



Wallingford Standard

SEPTEMBER 2023

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER'S OFFICE NEWS

Town Clerk & Treasurer's Office

802-446-2336

townclerk@wallingfordvt.com

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-4:30 pm

www.wallingfordvt.com

The VT Department of Taxes set the Homestead Education Tax Rate at \$1.6248 (up 16 cents) and the Nonhomestead Education Tax Rate at \$1.6560 (up 11 cents).

The Selectboard set the Municipal Tax Rate at \$.4157. The Fire Protection Tax Rate for districts 1 & 3 is \$.0858, and the Tax Rate for Fire District 2 is \$.0968. Tax bills were mailed out on August 14th. The first half payment is due on October 16th.

The Town of Wallingford hired VHB, Inc. for the design and Right of Way phase of the School Street sidewalk project. All deeds of properties connecting the sidewalk were provided to VHB. VHB will utilize Vermont Agency of Transportation parcel database to obtain a graphical representation of the VT-140 corridor ROW. VHB to conduct survey and create base map prior to 8/31. VHB to conduct Natural and Cultural Resource investigations by 9/30.

VHB will be conducting data collection through the summer and a Local Concerns/Alternatives meeting is targeted for November. Wallingford residents will have the opportunity to walk the sidewalk corridor with VHB representatives and ask questions and provide feedback before that meeting.



FIREWORKS, FOOD & FUN Saturday, September 2

The Wallingford Day Committee invites one and all to the rescheduled Lawrence Kaminski Memorial Fireworks and continuation of our town-wide celebration at the Wallingford Recreation Field on Meadow Street. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., DJ Brett Myhre will kick off the evening with tunes to get you dancing (or at least toe-tapping) and the Townline Grill food truck will be serving up tasty eats. The tunes and food will continue till the fireworks start, courtesy of C&C Fireworks, around 8:15 p.m.

Parking can be tight near the rec field, so if you're able to walk or bike on over, we encourage you to do so, in order that those who are coming from farther or need to drive and park can get to the area. Bring your family, friends, lawn chairs, blankets, and dancing shoes, and we'll see you on the 2nd!



The Town Hall will be closed on Labor Day. The Transfer Station WILL be open.

Wallingford Memorial Rotary Lobsterfest 2023 Tickets are Available!

Lobsterfest 2023 will be held on Sunday, September 24 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Lodge at Elfin Lake. Come support Wallingford Rotary while enjoying fellowship, and a delicious lobster or steak meal with all the trimmings! Tickets are on sale now at <https://wallingfordvtrotary.com/2023/08/01/lobsterfest-tickets/>

SEE PAGE 6 for Flood Recovery Assistance

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

The Rutland County Solid Waste District will sponsor a free Household Hazardous Waste collection day at the Transfer Station on Saturday, September 23rd from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Please read the rules and requirements on the Transfer Station page at www.wallingfordvt.com.

NOTICE

Cut off date for submissions is the 23rd of each month. Send articles to:

Julie Sharon at

townclerk@wallingfordvt.com.

The Standard's mission is to provide information on Town news and to be pro active for local business and events. We hereby reserve the right to refuse articles that express opinions of political nature in order to give our readership a format of information with out prejudice.

REGULAR MEETINGS AND EVENTS

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Conservation Commission | 4th Monday of every month | 4:30 p.m. Town Hall |
| Planning Commission | 2nd Tuesday of every month | 7:00 p.m. Town Hall |
| Prudential Committee | 1st & 3rd Wednesday | 6:00 p.m. Town Hall |
| Selectboard | 1st & 3rd Monday | 6:30 p.m. Town Hall |
| Energy Committee | 1st Tuesday of each month | 6:30 p.m. Town Hall |
| Development Review Board | 4th Thursday of each month | 7:00 p.m. Town Hall |
| Recreation Committee | 2nd Thursday of every month | 5:30 p.m. Town Hall |
| Mill River Unified School District Board | 1st Wednesday 3rd Wednesday | 7:00 p.m. MRUHS 7:00 p.m. school rotation |
| Wallingford Rotary | Every Monday except holidays | 7:00 a.m. Rotary |
| Bone Builders | Every Tuesday & Thursday | 9:00 a.m. Library |
| Wallingford Vol Fire Dept. Training | Every Tuesday | 6:30 p.m. Wallingford Fire Station |
| Wallingford Food Shelf | Every Tuesday & Thursday | 9:00 a.m.-Noon Town Hall |
| EW Vol Fire Dept. Training | First Monday of every month | 8:00 p.m. EW Fire Station |
| Library Board | 2nd Tuesday of every month | 7:00 p.m. Gilbert Hart Library |
| Friends Meeting | 2nd Thursday of every month | 10:00 a.m. Gilbert Hart Library |
| Foot & BP Clinic | 1st Wednesday of every month | 10:30 a.m. Wallingford House |
| Legion Breakfast Meeting | 1st Tuesday | 8:00 a.m. Wallingford Cong. Church |
| Community Acupuncture | 4th Tuesday of every month | 6:30 p.m. RSVP Thrive 802-446-2499 |

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GILBERT HART LIBRARY by Wendy Savery

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You'll need your patron number from Gilbert Hart to start borrowing on the Palace Project app. If you're not sure of your information, send an email to: ghlib@comcast.net or give a call during library open hours and we can supply it for you.

For those who prefer the book-in-hand reading method, plenty of new titles await our readers. Thanks to a generous grant from the Winnie Bell Learned Foundation, almost all the latest children's picture book award winners have joined the collection, and we have the '23-24 nominees for the Golden Dome and Green Mountain book awards for middle grade and teen readers. You can also get a copy of the latest VT READS book, selected by the Vermont Humanities Council: *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malinda Lo. A community discussion event will take place in October, so read along and stay tuned!

Hours: Monday & Thursday 10 am-4 pm; Wednesday & Friday 10 am-3 pm; and Saturday 9 am-1 pm 802-446-2685

BACK TO SCHOOL

Wednesday, August 30th, is the first day of school.

School days bring congestion. School buses are picking up children, kids walking are hurrying to get to school, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school. And parents, once your kids are safely dropped off at school, please slow down on School Street. There are still children walking to school. Thank you.

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Selectboard Meeting Highlights

8/7. Road Commissioner P. Baker reported on the status of the grant work on Sugar Hill Road and roadside mowing; received approval to use some gravel funds to pay for paving; agreed to follow up on a driveway culvert replacement request on Dawson Hill Road; confirmed no work has started on the water installation at the rec field; was told that the Conservation Commission requested clean soil from any of the road projects be brought to Stone Meadow for tree plantings in the fall; and reported that a VLCT rep recently inspected the town garage for flood damage.

Clerk/Treasurer J. Sharon provided the FY'23 results. The Selectboard set the town tax rate at \$0.4157 based on the approved budget and carryover balance of \$78,221.

The Selectboard: 1) agreed to assess a penalty on late Homestead Declaration filings; 2) heard a report from Energy Committee member R. Nimtze on engineering services related to Town Hall boiler replacement; 3) heard Erica Coston's request to ban fireworks within the municipality; 4) discussed the mission statement proposed by the Conservation Commission which will be presented again when they've refined it; 5) agreed to waive the three bid requirement in the purchasing policy for the ARPA funded Highland Water Supply project as only one estimate was received after an extensive effort; 6) signed a letter from the VT Dept. of Taxes mandating an reappraisal; 7) signed the NEMRC Reappraisal Agreement; and 8) heard R. Soule's request that his new water line installation coincide with sidewalk construction. The Fire District #1 was notified of this request.

8/21. The Selectboard: 1) approved the Frederick's request to name a private road with only two residences, provided they cover the street sign, post and freight expense; 2) approved financing for the new grader; 2) approved flag football's use of the rec field in the fall; 3) approved ballroom dancing upstairs; 4) approved the design of the Elfin Lake public beach erosion reduction; 5) tabled the Health Officer appointment; 6) accepted R. Crispino's resignation from the Rec Committee; 7) tabled the Town Hall boiler replacement proposal; and 8) agreed to meet on Tuesday, 9/5 due to the holiday. S. Switzer and town/legislative officials, along with Gov. Scott's reps, toured the flood damaged homes on River Street last week. S. Pytlik discussed her concerns with the DRB's recent floodway approvals. K. Luzader asked if the lake could stay open longer next summer if staffing is available.

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HOURS

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Friday & Saturday 10:00-2:00

**Neighbors Helping
Neighbors**

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Seller: Estate of Warren Allen; Buyer: Rhonda Renner; 68 Depot Street, Purchase Price: \$95,000; Assessed Value: \$93,400.

Seller: Bonnie MacPherson; Buyer: Anna Peel; 4281 Sugar Hill Road; Purchase Price: \$282,000; Assessed Value: \$146,900.

Seller: Robert & Susan Filskov; Buyers: Bryan, Naomi & Tristan Wilson; 155 Fieldstone Way; Purchase Price: \$930,000; Assessed Value: \$445,400.

ZONING PERMITS

Mariah Ford, 188 Haven Hill Road; temporary shed for farm store.

Edward & Joanne Miele, 204 Autumn Heights; new 3-bay garage with walkway, deck extension and screened-in porch.

Selina Ferrandino, 2788 US Route 7S; farmstand.

Timothy Page, 1 Creek Road, carriage house.



Discover Books installed a collection book box (it's the blue one) at the Wallingford Transfer Station for the collection of clean, good conditioned, hard and soft covered books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks (no garbage or other recyclables should go in the book bin). Discover Books will sort through these items for distribution to others AND it keeps them out of the solid waste stream. The Transfer Station employees ask that you make sure items are clean and in good condition and separated from Zero Sort recyclables before you arrive at the facility so the drop off is quick.

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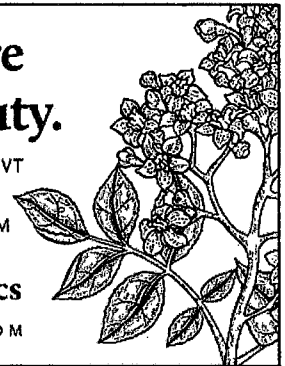
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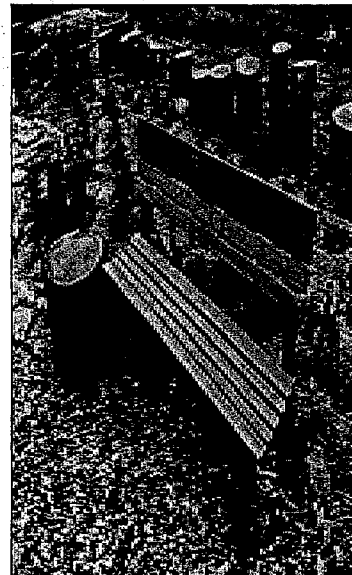
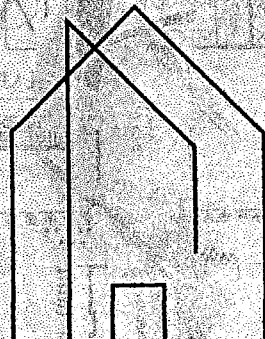
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Cassie Ahearn was a steadfast volunteer at the Wallingford Community Thrift Shop as well as a strong supporter of the Wallingford community.

The WCTS, with the assistance of Bert Jones, has placed a bench in the Stone Meadow Community Pollinator Garden in her honor. We hope people will enjoy this bench as much as we enjoyed Cassie's upbeat personality and beautiful smile.

Open burning of trash is never allowed in Vermont, however, there are still reports of illegal burning in Wallingford. Burning garbage, tires, rubber, plastic, waste oil, asphalt materials, asbestos, pressure-treated wood, plywood, etc. are all prohibited! Fines may be levied.

Natural wood such as timber, logs, trunks, branches, limbs, stumps, and untreated lumber, clean wood pallets, leaves and brush are allowed. However, you **MUST** obtain a burn permit each and every time. These are not required for firepits.

Please contact Fire Warden Roger Sheehan (for Wallingford & South Wallingford) by calling 802-548-6298 or Deputy Warden Marty Rabtoy (for East Wallingford) by calling 802-345-5550. They will return your call in a timely manner. Burn permits are only valid for specific days; they are not an annual approval. Be a good neighbor and protect our health.



Margaret Hough and Don Spruit of Wallingford had a very successful week at the Addison County Fair and Field Days. Their blueberries and blueberry jam won first place blue ribbons for the second year in a row. Margaret won the Lilian Humphreys Canning Award for the second year. Their peach and wild black raspberry jams and their dilly beans also won first place blue ribbons.

The Wallingford Town Hall Concert Series is gearing up for an autumn of music as wonderfully talented musicians are set to perform. Please mark your calendar for Gypsy Reel playing high energy stirring music rooted in the Celtic tradition on Wednesday, September 20th; The Survivors jamming to a variety of genres through the decades from the 60s up to the present will perform on Wednesday, October 11th; and a special holiday concert that will lift your heart and spirit as Bells of Joy will take the stage on Wednesday, December 13th. All concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. with a suggested donation of \$15 per person with proceeds going to the performers. These concerts are only possible thru your support of local live music.



If you are interested in serving as a Town Health Officer, please contact the Town Administrator at townadmin@wallingfordvt.com or call 802-446-2872. This is a 3-year term that begins 10/1. The Selectboard submits a recommendation to officials from the State Dept. of Health, who make the final decision. Town Health Officers are responsible for: Investigating possible public health hazards and risks within the town or city; Taking action to prevent, remove, or destroy any public health hazards; Taking action to lessen significant public health risks; Enforcing health laws, rules and permit conditions, and taking the steps necessary to enforce orders.

If you are interested in serving on the Recreation Committee, please contact a member of the Recreation Committee or the town administrator at townadmin@wallingfordvt.com or call 802-446-2872. The Recreation Committee forwards appointment recommendations to the Selectboard, who makes the final decision.



FREE LEGAL HELP—FLOOD RECOVERY

The Vermont Bar Association is offering free legal help/consultation to those affected by the flood as they work toward recovery. They know that dealing with legal issues, insurance claims, FEMA, SBA, USDA etc., is complicated and fraught with legal nuance that can be overwhelming. The link is: www.vtbar.org. Rep. Tom Stevens, Chair, General and Housing, Vermont House of Representatives—(802) 828-2228

Message from Vermont Public Interest Group about the July flood event

With so many impacted Vermonters facing major financial decisions as they rebuild, I'm glad to share the news that Efficiency Vermont just received legislative approval to redirect \$10 million to create a grant program to help Vermonters affected by the floods replace damaged equipment with clean, efficient appliances and heating systems. They're working hard to finalize the details of the program, and we expect it to roll out in early September.

If you have immediate questions about rebuilding or repairing homes with a focus on energy efficiency, reach out to Efficiency Vermont at 1-888-921-5990 or visit <http://www.efficiencyvermont.com/flood>.

Ben Edgerly Walsh,
Climate & Energy Program Director, VPIRG
www.efficiencyvermont.com/flood



The US Small Business Administration is offering low-interest disaster loans for Vermonters whose property was damaged or destroyed by the July flooding.

Eligible homeowners, renters, businesses, and nonprofit organizations located in the declared disaster areas as the result of the recent storms and flooding in the state of Vermont, can apply for a low interest rate SBA Disaster Property Loan on or before the deadline of September 12, 2023. Info can be obtained by calling SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955.



Please keep in mind your experience with telephone and internet during our recent flooding. Jill Stone-Teer and Cecile Betit's ARPA application was accepted **"To conduct a Need and Risk Assessment of Town of Wallingford telecommunication needs during power outages or other emergency situations."** They will be contacting residents soon.



The First Baptist Church of Wallingford at 39 School Street will be giving away **FREE** clothing on Saturday, September 9th from 10 am to 1 pm. Anyone, no matter what town you live in, is welcome to come by.



In preparation for this event, we are collecting good, used (any season) and clean (fresh smelling) clothing. Please no holes, stains, tears, old-fashion clothes, etc. No under garments, socks, etc. of any kind will be accepted. Shoes/boots, children's and men's work clothes are needed the most. The deadline to drop off clothing is Sunday, September 3rd.

Please send an email to Julie at: bunnyrunners@vermontel.net to make arrangements to drop off of clothing. Thank you!

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