



Wallingford Standard

SEPTEMBER 2024

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 Town Hall & Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day. The first Selectboard meeting in September has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, at 6:30 p.m.



GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

The State of Vermont will be mailing all active registered voters their General Election Ballot in mid September. Make sure your mailing address is up to date by September 2nd. Ballots cannot be forwarded by the USPS. Check your status and make updates online at: <https://mvp.vermont.gov>. Contact information is above if you have questions. College students: please update your campus addresses.

Wallingford's Townwide Reappraisal

The Town has hired New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) to perform a townwide reassessment. NEMRC will be doing property inspections starting this fall. The project will be complete for April 1, 2026 assessments. The last reappraisal was completed in 2018. Since that time, market values have dramatically increased causing a state-required reappraisal. Some properties have

changed in land size, building size, building costs, added or taken away outbuildings, improvements, additional age, sales at higher than assessed value, etc. With these changes comes inequity in the data used for assessing properties. The State of Vermont has ordered the Town to complete a reappraisal to bring assessments to Fair Market Value.

DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS, a postcard will be sent to you prior to making inspection visits in your neighborhood. **IF you wish to make an appointment at that time for an interior inspection**, that can be arranged by calling the phone number provided.

Otherwise, the inspector will perform, at a minimum, an exterior inspection verifying data and taking new photographs. The inspector will leave a card showing the date the property was inspected, contact information for an interior inspection *if desired*, and a code to view information on NEMRC's Online Property Data Verification (OPDV) website. Owners can log onto the OPDV website, view their information and the main dwelling. It does not show outbuildings. There is a place to leave comments or ask questions. It does not show values.

New assessments will be mailed at the end of the process. Wallingford has over 1,200 properties so we thank you for your cooperation and appreciate your patience.

NEW Zoning Regulations

Voters will be asked to approve proposed zoning on the November election ballot. To review the draft zoning regulations, visit the municipal website at www.wallingfordvt.com and find a link on the Home page as well as the Planning Commission page for the August 5th version of proposed zoning.



Transfer station employees would like to remind Wallingford residents Zero Sort can only accept cardboard 36 inches or less. Larger than 36 inches clogs up the unit. Transfer station employees would appreciate it if residents cut down cardboard to the appropriate size before you arrive at the facility as it will help operations flow smoothly and employees are not given that task.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

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 without 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	5:30 p.m. Town Hall
Development Review Board	3rd Wednesday 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	1st Wednesday 3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m. MRUHS
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	6:30 p.m. Gilbert Hart Library
Friends Meeting	2nd Thursday of every month	10:00 a.m. Gilbert Hart Library
Library Story Hour	Every Wednesday	10:30 a.m. Gilbert Hart Library
Legion Breakfast Meeting	1st Tuesday	8:00 a.m. Wallingford Cong. Church
Community Acupuncture	4th Tuesday of most months	6:30 p.m. RSVP Thrive Ctr 802-446-2499

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The following positions are vacant and need to be filled:


Energy Committee – one vacancy – two years remaining of a three-year term to expire in 2026.

Planning Commission – one vacancy – one year remaining of a three-year term to expire in 2025.

Conservation Commission – one vacancy – two years remaining of a four-year term to expire in 2026.

Wallingford Day – one vacancy – three-year term to expire in 2027.

If you are interested in any of these posts, contact the Chair of that group to express interest in joining. Committees recommend appointments and the Selectboard makes the appointments.



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GILBERT HART LIBRARY, WALLINGFORD, VT.

GILBERT HART LIBRARY by Wendy Savery

This summer season was a busy one at the library with many of our visitors stopping in to check out great books, print needed documents, and spend time in the Vermont Room catching up on local news. Upgrades to all emergency lights are complete and very soon the upstairs children's room will have replacements for the original but now obsolete fluorescent lights. The choices on the book path will change this month, and we encourage families to come in and receive any prizes they have earned from the Come Alive Outside passport program. Also, if you have been reading 5 books for a Kelly's ice cream cone, be sure to come in soon to get your coupon. See you soon at the library, closed for Labor Day on Monday September 2 but open regular hours the rest of the month.

Hours: Monday, Wednesday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;
and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 802-446-2685



**COMING IN
OCTOBER.....**

The Town Hall concert series presents Gypsy Reel with a special guest from Ireland performing on Wednesday, October 9th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Gypsy Reel is known for playing high energy stirring music rooted in the Celtic tradition, but garnered from the whole world. Their music is an exciting synthesis of world rhythms and influences from 3 continents.

BACK TO SCHOOL!

Wednesday, August 28th, 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. Vehicles speed down School Street; however, there are still children walking to school. Thank you.

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Wallingford Memorial Rotary Lobsterfest 2024 Tickets are Available!

The Annual Lobsterfest Festival will be held on Sunday, September 8th from 4:00-6:30 p.m. at the Wallingford Lodge on Elfin Lake. Come support Wallingford Rotary while enjoying fellowship, and a delicious lobster or steak meal with all the trimmings! Proceeds from the Lobsterfest will help us continue our annual Bike Safety Day, provide scholarships to local high school graduates, and offer vision testing and glasses to children in South African schools, to name just a few of our efforts.

Order tickets online at https://wallingfordvtrotary.com/2024_lobster_festival. Ticket prices remain the same as last year at \$40 per dinner. Ticket sales end on September 3rd. If you cannot order online, you can order by phone at 540-303-3005. Phone orders must be paid by sending a check to Wallingford Rotary, PO Box 456, Wallingford, VT 05773 and be received by September 3rd. We hope to see you there, and thank you for your support.



LOST AND FOUND

An iPhone was found at Elfin Lake around August 13th. It can be picked up at the Wallingford Town Clerk's office.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Seller: Lambert Family Trust; **Buyer:** Juliana Carter; 320 Ice Bed Road; Purchase Price: \$348,000; Assessed Value: \$220,400.

Seller: 4236 West Hill Road Realty; **Buyers:** Mark & Rita Brown Trust; 4236 West Hill Road; Purchase Price: \$1,750,000; Assessed Value: \$1,321,400.

Seller: David Kelley Trust; **Buyer:** Caitlin King; 121 Hillside Road; Purchase Price: \$130,000; Assessed Value: \$33,400.

Seller: Alicia Smith; **Buyer:** 34-36 Railroad Street LLC; 34-36 Railroad Street; Purchase Price: \$180,000; Assessed Value: \$192,000.

Seller: Derk Beardmore, Sr.; **Buyer:** John Diekel; 50 Wickham Lane; Purchase Price: \$450,000; Assessed Value: \$151,000.

Seller: Estate of Richard Wade; **Buyers:** Damon Stone & Elizabeth Spencer; 77 Jessup Way; Purchase Price: \$225,000; Assessed Value: \$166,500.

Seller: Melissa Bushey Rosenberg; **Buyers:** Trout Cook & Brigitte Pinard, 347 VT Route 103; Purchase Price: \$170,000; Assessed Value: \$154,000.

ZONING PERMITS

Bryan Wilson & Naomi Bombardi; 155 Fieldstone Way; lean-to.

Est. of Geraldine Weeks/Nathaniel & Colleen Lewis; 370 Hillside Road/270 Olde Pine Lane; boundary lot line adjustment.

John & Katie Cacace; 1735 Route 103; short-term rental.

Tamara Musto; 15 S. Main Street; moving Mamma Tamara's restaurant business.

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Selectboard Meeting Highlights

8/05. The Selectboard: 1) heard a report that the Road Commissioner found the paving job on N. End Drive satisfactory; 2) agreed to explore options for communication among road crew workers in areas without cell service; 3) approved the municipal tax rate of \$.4513; 4) approved assessing the Homestead Late Filing Penalty; 5) discussed receiving no bids on the RFPs for Heating & Cooling Systems at Town Hall. After a lengthy discussion, the Board approved modifying the Heat Pump RFP to include installation of heat pumps on the first floor and the option to include a separate cost for installing heat pumps on the second floor. 6) Three of the Recreation Facility Subcommittee members gave an update on their work including plans to submit a grant application for the Elfin Lake public beach erosion reduction measures and a separate grant for upgrades to the Concession stand. 7) agreed to place an item on the November ballot asking voters to approve the revised zoning regulations; 8) approved the Gilbert Hart Library Trustees' recommendation to appoint Todd Galiano as Selectboard liaison; 9) accepted the Wallingford Day and Shade Tree Committee Resignations of Maria French, Shannon Pytlík and Denise Eddy. 10) authorized K. Luzader to sign revised documents related to the Buyout Program for the Hunter property at 33 Weston Road; and 11) heard a report on the Stan Taylor West Hill Road lot line adjustment application.

8/17. The Selectboard: 1) Heard a report that the Town was awarded a Better Roads grant of \$8,096 for a state required Road Erosion Inventory; 2) discussed roadside mowing and the Route 7 and 140E radar signs; 3) discussed the heat pump bid received along with determining electrical needs for the heating and cooling system on the second floor; 4) directed the Town Administrator to contact Champlain Valley Fuel to extend fuel oil purchases at the same per gallon rate as last winter; 5) approved Eric McKee working with the Town's Recreation Committee on flag football as a Rec event at municipal facilities this month and next; 6) approved the question related to proposed zoning be included on the November election ballot mailed out by the state at no cost to the Town; 7) the Town Administrator reported on the Town Hall painting and caulking work was completed and inspected by T. Fort; 8) approved moving the first meeting of next month to Tuesday, 9/3 due to the Labor Day holiday; 9) discussed the reappraisal notifications; and 10) approved hiring Hubbard Brothers to pump the concession stand septic tank and inspect the system for any issues related to toilets overflowing. The building will not be boarded up until the Recreation Committee can get a contractor's estimate for upgrades.

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“RRPC Launches Second Phase of Public Engagement for 2026 Rutland Regional Plan September 2024”

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) is thrilled to announce the launch of Phase 2 of public engagement for the 2026 Rutland Regional Plan. In early September, we encourage you all to start providing feedback!

Phase 2, titled Report Back, invites you to see how your feedback from Phase 1, Learn and Assess, has influenced our draft plan policies. Thanks to the active participation of residents and stakeholders across all 27 towns in the Rutland Region, we've gained key insights on issues such as downtown growth, natural resource protection, affordable housing, childcare facilities, road maintenance, and job creation. Your input is helping to shape a collaborative guide for a healthy, equitable, and resilient region.

Running from September to November 2024, Phase 2 aims to achieve two main goals: 1) gather your reaction to what we learned from you in Phase 1 and 2) seek your thoughts on the plan's draft policies. Our robust Phase 2 engagement strategy includes town board presentations, pop-up events, hybrid feedback sessions, an online survey, and a video presentation to make it easy for you to participate.

Review the draft plan policies and provide your feedback to ensure the plan reflects the community's vision and needs. Your voice is crucial in creating a future that benefits everyone in the Rutland Region. Visit rutlandrpc.org/plan2026 or email us at plan2026@rutlandrpc.org to learn more and share your thoughts.

Let's shape the future of our Region together!



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Mill River Union High School will host a 5K cross country meet on Saturday, September 21st with a rain date of Saturday, September 28th. Invited high school runners will be gathering in the morning at the ballfield off Meadow Street after 8:00 a.m. They may walk the course before the actual race. The girls' race will start at 10:00 a.m. and the boys' race starts at 10:45 a.m. The event should conclude by noon. Motorists please be alert for runners crossing Waldo Lane at various times.

Tammy Ann Heffernan Esq.

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heffernanlaw@outlook.com
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Who Wants Honey?

The Wallingford Conservation Commission has honey available from their bees at Stone Meadow.

Jars of regular honey and creamed honey are on sale now at the Town Clerk's Office.

8 oz. jar is \$9; 16 oz. jar is \$18, and 32 oz. jar for \$32.



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 21st from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Please read the rules and requirements on the Transfer Station page at www.wallingfordvt.com



The VT Department of Taxes set the Homestead Education Tax Rate at \$1.6978 (up 7 cents) and the Nonhomestead Education Tax Rate at \$1.8098 (up 15 cents).

The Selectboard set the Municipal Tax Rate at \$.4513. The Fire Protection Tax Rate for districts 1 & 3 is \$.0896, and the Tax Rate for Fire District 2 is unknown at this time. Tax bills were mailed out the second week of August. The first half payment is due on October 21st.



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