gephart	2023
TRORC Energy Rep. Alternate	Frank Severy	2023
Energy Coordinator	Jeff Gephart	2023
White River Alliance-Royalton Advisory Comm.	James Bowen	2023
Recycling Coordinator	James Bowen	2023
Park Committee:	Martha Slater	2023
Recreation Committee:	Norm Christiansen	2023
	Dean Mendell	
	Martha Slater	
	Jeff Brown	
Animal Control Officer/ Humane Officer		2023
Tri-Valley Transit	Timothy Crowley	2023
E-911 Maintenance	Angus McCusker	2023
Budget & Finance Comm.	Lois Bond	2023
	Robert Meagher	2023
	Nancy Woolley	2023
	Barb Dehart	2023
	Greg White	2023
	Selectboard Members	2023
Website Administrator	Norm Christiansen	2023

Appointments (continued)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Capital Planning Committee	Greg White Barb Dehart Nancy Woolley Lois Bond Julie Smith Kristen LaPell Selectboard Members	2023
ECFiber Representative	John White	2023
Green-Up Day Coordinators	Nick Piccicuto	2023
Librarian	Jeannette Bair	
Assistant Librarian	Mark Alexander	
Children's Librarian	Maya Newroot	
Auditors	Pace & Hawley, LLC	
Official Newspaper	<i>The Herald of Randolph</i>	2023
Videography - Meetings	Orca Media	

Dates to Remember

Selectboard Meeting	Second & Fourth Monday of the month at the Town Office. Other meetings at the Town Office as warned.	6:15 PM
Planning Commission	First Tuesday of month at Town Office.	6:00 PM
Trustees of Public Funds	Meetings when needed – Will be posted	
Valley Energy/Climate Action (VECAC)	2 nd Thursday of the month meets	7:00 - 8:30 PM

Dog Licenses (State Mandated)

On or before April 1:

Male & Female: \$13.00; altered: \$9.00

After April 1:

Male & Female \$16.00; altered \$22.00 (includes \$5 *late fee)

***After April 1 there is a \$5.00 fine for all unlicensed dogs.**

****No Exceptions****

A leash and fouling law is in effect for the entire Town, not just the village area. See Ordinance at Town Office.

Property Taxes

1/4 due on/before **Tuesday, August 15, 2023**; 1/4 due on/before **Wednesday, November 15, 2023**; 1/4 due on/before **Thursday, February 15, 2024**; 1/4 due on/before **Wednesday, May 15, 2024**. Payments are due by 4pm.

Interest at rate of 1% per month for 3 months, and 1 ½% per month thereafter added. **8% collection fee added Tuesday, May 16, 2024. Postmarks not accepted!**

Water & Sewer User Fees: ¼ due **January 31**; ¼ due **April 30**; ¼ due **July 31**; ¼ due **October 30**. Due no later than the above effective dates. Interest at rate of 1% per month for 3 months and 1 ½% per month thereafter added for delinquent water/sewer fees.

Recycling & Trash

Each Saturday of the month at Town Office parking lot – 8:00am – 11:00am.

Winter Parking Ordinance: No person shall park a motor vehicle on any street or in any public parking area within the Town of Rochester between the hours of 12:00 AM and 6:00 AM from November 1 to April 1 inclusive. Ordinance also applies to the west side of Park on Main Street, VT State Highway Route 100.

TOWN OF ROCHESTER

INVENTORY - EQUIPMENT & PROPERTY - 2022

Town

Office Building	New Firehouse	Old Firehouse
Library & Contents	TS Irene FEMA Buy-outs	Office Equipment
Town Garage Building	Ballfield Lot & SkateSpace	Emergency Shelter Generator
Creamery Building	Wood Lots: Townline Rd & Cemetery	10 K Generator
Bandstand & Parks	Lion's Club Picnic Area	Town Office Generator

Road Department

2022 Western Star Tandem Dump Truck, 11 ft. 1-way plow, 10 ft. wing & sander		
2018 Ford F-550 One-ton truck with 2-way plow and sander		
2018 International Tandem Dump Truck, with 1-way plow, wing & sander		
2016 Ford F-350 4-Wheel Drive Pickup with Plow, with Stainless Sander		
2016 Cat 930 Loader with bucket & forks		
2011 Cat 140M Grader with wing		
1989 Eager Beaver Wood Chipper	2007 Downeaster Trailer	8 Two-Way Radios
1 11-ft. Angle Plow	1 10-ft. Angle Plow	Salt House
One-Way Plow	Sand	Sand Screen
3,000 gallon Chloride Tank	Chloride	Gravel
Truck Tire Chains	Salt	4 Jack Stands
2021 Stihl FS111R Weed Trimmer	16 Truck Tires (Summer)	16 spare truck tires
2014 Shandania Power Broom	20 Drawer Tool Box (1)	2012 Power Pruner (1)
Pressure Washer	1/3 Sump Pump	Chain Saws (2)
Snow Plow Blades ~ 2 sets	Grader Blades ~ 5 sets	1 Front Mount York Rake
Loader (2) & Grader Chains (4)	Shop Air Compressor	1 Tow Behind York Rake
Drill Press (1)	Shop Metal Cut-Off Saw (1)	Culvert Cut-Off (1 WP
550 Nelson Plate Compactor	Small Tools	Signs (50) ~ Cones
6-Ton Bottle Jack (1)	20-Ton Bottle Jack (2)	1 Eastwood Mig Welder
3-Ton Floor Jack (1)	1 Set Dump Body Safety Stands	16 Class III Barriers
Cutting Torches (1 set)	Lincoln Arc Stick Welder (1)	
1 Buffalo Turbine – BT-CKB7	Generac 10KW Generator Set	
Hydraulic Hose Machine, Hose & Fitting		

Water Department

Well House, Reservoir & Miscellaneous Parts; 1/3 Pump

Sewer Department

3 Sites & Miscellaneous Equipment, including a Generator; 1/3 Pump

Fire Department

2022 Ford F550 Crew Cab 4x4 Truck	2017 International Truck	12 Scott 2.2 Air Packs
1991 Tanker/Pumper/3 heat guns		2 Kohler Generators
2 Portable Pumps	2 Air Compressors	2 Portable Tanks
1 Pressure Washer	3,500 ft. 2 ½" Hose	1,800 ft. 1 ¾" Hose
3 Chain Saws	2,500 ft. 4" Hose, incl. other misc.	Hoses, Tools & Equipment
1 Base Radio	1,000 ft. – 1" hose	4 1" reels & hose (Booster Line)
Jaws of Life	14 Port Radios, 3 Truck Radios, 28	Pagers
1 Stretcher, with wheel	8 pairs of Snowshoes	1 Deck Gun
30 Air Bottles	4 5-foot high Large Air Bottles	5 Ladders
8 Nozzles	30 Sets Turn-Out Gear	50 chairs
18 Tables	40 Sets Boots	Gloves & Coats
Floor Cleaner		

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
RESERVE ACCOUNTS
June 30, 2022

Cemetery Reserve	
Beginning Balance	17,353.52
Deposits and Int.	27.46
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	17,380.98

Cemetery Trust	
Beginning Balance	9,563.45
Deposits and Int.	2,566.46
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	12,129.91

Emergency Mgmt	
Beginning Balance	3,199.73
Deposits and Int.	5.01
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	3,204.74

Fire Dept Building	
Beginning Balance	2,244.03
Deposits and Int.	3.44
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	2,247.47

Fire Dept Equipment	
Beginning Balance	5,678.85
Deposits and Int.	8.89
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	5,687.74

Highway Equipment	
Beginning Balance	71,097.60
Deposits and Int.	110.21
Withdrawals	58,000.00
Balance 6/30/22	13,207.81

Lease Land	
Beginning Balance	349.64
Deposits and Int.	0.48
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	350.12

P & Z Reserve	
Beginning Balance	3,072.52
Deposits and Int.	4.81
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	3,077.33

Rapid Response	
Beginning Balance	2,902.93
Deposits and Int.	4.13
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	2,907.06

Reappraisal Fund	
Beginning Balance	78,314.63
Deposits and Int.	8,225.06
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	86,539.69

Record Preservation	
Beginning Balance	29,955.43
Deposits and Int.	45.98
Withdrawals	2,032.84
Balance 6/30/22	27,968.57

Revolving Loan Fund	
Beginning Balance	8,136.01
Deposits and Int.	12.73
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	8,148.74

Sewer Reserve	
Beginning Balance	12,715.76
Deposits and Int.	20.13
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	12,735.89

Tennis Reserve	
Beginning Balance	3,009.65
Deposits and Int.	1,004.49
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	4,014.14

Town Buildings	
Beginning Balance	28,733.19
Deposits and Int.	8,036.51
Withdrawals	18,862.58
Balance 6/30/22	17,907.12

Youth Sports/Rec	
Beginning Balance	2,252.23
Deposits and Int.	3.13
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	2,255.36

Water Reserve	
Beginning Balance	17,840.00
Deposits and Int.	28.24
Withdrawals	
Balance 6/30/22	17,868.24

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
GRANT REPORT
June 30, 2022

ARPA GRANT	
Expenses	\$ 43,373.56
Revenue	<u>\$ 43,647.95</u>
	<u>\$ 274.39</u>

FEMA- PW 109826	
Expenses	\$ 91,696.54
Revenue	<u>\$ 118,099.88</u>
	<u>\$ 26,403.34</u>

HOWE BROOK DESIGN	
Expenses	\$ 8,375.00
Revenue	<u>\$ (8,375.00)</u>

LEMP GRANT	
Expenses	\$ 603.00
Revenue	<u>\$ (603.00)</u>

NASON BROOK	
Expenses	\$ 213,955.00
Revenue	<u>\$ 187,614.00</u>
Town expense	<u>\$ (26,341.00)</u>

TOWN GARAGE STORM WATER	
Expenses	
Revenue	<u>\$ 6,700.00</u>
	<u>\$ 6,700.00</u>

USDA-USFS-WEST HILL BRIDGE- DESIGN	
Expenses	\$ 3,397.23
Revenue	<u>\$ 3,196.65</u>
	<u>\$ (200.58)</u>

USDA-USFS-WEST HILL BRIDGE-CONSTRUCTION	
Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
Revenue	<u>\$ -</u>
	<u>\$ (1,500.00)</u>

VCDB PLANNING GRANT-REPURPOSING HS	
Expenses	\$ 22,782.18
Revenue	<u>\$ 22,782.22</u>
	<u>\$ 0.04</u>

VT DEC/VTRANS-GRANT IN AID SKY HOLLOW	
Expenses	\$ 1,473.97
Revenue	<u>\$ 1,401.02</u>
	<u>\$ (72.95)</u>

VT DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
Expenses	\$ 13,022.47
Revenue	<u>\$ 10,755.00</u>
	<u>\$ (2,267.47)</u>

WEST HILL BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION	
Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
Revenue	<u>\$ (1,500.00)</u>

TOWN OF ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD REPORT

Our town is fortunate to have quality employees and dedicated volunteers who are mindful of their budgets and giving of their time and energy. Volunteers are always needed and all who call Rochester home are encouraged to become involved in the Town's future. We would like to extend our gratitude to Joan Allen, Selectboard Assistant, for her many years of dedicated service in assisting the Town through some very difficult projects, many brought on by extreme weather events. We wish Joan well in her retirement.

The Town website (www.rochestervermont.org) is a valuable resource for those wishing to stay informed with links to agendas and minutes from public meetings, town permit applications and important contact information. We anticipate that the state will make permanent the authorization to engage remotely in public meetings. Rochester uses the Zoom platform to do so as well as having most meetings recorded by Orca Media, whose recordings can also be found through the town website.

The re-paving of Rt. 100 from Stockbridge to North of the Village has made it easier for those choosing to attend meetings in person and we thank all for their patience with this process storm drains were also replaced by the State and we were able to repair some of the sidewalks in the village. More of this to come as a VTrans Safe Roads to School Spot Improvement grant was obtained with the help of Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Planning Commission for much needed sidewalk repair from the Parsonage to Brook Street. This project should commence this Summer. The need for sidewalk definition and repair is by no means complete in the village.

The White River Partnership will be installing a new culvert on River Brook Drive in 2023. This will not require Town funds. This past Summer WRP installed a storm water run-off system at the Town Garage which required the Town to do some unplanned paving in order to channel run-off to the storm water drains.

The Town Garage now houses the newest member of our fleet, a tandem Western Star truck. The Fire Dept. is awaiting the arrival of a new Ford F550 utility truck, and an emergency generator was installed at the Town Office which is the hub of emergency management. The underground fuel tank at the Town Office was removed, and the building was painted.

Some projects on deck are the repair of the North and South sides of the Library building. The Library Trustees are currently seeking grant monies to assist in this repair. The replacement of the brook abutment wall beside the Town Office is a project in search of funds, as well as the repair and upgrade of SkateSpace.

The Vermont Parks and Recreation Department was contacted in August to visit and evaluate the Park tree inventory. A major concern is the future of the Green Ash trees because of the Emerald Ash Borer, as well as the health and age of the remaining Park trees. There is no sign of the Ash Borer yet, but they feel an infestation is inevitable. Succession planting is a priority, and the Town has applied for a grant to begin this process. If obtained, work will begin in Spring 2023. It is recommended that we plant a variety of species.

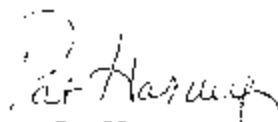
The West Hill Bridge has finally gone out to bid and selection of a contractor will be in the Spring. We anticipate completion to be in October 2023.

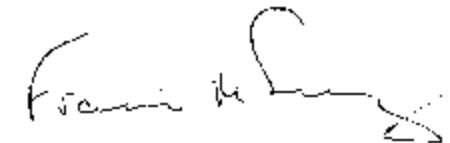
Green Mountain Power plans to establish a resiliency zone in the Village and is moving forward with the selection of a solar site in the North Hollow Farm gravel pit just over the bridge off Rt. 73. GMP is also progressing with an electric car charging station at the Park and Ride across from the Firehouse. Progress has been hindered by supply chain issues.

The High School Repurposing Committee continues to gather information to educate the Town on the issues involved in the possible purchase of the High School building. Any vote on this decision will not be until the Fall of 2023 at the earliest. The Committee is currently assessing environmental hazards in and around the building. A more detailed report is included separately.

We offer many thanks to the members of the Budget and Finance committee for their invaluable efforts to bring this budget in with the smallest possible increase due to inflation, fuel prices, and the general increase of across the board expenses.


Doon Hinderyckx


Pat Harvey


Frank Severy

TOWN OF ROCHESTER ARPA REPORT

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF, aka ARPA) which provided \$350 billion to state and local governments across the nation for the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Of Vermont's \$1.25 billion share, over \$200 million (about \$300 per Vermonter) was allocated to municipalities. Legislative bodies have discretion over how to spend their local ARPA funds, and with the issuance of the Final Rule there is increased spending flexibility and simplified reporting.

Rochester was granted \$325,231.52. In the fall of 2021, Rochester received \$162,615.76. The board approved the first purchase of an "OWL" camera to enhance committee meetings during hybrid Zoom meetings, in the amount of \$963.56.

The board approved \$15,750.00 towards a compressor for the Fire Department to replace an outdated, unsafe older compressor.

In June 2022, the amount of \$26,600.00 was spent on the sidewalks from Sandy's Bakery to the Old Fire House to prepare for the highway paving and to make it all seamless. In the fall of 2022, Rochester received the final amount of \$162,615.76.

A second section of sidewalks was put out to bid and ARPA funds were used in August 2022 in the amount of \$52,500.00.

In October 2022, the Storm Water Defender was installed at the Town Garage and extra paving was needed to allow the stormwater to runoff properly. ARPA funds were used in the amount of \$20,000.00.

In December 2022, the Fire Department approached the Selectboard to help with costs needed to equip the new Fire Truck. The board authorized \$8,000.00 from ARPA funds. As of January 2023, the remaining ARPA fund balance is \$202,122.76.

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER REPORT 2022

The Rochester Cemetery Commission is a five-member board elected at Town Meeting. The Commission oversees the seven cemeteries located in Rochester: Woodlawn, Village, North Hollow, Bingo, West Hill, Tupper and Little Hollow. Lot sales are by authority of the Cemetery Commission. All proceeds from the sale of lots are paid into the town treasury, kept in a separate account, to be used solely for the care, maintenance, and improvement of the burial grounds. Contact Cemetery Commission Chair Tom Paquette with inquiries about lot availability and rates.

Lot rates:

	Single (Typically, 4 ½' x 9')	Double (9'x9')	Quadruple (9'x18')	Octuple (18'X18')
Lot Sale	\$200	\$400	\$800	\$1600
Perpetual Care	\$250	\$500	\$1000	\$2000

There are established regulations for all the cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the Rochester Cemetery Commission, which were adopted on September 2, 2008.

Current regulations include:

- Lot cornerstones must be purchased from the Commission at the time of the sale.
- No burials shall be performed after Nov. 15 or before May 1, except under certain conditions.
- No more than eight cremated remains may be buried in a single lot.
- All grave decorations will be removed when they become unsightly and, in any case by November 15.
- Repair/Replacement/Cleaning of stones on lots is the responsibility of the lot owner.
- The right to plant permanent herbage, flowers, shrubs, or trees shall be only with permission of the Commission. Any planting done without permission will give the Commission the right to remove it.

For a copy of the complete regulations, contact any Commissioner.

Routine maintenance continues at all seven cemeteries. Headstone cleaning and repair has continued, on a limited basis as maintenance budgets allow. Thanks to Steve Twitchell and his crew for their continued efforts in every aspect of cemetery needs and maintenance. Volunteers are appreciated under the direction of the Commission. Please ask a commissioner member for their recommendations of specific stone cleaning solutions, as some products can damage the stone.

The Commission has begun efforts to make necessary updates to the current rules and regulations and digitizing cemetery maps and lot sales.

Rochester Cemetery Commissioners:

Tom Paquette, Chair	Marv Harvey
Michele Schnabel	Joe Schenkman Nancy Woolley

TOWN OF ROCHESTER

LISTER'S REPORT

Grant List 2022

This past year was the tenth year after the whole town was reappraised by the independent firm: Automated Property Assessment Service.

The most recent Equalization Study, produced by the Vermont State Tax Department, Property Valuation and Review Division, indicates our Rochester Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is 87.01%. This means that the property values found in the Grand List are 12.99% lower than the sales study found they should be. We are sure you know that for at least the past couple of years, numerous properties have sold, and typically at higher, sometimes wildly higher, than the values found in the Grand List.

The Equalization Study also calculated a Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) of valid Rochester sales of 23.39%. This is a measure of how reported valid sale prices of similar properties are, as compared to each other. This value indicates that there is a higher disparity between the sale prices of comparable properties.

The state calculated COD for 2022 exceeds the state's threshold of 20%. This will trigger the requirement, found in 32 V.S.A. – 4041a, for a new whole town reappraisal. This has been expected as typically whole town reappraisals are required, and should happen, every ten years or so. Considering independent appraisal contractor availability, the timing and duration of a fresh whole town reappraisal is not known at this point.

Respectfully submitted,
Jess Arsenault, Caroline Meagher, Louis Donnet

TOWN OF ROCHESTER

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT

This past year we replaced 11 cross drains: 2 on Fiske Road, 1 on Quarry Hill, 1 on Sawmill Hill, 1 on Marsh Brook Road, 2 on Austin Hill, 1 on Falcon Loop East and 3 on Bingo Road.

The Grants In Aid Project on Fiske Road consisted of ditch cleaning and stone lining. We also removed 3 trees and stumps that were encroaching on the road, as well as removing 2 large rocks on the traveled portion of the roadway.

We will continue to work on stormwater runoff projects.

Just a few reminders: Please maintain your driveway culverts for everyone's safety. Please make sure we have plenty of room when working on road maintenance.

Thank You,

John Champion
Road Foreman

TOWN OF ROCHESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members of the Rochester Volunteer Fire Department are most grateful to the Rochester community and Selectboard for their continued support and confidence.

Our Department currently has 19 members. As with many volunteer fire departments statewide, ours is an aging department with 50% of our volunteer firefighters in their 60s. We continue looking for new members, especially individuals who work in Rochester or close by, and who can be readily available to report to calls during daytime hours. We have two monthly meetings; one is a regular meeting and the other a work/training session. ***We need your participation and assistance.*** We invite anyone interested in learning about and/or joining our Volunteer Fire Department to contact me, or any member of the department.

During 2022, RVFD responded to 50 calls, up 30% from 2021:

3 Chimney Fires	5 House Fires	5 Automobile Fires
12 Motor Vehicle Accidents	1 DHART call	4 Fire Alarms
3 Brush Fires	3 Carbon Monoxide	2 Mutual Aid Calls
6 Downed Power Lines	6 False Alarms	

We all look forward to the Fire Department's annual Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast. The Pancake Breakfast, our largest fundraiser, raises funds to allow the Fire Department to purchase items not included in its annual budget. This year's breakfast will be at the Fire House on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023, from 7:00 to 10:00. Convenient parking is available under the able direction of Charlie Martin. There will be plenty of local syrup and firefighter-prepared food, and we look forward to everyone turning out! Take-out will be available.

Fire and Rescue Departments remind all homeowners to ensure that our homes are properly identified with reflective **9-1-1 house or street numbers**. Reflective numbers are required to be at least 4-inches in height. If you live on a long driveway or road, ensure that your name and street number are prominently displayed at the entrance to your driveway. As many of our volunteers may not be totally familiar with all road and family names, Fire and Rescue will certainly appreciate your efforts, and you, too, will be the beneficiary.

With the explosion of interest in back country skiing and biking, the Fire Department has begun working with local fire and rescue departments to ensure that we're ready for an emergency rescue. This will require our department to provide further training and equipment for our volunteers.

The Fire Department recommends that each home have smoke and carbon dioxide detectors. Batteries should be changed twice annually - when the clocks turn from standard time to daylight savings time, and vice versa. Before you think about cleaning projects in your yard, please be alert to the need to obtain a burn permit from Fire Warden Ray Harvey at (802) 767-3241.

Thanks to Rochester's voters for approving the purchase of a new truck at last year's Town Meeting. We anticipate its arrival in February and will then spend hours outfitting it. As your Fire Chief, I remain grateful to our Volunteer members who spend many hours, not just in responding to calls, but for time spent in training, flooding SkateSpace, equipment maintenance and fundraising.

If you have any questions regarding the Rochester Volunteer Fire Department, please contact Fire Chief Terry Severy, or Rochester's Assistant Fire Chiefs, Ray Harvey and Kevin Dougherty.

Terry Severy, Chief	Ray Harvey, 1 st Asst. Chief	Kevin Dougherty, 2 nd Asst. Chief
Troy LaPell, Captain	Eric Belanger, Lieutenant	Kristen LaPell, Treasurer
Mike Harvey	Eric Bowen	Charles Martin
Marc Blaine	John Fitzpatrick	Zak Whalen
Chad Richardson	Rob Gearwar	Jim Parrish
		Jim Bowen
		David Hamlin
		Justin Welter

Trustee of Public Funds Report for FY 2022

The Trustees of Public Funds are happy to report, that although the financial times have not been the best, we are still continuing to help make Rochester a better place for all its residents by distributing monies to the Town directly to help reduce your taxes, or by allocating funds to organizations such as Rebuild Rochester, the Rochester Food Shelf and Summer Music for Kids, or other causes that help the less fortunate. The Town's public funds have proven to be a wonderful asset for the community. Had it not been for the generosity of past residents leaving or donating monies to the Town of Rochester, there would not have been funds to help, or even make possible, the good works of the organizations such as mentioned above.

Endowments from the Kirkpatrick and Townsend families have been prudently invested and conservatively spent by the Trustees, providing about 2 million dollars to our town funds over the years. The return on investment of these funds is the basis for distributions to such entities as mentioned above. At one point there was a distribution of about \$138,000 in one year! But distributions fluctuate given market conditions, and it is unlikely that in the near term distributions will come anywhere close to that record \$138,000.

However, to improve the possibility of returning "to the good old days" and to continue assisting those who reach out to us for funds, the Trustees would encourage all of you to think about including the Town in your will. Perhaps you could add to our Public Funds now while you can note and appreciate how you are making your community an even better place in which to live.

General Information

Currently the Trustees are revising their investment policy to be in compliance with the new FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) regulations so that in the future the town will qualify for FEMA funds. Such funds have been used for road improvements and may become available for other infrastructure projects.

Our revised Investment Policy will incorporate guidelines from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, the Town's auditors, lawyers, and wealth management group. We will also describe our own policies including, but not limited to, our investment criteria, the basis for our distributions, and procedures for responding to fund requests. This Policy is scheduled to be completed in the coming months.

Our wealth management group, previously part of the People's United Bank, are now part of the Wilmington Trust, headquartered in Wilmington Delaware. We continue to work with the same advisors with whom we have had a great relationship over the years. Our Advisors are Vermont residents, with offices in Rutland. We are happy to continue this relationship as their guidance has certainly made it possible for the assets in our trust to grow and at the same time afford a return on investment beneficial to Rochester residents.

Finally, for information about the Trustees of Public Funds and their role as elected officials, you may contact the Rochester Town Office for a copy of the Trustee Report as presented in the 2019 Town Report.

If you would like to know more about adding to the Town's public funds, please reach out to us!

Barb DeHart

Mike Harvey

Sandy Pierce

Trustees of Public Funds Year Ending June 30, 2022

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1								
2	Fund Name	Cemetery	Guernsey	Forest	Kirkpatrick	Leland	Townshend -	Total Funds w/out Cemetery
3								
4	Additions							
5	Lot Sales	0						
6	Perpetual Care	2375						
7	Other							
8	Total Contributions	2375						
9								
10	Investment Earnings							
11	Net Increase(decrease) in fair market value of Investments	-27119	-467	-1035	-30022	-16166	-202214	-249904
12								
13	Interest and Dividends and other	7678	64	141	4236	2383	27979	34703
14								
15	Total Earnings & contributions	-17066	-403	-894	-25786	-13883	-174235	-215201
16								
17								
18	Deductions							
19	Distribution to School							
20	Distribution to Town				2000		32000	34000
21	Distribution to Food Shelf					4000	4000	4000
22	Distribution to Rebuild Rochester				11500	3500	13000	15000
23	Distribution to summer music						3000	3000
24	Distribution to Cemetery	5000						
25	Management Fees	2187	29	65	1936	1043	12815	15888
26	Distribution to Foreign Taxes/misc		8	17	504	272	3335	4136
27								
28	Total Deductions	7187	37	82	15940	8815	51150	-76024
29								
31	Change in net assets	-24253	-440	-976	-41726	-22698	-225385	-291225
32								
33								
34	Net assets Beginning 7/1/2021	287800	3859	8550	258467	139359	1697172	2107407
35								
36								
37								
38	Net Assets Ending 6/30/22	263547	3419	7574	216741	116661	1471787	1816182
39								
40								
41								
42								
43								
44								

TOWN OF ROCHESTER GENERAL FUND - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

		July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
		FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
		\$24,396.00		\$67,444.00		\$91,585.00	
FUND BALANCE FORWARD							
100-6-10-00-300 General Town Income							
100-6-10-00-300.005	Current Taxes	310,673.00	235,271.52	358,396.00	247,350.43	410,389.00	
100-6-10-00-300.010	Delinquent Taxes		139,255.24		26,751.57		
100-6-10-00-300.015	Interest on Taxes	15,000.00	20,230.72	15,000.00	5,526.03	15,000.00	
100-6-10-00-300.025	Pilot Payment - Forest/Payment	5,000.00	5,551.80	5,552.00	5,623.42	5,600.00	
100-6-10-00-300.032	VT Equalization Study	0.00	952.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-300.035	State Current Use	56,220.00	64,029.00	62,110.00	0.00	65,000.00	
100-6-10-00-300.045	Pilot Payment - State Building	2,784.00	2,869.00	2,784.00	2,855.00	2,869.00	
100-6-10-00-300.216	Insurance Settlements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.009	TOPF Forest Invest Inc	0.00	-893.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-300.218	Capital Lease Proceeds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-300.235	Reserve Transfer In	0.00	1.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Subtotal		414,073.00	467,267.43	511,286.00	288,106.45	590,443.00	
100-6-10-00-303 Trustees of Public Funds							
100-6-10-00-303.010	Kirkpatrick Fund	3,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-303.015	Townsend Hutch	20,000.00	20,000.00	72,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	
100-6-10-00-303.020	Forest Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-303.021	School Heat TOPF		12,000.00			0.00	
Subtotal		23,000.00	34,000.00	74,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	
100-6-10-00-304 Fees							
100-6-10-00-304.005	Animal Fines	0.00	190.00	100.00	80.00	100.00	
100-6-10-00-304.010	Bank Statement Interest	0.00	898.26	1,583.00	876.56	1,500.00	
100-6-10-00-304.011	WRCU 001 Bank Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.020	Building Permits	350.00	775.00	400.00	275.00	500.00	
100-6-10-00-304.025	Dog Licenses - town portion	1,100.00	1,208.00	1,200.00	162.00	1,200.00	
100-6-10-00-304.030	Driveway Construction Permits	237.00	150.00	200.00	100.00	200.00	
100-6-10-00-304.034	Fish & Game Postings	30.00	30.00	30.00	15.00	30.00	
100-6-10-00-304.035	Fleet Permits	300.00	375.00	350.00	0.00	375.00	
100-6-10-00-304.036	Green Mountain Passport	25.00	24.00	26.00	12.00	26.00	
100-6-10-00-304.040	Judicial Fines	18,000.00	11,934.49	10,000.00	3,464.95	5,000.00	
100-6-10-00-304.045	Liquor Licenses - town portion	500.00	670.00	500.00	0.00	600.00	
100-6-10-00-304.050	Marriage License - town portion	127.00	150.00	100.00	120.00	150.00	
100-6-10-00-304.055	Copies	2,252.00	2,474.46	2,500.00	1,233.46	2,500.00	
100-6-10-00-304.056	Certified Copies		501.00		304.00	400.00	
100-6-10-00-304.057	Vault Time fees	0.00	470.00	400.00	227.00	400.00	
100-6-10-00-304.065	Recording fees	7,500.00	12,132.00	11,250.00	7,203.00	11,000.00	
100-6-10-00-304.070	Youth Sports Income	600.00	2,375.00	1,200.00	990.00	2,275.00	
100-6-10-00-304.071	Skatespace GoFundMe				2,637.86	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.075	Refunds to Town	0.00	28.00	0.00	41.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.080	Rent	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.085	Subdivision P & Z Fees	50.00	175.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	
100-6-10-00-304.090	Vehicle Registrations	142.00	147.00	100.00	36.00	100.00	
100-6-10-00-304.105	Utility Billing Reimbursements	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,200.00	
100-6-10-00-304.106	Utility Postage Reimbursements	400.00	400.00	424.00	400.00	500.00	
100-6-10-00-304.301	Rec Program Donations	500.00	1,488.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.302	General Donations	500.00	1,750.00	500.00	100.00	500.00	
100-6-10-00-304.303	Park Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.304	SkateSpace Donations				9,215.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-304.999	Miscellaneous Income	500.00	108.48	500.00	970.26	100.00	
Subtotal		34,113.00	39,453.99	32,563.00	29,463.09	28,756.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER GENERAL FUND - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
100-6-10-00-306 Cemetery Income						
100-6-10-00-306.005 Sale of Cemetery Lots	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-6-10-00-306.011 Cemetery Income - Other	4,300.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-6-10-00-306.015 Trustee Inc - Cemetery Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,500.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
100-6-10-00-310.010 Cemetery Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-6-10-00-306.012 Burial Transit Permits	5.00	5.00			0.00	0.00
Subtotal	9,300.00	5,005.00	15,500.00	0.00	5,000.00	
100-6-10-99- Grant Income						
100-6-10-99-109.003 GHSP Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-6-10-99-120.001 PACIF Grant Inc	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-6-10-99-999.001 Proceeds from FD Mascoma refi		169,000.00				0.00
Subtotal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	480,486.00	714,726.42	633,349.00	317,569.54	634,199.00	
EXPENSES						
100-7-10-10 Finance Expenses						
100-7-10-10-330.002 Courthouse Bond	3,878.00	3,451.00	3,574.00	3,572.98	3,383.00	*
100-7-10-10-330.007 Firehouse Mortgage Principal	11,374.00	175,451.91				**
100-7-10-10-330.008 Firehouse Mortgage Interest	6,729.00	4,114.74				
100-7-10-10-330.015 USDA Sewer Bond Principal	2,286.00	2,285.66	2,349.00	1,166.46	2,414.00	
100-7-10-10-330.016 USDA Sewer Bond Interest	1,796.00	1,796.34	1,733.00	874.54	1,668.00	
100-7-10-10-330.020 LOC Interest Payments	1,500.00	5,131.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-10-330.025 VMBB Refi Bond Principal	33,494.00	33,493.80	34,716.00	34,716.32	27,440.00	
100-7-10-10-330.026 VMBB Refi Bond Interest	15,873.00	15,872.77	14,628.00	7,630.75	13,494.00	
100-7-10-10-330.027 RPL Phase 3 Bond Principal	8,750.00	8,750.00	8,750.00	8,750.00	8,750.00	
100-7-10-10-330.028 RPL Phase 3 Bond Interest	4,156.00	4,156.18	3,912.00	2,019.84	3,648.00	
100-7-10-10-330.029 Site 3 Bond Exp Principal	11,155.00	10,921.23	11,140.00	11,139.65	11,362.00	
100-7-10-10-330.030 Site 3 Bond Exp Admin fees	4,777.00	4,676.97	4,459.00	4,458.55	4,236.00	
100-7-10-10-330.031 FD Station refi Mascoma Mtg. Principal		2,250.00	10,864.00	6,673.00	13,850.00	*
100-7-10-10-330.032 FD Station refi Mascoma Mtg. Interest		696.70	6,272.00	2,167.10	3,831.00	**
100-7-10-10-330.033 Mascoma Bank Fees		1,829.00			0.00	
100-7-10-10-533.000 Bank Charges	0.00	82.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-10-331-000 Prior Year Balance Corrections	0.00	0.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Subtotal	105,768.00	274,961.06	102,397.00	83,169.19	94,076.00	
100-7-10-20 Capital Purchase Expense						
100-7-10-20-830.001 Fire Truck Lease Principal	16,191.00	16,190.98	16,724.00	16,723.61	17,274.00	
100-7-10-20-830.002 Fire Truck Lease Interest	2,844.00	2,844.22	2,312.00	2,311.59	1,761.00	
100-7-10-20-830.005 Fire F550 Loan Principal		0.00	12,917.00	0.00	12,626.00	
100-7-10-20-830.006 Fire F550 Loan Interest		0.00	116.00	0.00	1,416.00	
100-7-10-20-830.007 '22 Dump Truck Loan Principal		0.00	20,828.00	20,312.75	19,530.00	
100-7-10-20-830.008 '22 Dump Truck Loan Interest		0.00	188.00	1,456.00	2,238.00	
Subtotal	19,035.00	19,035.20	53,085.00	40,803.95	54,845.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER GENERAL FUND - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

		July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023	July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024
		FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
		Budget	Actual	Budget
100-7-10-21 Salaries				
100-7-10-21-110.000	Salaries Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	21,450.00	26,112.67	28,829.00
100-7-10-21-110.005	Salaries Animal Control	500.00	500.00	500.00
100-7-10-21-110.015	Salaries Health Officer	500.00	500.00	500.00
100-7-10-21-110.016	Salaries Constable	500.00	500.00	500.00
100-7-10-21-110.020	Salaries Housekeeping	927.00	847.77	1,092.00
100-7-10-21-110.030	Salaries Selectboard	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
100-7-10-21-110.035	Salaries Town Clerk/Treasurer	39,864.00	39,852.80	41,845.00
100-7-10-21-110.041	Selectboard Secretary	1,500.00	1,562.50	1,500.00
100-7-10-21-110.050	Selectboard Admin Assistant	23,539.00	17,119.69	24,712.00
	Subtotal	92,280.00	90,495.43	102,978.00
100-7-10-25 General Office Expenses				
100-7-10-25-330.000	Outside Audit	8,950.00	8,950.00	8,460.00
100-7-10-25-330.005	Domain Host	500.00	924.31	525.00
100-7-10-25-333.000	Legal Services	5,000.00	1,335.00	5,000.00
100-7-10-25-340.000	Tax Mapping	1,750.00	1,750.00	1,750.00
100-7-10-25-410.000	Electricity	2,200.00	1,487.53	1,500.00
100-7-10-25-411.000	Water & Sewer	300.00	520.00	520.00
100-7-10-25-440.000	Equipment/Repair/Rental	1,500.00	3,620.01	3,000.00
100-7-10-25-530.000	Telephone	1,500.00	2,066.46	1,280.00
100-7-10-25-531.000	Postage	2,500.00	2,793.60	3,000.00
100-7-10-25-540.000	Printing & Advertising	3,000.00	3,535.14	3,000.00
100-7-10-25-565.000	Meetings/Education	500.00	239.00	500.00
100-7-10-25-610.000	Supplies	2,500.00	3,060.48	2,500.00
100-7-10-25-624.000	Fuel	2,000.00	755.19	2,500.00
100-7-10-25-641.000	IT Services	5,000.00	12,261.62	10,000.00
100-7-10-25-641.005	NEMRC	2,500.00	2,047.74	5,360.00
100-7-10-25-740.000	Equipment	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
100-7-10-25-740.001	Elevator Maintenance	500.00	1,462.50	800.00
100-7-10-25-990.000	Miscellaneous	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Subtotal	41,300.00	46,808.58	51,185.00
100-7-10-26 Buildings & Grounds				
100-7-10-26-422.000	Sidewalk Plowing	13,500.00	13,500.00	18,000.00
100-7-10-26-430.000	Grounds - General M/R	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-7-10-26-430.005	Athletic Fields	2,124.00	2,436.00	3,060.00
100-7-10-26-430.025	Office Repairs	500.00	401.55	500.00
100-7-10-26-430.026	Office Mowing	822.00	956.00	1,224.00
100-7-10-26-430.035	Window Cleaning	500.00	335.00	500.00
100-7-10-26-430.040	Town Trash	960.00	1,065.00	1,000.00
100-7-10-26-440.000	Porta Toilets	2,000.00	3,396.25	3,334.50
100-7-10-26-532.000	Alarm Monitoring	0.00	272.50	300.00
100-7-10-26-622.000	Street Lights	7,977.00	7,832.12	3,990.29
	Subtotal	28,383.00	30,194.42	35,895.00
				60,084.00

TOWN OF ROCHESTER GENERAL FUND - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

		July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
		FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
100-7-10-27 Solid Waste							
100-7-10-27-421.000	Solid Waste (Bethel/Royalton)	12,552.00	13,384.62	14,590.00	14,590.08	14,590.00	
	Subtotal	12,552.00	13,384.62	14,590.00	14,590.08	14,590.00	
100-7-10-28 General Employee Expenses							
100-7-10-28-210.000	Health Insurance	8,046.00	15,522.79	20,863.00	10,774.49	24,978.00	
100-7-10-28-210.001	HRA 720 Excise Tax Exp	0.00	8.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-28-210.002	Hickock & Boardman Mgmt.	460.00	495.00	590.00	410.00	840.00	
100-7-10-28-210.005	Life & Disability Ins. Madison	423.00	694.09	395.00	354.48	720.00	
100-7-10-28-210.010	MVP Select Care	350.00	533.65	1,300.00	170.52	1,300.00	
100-7-10-28-220.000	Social Security	7,313.00	7,155.47	7,313.00	3,555.77	6,989.00	
100-7-10-28-230.000	VMERS Retirement	2,480.00	4,145.71	4,771.00	2,427.17	5,416.00	
100-7-10-28-250.000	Unemployment Compensation	219.00	983.00	224.00	474.00	225.00	
100-7-10-28-260.000	Worker's Compensation	493.00	592.18	571.00	207.26	552.00	
100-7-10-28-270.000	Insurance Discounts & Credits	-2,296.00	0.00	-2,276.00	120.00	-1,200.00	
	Subtotal	17,488.00	30,130.26	33,751.00	18,493.69	39,820.00	
100-7-10-29 Dues & Fees							
100-7-10-29-490.000	County Tax	7,334.00	7,360.00	7,814.00	7,813.56	8,403.00	
100-7-10-29-560.000	Green Mtn Economic Dev	549.00	547.00	544.00	544.00	544.00	
100-7-10-29-560.005	Two Rivers - Ottauquechee	1,743.00	1,743.00	1,736.00	1,736.00	1,791.00	
100-7-10-29-560.010	VLCT Dues	2,484.00	2,466.00	2,466.00	0.00	2,546.00	
	Subtotal	12,110.00	12,116.00	12,560.00	10,093.56	13,284.00	
100-7-10-30 General Town Expenses							
100-7-10-30-310.000	Animal Control Expense	300.00	130.06	300.00	133.00	200.00	
100-7-10-30-340.000	Generator Maint	1,700.00	140.67	1,700.00	1,056.00	1,100.00	
100-7-10-30-424.000	Cemetery Upkeep	25,360.00	25,360.00	27,500.00	13,605.02	31,478.00	
100-7-10-30-495.001	Repeater Expenses	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
100-7-10-30-520.000	Property Insurance	9,027.00	3,684.91	9,465.00	1,810.43	5,000.00	
100-7-10-30-950.000	Kirkpatrick Scholarship	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
100-7-10-30-950.025	School Heating Expense		15,000.00		0.00	0.00	
	Subtotal	38,587.00	46,515.64	41,165.00	17,804.45	39,978.00	
100-7-10-31 Emergency Services/Ambulance							
100-7-10-31-000.001	WRVA Rescue Services	69,479.00	70,618.00	71,435.00	36,126.00	79,128.00	
100-7-10-31-000.002	Granville First Response	6,472.00	6,989.00	6,748.00	6,748.00	3,500.00	
	Subtotal	75,951.00	77,607.00	78,183.00	42,874.00	82,628.00	
100-7-10-43 Park Expenses							
100-7-10-43-430.000	Repairs	100.00	457.34	100.00	0.00	100.00	
100-7-10-43-430.001	Mowing	1,921.00	2,136.00	2,652.00	1,768.00	2,652.00	
100-7-10-43-430.002	Tree Maintenance	1,500.00	200.00	2,000.00	0.00	1,750.00	
100-7-10-43-430.003	Lawn Maintenance	500.00	751.00	500.00	0.00	1,000.00	
100-7-10-43-430.006	Electricity	400.00	311.84	400.00	189.17	400.00	
100-7-10-43-430.007	Miscellaneous Expense	500.00	269.80	500.00	60.96	500.00	
	Subtotal	4,921.00	4,125.98	6,152.00	2,018.13	6,402.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER GENERAL FUND - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
100-7-10-44-346 Recreation Dept						
100-7-10-44-220.000 Social Security	92.00	0.00	92.00	0.00	107.00	
100-7-10-44-250.000 Unemployment	6.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	6.00	
100-7-10-44-260.000 Work Comp	64.00	136.28	9.00	69.86	64.00	
100-7-10-44-346.001 Summer Concerts	2,600.00	1,850.00	2,600.00	2,700.00	2,600.00	
100-7-10-44-346.002 July 4th Parade	150.00	49.10	150.00	201.00	500.00	
100-7-10-44-346.003 Youth Sports	2,000.00	3,591.99	2,000.00	1,322.83	2,000.00	
100-7-10-44-346.004 Miscellaneous Expense	400.00	407.43	400.00	85.18	400.00	
100-7-10-44-346.005 Salaries	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	1,400.00	
100-7-10-44-346.007 One Planet Program	3,125.00	3,125.00	3,125.00	0.00	3,125.00	
100-7-10-44-346.008 Skatespace/Winterfest	2,800.00	2,286.08	2,800.00	1,840.78	2,800.00	
Subtotal	12,437.00	12,645.88	12,382.00	6,219.65	13,002.00	
100-7-10-60 Constable Expenses						
100-7-10-60-115.000 Windsor County Sheriff	36,000.00	42,057.60	26,000.00	12,741.00	30,000.00	
100-7-10-60-520.000 Constable/Animal Control W/C Liab	0.00	159.00	0.00	241.65	500.00	
Subtotal	36,000.00	42,216.60	26,000.00	12,982.65	30,500.00	
100-7-10-70 Fire Dept. Expenses						
100-7-10-70-110.000 Salaries	6,500.00	6,124.00	6,500.00	6,090.00	7,500.00	
100-7-10-70-110.001 Workers Compensation	871.00	914.25	500.00	609.50	1,280.00	
100-7-10-70-430.000 Building Repair/Maintenance	500.00	699.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	
100-7-10-70-430.001 Sprinkler Alarm	0.00	0.00	350.00	0.00	400.00	
100-7-10-70-431.000 Air Compressor	700.00	2,332.59	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
100-7-10-70-431.001 Air Pack Replacement	2,500.00	879.31	4,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	
100-7-10-70-432.000 Truck Maintenance	2,000.00	1,087.39	2,000.00	0.00	2,500.00	
100-7-10-70-520.000 Property/Auto Insurance	7,104.00	7,349.54	7,561.00	3,491.01	7,000.00	
100-7-10-70-530.000 Phone/Public Safety	1,800.00	1,442.43	1,800.00	807.86	2,700.00	
100-7-10-70-532.000 Water & Sewer	700.00	1,099.80	650.00	132.40	700.00	
100-7-10-70-540.000 Printing/Advertising	100.00	379.61	200.00	13.00	200.00	
100-7-10-70-560.000 Dues	400.00	756.32	800.00	323.00	900.00	
100-7-10-70-565.000 Meetings/Education	500.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
100-7-10-70-610.000 Hoses	2,500.00	6,226.25	3,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	
100-7-10-70-610.005 Bunker Gear	6,000.00	6,259.09	6,000.00	1,420.95	6,000.00	
100-7-10-70-610.020 Supplies/Repair	7,500.00	6,972.07	7,500.00	15.96	8,000.00	
100-7-10-70-622.000 Electricity	1,800.00	1,596.40	1,500.00	789.90	1,800.00	
100-7-10-70-626.000 Gas/Oil/Grease	1,300.00	990.11	1,800.00	719.02	2,000.00	
100-7-10-70-626.001 Heat	1,800.00	1,845.39	2,500.00	251.76	3,000.00	
100-7-10-70-740.000 Radios/Pagers	3,000.00	514.55	3,000.00	767.00	2,500.00	
100-7-10-70-990.000 Miscellaneous	100.00	115.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	
Subtotal	47,675.00	47,583.10	52,761.00	15,431.36	55,580.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER GENERAL FUND - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
100-7-10-80 Listers Expenses						
100-7-10-80-110.000 Salaries	3,500.00	2,005.25	2,000.00	1,125.00	3,500.00	
100-7-10-80-220.000 Social Security	268.00	153.40	268.00	86.06	268.00	
100-7-10-80-260.000 Work Comp	15.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	17.00	
100-7-10-80-565.000 Meetings/Education	450.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	
100-7-10-80-580.000 Mileage	245.00	32.18	55.00	0.00	55.00	
100-7-10-80-610.000 Supplies	500.00	514.52	500.00	315.29	500.00	
Subtotal	4,978.00	2,705.35	3,038.00	1,526.35	4,540.00	
100-7-10-82 Planning & Zoning Expenses						
100-7-10-82-220.000 Social Security	0.00	0.00	27.00	0.00	46.00	
100-7-10-82-540.000 Printing/Advertising	500.00	99.01	350.00	59.92	350.00	
100-7-10-82-540.010 Clerk/Assistant	0.00	0.00	350.00	67.50	650.00	
100-7-10-82-610.000 Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-99-110.003 TRORC Zoning Regs. Agreement			6,500.00	1,501.08	0.00	
Subtotal	500.00	99.01	7,227.00	1,628.50	1,046.00	
100-7-10-99 Grant Expenses						
100-7-10-99-999.000 Transfer out Grants Match		2,267.47				
TOTAL EXPENSES	549,965.00	752,891.60	633,349.00	301,466.51	634,378.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
HIGHWAY INCOME						
100-6-10-00-300.005 Current Taxes	466,160.00	466,160.00	506,411.00	324,855.15	511,578.00	
100-6-10-00-300.040 State Aid to Roads	112,000.00	126,284.19	120,000.00	58,389.67	130,000.00	
100-6-10-00-300.055 Forest Service Rd. Agree.	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-6-10-00-300.205 Pittsfield W/M	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00	2,500.00	
100-6-10-00-300.210 Fed PILT FS Land-Hwy	33,500.00	34,893.00	33,500.00	0.00	35,000.00	
Transfer in from overfunded HRA account	1,300.00		0.00	0.00		
Subtotal non tax income	149,000.00	163,377.19	155,700.00	58,389.67	167,500.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY INCOME	615,160.00	629,537.19	662,111.00	383,244.82	679,078.00	
HIGHWAY EXPENSES						
100-7-10-50-110.000 Highway Regular Time	140,705.00	139,097.03	147,748.00	71,657.35	152,175.00	
100-7-10-50-130.000 Highway Overtime	30,600.00	19,775.38	31,500.00	7,660.78	30,900.00	
100-7-10-50-210.000 Highway Health Insurance	16,092.00	15,809.45	16,341.00	8,213.46	19,563.00	
100-7-10-50-210.001 Hickock/Boardman Mgmt.	760.00	610.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-50-210.002 Health Ins Opt Out	4,800.00	5,095.45	4,962.00	2,448.64	5,955.00	
100-7-10-50-210.005 Life/Disability Ins Madison	1,408.00	1,192.46	1,357.00	709.34	1,425.00	
100-7-10-50-210.009 Drug Testing		40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-50-210.010 MVP Select Care	700.00	1,149.45	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00	
100-7-10-50-220.000 Social Security	13,105.00	12,257.20	13,712.00	6,097.85	14,005.00	
100-7-10-50-230.000 Municipal Retirement	10,707.00	10,240.81	12,099.00	5,292.69	12,358.00	
100-7-10-50-250.000 Unemployment	282.00	-6.20	282.00	0.00	282.00	
100-7-10-50-260.000 Work Comp	13,019.00	10,186.68	13,533.00	5,381.56	13,895.00	
100-7-10-50-411.000 Garage-Water/Sewer	500.00	715.60	600.00	154.00	720.00	
100-7-10-50-411.005 Town of Braintree W/M	7,000.00	6,367.09	6,500.00	0.00	7,000.00	
100-7-10-50-424.000 Mowing/Brush Removal	17,000.00	13,605.00	18,000.00	17,526.27	18,000.00	
100-7-10-50-430.000 Garage-Bldg Maint/Repair	3,000.00	4,932.26	3,000.00	703.55	3,000.00	
100-7-10-50-431.000 EQ Parts/Repairs/Supplies	37,000.00	45,377.09	62,000.00	42,749.14	63,000.00	
100-7-10-50-431.005 Town Garage Radio Expense	500.00	643.01	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
100-7-10-50-441.010 Town of Stockbridge W/M	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,700.00	
100-7-10-50-442.000 Contracted Services/Rental	17,000.00	14,612.50	15,000.00	14,092.50	15,000.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
100-7-10-50-460.000 Bridge & Bandrails	7,000.00	0.00	9,100.00	5,264.00	0.00	
100-7-10-50-460.005 Culverts	7,000.00	6,548.96	7,000.00	6,053.88	7,000.00	
100-7-10-50-460.015 Resurfacing	40,000.00	521.90	40,000.00	41,499.88	50,000.00	
100-7-10-50-520.000 Hwy Prop/Auto/Liab Ins	9,982.00	10,499.39	10,877.00	5,756.65	12,700.00	
100-7-10-50-530.000 Garage-Telephone	900.00	1,240.22	900.00	646.82	1,200.00	
100-7-10-50-540.000 Advertising	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-50-565.000 Highway - Education	200.00	45.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	
100-7-10-50-610.000 Gas. Oil. Grease	31,000.00	66,681.35	34,000.00	22,048.23	68,000.00	
100-7-10-50-610.005 Small Tools	3,000.00	2,864.20	3,000.00	597.58	3,000.00	
100-7-10-50-610.010 Supplies	1,500.00	579.15	2,000.00	473.43	1,000.00	
100-7-10-50-610.015 Clothing Allowance	1,800.00	1,464.86	1,800.00	121.08	1,800.00	
100-7-10-50-611.000 Chloride	9,000.00	9,949.50	9,000.00	0.00	9,900.00	
100-7-10-50-611.005 Salt	42,000.00	41,066.25	42,000.00	8,320.50	49,000.00	
100-7-10-50-622.000 Garage-Electricity	2,200.00	2,051.81	1,800.00	581.39	2,000.00	
100-7-10-50-624.000 Garage-Heat	4,000.00	3,660.14	4,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	
100-7-10-50-650.000 Gravel	92,000.00	50,029.55	60,000.00	22,098.34	60,000.00	
100-7-10-50-650.005 Sand	41,000.00	33,329.08	40,000.00	24,898.90	41,000.00	
100-7-10-50-651.000 Paint Crosswalks	500.00	0.00	500.00	124.25	500.00	
100-7-10-50-651.005 Road Signs & Posts	2,000.00	1,381.73	1,500.00	1,283.09	1,500.00	
100-7-10-50-651.015 Municipal Road Permit/Fee	1,600.00	1,350.00	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00	
100-7-10-50-651.020 Gravel Pit Lease Exp	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	
100-7-10-50-990.000 Miscellaneous Expenses	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	
100-7-10-50-999.001 Grant Over Expenditure	0.00	0.00	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	
Subtotal	615,160.00	538,863.35	662,111.00	324,855.15	679,078.00	
100-7-10-99 Grant Expenses						
100-7-10-99-999.000 Transfer out Grants Match		28,794.00			0.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENSES	615,160.00	567,657.35	662,111.00	324,855.15	679,078.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
WATER COMMISSIONER'S BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
Water Income						
300-6-00-20-020.005 Water Current Fees	44,000.00	56,569.00	44,000.00	24,652.48	56,000.00	
300-6-00-20-020.010 Water Delinquent Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
300-6-00-20-020.015 Water Connection Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
300-6-00-10-000.007 Water Res. Bank Interest	0.00	28.00	0.00	44.36	0.00	
300-6-00-20-020.020 Water Bank Interest	0.00	161.00	0.00	134.94	0.00	
300-6-00-20-020.025 Water Misc Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL WATER INCOME	44,000.00	56,758.00	44,000.00	24,831.78	56,000.00	
Water Expenses						
300-7-10-20-110.000 Water Operator	16,000.00	18,042.54	16,000.00	8,068.46	18,000.00	
300-7-10-20-110.005 Water Operator Asst	2,000.00	740.00	3,000.00	270.00	1,500.00	
300-7-10-20-220.000 FICA/MEDI Expense	1,500.00	1,338.90	1,500.00	615.13	1,500.00	
300-7-10-20-220.001 W/C, Unempl Exp	1,500.00	1,172.08	1,000.00	628.74	1,380.00	
300-7-10-20-340.000 Water Telemetry		25.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	
300-7-10-20-340.005 Water Testing/Samples	1,500.00	525.00	1,800.00	465.00	1,500.00	
300-7-10-20-424.000 Water Grounds Maint	900.00	684.00	816.00	544.00	850.00	
300-7-10-20-424.001 Water Truck Use Reimburse	1,400.00	1,320.00	1,400.00	700.00	1,560.00	
300-7-10-20-430.000 Water Building Maint	500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	
300-7-10-20-431.000 Water Equip Maint	3,500.00	1,588.63	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	
300-7-10-20-431.015 Generator Expense	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	
300-7-10-20-520.000 Water Prop/Liab Ins	274.00	323.27	338.00	166.66	350.00	
300-7-10-20-531.000 Water Postage	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	250.00	
300-7-10-20-531.005 Water Heat-Pump H	1,300.00	991.54	1,300.00	598.45	1,500.00	
300-7-10-20-560.000 Water Dues/Memberships	300.00	245.00	300.00	0.00	350.00	
300-7-10-20-565.000 Water Education	500.00	18.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	
300-7-10-20-570.000 Water Permit/Licenses	1,000.00	366.75	500.00	501.40	700.00	
300-7-10-20-610.000 Water Billing	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	600.00	
300-7-10-20-610.005 Water Supplies	3,500.00	1,864.64	2,000.00	778.96	2,500.00	
300-7-10-20-655.000 Water Special Projects		4,080.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
300-7-10-20-622.000 Water Electricity	5,500.00	2,808.22	3,000.00	1,379.69	3,500.00	
300-7-10-20-740.000 Water Equipment	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	
300-7-10-20-990.000 Water Misc Expense	100.00	0.00	100.00	17.18	100.00	
TOTAL WATER EXPENSES	42,174.00	36,833.57	39,954.00	15,433.67	42,440.00	

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
SEWER COMMISSIONER'S BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY22		FY23		FY24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
Sewer Income						
300-6-00-10-000.005 Bank Interest	0.00		0.00	118.62		
300-6-00-10-000.006 Sewer Res. Bank Int.	0.00		0.00	31.62		
300-6-00-10-010.005 Sewer Current Fees	0.00		0.00	35,681.35		80,000.00
300-6-00-10-010.010 Sewer Delinquent Fees	0.00		0.00	0.00		
300-6-00-10-010.015 Sewer Connection Fees	0.00		0.00	0.00		
300-6-00-10-010.020 Sewer Interest	0.00		0.00	227.68		
300-6-00-10-010.030 Sewer Misc Income	0.00		0.00	0.00		
300-6-00-10-010.035 Special Project Income	0.00		0.00	0.00		
TOTAL SEWER INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	36,059.27		80,000.00
Sewer Expenses						
300-7-10-10-110.000 Sewer Operator	16,000.00	17,853.32	17,000.00	6,798.05		18,000.00
300-7-10-10-110.005 Sewer Operator Asst	2,000.00	651.80	3,000.00	146.85		1,500.00
300-7-10-10-220.000 FICA/MEDI Expense	1,395.00	1,373.52	1,400.00	511.94		1,400.00
300-7-10-10-220.001 W/C, Unempl Exp	1,395.00	1,172.08	800.00	592.64		1,280.00
300-7-10-10-330.000 Sewer Engineering	3,000.00	1,500.00	4,000.00	3,000.00		3,500.00
300-7-10-10-340.000 Sewer Testing/Samples	3,500.00	2,609.36	3,000.00	1,017.00		3,300.00
300-7-10-10-340.001 Sewer Telemetering	1,200.00	1,441.82	1,500.00	0.00		1,600.00
300-7-10-10-424.000 Sewer Grounds Maint	2,000.00	2,815.00	2,448.00	1,632.00		3,000.00
300-7-10-10-424.001 Sewer Truck Use Reimburse	1,500.00	1,320.00	1,400.00	700.00		1,560.00
300-7-10-10-431.000 Sewer Repairs	3,000.00	1,923.90	3,000.00	0.00		3,000.00
300-7-10-10-431.005 Sewer Tanks Maint	14,000.00	16,992.78	16,000.00	0.00		18,000.00
300-7-10-10-431.015 Sewer Generator	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00		100.00
300-7-10-10-520.000 Sewer Prop/Liab Ins	1,100.00	968.84	1,020.00	499.99		1,300.00
300-7-10-10-531.000 Sewer Postage	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00		250.00
300-7-10-10-565.000 Sewer Education	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00		0.00
300-7-10-10-570.000 Sewer Permits/Licenses	2,000.00	2,460.25	2,500.00	220.00		2,600.00
300-7-10-10-610.000 Sewer Billing	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00		600.00
300-7-10-10-610.005 Sewer Supplies	500.00	842.12	500.00	0.00		1,000.00
300-7-10-10-622.000 Sewer Electricity	2,900.00	2,198.98	2,300.00	1,032.27		2,500.00
300-7-10-10-655.000 Sewer Special Projects	500.00	6,736.12	500.00	0.00		500.00
300-7-10-10-990.000 Sewer Misc Expense	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00		100.00
TOTAL SEWER EXPENSES	56,990.00	63,559.89	61,368.00	16,850.74		65,090.00

TOWN OF ROCHESTER APPROPRIATIONS AND VOTED ARTICLES - SELECTBOARD BUDGET

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	Budget
100-7-10-91 Appropriations						
100-7-10-91-950.015 Central VT Council on Aging	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
100-7-10-91-950.020 Clara Martin Center	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,066.00
100-7-10-91-950.025 Green Up Vermont	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100-7-10-91-950.029 Orange Cty Parent Child C	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
100-7-10-91-950.030 Quintown Senior Center	9,849.00	9,849.00	9,849.00	9,849.00	9,849.00	9,849.00
100-7-10-91-950.035 Tri -Valley Transit	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
100-7-10-91-950.045 Visiting Nurses VT/NH	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00
100-7-10-91-950.050 White River Partnership	875.00	875.00	875.00	875.00	875.00	875.00
100-7-10-91-950.060 Women Safe Inc	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
100-7-10-91-950.064 VACD Dry Hydrant Program	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100-7-10-91-950.070 Safeline	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
Subtotal	22,840.00	22,840.00	22,840.00	22,840.00	22,840.00	22,840.00
100-7-10-92 Rsrv Transfrs/Voted Articles						
100-7-10-92-000-005 Hwy Equip Reserve Trsf Out	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
100-7-10-92-000-010 Tennis Rsv Trsf Out	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
100-7-10-92-000-014 Town Building Res Trsf Ou	8,000.00	8,000.00	9,000.00	0.00		
100-7-10-92-000-015 Reappraisal Res Trsf Out					8,000.00	
100-7-10-92-000-018 Library Transfer Out	45,625.00	45,625.00	48,314.00	48,314.00	49,935.00	
100-7-10-92-000-019 Fast Trash and Recycling	20,400.00	18,700.00	20,400.00	8,500.00	21,420.00	
Hwy Grant Project Reserve Trsf Out					12,000.00	
Subtotal	75,025.00	73,325.00	78,714.00	56,814.00	92,355.00	
TOTAL ARTICLES and APPROPRIATIONS	97,865.00	96,165.00	101,554.00	79,654.00	115,195.00	

ROCHESTER TOWN GENERAL ACCOUNT
Summary of Budget, Revenue and Expense

1/11/2023

1/11/2023		FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
Rochester Town		Voted Budget	Actual 12 months	Voted Budget	Actual 6 months	Proposed Budget	difference vs FY23
<u>REVENUE:</u>							
Property Taxes:		310,673	235,272	358,396	247,350	410,389	13%
Non-Tax Revenue:		169,813	479,455	274,953	70,219	223,810	-23%
X. TOTAL REVENUE: [Prop + Non-tax rev]		480,486	714,726	633,349	317,570	634,199	0%
<u>EXPENSE:</u>							
Total Finance Expenses:		105,768	274,961	102,397	83,169	94,076	-9%
Total Capital Purchase Expense:		19,035	19,035	53,085	40,804	54,845	3%
Total General Town Salaries:		92,280	90,495	102,978	40,245	88,108	-17%
General Office Expense:		41,300	46,809	51,185	19,974	60,084	15%
Buildings and Grounds:		28,383	30,194	35,895	16,486	35,895	0%
Solid Waste:		12,552	13,385	14,590	14,590	14,590	0%
General Employee Expenses:		17,488	30,130	33,751	18,494	39,820	15%
Dues and Fees:		12,110	12,116	12,560	10,094	13,284	5%
General Town Expenses		38,587	46,516	41,165	17,804	39,978	-3%
Emergency Services		6,472	77,607	6,472	6,472	82,628	4%
Park Expenses		4,921	4,126	6,152	2,018	6,402	5%
Recreation Dept. Expenses:		12,437	12,646	12,382	6,220	13,002	15%
Constable Expenses:		36,000	42,217	26,000	12,983	30,500	5%
Fire Department Expenses:		47,675	47,583	52,761	15,431	55,580	33%
Listers Expenses:		4,978	2,705	3,038	1,526	4,540	-591%
Planning/Zoning Expenses:		500	99	7,227	1,629	1,046	
Transfer out Grants Match			2,267				
A. Grand Total GEN. FUND EXPENSE:		480,486	752,892	561,638	301,467	634,378	11%
HIGHWAY:							
<u>REVENUE:</u>							
Property Taxes:		466,160	466,160	506,411	324,855	511,578	1%
Non-Tax Revenue:		149,000	163,377	155,700	58,390	167,500	7%
Y. Total REVENUE:		615,160	629,537	662,111	383,245	679,078	2%
<u>EXPENSE:</u>							
Highway Expenses		615,160	538,863	662,111	226,686	679,078	
Highway Grant Expense		0	0	0	0	0	
B. Total HIGHWAY EXPENSE:		615,160	567,657	662,111	324,855	679,078	2%
APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:							
Total Community Requests:		22,840	22,840	22,840	22,840	22,840	0%
Total Voted Articles:		75,025	73,325	78,714	56,814	92,355	15%
C. TOTAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:		97,865	96,165	101,554	79,654	115,195	12%
Total Income: X + Y + C		1,193,511	1,440,429	1,397,014	780,468	1,428,472	2%
Total Expense : A + B + C		1,193,511	1,416,714	1,325,303	705,976	1,428,651	7%
Audit Reconciliation FY 22		Total Income \$ 1,440,429 \$ 1,416,714 Total Expense (9,000) Reserve fund (45,625) Library Article (31,061) Grants Fund transfer out Audited Exp					
		Total Income	\$ 1,440,429	\$	1,416,714	Total Expense	
		Notes Payable	\$ (169,000)			(9,000) Reserve fund	
		Cemetery funds	(5,000)			(45,625) Library Article	
		Audited Income	\$ 1,266,429	\$	1,331,028	Grants Fund transfer out	
						Audited Exp	

BUDGET AND TAX SUMMARY					
	FY22	FY 23	FY 24	Proposed More or (Less) than last Year's Budget	
General Town Budget	2021-2022 Budget	2022-2023 Budget	2023-2024 Budget		
General Town Revenue (non-tax)	480,486	633,349	634,199	850	0.1%
	(169,813)	(274,953)	(223,810)	51,143	-18.6%
Town Funds Required	\$ 310,673	\$ 358,396	\$ 410,389	51,993	14.5%
Highway Budget					
Highway Revenue (non-tax)	615,160	662,111	679,078	16,967	2.6%
	(149,000)	(155,700)	(167,500)	(11,800)	7.6%
Highway Funds Required	\$ 466,160	\$ 506,411	\$ 511,578	5,167	1.0%
Community Agencies Requests	22,840	22,840	22,840	0	0.0%
Voted Articles	75,025	78,714	92,355	13,641	17.3%
Appropriation Funds Required	\$ 97,865	\$ 101,554	\$ 115,195	13,641	13.4%
Grand Total Budget and Appropriations: X + Y + C	\$ 1,193,511	\$ 1,397,014	\$ 1,428,472	\$ 31,458	2.3%
Grand Total Property Tax Required: A + B + C	\$ 874,698	\$ 966,361	\$ 1,037,162	\$ 70,801	7.3%
FY 24 Budget Article and Property Tax Summary					
Town and Highway Budget Article:			To raise from taxes:		
X. General Town Budget:	634,199		A. Town Funds Required:		410,389
Y. Highway Budget:	679,078		B. Highway funds required:		511,578
Total amount for Town Budget Article:	\$ 1,313,277		Total amount to raise from taxes for Town and Highway:		\$ 921,967
C. Proposed Appropriations and Voted Articles:	\$ 115,195		C. Proposed Appropriations and Voted Articles:		\$ 115,195
Grand Total Appropriations, Town, and Highway Budgets:	\$ 1,428,472		Grand Total of Property Tax to be raised:		\$ 1,037,162

**Annual Report of the Rochester Public Library And
what a year it was!**

Rethinking the role of your community library resulted in a whole new way of offering programs, new ways of providing services, and a whole new kind of library emerging last year.

Concierge service was a big hit that started during the depths of Covid when the library doors were closed. It has continued to be very popular and requested by folks who want to grab and go with the items they request by phone. We will continue to offer this service into the future.

Many people are still wary of indoor crowds and to accommodate everyone we have offered programs on the bandstand and via Zoom in addition to gathering in the building. We held weekly Stories in the Park starting at the end of May and going until October and monthly Wild Days Out adventures for area children and families.

With our goal of “something for everyone” we garnered almost \$12,000 in donations to purchase items for our Library of Things which has grown to over 330 items. One of the criteria for selection are items that you might want to “try before you buy” or would only need to use infrequently. The most popular items this year include a metal detector, children’s balance bikes, pickle ball rackets, a wheelchair, a walker, a food dehydrator, an electric rototiller, and board games. A current list of all the Things is available on the library website at rochesterVTpubliclibrary.com Save money, save storage space, save resources, borrow rather than buy!

Overall, we loaned books, e-books, movies, and things valued at \$121,814 last year, quite a return on the investment made in your library!

We trust you will support your library by voting, YES! to the article providing funding for our budget at Town Meeting. If you have any questions about our budget, just stop by and ask the Library Director any Tuesday & Thursday 11-6 or Saturday 9-12.

The Trustees look forward to working with the Select Board in 2023 to move forward with much needed maintenance and repairs on this landmark town building.

Thank you for your support,

Your Library Trustees: Tony Goupee, Doreen Jones, Kelly Kelly, Sandy Lincoln, and Barbara Shenton

Rochester Public Library Budget

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
200-6-00-10-000 Income						
200-6-00-10-000.000 Town Appropriated Funds	45,625.00	45,625.00	48,314.00	48,314.00	49,934.97	
200-6-00-10-000.001 Libr 001 Savings Interest	0.00	0.49	0.00	0.00	1.00	
200-6-00-10-000.009 Cap Camp Bank Interest	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-000.011 Library Mem Fnd Int	4.00	1.01	3.00	0.54	1.00	
200-6-00-10-000.012 Lib Annual Camp Interest	25.00	8.62	20.00	3.68	15.00	
200-6-00-10-000.013 Memorial Fund Income	5.00	700.00	5.00	25.00	5.00	
200-6-00-10-000.014 Window/Rest Interest	5.00	0.90	2.00	0.46	1.00	
200-6-00-10-000.020 Adopt an Author	1,200.00	1,160.67	1,200.00	789.06	1,200.00	
200-6-00-10-000.025 Cookbook Income		3,178.00		40.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-000.029 Bennett WRCU 06 Int	1.00	0.08	1.00	0.04	1.00	
200-6-00-10-000.035 Bennett Bks Divd 1st Ener	125.00	135.72	125.00	67.86	125.00	
200-6-00-10-000.045 Moving Avg Wing Rest.	3,459.00	1,729.00	4,016.00	4,016.00	3,528.00	
200-6-00-10-000.060 Book Sales	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-000.065 Fines	100.00	51.00	50.00	39.00	50.00	
200-6-00-10-000.068 Program Income	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-000.069 Program Reimbursement	160.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-000.080 Donations (Restricted) Ann. Camp.	5,000.00	11,912.38	5,000.00	6,945.00	5,000.00	
200-6-00-10-000.085 Donations (Unrestricted)	1,000.00	215.00	500.00	550.00	400.00	
200-6-00-10-000.086 Donation from Granville	600.00	750.00	600.00	0.00	700.00	
200-6-00-10-000.088 Corporate Match income	1,500.00	1,750.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
200-6-00-10-000.090 Moving Avg Kirk (unrestricted)	3,326.00	0.00	4,809.00	4,809.00	4,281.00	
200-6-00-10-000.095 Copies	50.00	45.00	50.00	32.00	25.00	
200-6-00-10-000.106 Space rental	150.00	0.00	150.00	50.00	100.00	
200-6-00-10-000.110 Misc Income	0.00	37.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-000.115 Funds fwd-prior yr	4,605.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-010 Grant Income						
200-6-00-10-010.002 ARPA Grant Inc. Electronics	0.00	2,089.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-6-00-10-010.003 ARPA Grant Inc. II Books	0.00	696.59	0.00	696.59	0.00	
200-6-00-10-010.005 ILL Grant Income	520.00	536.77	520.00	571.35	571.35	
200-6-00-10-010.010 Dept Libr Children Progra	200.00	300.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	
200-6-00-10-015 Fundraising Income						
200-6-00-10-015-017 Fundraising Income	0.00		1,500.00	0.00		
Total Income	67,861.00	70,928.99	70,266.00	68,949.58	68,139.32	
200-7-10-15 Finance Expenses						
200-7-10-15-533.000 Bank Charges	20.00	25.25	10.00	0.00	25.00	
200-7-10-15-830.000 Interest Expenses	10.00	8.50	10.00	0.00	10.00	
Total Finance Exp	30.00	33.75	20.00	0.00	35.00	

Rochester Public Library Budget

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	6 months	Budget	
200-7-10-20 Grant Expenses						
200-7-10-20-345.000 ILL Grant Expenses	1,040.00	976.77	1,100.00	468.38	1,178.32	
200-7-10-20-345.002 ARPA Grant Exp Electronics	0.00	2,097.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-7-10-20-345.003 ARPA Grant II Exp Books	0.00	124.73	0.00	554.60	0.00	
200-7-10-20-345.012 VT Comm Foundation Exp	0.00	706.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	
200-7-10-20-345.013 Dept Lib Children's Program	200.00	302.30	200.00	89.79	200.00	
Total Grant Exp	1,240.00	4,208.04	1,300.00	1,112.77	1,378.32	
200-7-10-25 General Library Expenses						
200-7-10-25-320.000 Professional Publications	170.00	0.00	170.00	0.00	0.00	
200-7-10-25-411.000 Utilities (Water/Sewer)	350.00	538.00	544.00	136.00	544.00	
200-7-10-25-431.000 Equipment (computer)	500.00	654.44	500.00	217.97	500.00	
200-7-10-25-431.001 Database Contract	750.00	700.00	750.00	350.00	750.00	
200-7-10-25-431.002 Website Maintenance	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	
200-7-10-25-431.005 Systems Main/IT	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	
200-7-10-25-530.000 Telephone	612.00	622.99	612.00	259.88	1,373.00	
200-7-10-25-531.000 Postage & Shipping	100.00	357.62	100.00	33.68	239.00	
200-7-10-25-531.001 PO Box Rental				0.00	160.00	
200-7-10-25-531.005 ILL Postage	150.00	149.15	150.00	24.41	100.00	
200-7-10-25-560.000 Memberships	450.00	366.91	450.00	422.36	450.00	
200-7-10-25-560.001 Adv/printing/publishing	120.00	54.46	100.00	24.98	50.00	
200-7-10-25-560.002 Zoom/Video Conference		14.99		74.95	180.00	
200-7-10-25-580.000 Mileage	300.00	65.86	300.00	0.00	100.00	
200-7-10-25-610.000 Supplies	900.00	1,265.60	1,000.00	476.88	1,200.00	
200-7-10-25-610.001 COVID19 Supplies	500.00	156.81	0.00	75.91	0.00	
200-7-10-25-610.005 Furnishings		258.46		0.00	0.00	
200-7-10-25-615.000 Volunteer Expenses	200.00	250.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	
200-7-10-25-622.000 Electricity	1,400.00	1,247.72	1,400.00	476.85	1,400.00	
200-7-10-25-624.000 Fuel	2,200.00	2,813.43	2,200.00	0.00	2,500.00	
200-7-10-25-641.000 Computer Software	0.00	69.18	0.00	241.18	0.00	
200-7-10-25-655.000 Fund Raising	400.00	709.75	500.00	458.80	600.00	
200-7-10-25-655.001 Cookbook Exp		2,334.90		0.00	0.00	
Total General Library Exp	9,902.00	12,830.27	9,776.00	3,273.85	11,146.00	
200-7-10-30 Programs						
200-7-10-30-655.000 Adult Programs	1,800.00	907.96	1,000.00	520.55	1,000.00	
200-7-10-30-655.005 Childrens Programs	500.00	728.59	438.00	518.71	520.00	
Total Programs Exp	2,300.00	1,636.55	1,438.00	1,039.26	1,520.00	

Rochester Public Library Budget

	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 FY 22		July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 FY 23	July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 FY 24
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
200-7-10-35 Media/Books				
200-7-10-35-640.000 Adult Books	1,959.00	5,272.33	2,116.00	2,824.26
200-7-10-35-640.001 Memorial Fund Pymt	400.00	318.18	400.00	298.50
200-7-10-35-640.005 Audio/DVDs/Kanopy	1,000.00	1,297.18	1,000.00	450.84
200-7-10-35-640.010 Childrens Books	300.00	435.55	350.00	562.27
200-7-10-35-640.015 Magazines/Subscriptions	200.00	152.80	120.00	113.97
200-7-10-35-655.000 Adopt an Author	1,200.00	947.72	1,200.00	315.29
Total Media/Books Exp	5,059.00	8,423.76	5,186.00	4,565.13
200-7-10-40 Payroll Expenses/Reimb				
200-7-10-40-110.000 Librarian Salaries	24,785.00	24,780.00	25,200.00	12,600.00
200-7-10-40-110.005 Asst Librarian	1,665.00	1,509.75	1,665.00	603.75
200-7-10-40-110.010 Childrens Library Salaries	500.00	1,150.00	2,400.00	1,455.00
200-7-10-40-110.015 Custodial Salaries	2,340.00	2,475.00	2,340.00	1,170.00
200-7-10-40-110.016 Consulting				0.00
200-7-10-40-210.002 Work Comp Expense	200.00	170.28	225.00	69.86
200-7-10-40-210.003 Unemployment Comp Exp	112.00	0.00	112.00	0.00
200-7-10-40-220.000 FICA/MEDI	1,725.00	2,106.08	2,030.00	1,053.40
200-7-10-40-220.050 HRA Employers Cont.	4,848.00	5,051.25	5,654.00	2,219.27
Total Payroll/Reimb Exp	36,175.00	37,242.36	39,626.00	19,171.28
200-7-10-45 Maintenance and Repairs				
200-7-10-45-120.020 Landscaping-summer maint	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
200-7-10-45-120.025 Snow Remove-winter maint	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
200-7-10-45-419.000 Library Bldg Ins. Exp	3,000.00	2,986.55	3,000.00	1,756.69
200-7-10-45-420.000 General Repairs/Maint.	1,600.00	2,132.57	1,200.00	457.62
200-7-10-45-420.001 Boiler Maintenance	600.00	732.20	634.00	598.00
200-7-10-45-420.002 Elevator Inspect/Maint	500.00	620.00	750.00	255.00
200-7-10-45-420.005 Window Cleaning	200.00	0.00	200.00	phasing out line item, added above *
200-7-10-45-420.010 Carpet Cleaning	250.00	128.88	250.00	phasing out line item, added above *
200-7-10-45-420.015 Maintenance Supplies	500.00	289.52	500.00	58.94
200-7-10-45-532.000 Annual Alarm Monitoring	305.00	652.50	400.00	1,400.00
200-7-10-50-990.000 Misc Expenses	0.00	33.49	0.00	0.00
200-7-10-55-655.000 Annual Campaign purchases	5,000.00	5,768.44	5,000.00	2,660.79
Total Maint & Repairs	12,955.00	14,344.15	12,934.00	6,313.74
TOTAL EXPENSES	67,661.00	78,718.88	70,280.00	35,476.03

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE

Thank you, neighbors, for your continued support of White River Valley Ambulance. We are a non-profit, professional emergency medical service and ambulance transport agency serving the towns of Barnard, Bethel, Braintree, Brookfield, Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield, Randolph, Rochester and Stockbridge, an area of over 500 square miles. We are designated as a Vermont Critical Care Paramedic service, the highest licensed skill level that the state recognizes. With our 14 full-time staff and several part-time staff we maintain two Paramedic level staffed ambulances 24/7, 365 days a year. From January 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022, White River Valley Ambulance responded to 1,550 emergency calls and transfers. This includes Advanced Life Support transfer between hospital.

Training in emergency medical response is also an important part of our mission. We are a regional American Heart Association Training Center, providing CPR and First Aid courses to community members across central Vermont. We also provide advanced practice training to emergency response professionals and volunteers from throughout the state.

Funding for WRVA comes from billed insurance and budget allocations from the towns we serve. Every town pays the same amount per capita. In 2022, the per capita amount will increase from \$65.00 to \$72.00. Town contributions pay for about 54% of the cost of ambulance activities.

Looking back on 2022 and ahead to 2023, we are ever grateful for the numerous first responders and fire departments with whom we work with and who volunteer their time to help a neighbor in need. Your dedication and commitment to serve makes a difference in the lives of those who call for help. For that, we can never thank you enough. **3190 Pleasant St., Bethel, VT 05032**
802-234-6800 www.wvra.org

Matthew Parrish,
Executive Director

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE: 2023 FUNDING REQUEST

	2022 BUDGET	2022 EST. ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	% CHANGE FROM 2022 BUDGET TO 2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Total Runs	1,600	1,662	1,600	0.0%	
Billable Runs	1,200	1,200	1,200	0.0%	No apparent basis to expect volume change
NET REVENUE (net of town contributions and donations)	\$816,830	\$802,907	\$818,458	0.2%	WRVA management expects only a slight increase in revenue.
Wages & Salaries	\$953,623	\$1,048,284	\$1,159,745	21.6%	WRVA wage rates fell significantly behind a fast moving market, resulting in inability to fill vacancies. For example, between May and August 2022, WRVA was unable to staff a second ambulance on 47 days. The Board approved a 25% wage increase, effective in August, which had an immediate impact on improved hiring and filling vacancies.
Benefits	\$215,563	\$94,262	\$236,601	9.8%	Moved employees from MVP to VTBCBS for more favorable rates, though still increased over prior year. Employee mix and plan choice was less costly in 2022 than normal. Management does not expect that to continue in 2023.
W/C and Payroll Taxes	\$121,607	\$128,070	\$146,624	20.6%	Largely a function of the increased payroll cost.
Administrative Expense	\$160,050	\$164,888	\$166,065	3.8%	The Vermont Dept. of Public Safety may be charging for dispatching, so a contingency amount is included. Other costs are relatively normal.
Depreciation	\$136,897	\$152,976	\$97,988	-28.4%	Depreciation for several expensive items was completed in 2022. No new depreciable equipment was placed in service in 2022.
Other Expense	\$192,252	\$179,565	\$197,312	2.6%	The costs of diesel and heating fuel have risen though some other expenses moderated.
Non-income statement and non-cash items	-\$120,674	-\$117,751	-\$238,362	97.5%	Applied \$80,000 from general reserve fund and \$30,000 from donations fund to offset deficit. Also, included no new funding of reserves, which was \$48,000 last year and \$60,000 in prior years.
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,659,318	\$1,650,294	\$1,765,973	6.4%	
CASH DEFICIT	-\$842,488	-\$847,387	-\$947,515	12.5%	Difference between revenue received from insurers, Medicare, etc. and the cost to operate WRVA.
TO BE BILLED TO TOWNS	\$816,075	\$816,075	\$903,960		
REMAINING DEFICIT	-\$26,413	-\$31,312	-\$43,555		WRVA will plan to absorb the remaining deficit in order to hold the per capita increase to \$7.00.
Total Service Population	12,555.00	12,555.00	12,555.00	0.0%	2020 census
PER CAPITA REQUEST TO FUND DEFICIT	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$72.00	10.8%	A \$7.00 increase in the per capita request from 2022 to 2023
Rochester	71,435.00	71,435	79,128	10.8%	1,099 population x \$72 per capita = \$79,128

GRANVILLE VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT

5051 VT Route 100
Granville, VT 05747
Tel.: (802) 967-5556



"Proudly serving Granville, Vermont and the surrounding communities since 1951"

Re: FY 2021-22 Annual Report

January 18, 2023

Greetings:

Since 2015, the Granville Volunteer Fire Department has been providing emergency medical first response services to the Towns of Hancock and Rochester. At that time, we maintained only three licensed EMS providers and asked for \$50 per call to provide those services. The total annual contribution from the Town of Rochester was \$3,250 for 65 EMS calls. That year, we also responded to a total of 127 emergencies across Granville, Hancock, and Rochester.

Today, we have 18 EMS personnel; four of whom are currently enrolled or finishing classes which will increase their licensure and allow them to provide a higher level of emergency medical care. **For fiscal year 2021-22, GVFD responded to 81 EMS calls in Rochester with a total of 184 emergency responses across our entire service area.**

Our proposed Emergency Medical Service budget for the 2023-24 tax year is divided per capita among the towns of Granville, Hancock, and Rochester. Funding on a per capita basis, rather than a per call charge, provides a fixed budget number for each town, eliminating the potential for a budget deficit if emergency calls exceed the budgeted amount.

The requested budget figure for Rochester is \$6,748; level funded compared to last year. This funding is allocated to the maintenance and operation of our rescue vehicle that responds to all medical calls, training of additional members, recruiting, medical supplies and equipment, and radio equipment. **This funding is essential for the continued operation of the emergency medical first response service.**

In the coming year, our priority will continue to be training additional emergency responders. If you or someone you know is interested in being part of this vital service, we want to talk with you. You may stop in at a meeting or contact me directly.

We are also actively working on a building expansion project to provide a training room, office, and bathroom to our station which will allow us to hold EMS certification training in our station. This function will become an integral piece of the service we provide to the towns of Granville, Hancock, and Rochester.

As always, thank you for your continued support. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to us directly.

Stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Sargeant".

Dan Sargeant, Fire/EMS Chief
Cell phone: (802) 349-5774
Email: danial.sargeant@granvillevolunteerfire.org

Emergency Management Committee

The Emergency Management Committee consisted of John Champion, Patricia Harvey, Janice McCann, Terry Severy, and Mickaela Richardson.

The required annual revision/update of the Local Emergency Management Plan was completed, reviewed, and accepted by Two Rivers.

The Covid Task Force mentioned in the previous year's Town report has been disassembled.

An outgrowth from the Covid task force, addressing food insecurity, Feeding the Valley Alliance (FVA) continues. See the report elsewhere in this Town Report.

The Shelter Team, led by Janice McCann and Lesley Straus continues to work with the committee to update operational procedures. The committee recruited members this year and aims to increase our community's awareness of the program and how to access it.

Terry Severy and Mickaela Richardson attended Regional Emergency Meetings in addition to monitoring Statewide Situation Reports. A topic included Vt State expansion of "211". Vermont 211 is a free, confidential information and referral program of the United Ways of Vermont, helping to connect Vermonters with a wide range of community, health, and human resources and services. The site can now capture individuals' needs for assistance in the case of disasters and link them to programs for help. Fortunately, there were no major community-wide emergencies during this year.

Local Emergency Management Plan Municipal Adoption Form

Town/City of Rochester
67 School Street
Rochester, VT 05767

The Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) must be (re)adopted annually, after town meeting day, and submitted to the appropriate Regional Planning Commission (RPC) by May 1st.

At a warned public meeting (regular selectboard/city council meeting), the municipality adopted Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) on the date shown at right. 4/25/22

At a warned public meeting (regular selectboard/city council meeting), the municipality adopted the National Incident Management System (NIMS) on the date shown at right. 4/22/19

If Vermont Emergency Management needs to contact municipal leaders to determine status and support requirements during an emergency, the Emergency Management Director (EMD) and two other local Points of Contact (POCs) who should have authoritative local information are listed at right.

Municipality	Town of Rochester
LEMP Adoption Date	April 25, 2022
NIMS Adoption Date	April 22, 2019
EMD Name	Mickaela Richardson
Position	EMD
Primary Phone	802-345-3538
Alternate Phone	802-767-7339
Email	mickaelarichardson@gmail.com
POC 2 Name	Doon Hinderyckx
Position	Select Board Chair
Primary Phone	802-349-2042
Alternate Phone	802-767-4464
Email	doon@greenmountainbikes.com
POC 3 Name	Patricia Harvey
Position	Select Board member
Primary Phone	802-767-3280
Alternate Phone	none
Email	selectboardharvey@gmail.com



Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)

Required Elements

Mark this block if a readopted plan has no changes since the previous year.

I hereby certify that the LEMP meets Vermont National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements and current LEMP Implementation Guidance as on page 2:

Signed* *Mickaela Richardson*

Mickaela Richardson

Printed Name; certifying individual must have taken, at a minimum, ICS402 or ICS100/IS-100 training

I hereby attest that the municipality has adopted NIMS and the LEMP as stated above:

Signed* *Doon Hinderyckx*

DOON HINDERYCKX

Printed Name; Selectboard / council member

Once completed, send adoption form and copy of Local Emergency Management Plan to Regional Planning Commission.

*A typed name is acceptable as an electronic signature if it represents an act of that person in accordance with 9 V.S.A. § 278.

Feeding the Valley Alliance

PO Box 285 | Rochester, VT

This past year, 2022, Feeding the Valley Alliance has continued to provide fresh food to local families. An integral part of the mission of Feeding the Valley Alliance (FVA) is to:

- Help connect community members to resources to overcome food insecurity
- Help develop a robust local food system
- To serve as a resource for information and ideas about the local food system and food security
- To coordinate with other agencies and organizations devoted to food security and food sovereignty

In cooperation with Veggie-Van-Go, a program of the VT Food Bank, and local farms, this past year we

Held **14 distributions**

Distributed: Approximately **6,800 pounds of Veggie Van Go produce**

plus additional fresh local vegetables and eggs

24 frozen turkeys at Thanksgiving (with the help of the VT Food Bank and the Bethel Food Shelf)

30 \$25 Gift Cards at the December distribution through the generosity of a local donor

We continue to be involved with the Vermont Farm To Plate Network initiative to develop a State Food Security Plan and with the Upper Valley Resilience Network through Vital Communities and the Working Communities Challenge grant they received. We, in turn, received a small grant (\$1,200) through that program to fund the purchase of local produce to supplement the Veggie Van Go boxes.

Many thanks to the following partners: the Town of Rochester for the use of their basement to house our freezer and refrigerator; the Town of Hancock for the use of their Town Hall for distributions; the Bethel Food Shelf for their continued support; our local farm partners Uphill Farm, Birdsong Farm, Clearfield Farm and other local producers, and of course our volunteers, who make this work possible.

In 2023, we look forward to assisting our communities with continued monthly distributions and developing new programming.

We appreciate the support and participation from the Valley community during 2022. If you are interested in joining us or in donating to our work, please email us at feedingthevalleyalliance@gmail.com, or reach out to one of our board members. You can also send donations to FVA, PO Box 285, Rochester VT 05767. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Thank you,

Linda Anderson (Hancock) | *Monica Collins* (Hancock) | *Linda Crosby* (Rochester) | *Anna Isaacson* (Hancock) | *Lolly Lindsey* (Rochester) | *Victor Ribaudo* (Rochester) | *Deborah Sherrer* (Rochester)

Local Health Report for ROCHESTER

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. Your district office is in White River Junction at the address and phone number above. We provide a wide range of resources and services to 22 Vermont towns of the Upper Valley to promote health and wellness for all Vermonters. For example, in 2022 we:

Supported health for everyone in the community: We worked on a variety of projects and programs in partnership with schools, worksites, town offices, and local providers. Though we did not serve individuals and families in our office due to COVID, we look forward to in-person services starting in 2023. Our focus is on health equity because all people should have a fair and just opportunity to be healthy.

Provided WIC food and nutrition education to families: We served more than 700 residents of our district with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Education and Food Supplementation Program including 69 percent of infants and children under 5 on Medicaid in Rochester. WIC provides individual nutrition education and breastfeeding support, healthy foods, and a debit card to buy fruit and vegetables.

Ensured emergency preparedness: We worked with local partners, including schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel for an effective pandemic response and to be sure we are prepared to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during any future public health emergency.

Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease: In our district we responded to 74 reports of COVID-19 in congregate care settings including 21 outbreaks and 132 reports of COVID-19 in schools. In collaboration with community partners, we hosted 46 COVID-19 vaccination clinics across the district. In addition to COVID-19 we also investigated enteric and tickborne diseases and delivered presentations about preventing tickborne illnesses to 6 area senior centers.

Student health and youth empowerment: According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 58 percent of students in Windsor County agree or strongly agree that they “believe they matter to people in their community.” Regionally, we see efforts like mentoring and afterschool enrichment programs helping to ensure youth feel valued and included.

Substance misuse and abuse: Regional substance abuse prevention consultants worked with community groups, schools, human service agencies, hospitals, and law enforcement. One example is the availability of no-cost mail back envelopes to help residents dispose of unwanted medication.

Learn more at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local/white-river-junction>

Join us on www.facebook.com/vdhwri/

EC FIBER REPORT

Rochester is a member of the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District. Operating under the name ECFiber, the district was created to provide world-class fiber-optic internet service to small central Vermont towns that were never going to be served by the larger internet networks. After over a decade of work, ECFiber now serves over 7,700 premises in 28 towns via 1,700 miles of cable. When the construction is finished in 2024, ECFiber will be able to offer internet service to 31,500 homes and businesses over more than 2,000 miles of cable. Because of ECFiber success, it has become the model for a dozen other districts created in Vermont over the past two years.

ECFiber completed construction of the network in Rochester in 2018 and we now serve 285 customers along 60 miles of cable reaching out to all corners of the town. Any home or business in Rochester that has access to electric power or wired telephone service can now sign up to have ECFiber internet service.

ECFiber contracts with Valley Net Inc., and Great Works Internet (GWI) to operate the network. The recent addition of GWI to the operations team should enable ECFiber to expand its customer service hours and start the work of bringing the network performance and reliability up to carrier-grade status, which will enable us to offer enhanced services to larger business clients.

Unlike the newer CUD's, which will have access to pandemic relief funding, ECFiber built the network using bonds sold on the municipal revenue bond market. With \$63.3 million in bonds already issued, the District anticipates some additional borrowing in early 2023. This year we hope to finally get a credit rating that will allow more institutions to purchase our bonds and consequently lead to lower interest expenses. None of the towns in the district support ECFiber with money from town taxes.

The biggest challenge we now face is not funding. Our immediate problem is in finding enough skilled workers to build and maintain the system – people to operate bucket trucks, install cable in homes, and who are willing to work outdoors in sometimes difficult weather. ECFiber is actively participating in state and regional workforce development efforts. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in these rewarding well-paid jobs, please have them get in touch with us.

We invite you to visit our website, ecfiber.net, to learn more about ECFiber, and we encourage you to sign up for our reliable, reasonably priced, "Wicked Fast" internet service.

Rochester's delegate to the ECFiber Governing Board is town resident John White. He can be reached at zensmithvt@gmail.com or 802-767-3105.

Energy Coordinator's Report FY 2022-23

Resiliency Island

Green Mountain Power (GMP) has a contract with Norwich Solar to design, permit, construct, and maintain a “Resiliency Island” in the Rochester village. A Resiliency Island is an electricity generator comprised of photovoltaic solar panels, commercial battery storage, and controls. In the event of a loss of electric power in the village, the Resiliency Island would draw power for most of Rochester village from its battery storage and/or solar panels. GMP would also have the ability to tap the stored power in the batteries during periods of peak electrical demand to reduce the need to purchase more expensive peak power. The Resiliency Island will be located in the North Hollow Farm gravel quarry off Route 73. It will use a high rack so that cattle may graze under the PV panels. Norwich Solar has filed the 45-day notice, which is required before they can submit a Certificate of Public Good (CPG) application to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), on December 2, 2022. Norwich Solar will file the CPG application once the 45-day period is up (January 16). The timeline for construction will ultimately depend on when the PUC approves the CPG application. It's hard to say when construction will begin; however, it could be late summer if the PUC moves quickly.

GMP Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging

GMP and the Rochester Select Board worked this year to establish a location for a GMP operated electric vehicle charging station in Rochester's Park & Ride on the east side of Route 100 across from the new fire house. The charging station will be equipped with two, Level 3 DC fast-chargers and two, Level 2 chargers. Level 3 DC fast-chargers, that charge a vehicle in ½ to 1 hour, will be very useful to travelers passing through the valley, and the charger's location and use should result in increased commerce in the village for stores, lodging, and restaurants. Level 2 chargers, which take longer to charge a vehicle, are appropriate for use by electric vehicle owners spending more time in Rochester during the day and/or overnight in town. GMP's EV charging installation has been held up by a back order involving secondary distribution equipment (breaker and panels); however, the back ordered equipment should be available this spring.

Town Buildings

Several of Rochester's town buildings are in need of major energy efficiency improvements, most notably the Town Garage, Town Office, and the Public Library. The garage and office need air sealing, insulation, and much more. The older portion of the library is suffering from water intrusion that is particularly bad on the north wall. Efforts are underway to develop a scope of work to enable the library and Select Board to identify the cost to rebuild three of the building's walls to keep water out and to seek support through grant funding for those repairs. The scope of work for the garage and town office will also be developed to enable the town to seek further grant support for the needed improvements.

The Rochester High School (RHS), though currently governed by the Rochester Stockbridge Unified School District and School Board could become, with the community's approval, a town

building. The Rochester High School Repurposing Committee has been working hard to find new opportunities for building uses that provide needed services to the community and that are sustainable.

The Vermont Council for Rural Development's (VCRD) expert assistance and facilitation through their Climate Economy Model Communities Program (now the Climate Economy Resilient Communities Program), helped Route 100 valley participants form the Rochester Area Climate Initiative.

Rochester Area Climate Initiative

The Rochester Area Climate Initiative (RACI) brought together participants from the "Quintown" region of the Route 100 valley, including Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield, Rochester, and Stockbridge. Through a series of three meetings, community members identified regional community needs, prioritized them, and created action plans for three task forces that will work to advance priorities around housing, supporting local food and farmers, and energy. Printed copies of the report from the RACI process is available online at:

<https://www.vtrural.org/programs/model-communities/report/rochester>.

Energy & Climate

Actions in the area of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate are to be carried forward by the pre-existing Valley Energy & Climate Action Committee (VECAC).

VECAC Leader: Jeff Gephart

The VECAC welcomes all parties from the Quintown region who want to contribute. In addition to other areas of focus, the following RACI prioritized issues are being addressed: electric vehicle charging, promoting weatherization, improving municipal buildings, and identifying viable sites for community solar in the region. The Valley Energy and Climate Action Committee meets from 7:00 to 8:30 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

For anyone interested in joining one or more of these Task Forces, you are encouraged to e-mail Jeff Gephart (RACI Chair) directly at vtwise@together.net or call at 802-767-3042.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Gephart, Rochester Energy Coordinator

Housing Committee Report

Sandy Haas, former chair of the Rochester Housing Committee participated in the Housing Solutions Tour that was organized by Sarah Danly. Sarah is the project manager for The White River Consortium Working Communities Challenge. Information presented included an overview of available housing resources and programs in the state that was put together by the Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development, VT Housing & Conservation Board, and VT Housing Finance Authority.

Data presented showed in 2010 Rochester's population was 1,128. There were 532 total households, of which 76% of the households were homeowners and 24% were renters. Currently, 31% or 125 homeowners and 55% or 72 renters are in housing that is too expensive for them. In addition, a net growth of 58 additional households is projected by 2023 (Case Study Rochester)

Rochester is currently working with Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission on zoning and bylaw modernization. TRORC also developed a map of the village showing existing properties and undeveloped land.

The committee realizes the need to engage the community in meaningful conversations around housing. The first step in creating dialogue is to welcome new community members to Rochester and the surrounding valley. The first event scheduled is the "Hey Neighbor" which will take place at the Rochester Fire House on Sunday March 12, 2023, from 11am to 3pm. New residents and "old" resident will have an opportunity to meet and get to know one another. We are inviting residents, businesses, and organizations to introduce themselves, share resources and opportunities to participate in our community. Future events will center around a housing assessment process outlined in the resources from the Housing Solutions Tour.

We are a small committee and welcome new members!

Sincerely,

Deb Matthews, Beth Kennett, Carolyn Cruikshank, Linda Anderson, and Sandy Haas

Farm and Food Task Force – (formerly Quintown Area Food Hub)

Co-chairs: Kevin Dougherty & Anna Isaacson

This task force will continue to work with interested farmers and community members to identify shared priorities and develop and implement strategies to strengthen our local food systems. The group will work to create cooperative opportunities for farmers and gardeners and will leverage existing educational resources to promote local food awareness, encourage food sovereignty, and foster climate resilience of the community at large.

Since its first meeting in 2022, the task force has created a directory of local farms that can be found on the Rochester town website: rochestervermont.org It has encouraged the management of the Rochester Farmers Market to expand local food access for all and help make the market a part of summer life in the valley for residents and visitors alike. The task force has also coordinated with Feeding the Valley Alliance to help facilitate the provision of local produce and eggs by several area farmers, supplementing FVA's monthly food distributions.

The committee seeks new participants with creative ideas and a little time to contribute to this meaningful work. We concur anyone interested in participating to email Jeff Gephart (RACI Chair) directly at vtwise@together.net or call (802) 767-3042

White River Solid Waste Alliance
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

Bethel and Royalton jointly owned a 22-acre parcel of land on Waterman Road in Royalton which had been improved to provide facilities for aggregation and shipment of municipal solid waste, recyclables, and a variety of Household Hazardous Waste Materials. The site also contains the now closed landfill which served area towns from 1970 to 1993. As of July 1st, 2022, the Town of Royalton is the sole owner of the Transfer Station. By contractual arrangement, member towns Barnard, Bethel, Granville, Hancock, Rochester, and Stockbridge, also utilize the Waste Management Program:

In May 2016, the VT Dept of Environmental Conservation approved the program's new "Solid Waste Implementation Plan" (SWIP) for the purpose of managing solid waste and recyclables in accordance with objectives of current local, state, and national properties. The new SWIP which began July 1st, 2020, will run through June 2025.

Our facility operates under a license (or certification) which is renewed every 10 years. An application to renew was submitted to the Vermont Solid Waste Management Division in February 2014, and approval was issued May 7th, 2014. The certification is valid until March 31, 2024.

From July 1st, 2021, through June 30th, 2022, a total of 4,079.70 tons of solid waste and 382.27 tons of recycling were collected. From July 1st, 2021, through February 2022, solid waste was collected at the Transfer Station "Tipping Floor". This material was loaded into trailers for shipment to an in-state lined landfill. Recycling was directed to various facilities for processing. Various special wastes are regularly collected in addition to the usual recyclables. These include paint, fluorescent bulbs, used motor oil, antifreeze, lead acid batteries and electronic waste. All fees vary depending on the material involved and the current expenses to the program for handling the materials. From February 2022 through December 2022, the Tipping Floor was closed for repair, so all solid waste was being shipped out in open top 30-yard containers. The Tipping Floor reopened in January 2023 and the Transfer Station is back to full capacity.

Collection events for Household Hazardous Waste were held in April 2022 at the Royalton Transfer Station and in September 2022 at the Rochester Town Hall Parking lot. A total of 182 families participated in the two events. These events provided a means for citizens of the member towns to safely dispose of materials, particularly those not normally taken at the facility such as pesticides, various cleaning compounds, acids, bases, contaminated fluids, etc. The events are open to all member towns at no cost for up to 10 pounds or 10 gallons of materials. Small quantities of materials generated by business are also acceptable at collection events, but a fee corresponding to program costs is assessed on business participants and an appointment must be made in advance. There will be 2 events in 2023. One at the Royalton Transfer Station on Saturday, April 22nd and one in Rochester in the Town Hall parking lot on Saturday, September 30th. This will allow access for towns not located near the Transfer Station to attend a hazardous waste collection event.

We consider the solid waste program to be comprehensive in the services provided to the public, and the program staff are well trained to provide advice or assistance. Please call 763-2232 with any questions.

Summer Hours: (April 1 – Oct 31) Tuesday, Thursday, 7-1 Friday 7-2 Saturday 7-3

Winter Hours (Nov 1 – March 31) Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7-1 Saturday 7-2

Facility Staff are onsite on Wednesday's (closed to the public) from 7-1 for operations and maintenance.

Web address: whiteriverallianesolidwaste.org. Find us on Facebook @ Royalton Transportation



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 2022, dues from member towns contributed \$19,592 of our annual budget of \$264,183. 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. Remaining 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 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. GMEDC and our local partners have assisted over 80 businesses and municipalities seeking additional information on economic development activities, local business projects, funding opportunities, legislative action and more.

2022 activities include:

- Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Working Communities Challenge White River Valley Consortium project, working to improve housing opportunities for entry level employees and new entrepreneurs in 14 towns in the White River Valley.
- Bringing state officials and private developers to the table to better understand regional housing challenges and opportunities.
- Partnering with Orange County Parent and Child Center to develop a flagship childcare facility offering 88 new childcare spots in the Randolph region.
- Collaborating with Black River Innovation Campus in Springfield on a \$1.5 million award from the Economic Development Administration to create the Randolph Innovation Hub in partnership with the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative at Vermont Technical College and Norwich University.
- Securing funding to implement a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment at the former Upper Valley Regional Landfill in Thetford.
- Supporting numerous funding applications for capital investment, brownfield assessment and redevelopment, project planning and pre-development.

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

Erika C. Hoffman-Kiess, Executive Director

TRORC 2022 YEAR-END REPORT

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 tomorrow that has a thriving regional economy and keeps the Region's outstanding quality of life. The following are highlights from our work in 2022.

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. TRORC staff have also assisted numerous towns with revisions to municipal plans, bylaws and studies.

Economy and Public Health

This year, TRORC obtained Federal grant funding to support 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, as well as guidance to towns on using their federal recovery funds. TRORC worked on public health projects with local hospitals, helped towns grapple with new cannabis legislation, and incorporated health-related goals and policies into town plans.

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.

Energy/Climate Change

TRORC assisted six 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 town Energy Committees on energy efficiency outreach and education with funding from Efficiency Vermont. We also work on state-level climate policy and local adaptation measures.

Transportation

TRORC managed the Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid program in our Region getting funding for towns to implement projects including grass and stone-lined ditches, upsizing and replacement of culverts, and stabilizing catch basin outlets. We also work to support our transit agencies, build park and ride lots, and help towns with traffic counts and speed studies.

Specifically in Rochester this past year, TRORC helped complete the Local Emergency Management Plan. Staff also assisted the town to modernize its zoning bylaw and to facilitate housing development. Staff assisted the town on the Grants in Aid program to complete ditching and culvert improvements on Fiske Road. TRORC provided funding and technical assistance for the environmental assessment of two brownfield sites. Staff also supported the town in navigating how to use ARPA funding.

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

*Respectfully submitted,
Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
Jerry Fredrickson, Chairperson, Barnard*



Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state.

Member Benefits - All 247 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 142 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

Legal and technical assistance, including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. During the past year, staff responded to thousands of member questions and published guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2022, VLCT began offering additional government finance training and consulting services and launched the new Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP). FFAP offers communities advice on complying with federal rules surrounding pandemic funding, provides direction and insight on accessing billions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding, and provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing grant programs for municipalities.

Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials who carry out their duties required by state law. The League provided training via webinars, onsite classes, and during the hallmark annual event, Town Fair, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. VLCT's Equity Committee also published an online equity toolkit that assists municipalities in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in their decision making, policies, practices, and programs.

Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government, ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to respond to the pandemic, address road and bridge repair, tackle cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Specific success in 2022 includes securing \$45 million in funding to help municipalities make energy improvements in their buildings, securing \$250,000 for VLCT's Federal Funding Assistance Program, increasing Municipal Planning Grants to \$870,000, securing \$250,000 for the Vermont Office of Racial Equity to launch the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership Program, and increasing municipal authorities in statute. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.

Access to insurance programs. The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust provides unemployment insurance at stable pricing. VLCT also provides members with the option to purchase life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products at a competitive price. All the programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are *only* available to VLCT members.

Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions and to access resources to help them carry out the important work of local government. **To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, visit vlct.org.** Recent audited financial statements are available at [vlct.org/Audit Reports](https://vlct.org/Audit%20Reports).

Windsor County Courthouse Happenings

The calendar year 2022 has seen some significant changes in Windsor County; the most significant will have come to pass prior to your reading this; there will be two new Assistant Judges at the helm of the County Government, and a new Sheriff as well as of February 1, 2023. Judge Terie, who had served the County for eight years, decided to step down and pass the torch, and Judge Ricci, who served for over a year after Judge Anderson retired, is also stepping down. In their stead will be newly elected Assistant Judge Alison Johannensen of Taftsville, and former Assistant Judge David Singer of Hartland. Sheriff Ryan Palmer will be replacing Sheriff Michael Chamberlain who had served the County since 1998. Another change is that Windsor County will have a new Deputy Treasurer, as Dianne Bumps will also be stepping down. Pepper Tepperman who is the County Clerk, and Bruce Page who is the Superintendent of our two buildings (the Courthouse, and the County Building) are remaining in their posts. They are *all* to be thanked for their past, and continued years of dedicated service to the constituents of Windsor County.

Other happenings include a slow, cautious re-opening of the Courts to the public for in-person hearings. The Judiciary is aware that Covid is still amongst us, and thus, as of the writing of this report, in-person hearings are still intermittent-some of them are in person, and others are either remote, using Webex, or a hybrid combination. The HVAC system at the Windsor County Courthouse is still in the process of being upgraded to insure the safety of litigants and staff.

The Windsor County Assistant Judges held the preliminary county budget meeting on December 14, 2022, and the final budget meeting was held January 18th 2023. The County Budget for fiscal year 2023-24 had to be increased a bit due to the enormous spike in heating oil prices. I'm sure that doesn't come as a surprise to anyone who heats their residence with oil and/or propane. We are all hopeful that by the time a new budget needs to be crafted for the next fiscal year, heating prices will recede a bit so future budget increases can be kept at a minimum. There has also been some work at the County Building to adjust the heating system there. Additionally, the phone system and the Internet services at the County Building have been upgraded, at a *lower* cost! Increases in spending in all other areas have been kept to a minimum.

Another noteworthy occurrence that will take place in 2023 is that this will be the last year that Windsor County Towns will be making payments for the Courthouse Renovation Bond; the renovation to upgrade the Courthouse and make it handicap accessible was completed 2014. The Courthouse, located in the Shire town of Woodstock, serves the needs of the constituents of Windsor County; it is a historic gem to be admired by all. Do drive by or visit to see what your tax dollars have accomplished!

Windsor County Sheriff's Department Report

We at the Windsor County Sheriff's Department, have appreciated the opportunity to patrol in the Town of Rochester during the 2022 year. We have had the opportunity to meet and work with many fine citizens of Rochester. We have had approximately 100 interactions with the citizens in Rochester. These interactions range from motor vehicle stops, to a variety of calls, such as animal complaints, trespassing, larcenies, citizen disputes, etc. The department looks forward to serving the citizens in Rochester in the future. Rochester has been an important town to Sheriff Chamberlain and I over the last several years we have been patrolling in the town.

By the time you receive this town report, Ryan Palmer will be your County Sheriff. Sheriff Chamberlain will be ending his 40 years as our County Sheriff. Sheriff Palmer takes over as Sheriff on February 1, 2023. Having spoken with Sheriff Palmer, he and his administration look forward to serving the citizens of Rochester. In the transition, the deputy sheriffs who have been mainly patrolling Rochester, will still be patrolling the town.

As the Captain of the outgoing administration, Sheriff Chamberlain and I thank you for allowing us to patrol in Rochester these last several years. It has been our honor to do so. We wish only the best for each and every one of you.

Sincerely;

Claude E. Weyant-Captain

Windsor County Sheriff's Department.

TIME TO SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS!

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), under the VT Department of Children & Families, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society. **Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, this monetary resource is limited by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law at six months of age.** By statute, unlicensed dogs can be confiscated. Puppies and kittens can have the first rabies vaccination after 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a veterinary office for this vaccination, Tractor Supply Stores hold monthly clinics. Call for their schedules. After the vaccination, contact your town clerk and provide proof of the rabies vaccination to license your dog.

Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

Licensing a dog:

- 1) Helps identify your dog if lost.
- 2) Provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal {but still needs immediate medical attention}.
- 3) Protects your animal if they bite another animal {or person – which could result in the quarantine of your dog or possibly euthanized in order to test for rabies if not currently vaccinated}.
- 4) Pays for this necessary program addressing the population situation in VT.

For a VSNIP Application and a List of Participating Offices, send a 10" SASE: Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Note if your request is for a cat, dog or both. Once fully completed, please mail it back. If approved, you will receive a Voucher and instructions.

The cost for the surgery to you is only \$27.00, providing there are no complications. Fellow Vermonters pays the balance of your account from funds collected at the time of dog licensing. Please be SURE your cat or dog is completely flea and tick free **before** the visit, or you will be charged for treatment. Pain medication is highly recommended **after** the surgery, but would be your responsibility. It is also wise to buy an "E" collar to avoid having sutures pulled out. These are the right choices!

Animals left UN-neutered are more prone to forms of cancer.

Thank veterinarians for their participation in this important program. **These altruistic veterinarians are the backbone of the program!** If your veterinarian is not a participant, please encourage them to join. Several veterinarians have retired, leaving a reduced number of participating offices. VSNIP offices are accepting less reimbursement than what they would usually charge for their services. We NEED them :) Let them know you appreciate the difference they have made in our state over the years when euthanasia was the routine means of animal over-population control. Those days are behind us ~ let's keep it that way!

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator 1-800-HI VSNIP (1-844-448-7647)

Green Mountain National Forest Report

The employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from many municipalities, volunteers, partners, and contractors. The Forest would like to take this time to thank you and your community for the support and interest that you have shown in helping with the management of the approximately 400,000-acre GMNF. Receiving several million outdoor recreation enthusiast visits annually, these visitors seek enjoyment in a natural setting while providing critical benefit to our local economies. The GMNF is proud to be a part of Vermont and your town. It is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state. Forest staff work hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of all people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year. This has been another exciting year for us, and we have worked hard to support new opportunities on the National Forest that benefit the people and communities that we serve.

As mentioned in our Town Report last year, we are in the process of building a new Forest Supervisor's Office in Mendon which we expect to be open for staff and visitors in the coming year. The former Rutland-based headquarters (231 North Main Street) for the Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests has transitioned to a full-time virtual work schedule which will continue until our new office is completed on U.S. Route 4 in Mendon, Vermont. While our main phone number (formally for the Rutland Office) will remain the same (802) 747-6700, our mailing address has changed to: USDA Forest Service, Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests, PO Box 220, Rutland, VT 05702. Please use this new mailing address and also visit our website for a current listing of Forest Service employees who can assist you throughout this temporary transition:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3838044.pdf.

The following is a brief summary of what happened in your National Forest throughout the past year:

Land Acquisition

The GMNF acquired 619 acres in the Towns of Lincoln and Warren through the Lincoln Peak Acquisition. We are currently working on acquisitions located in the towns of Mendon, Ripton, Stamford, Pownal, and Wallingford. We have one Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Submission for a property located in Arlington (Taconic Gateway) which we hope will be selected for funding in 2024. We have been supported by each of the town select boards for these parcels. The addition of these public lands would not be possible without the assistance of The Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund, and the support of our local communities.

Heritage Program

Highlights included:

- Heritage completing the field work for 37 projects on the forest.
- Recorded or updated 43 archaeological sites, surveyed 1500 and completed 4 Determinations of Eligibilities for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and 3-Memorandums of Agreement.
- Welcomed Brandon Emerson, new Permanent Archaeological Technician.
- With help of 3 volunteers, completed project work throughout the season.
- Engaged with GMNF Rangers on discussion on what archaeology is and what a career in the field looks like at the Robert Frost Trail.
- The Heritage Program would like to thank the numerous volunteers that have taken the time this year to help protect, preserve, and identify the cultural resources in the Green Mountains

Road and Facility Construction & Maintenance

In cooperation with federal, state, and local governments, private contractors, and non-profit organizations, the GMNF Engineering staff repaired and maintained many roads, bridges, and other facilities throughout the Forest. Some highlights are as follows:

Forest Facility Improvements & Maintenance: construction of their new administrative headquarters facility on US Route 4 in Mendon, Vermont. Completion is planned for spring of 2023 with move in soon after.

Forest Road Improvement Projects: The GMNF improved or maintained over 70 miles of National Forest System roads in the towns of Chittenden, Goshen, Granville, Hancock, Lincoln, Mount Tabor, Peru, Readsboro, Ripton, Rochester, Somerset, Stratton, Sunderland, Wallingford, Warren, and Woodford. Improvement work included the replacement of culverts and gates, stabilization of embankments, repairing storm damage, and the resurfacing of roads. Larger improvement projects included the reconstruction of Forest Road 39 (Texas Falls) in Hancock.

Forest Wide Activity

We have a strong and united constituency among our partners, local communities, and interested publics to support and maintain outdoor recreation opportunities. By joining together federal land-management agencies, state agencies, local communities, nongovernmental organizations, volunteers, and partners, we can address shared issues and align to provide services requested by the public. One example is the ongoing state-wide effort to develop an end-to-end mountain bike, backcountry ski, and hut network in partnership with the Velomont Trail Collective, Vermont Huts Association, State of Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, Vermont Mountain Bike Association, Catamount Trail Association and Quantified Ventures. The long-term vision for the Velomont Trail and Vermont Hut network is to connect 23 communities from Canada to Massachusetts with huts strategically located along the trail for overnight use. Recreation and Trail Program successes in 2022 include acknowledgement of the outstanding collaborative effort exhibited between Forest Service employees, partner organizations, volunteers, state and local government representatives, and local businesses. The Forest Service relies on a community of collaboration and wishes to thank all of our partners, such as: Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST), Vermont All-terrain Vehicle Sportsman's

Association (VASA), Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC), Ridgeline Outdoor Collective, Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA), Green Mountain Club (GMC), Appalachian Trail Conservancy, town of Killington and the Killington Mountain Bike Club, Vermont Huts Association, Addison County Bike Club, Catamount Trail Association (CTA), Counseling Service of Addison County, Middlebury High School Diversified Occupations Program, Moosalamoo Association (MA), Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center (BHOC), Vermont Trail Trotters (VTT), Vermont Horse Council, and many more – including our dedicated campground hosts.

Local Efforts

Brandon: Worked with GMC on replacement of the Sunrise Shelter on the Long Trail. GMC completed construction of the new shelter privy and completed site prep for a new shelter. Construction of the new shelter is scheduled for the summer of 2023.

Goshen: Worked with partners to perform trail maintenance and on the Stewart Trail. A contractor reset culverts and improved drainage along the existing trail corridor.

Goshen/Ripton: Resurfaced the Voter Brook Overlook path, parking area, and overlook, installed a panoramic sign, and installed a new picnic table at the overlook. Installed a new lean-to and shed at the Moosalamoo Campground Camp host site.

Granville: Installed a new trailhead kiosk at the Clark Brook Trailhead.

Hancock: Completed a chipping contract at the Texas Falls picnic area and observation site to improve site aesthetics and improve visitor experience. Completed high risk tree reduction work at the Hancock Overlook.

Pittsfield: Worked with Ridgeline Outdoor Collective to authorize trail maintenance along the Contest Trail

Rochester: Installed picnic tables at Bingo Brook dispersed camping area campsites. Worked with Ridgeline Outdoor Collective and VMBA to begin construction of the Chittenden Brook to Morrill Brook section of the Velomont Trail near Chittenden Brook Campground. Began construction of the Swan's Mill to Bingo section of the Velomont Trail. Completed a high-risk tree removal contract in the Chittenden Brook Campground.

Wilderness

Throughout 2022 increased visitor use has continued in the 8 designated Wildernesses on the GMNF. Since the pandemic began, Americans have flocked to outdoor recreation, as the Wilderness encounter monitoring data indicates. This year all 8 designated Wilderness areas on the GMNF have met the National Standard for Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) and preserving Wilderness character. WSP places heightened emphasis on the interdisciplinary responsibilities of wilderness stewardship and the potential linkages with other program areas. It seeks to foster improved integration and communication between program areas, to accurately reflect the collaboration required to steward our wilderness resource. The Wilderness program workforce increased in 2022 with our shared stewardship approach and partnership contributions. GMNF Wilderness staff in 2022 consisted of a Wilderness program manager, a Wilderness seasonal ranger, a Society of Wilderness Stewardship Fellow, three Student Conservation Association interns, one Greening Youth Foundation Wilderness Steward, and support from our Recreation District staff. A Northwoods Stewardship Center pro trail crew was also hosted on the GMNF for five weeks and conducted trail work along both the Appalachian Trail and Long Trail.

Special Uses

Recreation

In 2022 there were 29 active recreation special use permits administered to standard, including isolated cabins, huts, outfitters and guides, recreation events and ski areas. 19 Outfitters and Guides operated on the Forest this summer, providing recreational experiences to those who may not be comfortable or experienced enough to seek those experiences on their own, and 4 endurance running events occurred. Four applications were processed to a decision.

Lands

The GMNF administered 94 Land Special Use Permits to standard including uses such as private right of ways, power and telephone lines, water systems, communication sites and maple tapping. Four applications were processed to a decision.

Botany Program

Botanical inventory for rare plants and /or non-native invasive plants was completed in support of the following:

- Hancock (2.2 acres), Killington (17.4 acres), Middlebury (4.8 acres), Ripton (3.5 acres), Salisbury (11 acres)
- Robinson Integrated Resource Project (IRP) implementation: 16.1 acres in Pittsfield.

As a result of inventory, new Regional Forester Sensitive Species (RFSS) occurrences were found for butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) in Hancock.

In support of the Upper White River Cooperative Weed Management Association (CWMA), of which the GMNF is a founding member, staff, volunteers, and the CWMA coordinator controlled the following non-native invasive plant infestations:

- Chittenden: 0.2 acres of garlic mustard at Chittenden Brook Campground
- Goshen: 0.6 acres of garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, and wild parsnip at Brandon Gap
- Pittsfield: 0.3 acres of wild chervil at Corporation Brook
- Rochester: 0.6 acres of wild chervil on Forest Road 61, 0.1 acres of wild chervil at Chittenden Brook Campground, and 0.3 acres of Japanese barberry on the mountain bike trails behind the district office.

Education and volunteer events were also held:

- In August, a public presentation was given at the Rochester Public Library entitled: “Replacing Invasive Plants with Native Species in the Home Landscape” for residents in all the Upper White River CWMA towns (Hancock, Granville, Pittsfield, Rochester, and Stockbridge) and beyond.

- In June, wild chervil management direction was offered to residents and businesses in Rochester, Hancock, and Granville via Front Porch Forum.
- In September, a barberry control event was held on the Sap Boiler trail behind the Ranger Station in Rochester.

While these infestations represent only a fraction of known infestations and many more are unmapped, they were targeted for control because they are in strategic locations or because they are relatively more feasible to control than others. A total of over 156.3 acres of the following species were controlled in these towns:

- Chittenden: 0.2 acres of goutweed were treated at on Chittenden Brook Road by a contractor as part of mitigations for timber sales within the Robinson IRP area (Souphouse sale).
- Pittsfield: 11.2 acres of goutweed, Japanese barberry, Morrow honeysuckle, wall lettuce, and common reed were treated by a contractor as part of mitigations for Mayo Meadow and Guernsey Brook timber sales within the Robinson IRP area, and another 0.2 acres of Morrow honeysuckle were treated by staff.
- Ripton: 0.1 acres of wild chervil, Morrow honeysuckle, and common buckthorn were treated by staff in the Widow's Clearing project area.
- Rochester: 51.5 acres of wild chervil were treated on Bingo Road and Thresher Brook by staff, VYCC, and Corps that; some of these infestations also extended into Hancock. An additional 0.5 acres of Japanese barberry and Morrow honeysuckle were treated by staff and Spikehorn, and 3.5 acres of Japanese barberry, Japanese knotweed, and goutweed were treated by a contractor as part of the Garage and Souphouse timber sales within the Robinson IRP area; some of these infestations extended into Chittenden.

Forest Vegetation Management

- Timber sales were sold in Hancock, Pittsfield, Rochester, Somerset, Stockbridge, and Weston, totaling approximately 8.6 million board feet of sawtimber and pulpwood.
- Timber sales were prepared in Glastenbury, Goshen, Mount Holly, Pittsfield, Somerset, Stamford, Stratton, Sunderland, and Weston, to be offered in 2023-24. These sales are associated with the Early Successional Habitat Project, the South of Route 9 Integrated Resource Project, the Robinson Integrated Resource Project, and the Somerset Integrated Resource Project.
- The Forest prepared sites for forest regeneration by removing damaged or diseased trees on 420 acres in the Towns of Chittenden, Hancock, Stamford, and Wallingford.
- Forest staff planted approximately 11,000 trees on 45 acres to reforest plantations of non-native tree species following harvest and to restore dry oak forest habitat. Tree planting was accomplished in the Towns of Granville, Pownal, and Rochester.
- Sold one timber sale and prepared three additional sales as part of the Robinson Integrated Resource Project. This project includes restoration activities and timber harvest on nearly 10,000 acres in Rochester, Hancock, Goshen, Pittsfield and Chittenden.
- Sold one timber sale and prepared one additional sale as part of the South of Route 9 Integrated Resource Project. This project includes restoration activities and timber harvest on nearly 8,000 acres in Rochester, Hancock, Goshen, Pittsfield, and Chittenden.
- The Forest analyzed potential vegetation management activities in support of the planned Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project in the Towns of Chittenden, Mendon, Killington, Stockbridge, Pittsfield, Goshen, Brandon, and Pittsford.
- The Forest collected forest inventory data and conducted landscape assessment in support of vegetation management for the Telephone Gap project in Chittenden and Pittsfield.
- Permits were sold for approximately 343 cords of firewood, 840 pounds of wild apples, and 1 ton of evergreen boughs.

Environmental Planning

In calendar year 2022, Forest staff completed 20 site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decision and analysis documents for multiple resource projects designed to implement the Green Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan).

A major highlight to note includes the near completion of the proposed action for the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project located in the towns of Chittenden, Mendon, Killington, Stockbridge, Pittsfield, Goshen, Brandon, Rutland Town, and Pittsford. First initiated in 2019 with field surveys and public input, the proposed action is designed to change the existing conditions within the project area to meet Forest Plan goals, objectives, desired future conditions of forest resources. Formal invitation for public input on the proposed action is expected to start in early 2023 followed by an effects analysis to be documented in an environmental assessment.

Other highlights include North Country Trail Corridor / Oak Ridge Trailhead project in the towns of Goshen, Middlebury, and Hancock consists of Oak Ridge Trailhead reconstruction, North Country National Scenic Trail construction (0.3 miles), and existing trail improvements to connect the trail on private land from the west to the Long Trail.

Fisheries Improvement

Forest staff monitored fish populations throughout the GMNF in 2022. This monitoring is part of a long-term data collection effort to understand fish population trends on the Forest. Additional sites were sampled to support the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. Streams in the following towns were sampled during the 2022 field season: Rochester,

Hancock, Ripton, Granville, Mount Tabor, Weston, Landgrove, Arlington, Manchester, Woodford, Pownal, Stratton, Sunderland, and Peru. Additionally, Forest staff monitored sea lamprey spawning areas in the upper White River in the towns of Granville, Hancock, and Rochester. The Forest also maintains a network of water temperature monitoring sites across both districts. There are ongoing projects on streams in Rochester, Goshen, and Warren, that will be completed in 2023. These projects restore connectivity to important aquatic habitat and provide infrastructure resilience to flooding. Project partners include Friends of the Mad River, the White River Partnership, USFWS, the State of Vermont, Trout Unlimited, Vermont Natural Resource Council, Battenkill Watershed Alliance, and the Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District. Stream restoration by reintroducing large wood material occurred, enhancing aquatic habitat along approximately 3.0 miles of forested streams. Adding large wood material improves habitat conditions for aquatic organisms and restores stream processes. These activities took place on Tunnel Brook in Rochester and Hancock and Blind Brook in Glastenbury. This work was completed by a combination of USFS staff and via agreement with Trout Unlimited. Riparian planting occurred at multiple sites within the White River watershed to help restore aquatic habitat. The GMNF assisted the White River Partnership, and the Vermont Youth Conservation Corp, at sites in Rochester, Granville, and Hancock.

Wildlife Habitat Improvement & Monitoring

Wildlife Habitat was improved and maintained through maintenance of openings on the Forest, both permanent and temporary. Approximately 100 acres of upland openings were maintained by mowing, or mastication in the towns of East Dorset, Goshen, Granville, Hancock, Hartford, Manchester, Mount Holly, Mount Tabor, Pomfret, Rochester, Stockbridge, Barnard, Salisbury, Readsboro, Western Stratton, Woodford and Winhall. In addition, apples trees, which provide high-value wildlife food, were “released” by cutting competing vegetation in old orchards in Rochester, Dorset, Pittsfield, Mount Holly, Mount Tabor, Peru, Somerset, Stratton, Weston, Wallingford, and Stamford. Wildlife Biologists and technicians continued work with the VDFW to monitor the populations and habitat requirements of bats since the advent of white-nose syndrome. Potential timber sale units within boundaries of the towns of Somerset, Stratton, Mendon, Rochester, and Chittenden were monitored to determine the species composition of the bats on the landscape. Peregrine falcon nest sites on GMNF in Rochester, Salisbury, Stockbridge, and Wallingford continue to be monitored, and closures to protect sensitive nesting habitat continue seasonally from March 15th to August 1st each year at all sites except Wallingford.

Soil/Water Monitoring

Forest Soil Disturbance Monitoring was conducted in 6 payment units within 5 timber sales throughout the Forest to estimate forest management effects on soil and water resources. Monitoring was also completed in 5 wetlands proposed to receive “chop and drop” treatments of woody material immediately adjacent to the wetlands as part of the Early Successional Habitat Creation Project. Monitoring included gathering baseline data on solar insolation, water temperature, air temperature, and ground surface humidity. This will determine if proposed treatments have effects on the aquatic, wetland, and upland habitat conditions that could impact wetland functions or values. An agreement was funded and renewed with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, DEC, to partner in monitoring water quality around the Forest to track long term trends as well as potential impacts from the permitted forest uses.

Public Outreach/ Conservation Education

GMNF employees typically spend a significant amount of time each year at the Forestry buildings at the Addison and Rutland State Fairs. The event allows staff to answer questions about the 400,000-acre National Forest. On August 24th GMNF staff and Urban Connections Program worked to maintain their relationship with the patients and staff at Boston Children’s Hospital by virtually hosting our annual Forest Service Bingo game with Smokey Bear. Kids played along remotely from their hospital rooms in Boston while staff let the virtual event from Vermont. Winners were treated to their choice of Smokey Bear items.

Our Rochester and Manchester Offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00Am until 4:30PM. We ask that people call ahead of time (see office phone number below) to make an appointment for in-person services. You can also visit us and learn more about the GMNF at our new and improved website online: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/gmfl>.

Martina Barnes District Ranger, South Half - Manchester Ranger District 802-362-2307	Christopher Mattrick District Ranger, North Half - Rochester & Middlebury Ranger Districts 802-767-4261
<div data-bbox="99 1703 604 1740" data-label="Text"> <p>/s/ John A. Sinclair; January 9, 2023</p> </div> <div data-bbox="99 1782 498 1927" data-label="Text"> <p>JOHN A. SINCLAIR Forest Supervisor Rutland -- Supervisor’s Office 802-747-6700</p> </div>	

Upper White River Cooperative Weed Management Association 2022 Report to the Town of Rochester

2022 was the tenth year that the Upper White River Cooperative Weed Management Association conducted non-native invasive plant surveys, control, education and outreach along town roads and trails located in the Upper White River watershed. See map showing the project area boundary, below.



CWMA partners include the **Green Mountain National Forest, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, Town of Rochester, and White River Partnership.**

The members are working together to raise awareness about and manage non-native invasive plants.

Non-native invasive plants are plants that are not originally from this area that have exhibited invasive tendencies, spreading rapidly, and taking away habitat that native plants need to thrive. They have the potential to negatively impact land and water resources, recreational opportunities, biodiversity, wildlife, and property values. However, the community at large can play a hand in controlling invasive plants on their own properties and community roads through early detection and rapid response activities.

2022 Summary:

CWMA Coordination: Grant funding was received, a coordinator was hired, and several tasks were accomplished.

Monitoring and Control:

The CWMA coordinator, in conjunction with Green Mountain National Forest staff, VYCC, CorpsTHAT, volunteers, and contractors controlled a total of 56.5 acres of wild chervil, goutweed, Japanese barberry, Morrow honeysuckle, garlic mustard, and Japanese knotweed on Bingo Road, Thresher Brook, FR 61, Chittenden Brook Campground, the mountain bike trails behind the Rochester Ranger Station, and the Souphouse, and Garage timber sale areas within the Robinson Integrated Resource project area. Some infestations extended into Hancock and Chittenden.

Education & outreach:

In August, a public presentation was given at the Rochester Public Library entitled: "Replacing Invasive Plants with Native Species in the Home Landscape" for residents in all the Upper White River CWMA towns (Hancock, Granville, Pittsfield, Rochester, and Stockbridge) and beyond. In June, wild chervil management direction was offered to residents and businesses in Rochester, Hancock, and Granville via Front Porch Forum. In September, a barberry control event was held on the Sap Boiler trail behind the Ranger Station in Rochester.

Interested landowners are encouraged to take action to control non-native invasive plants on their own properties, or to get involved with the Cooperative Weed Management Association. To get involved locally, contact MaryBeth Deller at the Green Mountain National Forest at mary.deller@usda.gov. To learn more about invasive plants in Vermont, visit the Vermont Invasives website: <http://vtinvasives.org>



Rochester Historical Society

The Rochester Historical Society has been raising funds to complement the entrance to Woodlawn Cemetery and honor members of the Armed Services from Rochester who are or who have served the United States of America since World War II. A monument of Rochester Verde Antique will be paired with the World War I - II granite and verde antique memorial bench on a patio accessible to all, inviting visitation and interaction. An appropriately sized flagpole will anchor the project. The use of verde antique symbolizes the many service members who grew up in our Valley and the Green Mountains. The project has received approval and enthusiasm from both the Rochester Selectboard and Cemetery Commission. The Society has participated in Harvest Fair for the past two years, raising funds and stirring lots of discussion and interest.

The Historical Society has been working closely with Vermont Verde Antique LLC and is grateful to those individuals who have made both monetary contributions and personal expertise in landscape design work. We are continuing to raise funds and you'll also find us at Rochester's weekly Trash/Recycling at the Town Office where we collect returnable bottles and cans for the project. After several years of fundraising, we will hopefully break ground in Spring 2023.

We hope for your enthusiasm and invite you to join with us in making this project a reality with your contribution which can be sent to Rochester Historical Society, PO Box 428, Rochester, VT 05767. Any questions you might have can be directed to the Rochester Historical Society Project Manager Bruce Flewelling at admin@rochesterhistorical.org.

Covid-19 did not thwart individuals from donating Rochester photographs and artifacts to the Historical Society. We are in hopes that our Museum located at the Rochester Public Library can be open this summer and that these gifts can once again be shared with all. We are also thankful for an anonymous donation given through the Vermont Community Foundation.

Rochester's history book, *Rochester, Vermont, Its History, 1780 – 1975*, along with notecards and postcards are available for purchase.

We would be delighted to have you join the RHS membership (\$10.00 annually), and become actively involved with Rochester's long and interesting heritage. For information, visit our website, www.rochesterhistorical.org, or write to the Rochester Historical Society, POB 428, Rochester, VT 05767.



PO Box 86 • 38 Main Street • Rochester, Vermont 05767 • (802) 767-5021

piercehallcommunitycenter@gmail.com



2022 TOWN REPORT

We are delighted to report that the Pierce Hall auditorium was the site of numerous rental and community events in 2022: the Park House Prom fundraiser, two private party celebrations, two regional meetings, Green Mountain Suzuki camp and WRVP performing arts camp classes, three Red Cross blood drives, two Rural Lodge Masonic events, and six funeral receptions. We love seeing this beautiful space filled with people of all ages gathering together in fellowship and learning, in remembrance of important and beloved community members, and in planning for the future.

Pierce Hall's own hosted events included the summer Ice Cream Social and Historic Car Show; the 4th of July 5K walk/run, in conjunction with the Ridgeline Outdoor Collective, with 48 participants starting and ending at the River Brook park; the 4th of July Chicken BBQ, serving up 180 meals after the welcome return of our local parade; our community Halloween party; and co-sponsorship of the Rochester Farmer's Market and Exchange Winter Market the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend.

It's wonderful to collaborate with other organizations to bring these events to our valley and to make use of our respective skills, strengths, and spaces. Our many community resources strengthen each other—we are even more successful together. A prime example of this was the use of Pierce Hall for the before and after receptions for the Dorothy Robson Musical Retrospective, while the music performance took place in the RHS auditorium. How great to have these two wonderful spaces work in tandem to create a successful event!

2022 also marked another strong contingency of "active" members taking advantage of our Fitness Center's fully equipped gym and yoga/exercise/dance studio. The center is open 6 days/week and also offers classes of yoga (Charles Martley) and aerobics (Muffie Harvey); the option for private personal trainings; and use of the 70" smart TV in the studio for streaming other fitness options. We are always on the lookout for more teachers to offer classes, so please spread the word. Members can choose 1-month, 3-month, or 12-month memberships or our 10-day Daily Usage contract—all with key fob access. We give enormous thanks to our volunteer staff that keeps the center up and running and sparkling clean: Janet Brown, Denise Chapin, Becky Donnet, Bruce Flewelling, Muffie Harvey, and Ross Parker.

Renovation work at the hall continues...always, and 2022 was no exception! After finally getting all the i's dotted and t's crossed, **the horseshoe balcony is now OPEN** for public use!! And after refinishing the stage floor, we turned our attention to the mid and upper-level window restoration project. This long overdue work will help us keep the drafts out and hold the heat in the building.

We remain proud to provide a physical space where good health and fitness, creative arts and learning, good times and fellowship, and the joy of being in community can happen. We give our heartfelt thanks for your continuing moral and financial support, and we look forward to more bright days in 2023 when we will gather together in Pierce Hall.

The 2022 Board of Directors

President Jeanie Levitan; VPs: Bruce Flewelling and Frank Rea; Treasurer and Rental Manager Becky Donnet; Directors Janet Brown, Muffie Harvey-Andrews, Ross Parker, Sandy Pierce, Sue Ribaudou, Hannah Rice, and Nancy Sanz.

with supporting team members

Jeff Brown, Denise Chapin, Norm Christiansen, Mette Rea, Marti Rotchford, and Lesley Straus



Rochester Community Care Home, Inc. 2022 It's Been a Year...

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Geraldine Twitchell
Member-at-Large

Roy Benson

Evelyn Pruiksma



STAFF

Lolly Lindsey
Executive Director

Kristi Fuller
Lead Cook

Phyllis Deering
Cook

Susan Leary
Housekeeper

www.parkhousevt.org

802-767-3416

director@parkhousevt.org

Follow PH on



A year of Renewal: Our residents enjoyed being out in the community once more. A trip to Mom and Pop's Sugar House reminded us of the richness of our land and the hope of sweet tomorrows. Brown bag lunches returned, bringing the community into Park House. Together we celebrated songs ranging from the Blues to the Beatles. Visits from our preschool neighbors delighted all of us once again.

A year of Work: The Board of Trustees has been fundraising, fundraising, fundraising. Our "Senior" Prom was an event to remember. We sold baked goods and more at Harvest Fair and Winter Market, and our Annual Tag Sale brought droves of treasure hunters.

A year of Change: We said farewell to Joanne McDonnell as our Executive Director and delight in her continued support and commitment to Park House. Lolly Lindsey stepped into that position, already known and loved by our residents. She will be focusing on furthering our efforts to meet the financial needs of our home.

A year of Challenge: From heat pump repairs to an aging computer, along with the rising cost of fuel and even food, we struggle to keep our promise of an affordable home for our residents.

A year of Community: It's in our name. It is what we love and how we thrive. During our recent brush with Covid 19, it was community that came to our aid with gifts that ranged from cleaning to casseroles. We are eternally grateful.

We here at Park House want to thank everyone in Rochester for your generosity and willingness to allow our property to remain tax exempt. Without this tax relief, it is doubtful we would be able to continue to offer an affordable home for our elder community members. We hope that you will agree to allow this exemption to continue.

Everyone here; trustees, staff, and residents alike, looks forward to a new year filled with community, connections, and camaraderie. Stop in for a visit!

Wishing you well in the coming year,
Park House Board of Trustees and Staff

Park House Mission Statement

To provide and operate a congregate home in our 5-town area for seniors and other qualifying adults where they can live independently with dignity in a safe, pleasant, and positive environment. Park House strives to offer residents a vibrant atmosphere where they can be engaged with their families and community. The staff of Park House endeavors to maintain full occupancy in order to be fiscally robust and offer opportunities for a variety of social interactions for the residents.

Rochester High School Repurposing Committee 2022 Town Report

In 2022 the Rochester High School (RHS) Repurposing Committee (herein referred to as "the Committee") worked in cooperation with the Town of Rochester and the Rochester Stockbridge Unified District (RSUD), and together with Fairweather Consultants of New Paltz, NY and GBA Architects of Montpelier, VT, on a feasibility study to explore the possibility of an adaptive re-use proposal for the former high school building. The proposal was developed through an extensive community engagement process to meet community-identified needs that include (but are not limited to) childcare, older adult services, Intergenerational Lifelong Learning and Arts Center, local job creation, and economic development. The final report was presented to the public on July 13, in the RHS auditorium, with the concluding opinion being, that although challenging, the project is achievable.

In 2019 RSUD commissioned an engineering study by Black River Engineers that assessed needs of all the buildings now owned by the district. The consultants conducting the 2022 Feasibility Study—that was funded by a VCDB planning grant in the amount of \$50,000—stated that the building has "good bones" but needs upgrades to make it energy efficient. Phase 1 of the Feasibility Study includes building upgrades, based on information contained in the Black River Report that in 2019 were about \$2 million. Adjusted to the current rate of inflation at 35%, the consultant increased the amount to \$3.1 million. Grant funding is anticipated to cover much of the cost of building upgrades.

In the Feasibility Study, consultant Peter Fairweather conservatively estimated the base annual operation costs of the repurposed building at \$91,000/yr. When the cost of maintenance staff and an annual \$50,000 capital reserve fund were included, operation cost estimates increased to \$160,000 a year. Currently the Town does not have a \$50,000 capital reserve fund for any of its property. Fairweather recommends a reserve fund in order to attract reliable well-paying tenants. Information solicited from the Rochester Town Clerk shows that if the Town's budget were to increase by the base annual operating costs of \$91,000, it would necessitate an increase of the tax rate by 16 cents on the dollar value. Therefore, for every \$100,000 in property value, that rate increase would calculate out to be an additional \$16.00. That being said, the goal is for the repurposed building be financially self-sustaining, with tenant rental income covering the annual operation costs.

For many months, the Committee was encouraged by Senator Sanders' Congressionally Designated Funds for this project, in the amount of \$1.5 million through the USDA Community Facilities account. However, expectation of actualized earmark-funding need to be managed, as we learned in late August when we were notified that the project did not receive Congressional approval. In October, Eric Law from USDA did a high school site visit. He reviewed the reuse proposal, and responded that we meet the USDA Community Facilities criteria for funding. He encouraged us to proceed with our project development planning, outlining the important steps to take for a strong USDA application, and suggesting we reapply for the next Congressional earmark opportunity as well.

With ongoing support and guidance from Two Rivers Owtawquechee Regional Commission (TRORC), Green Mtn. Economic Development Corp., VT Council on Rural Development, the VT Dept. of Housing and Community Development, the Committee is proceeding with project development. Currently, the property is undergoing an environmental study of the building and surrounding property, according to regulation protocols established by the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), a requirement for most federal funding sources.

Environmental Assessment: Phase 1 of the NEPA includes an assessment of Brownfields and Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat). Environmental consultants appointed by TRORC were onsite in late October to complete both the Brownfields and Haz Mat assessments. The Phase 1 report has been drafted. The hazardous building materials assessment (PCBs, lead, mold, and asbestos) is still in the process of being drafted. TRORC hopes to be able to submit both drafts to the state for review by the end of January. After the state approves them, the reports can be released to the public, possibly in March.

The results of Phase 1 will determine the need to advance to Phase 2, for site testing and sampling, which begins with development of a work plan that takes about 2 months. Since the property has a 10,000-gallon

underground fuel tank, we fully expect to proceed to Phase 2. The Phase 2 sampling work should take about 3 months, if there is no snow cover on the property. Therefore, if Phase 2 starts in March, then the completion of the Phase 2 assessment could be expected by August, assuming normal processing time lines. It will determine if the Haz Mats are below established threshold levels of concern, or not. If below, then the work is done. If they are above threshold levels then more testing may be required. In that case, remediation options will be identified. Thus the town's Yes/No acquisition vote would be informed by a comprehensive environmental assessment after August, given this timeline that was provided by Sarah Wraight from TRORC.

Following the sampling work, developing a site cleanup plan would take a minimum of 3 months. The time requirement for remediation/cleanup of the site will depend on what is there to be cleaned up. It could be anything from a few months to a year. The underground fuel tank will need to be removed and its removal during the Phase 2 process is important so that the soil below the tank can be assessed for the presence of oil.

Alternatively, if a replacement heat source cannot be installed prior to beginning the Phase 2, it is possible to do the bulk of Phase 2 testing without removing the tank by installing an above ground replacement oil tank on a concrete pad, as an interim option to continue heating the building with the current boilers. However, the contractor would need to return at a later date to remove the tank and test underneath it. Each day of fieldwork is very expensive, so it's easier and less expensive to do the tank removal and all soil testing simultaneously.

BRELLA Enrollment: Participation in Vermont's Brownfield Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation program (BRELLA) provides a way out of the liability chain and enables redevelopment to proceed knowing that legal and financial risks associated with contamination have been put to rest. As the prospective purchaser of the property, the Town has applied for BRELLA participation and is in the process of scheduling a required pre-application meeting with Sarah Bartlett of the VT Dept of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Brownfields Program, in order to complete the application. Participating at that meeting will be Rochester Select Board member Pat Harvey, along with members of the Committee. When the application is ready for submittal, Sarah Wraight from TRORC will arrange payment of the \$500 application fee on the Town's behalf. The Town must be fully enrolled in BRELLA before Phase 2 begins in order to be eligible for state funding for testing and cleanup.

The Town does not have to actually own the site to enroll in BRELLA, but can participate in BRELLA as the prospective property owner. Below are key points regarding the benefit of the Town entering the BRELLA program as a "prospective purchaser" before conducting the Phase 2 of the high school property:

- Once an entity enters the chain of title for a property, they are liable for the cleanup of any contamination that might be on that property. Conducting assessment as a "prospective purchaser" helps manage liability for the Town's municipal budget. Prospective purchasers can withdraw from the BRELLA program at any time if they decide they don't want to move forward with the purchase.
- As a "prospective purchaser" in the BRELLA program, the Town would be given higher priority than the school district in accessing state funding assistance for assessment and cleanup.
- If the Town enters BRELLA as a "prospective purchaser" before conducting the Phase 2, the Town would be exempt from Hazardous Waste Tax. If there is hazardous waste on the property that needs to be removed during cleanup, the state would ordinarily levy a tax on that shipment. Depending on the volume of materials being transported, this can be a significant amount of money.
- If the Town enters BRELLA as a "prospective purchaser" before conducting the Phase 2, the Town would benefit from a 30% cost cap on any mid-course corrections that might need to happen during cleanup of the site.
- If the Town enters BRELLA as a "prospective purchaser" before conducting the Phase 2, the timeline for the Town to obtain a Certificate of Completion will be faster than if the Town owned the property.

It's important to note that after the completion of the NEPA Phases 1 and 2, the Town does not have to acquire the property. Having the Town as the applicant for cleanup funds is more advantageous than a private entity, like a developer. Also of note, it is more difficult to recruit a private developer to take on a site when the

risk/liability is still unknown. The Phase 2 will provide more information, and the site may become more attractive to private entities when the environmental information is known.

Maintaining RHS Building During NEPA Process: In order to keep the building viable throughout the NEPA process, it must be heated. It's been asked why we don't simply drain and shutdown the building. According to expert consultants, the problem with draining and shutting down is that the school is built on a slab. Without heat, the ground beneath the slab can freeze and heave the slab, causing havoc and potentially destroying the building. The ground may be well drained and not a problem, but we have no way of knowing. So, if our goal is to re-use the building we have no choice but to keep it above freezing everywhere inside.

Inflation has doubled the cost of heating fuel, bringing the estimated cost of heating the building this winter to \$66,000, an expense not anticipated by either the RSUD or the Town of Rochester. In September the RSUD Task Force was created, composed of RSUD board members, reps from the Rochester and Stockbridge Select Boards, and members of the RHS Repurposing Committee, with a united commitment to work together to support the work of the RHS Repurposing Committee.

In mid-September the Committee launched a fundraising drive with a \$22,000 funding goal. Thus far the campaign has achieved 50% of its goal. Efforts of the Committee include the following activities: an outreach appeal letter to RHS Alumni, participation in the PHCC Winter Market and sale of holiday cheese cakes by order, made by Committee members Midge Scanlan and Lesley Straus, and a "Holiday Jumble" held at Hancock Town Hall, organized by Dorothy Robson, Sue Ribaud, Pam Reit, and Midge Scanlan, with holiday music and a wide variety items for purchase.

At the January RSUD Heat Task Force meeting, Chair Amy Wildt confirmed that the RSUD board has reversed its position and is currently budgeting to heat the high school building next year. Stockbridge RSUD member Bill Edgerton's 3-prong proposal that shared fundraising responsibility between 3 groups—RSUD, the RSUD Endowment Funds, and the RHS Repurposing Committee—has demonstrated encouraging results that funding for RHS heat this winter is obtainable. Last year the Rochester Trustees of Public Funds contributed \$15,000 towards heating the high school.

On December 15, members of the Committee, Jeff Gephart, Dick Robson, Robert Meagher, and Vic Ribaud met with Superintendent Jamie Kinnarney, Principal Lindy Stetson, and Facilities Manager Lyall Smith to create a plan for monitoring the building for efficient energy management. The meeting resulted in mutual agreement on numerous action items that include: installing simple inexpensive temperature monitors in selected locations in the building that will set off a flashing light if the temperature drops below the desired setting; obtaining from SU inventory recording room temperature monitors to place in selected locations; installing a monitoring device on the boiler to measure when the furnace comes on; weekly dipstick measurement of fuel oil in the HS tank recorded on a running spreadsheet; organizing a group of volunteers to regularly check the building for signs of unexpected temperature drops, who will alert building staff when and if quick intervention is needed.

Floodway/Floodplain Location: State environmental officer Grace Vinson notified the Committee in late June that the high school property is located in both the floodplain and floodway; that its location in the floodway makes it ineligible for federal funding. Since then, Committee member and architect Dick Robson has worked extensively to seek a remedy with Grace and other state employees, and Randy Otis from Dubois and King.

In 2011, Tropical Storm Irene affected the high school building. The lower exterior door into the auditorium lies below flood level, and the auditorium sustained flood damage. With VCDB planning grant funds, the Town appointed DuBois & King to survey the property to establish floodplain and floodway issues. Their map shows the perimeter of the school is below base flood level at the location of aforesaid door only, and that there is a sliver of floodway on the property.

Both the Rochester Planning Commission and the RSUD have approved making a property boundary adjustment to eliminate the floodway from the high school parcel. Regarding the floodplain issue at the auditorium, our consultant architect Gregg Gossens has suggested several possible solutions that would remediate potential

future flooding into the auditorium. As this is a defining issue in our planning process, Dick is consulting with state of VT Floodplain Manager John Brooker-Campbell, requesting his input on problems, solutions and process, to ensure the acceptability of our proposed solutions.

Project Manager: In November, and with remaining VCDB planning grants funds, the Town appointed and the Committee welcomed to the project interim project manager Liz Curry. Owner and principal of CommonLand Solutions, Liz's experience in rural development will assist the Committee to identify project components, issues, and potential solutions that will allow the property to achieve "readiness" to proceed with redevelopment goals. She will identify a range of resources, technical issues, obstacles, and recommended solutions to be investigated so that the RHS Repurposing Project has a clearer pathway for redeveloping the property.

In conclusion, the Committee recommends that the Rochester town-wide vote on acquisition of the high school property be rescheduled until after the completion of the NEPA Phase 2, to assure a more informed vote. Stay updated on the project's progress on our website: www.RHSRepurposingProject.org

Respectfully submitted by Committee Co-Chairs Vic Ribaud and Kathryn Schenkman, January 16, 2023

RHS Repurposing Committee Members:

Karen and Doran Donovan, Core Committee
Jeff Gephart, Building Advisor, Core Committee
Burleigh Griffith, Childcare Committee
Kayden Hamlin, Childcare Committee
Sandy Haas, Core Committee
Pat Harvey, Rochester Select Board Rep
Cynthia Huard, Lifelong Learning & Arts Committee
Jeanie Levitan, President PHCC, Core Committee, Fundraising
Lolly Lindsey, Dir. Park House, Core Committee, Communications
Robert Meagher, Building Advisor, Core Committee, RSUD Rep
Pam Reit, Dir. GMSI, Lifelong Learning & Arts Committee, Core Committee
Sue Ribaud, Lifelong Learning & Arts, Core Committee, Fundraising
Michaela Richardson, Childcare, Core Committee
Dorothy Robson, Lifelong Learning & Arts, Core Committee, Fundraising
Richard Robson, Building Advisor, Core Committee
Midge Scanlan, Lifelong Learning & Arts, Core Committee, Fundraising
Lauren Skaskiw, Childcare, Core Committee
Lesley Straus, Pres. RCMS, Lifelong Learning & Arts, Core Committee, Fundraising
Maureen Young, Childcare, Core Committee

Jamie Kinnarney, Superintendent of Schools
Anda Adams, Chief Academic Officer of MTSS
Annette Rhoades, Director of Special Services
Tara Weatherell, Business Manager
Raymond Ballou, Director of Technology
and Communications



wrvsu.org

461 Waterman Road, Royalton, VT 05068
Phone: 802-763-8840 Fax: 802-763-3235

January 16, 2023

To the Residents of Rochester:

I am writing this letter to remind the Rochester Community that the Rochester/Stockbridge Unified District (RSUD) will be publishing a separate informational mailer on the annual budget and school district meeting. You should expect that publication to arrive in the mail and be available on the Rochester/Stockbridge Unified District website <https://www.rsudschools.org/> in April.

The Rochester/Stockbridge Unified District Board of School Directors has been working in collaboration with the administration to create a 2023-24 school district budget that ensures that we uphold our commitment to high-quality educational programming for our students. Therefore, the budget includes an increase in world language and visual art to increase both positions to two days per week or up from .2fte to .4fte for each position. We have also budgeted to provide instrumental lessons for students at each of our campuses. These investments are being made with a focus on expanding our offerings for students in the visual and performing arts.

We continue to make investments in early literacy instruction, while also continuing our momentum in strengthening our universal approach to math instruction and intervention. We have also continued to budget for outdoor/experiential learning that also provides multiple opportunities for pathways/personalized learning. These enhancements of our educational programming are significant, but we've also seen an investment in additional social/emotional support through the use of federal dollars. I mention all of this in order to ensure that the residents of Rochester know that we continue to prioritize the feedback provided in order to make certain that we deliver on the promise of having schools that make certain all students have access to high-quality instruction and supports in order to reach their greatest potential.

Finally, I'm very pleased to report that we will take action this upcoming summer to leverage performance contracting, Covid-19 funding in the form of ESSER, and Efficiency VT grants to upgrade our lighting and controls system at the Stockbridge campus, while also replacing the lighting, heating and hvac infrastructure at the Rochester Elementary School without needing to go to a bond vote or increase the tax rate for the constituents of Stockbridge or Rochester. How did we accomplish this tall task? We accomplished it by ensuring that we leveraged the Covid-19 relief funds we have received to reinvest back into our infrastructure. While also showing fiscal responsibility and restraint to ensure that we keep our budgets in solid shape.

I encourage all of you to stay involved in the exciting work that is occurring at the Rochester/Stockbridge Unified District schools and to participate in our upcoming RSUD Board meetings and Community Forums. Board meeting agendas and our WRVSU community conversations series can be found on the wrvsu.org website.

As always, your feedback is always greatly appreciated.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Jamie Kinnarney,
Superintendent of Schools, WRVSU



One Planet Afterschool Program

**Bethel, Chelsea, Newton, Sharon, Stockbridge,
Rochester, Royalton, Tunbridge**

Dear Town of Rochester,

December 2, 2022

We want to thank you for your support of \$3,125 for our 2022 summer camp. Please see our report below. In addition, we would like to officially request a town appropriation of \$3,125 for fiscal year 23-24 to support our 2023 summer camp.

REPORT:

One Planet's mission is 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.

This summer Rockbridge (Rochester/Stockbridge) One Planet Summer Camp engaged 50 children in grades K-6th with exciting theme-based projects for 5 weeks. Activities ranged widely this summer depending on the week's theme. The 5 themes this year included Around the World, Become Recording Artists, Mountain Biking with Ridgeline Outdoor Collective, S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), and Theater with the WRV Players. Students also participated in a number of exciting field trips. This summer campers traveled to YINS in Quechee, ECHO and The Spirit of the Ethan Allen in Burlington, and a variety of swim trips. Finally, we continued to offer our Counselors-in-Training program which gives local middle school students the opportunity to join the program giving them leadership roles and the power to make decisions.

Thanks to the support of the Town of Rochester, 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 partnership with the Town of Rochester.

Sincerely,

Hayley Zoerheide, One Planet Program Director
hzoerheide@wrsu.org 802-763-3812

ROCHESTER RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SkateSpace

"Funds for Fun"

Fundraising Campaign

The Recreation Committee is currently fundraising to replace an aging and deteriorating SkateSpace asphalt surface, providing a safer and more enjoyable community experience for all ages. SkateSpace is a 120' x 60' paved area located at the north end of the high school parking lot. It's a major hub that binds our community for all seasons. If you haven't seen SkateSpace, please visit, and get inspired.

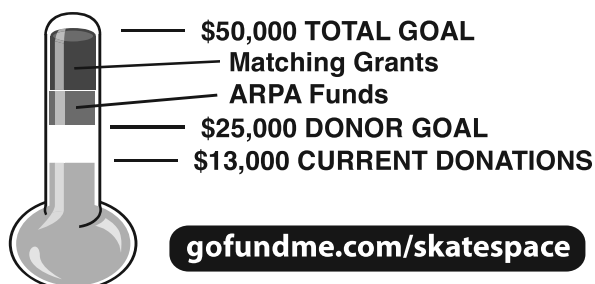
This year we have been seeking donations from individuals and businesses and have found great success! The generosity of donors in our community is inspiring and we **thank you!**

As of January 17, a total of \$13,000 has been raised from 87 donors (individuals, families, businesses and organizations). This represents an impressive percentage of people in our valley.

We plan to augment these donations with Vermont state grants which require these matching funds from individual donors. We will also be seeking ARPA funds to ultimately reach our goal of \$50,000 required to complete the project.

Thank you to local engineer Krickit McCusker for drafting and designing what is required for the project.

If you would like to donate, please drop off a check (made out to Rochester Rec Department) to the town Office or go online to gofundme.com/skatespace.



The Rochester Recreation Committee worked hard again this year to provide activities and opportunities for residents of Rochester and our neighbors. We rely on volunteers and donors to enable our great programs and events. Many individuals and businesses give anonymously and work tireless hours. Our limited budget from the town alleviates any large burden to the taxpayers.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Our summer concert series is always a hit. Concerts are in Rochester Park from 6:30 to 8:30 on Sundays during the summer. Bring a chair and a picnic! Joe Schenkman spends many hours setting up the Sunday evening entertainment.

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

After two years of not having a traditional parade because of Covid, we got back on track with a successful and fun parade. Thank you Martha Slater for all your hard work in organizing the event.

YOUTH SPORTS

The Recreation Dept. offers baseball, basketball and soccer, keeping the kids in our area healthy and active. They compete against other towns in the White River Valley. The best time to learn athletic skills is when the player is young. They take what they learn into competitive middle and high school sports and beyond. They also gain the valuable socially interactive skillset of team participation and leadership, traits they can utilize in all future endeavors in their lives. Thank you to all the coaches and volunteers and we hope you will support their efforts.



Our Rochester soccer team, Grades 3-4, was undefeated!

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who helped this year. Our Recreation Committee is always looking for fresh ideas, and boots on the ground to make these events happen successfully. If you would like to get involved, please contact Norm at norm@blindpigment.com



Summer Music for Kids

The Summer Music for Kids camp held the summer of 2022 was a resounding success! Sixteen 4-6th grade students (homeschoolers included) from the communities of Rochester, Stockbridge, Granville, Hancock, and Pittsfield began learning to play and care for their instruments as well as received fun exposure to theater, visual and other musical arts.

The aim of Summer Music for Kids is to provide access to instrumental music education to all students in the Valley communities regardless of financial constraints or other barriers. Instrumental private lessons with top-notch area teachers, instrument rentals, transportation and snacks were offered free of charge to the campers.

Thanks to our generous donors, including many Valley businesses and residents as well as the Trustees of Public Funds, our camp became a reality. Because our Board of Directors is entirely volunteer, we were able to maximize the services of our teachers and enrichment and support staff. We even had enough left over to continue early-release lessons during the academic year.

Now, we look forward to 2023 and are already making plans for greater participation and musical involvement. We may even be able to expand to a day-long camp, continuing with last year's campers and adding a new set of beginners!

Our teachers for 2023 will be Scott Paulson (percussion, trumpet, trombone), Barbara Smith (flute, clarinet, saxophone), and Emerson Gale (violin and cello).

For more information, please send an e-mail to summermusicforkids@gmail.com, or talk with Susan Bushnell (Rochester) or Bill Edgerton (Stockbridge).



What a year 2022 has been! We have accomplished so much together in the last year. It has been a huge team effort and we couldn't have done it without all those involved. A big **THANK YOU** to our director Angus McCusker, board members, coaches, members, sponsors and donors, volunteers, landowner partners, the US Forest Service, Vermont Mountain Bike Association, Catamount Trails Association, Velomont Trail Collective, Vermont Huts, and so many others that take part in everything that makes up the incredible outdoor recreation opportunities in Central Vermont and beyond.

Next year we will be celebrating 10 years of the Ridgeline Outdoor Collective. Originally known as R.A.S.T.A. (Rochester Area Sports Trails Alliance), the Ridgeline Outdoor Collective exists as an umbrella organization over multiple backcountry zones and trail networks, managing ongoing maintenance, new projects, and working with many stakeholders to make these opportunities possible. These areas include Rochester, Randolph, Pittsfield, Brandon Gap Backcountry Zone, and Braintree Mountain Forest. To find out more visit RidgelineOutdoorCollective.org.

Over the last year we continued regular maintenance of our existing networks thanks to our dedicated volunteer trail stewards and continued work strengthening the youth program opportunities, including summer camps, afterschool programming and the Ridge Riders Race team. In Rochester there were added multi-use trail sections through the Ridgeline Network as a part of the greater Vermont Trail Network, including Tunnel Ridge, Rube's Rune, Cassidy Chase, Chantrea Re-route and a mini skills park in Rochester for the youth programming. As a result of dedicated volunteer efforts and with cooperation and guidance from the USFS, we added a whole new backcountry zone in the Chittenden Brook area.

We had some very successful first time events last year, including the first ever Peavine White Water Race in May, with 40+ paddlers competing on a beautiful portion of the White River in Stockbridge. We also hosted a successful first year Slab City Trail Challenge organized by our Youth Program Committee, hosting 100 mountain bikers on the Randolph Trails, and raised over \$5,000 to support our youth bike program. Some of our other community based efforts include work with our local rescue squads, fire departments, and Killington Search and Rescue, to participate in rescue drills specific to the trails and backcountry networks. We also hosted ribbon cutting ceremonies to recognize our generous landowner partners, amazing trails builders, volunteers, and donors that make these projects possible.

We are looking forward to what our 10th year as an organization will bring, and excited to celebrate all we have accomplished in the last decade together and with so much support from you all for our Central Vermont communities. Thank you!

-Ridgeline Outdoor Collective



Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) Report for Town of Rochester:

The 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, or to adults with disabilities. 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 Rochester residents through our care coordination team, which includes case management, information and assistance, options counseling, resource and benefit enrollment (nutrition, transportation, mental health counseling, legal services, health insurance counseling, etc), care coordination planning, family caregiver support, and more.

CVCOA provided individualized support to 56 residents of Rochester. CVCOA Case Manager Kathryn Schenkman was designated to serve older adults in Rochester.

CVCOA served 2,974 unduplicated clients in FY21, plus 2,597 additional interactions with community members for outreach and support. CVCOA mobilized 238 volunteers to provide direct service, deliver meals on wheels, support nutrition sites, provide wellness classes, provide companionship and creative encouragement, and more.

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

CLARA MARTIN CENTER

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 56 years. 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	Hospital Diversion
Psychiatric Services	Walk-in Clinic
Short-term Crisis Intervention	Vocational Services
School and Home-Based Services	Alcohol and other drug treatment
Education for Families	Respite Care
Community Resource Assistance	24-Hour Emergency System

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, alcohol and other drug treatment, a walk-in clinic and 24-hour emergency services.

With 56 years of experience and leadership under our belt, Clara Martin Center remains positioned to rise to meet the needs and challenges of the communities we serve. As we continue to experience the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Clara Martin Center remains committed to meeting both the short and long-term mental health and substance use care needs that the pandemic has impacted.

Clara Martin Center is proud to be the first Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) in the State of Vermont, a federal model of care designed to ensure access to a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use services regardless of ability to pay, including crisis mental health services, screening, assessment and diagnosis, patient-centered treatment planning, outpatient mental health and substance use services, primary care screening and monitoring, targeted case management, psychiatric rehabilitation services, peer support and family support services, and services for members of the armed services and veterans.

FY22 TOTAL SERVED ATCMC		TOTAL SERVED Rochester	
Children & Family Services	505	Children & Family Services	7
School Services	116	School Services	6
JOBS	67	JOBS	0
Adult Services	686	Adult Services	14
CSP Services	147	CSP Services	4
Supportive & Transitional Housing	27	Supportive & Transitional Housing	1
Substance Abuse Services	317	Substance Abuse Services	7
Corrections Services	98	Corrections Services	0
Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	236	Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	6
Access	845	Access	17
CCBHC Services	1,087	CCBHC Services	21
Total Served - unduplicated	2,078	Total seen:	43
CVSAS	447	CVSAS	0



GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Day
May 6, 2023



Green Up Day on May 7, 2022 was a wonderful success thanks to 19,141 volunteers statewide who participated on Green Up Day. The infographic shows that all your hard work to beautify Vermont is crucial and that it makes where we get to live, work, and play, a truly special place. As one of Vermont's favorite unofficial holidays, it is imperative for today and future generations to build pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment, as well as keep residents civically engaged.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding again for Green Up Day 2023.

Green Up Vermont initiatives are year-round for further our impact with waste reduction initiatives, additional clean-up efforts, and educational programs.

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for your support of this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.**

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at www.greenupvermont.org.

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow us on Instagram (greenupvermont). greenup@greenupvermont.org 802-522-7245

Orange County Parent Child Center

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 home visiting, supervised visitation, weekly playgroups, case management, onsite programming, and community outreach events. Some of our programs serve all families while others require income eligibility or place an emphasis on pregnant and parenting teens and families lacking support due to social isolation, poverty, insecure housing, or lack of other vital community resources.

OCPCC's programs include: Children's Integrated Services Family Support and Family Support Nursing, Welcome Baby visits, free community playgroups, Kids Place supervised visitation and exchanges, Families Learning Together program, Early Care & Education, parent education, kinship care support groups, and resource & referral services. We are a public pre-k partner under Act 166.

You can learn more at www.orangecountypcc.org. (Please excuse our website appearance as we are currently making updates.)

Last year, with the continued support of your community, we were able to serve 11 families from Rochester including 12 adults and 12 children.

Lindsey Trombley
Executive Director

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens
POBox113
1097 Route 100
Hancock, VT 05748

802-767-3763
quintownsc@gmail.com

11/28/2022

To the Town of Rochester Select Board/Budget Committee and Community Members:

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is based in Hancock and since 1972 has given senior citizens in the area a place to go for on-site meals each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at noon. We also provide nutritionally balanced meals delivered to homebound members through our Meals on Wheels Program.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our senior center. To keep our clients safe, we have had to temporarily change our onsite dining, currently serving onsite meals on Wednesdays. However, we continue to provide nutritionally balanced meals to help meet the dietary requirements of our seniors by offering our new To-Go Meals Program and continue delivering Meals on Wheels each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Our Meals on Wheels Program not only provides healthy meals to seniors, but also provides us with an opportunity to perform a wellness check for our senior neighbors.

The Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is requesting a donation from each of our surrounding towns. Our request from Rochester is **\$9849.00** for the coming year. The donation is well spent. We have supplied nearly 5,000 meals this past year to seniors at the center including our new To-Go Meals Program and our Meals on Wheels Program.

Your donation will cover a portion of our operating budget not reimbursed by our contract with the Central Vermont Council on Aging. Therefore, each contributing town and its citizens become participants in the successful operation of our program that provides quality meals and social enrichment for our aging neighbors and relatives.

We continue to supplement our funds with a very successful annual appeal each fall and have increased our search for grants and other fundraising events. We would be glad to meet with you if you have any questions. Thank you for your generous support in the past and for considering our current request.

Sincerely,

Quin-Town Board of Directors

Board of Directors
Natalie Clook, Acting President~ Kent Butterfield, Vice President & Treasurer~ Beverly Allen,
Secretary~
Members: Annette West
Phyllis Deering, Executive Director~ Vacant, Cook~ Vacant, Assistant Cook~

Tri-Valley Transit (TVT)-formerly Stagecoach

Thank you for the Town of Rochester generous support last year. During the past four years, your support helped us provide an annual average of **1,097 free Dial-A-Ride trips** for Rochester residents either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles. TVT's Dial-A-Ride and Shuttle Bus Systems provided a total of 158,302 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/individuals who are unable to access the bus system. In **Rochester, 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 and substance abuse treatment.**

Bus System Promotes economic development, energy conservation, mobility independence and quality of life. **Rochester residents can access services on the 1-89 corridor via the Rochester Extension of the 89'er South route.**

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 20% requirement.

Thank you!

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, 2021 and June 30, 2022, VNH made 743 in-home visits to 32 residents. This included approximately \$7,712 in unreimbursed care to residents.

- **Home Health Care**: 223 home visits to 23 residents with short-term medical or physical needs
- **Hospice Services**: 488 home visits to 8 residents who were in the final stages of their lives
- **Long-Term Care**: 32 home visits to 1 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in home to avoid admission to a nursing home

VNH serves many of Rochester'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. Rochester'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

Anthony Knox
Community Relations Manager

White River Partnership 2022 Annual Report to Rochester

The White River Partnership (WRP) is a membership-based, 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 watershed 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 2022:

- WRP staff and 35 volunteers completed the 5th 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, 100 volunteers **removed 8,000 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 22nd year of our water quality monitoring program**, testing bacteria, conductivity, and turbidity at 22 swimming holes in 13 towns – including Lions Club Park-Rochester – every two weeks from late-May through August. We shared results via email, our website, and our Facebook and Instagram pages.
- The WRP worked with 3 towns to complete on-the-ground projects to **improve clean water and recreational river access**: 1) new infrastructure at the Rochester Town Garage eliminates polluted runoff into the river; 2) a new gravel path and stone stairway improves river access at Broad Brook Access in Sharon; and 3) a kiosk & sign will educate visitors at the new White River Park in Stockbridge.
- The WRP worked with willing landowners, partners, and two work crews to **plant 5,535 native trees and shrubs along the White River and its tributaries** in 8 locations to improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and flood resilience.
- The WRP engaged 1,250 students and teachers from 30 schools – including Rochester Elementary School – in **hands-on education programs that raise awareness about watershed health**, including crayfish 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

WomenSafe, Inc.
Elyssa Boisselle, Executive Director
24-hour Hotline: 802-388-4205
Business: 802-388-9180
info@womensafe.net
www.womensafe.net

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022* **WomenSafe** staff and volunteers provided the following total services:

- 544 total adults and children served through advocacy and supervised visitation services.
- 7,872 in-person meetings and phone calls through the advocacy program.
- 234 supervised visits and orientation meetings for 13 families including 21 children.
- Worked with the parents/caregivers of a total of 328 children exposed to violence.
- Prevention programming reached 4,180 youth and adults through 568 presentations and outreach events.
- 63 volunteers donated 7,088 hours of services.

**Numbers are unaudited*

ROCHESTER

In Rochester, WomenSafe provided:

- Advocacy services to at least **2*** residents including the parents/caregivers of **2** children.

** For safety, some people do not share their town of residence.*

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)

170 Lower Sumner Hill Road, Sumner, ME 04292

(802)828-4582 | ldryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support for the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The 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 **25+ years** of the program, almost **1200 grants** totaling over **\$2.6 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 Conservation 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. 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 2022 was **\$285,901**, of which **\$165,422** was paid in grants to support the construction and repair of **27 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.

216 Vermont communities have benefited from the RFP 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, improving the safety and welfare of Vermont communities.

Tom Maclay, Chair

Rural Fire Protection Task Force

(802) 426-3265 | 83creameryst@fairpoint.net

Troy Dare, Program Manager & contact person for Town Appropriation business

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program

(802) 828-4582 | ldryhydrantguy@yahoo.com

Jill Arace, Executive Director

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD) (802)

496-5162 | jill.arace@vacd.org

SAFELINE, INC.
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 and confidential services for victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and stalking in Orange County and northern Windsor County.

In FY2021, Safeline provided 2,305 services for 337 victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual abuse. 28 services were provided for 6 victims who identified themselves as residents of Rochester. This is an increase from previous years. Assistance was provided for 3 Relief from Abuse protection orders, 4 domestic violence situations and 4 housing assistances. 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.

A trained advocate is always available to provide crisis support, safety planning, resources, information and referrals through Safeline's 24 hours a day/7 days a week Hotline (1-800-639-7233). Survivors can also choose from a wide array of additional services including legal advocacy, day shelter services, job readiness skills development and financial management education.

In addition to providing direct services, Safeline is a resource for the community at large and is committed to changing the culture of violence. As part of this work, Safeline offers a full range of prevention education for community organizations, schools, medical centers, faith communities, youth groups, and anyone who is seeking information about domestic violence, sexual abuse and stalking.

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

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES AS OF JANUARY 17, 2023

NAME	TAX YEAR	TOTAL DUE
141 Great Hawk LLC.	2021-2022	6,001.39
Adluri, Vishwa Trust	2021-2022	583.93
Almeida, Don	2021-2022	2,142.63
Buchan, Jane	2021-2022	2,642.28 *
Cocci, Steven	2021-2022	523.00
Collins, Irene Smead	2021-2022	1,676.83
Gendron, Oscar	2018-2019	3,475.79
Gendron, Oscar	2019-2020	4,220.37
Gendron, Oscar	2020-2021	3,765.88
Gendron, Oscar	2021-2022	3,450.30
Homick, Spencer & Bryce	2020-2021	771.06
Lord, Aimee V	2020-2021	4,608.28
Lord, Aimee V	2021-2022	4,421.50
Mill, William and Cheryl	2021-2022	450.68
Miller, Daniel J.	2020-2021	665.06
Miller, Daniel J.	2021-2022	619.06
McIntyre, Earl Estate	2021-2022	478.72
McIntyre, Earl Estate	2021-2022	1,782.78
Mt. Brook Assoc.	2021-2022	922.25
Shebairo, Brian	2021-2022	4,593.45
Shepard, Linda Life Est	2021-2022	158.55
Ryan, Gregory	2021-2022	396.23
Toro, Jose	2021-2022	2,734.71
Van Steen, Alexander	2021-2022	390.56
Vansteen, Alexander	2021-2022	1,921.00
White, John & Ruzicka, Carol	2020-2021	531.32
White, John & Ruzicka, Carol	2021-2022	1,854.24
Wildt, Frederick	2021-2022	24.36
Winnie, Gregory	2015-2016	10.63 *
Winnie, Gregory	2016-2017	67.91 *
Winnie, Gregory	2017-2018	2,218.62 *
Winnie, Gregory	2018-2019	2,051.02 *
Winnie, Gregory	2019-2020	1,922.21 *
Winnie, Gregory	2020-2021	1,733.87 *
Winnie, Gregory	2021-2022	1,614.96 *
TOTAL TAXES DUE		\$ 65,425.43

*Payment plans

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
DELINQUENT UTILITIES AS OF JANUARY 17, 2023

NAME	TOTAL DUE
Bates, Graham	76.16
Deluca, Mae	493.02
Dugger, JS Irrevocable Trust	687.36
Glogover, Deborah	131.30
Keown, Kyle	472.86
Merrill, Gordon	659.33
Paige, Tony	2,049.14
Shea Property Services	881.53
Smolen, Susie	239.17
V&R Holdings	1,173.73
Wildt, Frederick	1,031.10
TOTAL UTILITIES DUE	\$ 7,894.70

Vital Statistics ~ 2022

BIRTHS

Valentina Garcia-Gomez
Marilla Kelly
Abigail Taylor
Branson Yetnick

DEATHS

Deanna Campbell
Robert H. Harvey
Charles Jackson
Dora Klofach
Timothy Pratt
Gail Proctor
Antonio Sanz Sr.
Shirley Ann Turnbull
Arthur Nye Wright
Robert H. Harvey

MARRIAGES

Elizabeth Shackelford & Daniel Ward	04.30.2022
Lauren Shiflett & Joshua Farrington	06.05.2022
Donna Lindsey & Todd Eberhardt	06.18.2022
Emily Clark & Brian Ferolito	06.25.2022
Sharon Shaw & Michael Blake	07.16.2022
Tiffany Hawley & Eric Hallman	08.06.2022
Nensi Cukalla & Evan Jones	08.06.2022
Camilla Tannen-Barrup & Patrick Crowley	08.27.2022
Molly Johnson & Jeremy Rosen	08.27.2022
Abigail Hybl & Luke Ceplikas	09.10.2022
Eve Ulbrich & Zachary Olley	10.01.2022
Jessica Gruss & Francis Anetzberger V	10.01.2022
Kimberly Haugen & Joseph McClintock	10.15.2022
Patricia Rydle & Robert Meadows	11.21.2022
Sonya Carlisle & Brok Levasseur	11.20.2022

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

2022

<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
McCracken, Naomi	Naomi McCracken Trust	21-77	\$0.00
MacDonnell, Michael	MacDonnell, Peter	21-78	\$61,000.00
MacDonnell, Andrew	MacDonnell, Peter	21-79	\$7,300.00
Hirshman, Tobias; Hirshman, Michael	Muller, Eugene & Ju-nie	21-80	\$13,000.00
Harvest Moon in the Hollows LLC	1764 Marsh Brook Rd LLC	21-81	\$829,000.00
Babcock, Adam	Babcock, Adam & Julie	21-82	\$0.00
Green Velly Complex LLC	Shea Property Services LLC	21-83	\$595,000.00
Manning, Robert Jr. & Sandy	Connolly, Patrick & Hoppe, Leanne	21-84	\$115,000.00
Harvey, Michael & Nancy	Harvey, Megan	21-85	\$100,000.00
Grantham, Rupert; Grantham, Oliver; Grantham-Rappoport, Isabel	Rogers Peak Forest LLC	21-86	\$570,000.00
Baumbach, Robert & Lisa	Shestopal, Aryeh & Asya	21-87	\$23,400.00
Goding, Mary Estate of	Goding, Philip TTE; Goding, Joanne TTE	22-01	\$0.00
Wolpert, William & Maureen	Wolpert, William & Maureen TTE	22-02	\$0.00
Kelly, Karen	Carlson, William	22-03	\$0.00
Perry, David & Lucia	LaPell, Kristen	22-04	\$0.00
Severy, Terry tte	Bakerpoole, Matthew; Poole, Martin & Joyce	22-05	\$400,000.00
Friedman, Jeffrey & Melvin, Janice	Carmona, Ruben & Susan	22-06	\$418,000.00
Mascetta, Pamela; Thraikill, John;Thraikill, Brett	Thraikill, Brett & Judy	22-07	\$240,600.00
Mascetta, Pamela; Thraikill, John;Thraikill, Brett	Mather, Jeffrey & Nancy	22-08	\$800.00
Mascetta, Pamela; Thraikill, John;Thraikill, Brett	McPhetres, Cynthia	22-09	\$0.00
Levitsky, Lawrence	Levitsky, Lawrence & Stockwell, Gail	22-10	\$0.00
Bancroft, Krut Griffin II	Laubacher, Robert & Foley- Laubacher, Maureen	22-11	\$70,000.00
Andrews, Randy	Alexander, John	22-12	\$0.00
Andrews, Randy	Catchapaw, Elijah; Toepel, Michelle	22-13	\$90,000.00
Campbell, Frank	Suplee, Sharon; Brewster, Leigh	22-14	\$0.00
Carter, Harry Estate of	Carter, Edward; Carter, Michael	22-15	\$0.00
Harvey, Raymond & Cheryl	Cregg, Phillip	22-16	\$75,000.00
Mozzicato, Daniel & Kira	Milford, Jordan & Maureen	22-17	\$430,000.00
Romer R., Richard TH	Schley, Jeremy & Jennifer	22-18	\$548,350.00
McGuffin, Lloyd	Fifield, James	22-19	\$180,000.00
Carlton, John & Amy	Moisan, Andrew & Jessica	22-20	\$115,000.00
Vadnais, Nancy L	McCullough, Kelly; Conner, Bryan	22-21	\$0.00
Donnet, Carolyn Estate of	Donnet, Louis; Johnson, Mary	22-22	\$0.00
Advanced Illumination Inc.	SGR RE LLC	22-23	\$0.00

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

2022

<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Klofach, Richard	Klofach, Erich B	22-24	\$0.00
Irons, Joseph	Roberts, Michael	22-25	\$0.00
Van Hook, Kathleen	Van Hook Resort Collections, Inc.	22-26	\$246,900.00
Richardson, Chad & Mickaela	Ayala, Jose & Didrikson, Kirsten	22-27	\$400,000.00
Pratt, Wendy	Mengedoht, Daniel & Erin	22-28	\$531,000.00
Smith, Norman & Judith	Smith, Mark	22-29	\$0.00
Carlton, John & Amy	Murphy, Michael & Sara	22-30	\$99,000.00.
Craffey, Liam & Tyler, Megan	Anderson, Clayton; Grigorian, Rachel	22-31	\$80,000.00
Borges, Idalia	Borges, Idalia	22-32	\$0.00
Dochtermann, Susan	Moulton, Kim & Donald	22-33	\$27,000.00
Peterson, Nancy	Hays, Douglas & Sonya	22-34	\$245,000.00
Davis-Gillis, Susan	Gillis, Paul	22-35	\$0.00
White, Richard & Diane	White, Dale; Kelly, Kelly	22-36	\$0.00
Brown, Stuart; Foley, Wendy	Brown, Stuart & Martha; McLoughlin, Dolan; Piko, Donovan; Hislop, Sophie; Foley, Wendy	22-37	\$0.00
Hanscom, Diane Estate of	Nevins, Michael & Shelia	22-38	\$355,000.00
Buker, Robin	Marshall, Corey & Katie	22-39	\$115,000.00
Brockman, Paul & Babecki, Patricia	Foster, Joseph & Abraham, Susanna	22-40	\$184,000.00
Lloyd S. Woods Revocable Trust	Chernow, Stephen	22-41	\$19,000.00
Wong, John	Wild Turkey Properties, LLC	22-42	\$95,000.00
Mongeur, Reginald II	Duclos, Lila & Trajon	22-43	\$0.00
Leonard, Christopher & Hillary	Collins Thomas & Xiaojuan	22-44	\$529,500.00
Heide R Kruse Revocable Trust	Rutherford, Katherine	22-45	\$749,000.00
Brockman, Paul & Babecki, Patricia	Foster, Joseph & Abraham, Susanna; Abraham, Edward	22-46	\$0.00
The Conservation Fund	Green Ridge Forest, LLC	22-47	\$0.00
Green Ridge Forest, LLC	The Vermont Land Trust, Inc.	22-48	\$0.00
McIntyre, Michael & Theresa through Judicial Foreclosure	Turnbull, Deborah	22-49	\$55,000.00
Culhane, Vincent & Milhiser, Carolyn	Sivaraman, Raghavendran & Sundaram, Anuradha	22-50	\$775,000.00
Dunham, Wanda	Dunham, Sandra	22-51	\$0.00
Dunham, Timothy & Wanda	Dunham, Jessica; Mason, Emily; Dunham, Sandra	22-52	\$0.00
Crosby, Bradley & Linda	Double U Investments, LLC	22-53	\$19,000.00
Poulin, David Estate of	Poulin, Gail	22-54	\$0.00
Petersen, Mark	Petersen, Mark; Wood, Linda	22-55	\$155,300.00