

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD VERMONT 2024

OUR 164th TOWN REPORT

FISCAL YEAR: JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025



INFORMATIONAL MEETING: MARCH 3, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

At Wallingford Elementary School

POLLS OPEN: MARCH 4, 2025 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

at Wallingford Town Hall

Conservation Commission
 Development Review Board
 Energy Committee
 Planning Commission
 Prudential Committee
 Recreation Committee
 Selectboard
 Mill River Unified Union
 School District Board
 Shade Tree Preservation Co.

Town Meetings

4th Monday, 4:30 p.m. Town Hall
 3rd Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
 1st Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall
 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall
 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Town Hall
 1st & 3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall
 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at Mill River, 3rd Wednesday at
 different schools
 2nd Tuesday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall

Town Hours

Assessor
 Gilbert Hart Library

 Town Administrator
 Town Clerk & Treasurer
 Transfer Station

 Zoning Administrator

By Appointment
 Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Saturdays - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Monday - Thursday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Monday & Wednesday - Noon - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - Noon
 Monday - 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Phone & E-Mail

Burn Permits-Roger Sheehan, Jr. 802-548-6298
 Burn Permits-Martin Rabtoy 802-345-5550
 Gilbert Hart Library 802-446-2685
 Assessor 802-446-2974
 Health Officer 802-345-6993
 Mill River Union High School 802-775-3451
 Selectboard 802-446-2872
 Town Clerk/Treasurer 802-446-2336
 Town Administrator 802-446-2872
 Town Garage 802-446-2472
 Transfer Station 802-446-2524
 Wallingford Elementary School 802-446-2141
 Wallingford Fire District #1 802-446-2964
 Zoning Administrator 802-446-2974

ghlib@comcast.net
wallisters@wallingfordvt.com

selectboard@wallingfordvt.com
townclerk@wallingfordvt.com
townadmin@wallingfordvt.com
roads@wallingfordvt.com

wallfired1@vermontel.net
zoning@wallingfordvt.com



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.....and on Facebook – Town of Wallingford, VT

Town of Wallingford
 Rutland County, Vermont

Population: 2,094

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*Disclaimer - individuals submitting reports are responsible for the accuracy of their submissions.

** Annual Town Report with color photographs is available online at www.wallingfordvt.com Click on Government on the Home Page then Town Meeting on the drop down menu.

Dedication

Last August, when the Town's beloved Boy With the Leaking Boot statue was the target of vandals, citizens from every corner of town, county, state and beyond Vermont's borders reached out to local officials with offers of support. In response, the Selectboard established a fund to restore the historic landmark situated in a fountain in the heart of the village. Donations large and small poured in from current Wallingford residents and those who lived here long ago, community and school groups, local organizations, businesses and more. Funds raised have been earmarked for the restoration and future maintenance of this iconic landmark.

The Boy With the Leaking Boot first became part of Wallingford's history in 1898 in memory of Arnold Young, the owner of the Wallingford Inn. It was first used as a trough for thirsty horses and then in 1927 it was installed on the Inn's lawn. It has deservedly earned the reputation as the civic symbol of the Town of Wallingford.

For all of those steadfast citizens of the community, region, state and its neighbors who reached out with moral, financial and strategic support, the citizens of Wallingford with heartfelt gratitude dedicate the 2024 annual Town Report to the giving souls who helped finance the restoration of Wallingford's favorite son, the Boy With the Leaking Boot.



This photo of Boy With the Boot (with Charlie Woods) was taken last spring. He needs some repairs, but will return. Photo by Sandi Switzer.

Elected Town Officers
Officers Elected at Town Meeting (1-year term)

Moderator.....Tammy Heffernan

Selectboard

Justin Jankus
Mark Tessier (Vice Chair)
Carolyn Behrendt
Kathy Luzader (Chair)
Rob Barker

Term/Date Expires

Three Year/2025
Two Year/2025
Two Year/2026
Two Year/2026
Three Years/2027

Auditors

Patricia Pranger
Jim Bagnall
Chelsea LaRock

Three Year/2025
Three Year/2026
Three Year/2027 Appointed

Delinquent Tax Collector

Jill Stone-Teer

Three Year/2025

Town Clerk & Treasurer

Julie Sharon

Three Year/2026

Trustee of Public Funds

Patricia Pranger
Anne Awad
Vacancy

Three Year/2025
Three Year/2026
Three Year/2027

**Mill River Unified Union
School District Directors**

Patricia Bowen
Nick Flanders
Sarah Wicker
Grey Wicker

Three Year/2025
Three Year/2026
Three Year/2027
Three Year/2027

Town Officers

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Assessor..... | John Tiffany |
| Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer..... | Jill Stone-Teer |
| Constable..... | Robert Cook |
| Deputy Fire Warden | Marty Rabtoy |
| Dog Warden..... | Joseph Elwell |
| E911 Coordinators..... | Eric and Dale Davenport |
| Emergency Management Director..... | Jim Bagnall |
| Fire Protection Budget.. | Richard Kendall, Michael McMahon & Mark Tessier |
| Fire Warden..... | Roger Sheehan, Jr. |
| Health Officer..... | Trisha Nash |
| Road Commissioner | Philip Baker |
| Town Administrator..... | Sandi Switzer |
| Tree Warden | Rob Barker |
| Zoning Administrator | Erika Berner |

Planning Commission (3-Year Terms)

| | Term Expires |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Jill Burkett | 2025 |
| Tony Masuck | 2026 |
| Erika Berner, (Chair) | 2027 |
| Kevin Mullin | 2027 |
| Jeff Biasuzzi - Alternate | |

Development Review Board (3-Year Terms)

| | Term Expires |
|---|--------------|
| Lucy Thayer, (Chair) | 2025 |
| Jason Stone | 2025 |
| Dave Ballou | 2026 |
| Jill Burkett | 2026 |
| Elizabeth Blaisdell | 2027 |
| Joyce Barbieri and Jeff Biasuzzi – Alternates | |



*Wallingford Standard available online.
www.wallingfordvt.com/community/newsletter/*

| Conservation Commission (4-Year Terms) | Term Expires |
|---|---------------------|
| Deborah Scranton | 2025 |
| Vacant | 2025 |
| Jane Quigley | 2026 |
| Dennis Duhaime | 2026 |
| Carol Macleod | 2027 |
| Vacant | 2027 |
| Denise Eddy, (Co-Chair) | 2028 |
| Ralph Nimtz, (Co-Chair) | 2028 |

| Energy Committee (3-Year Terms) | Term Expires |
|--|---------------------|
| Robbie Stubbins | 2025 |
| Doug Blodgett | 2025 |
| Jay White | 2025 |
| Tom Fort, (Chair) | 2026 |
| Ralph Nimtz | 2026 |
| John Armstrong | 2027 |
| Katherine MacLauchlan | 2027 |
| Ken Welch | 2027 |

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Rep. to Rutland Co. Solid Waste District | Bruce Dobbins |
| Alt. to Rutland Co. Solid Waste District | Vacant |
| Rep. to Rutland Reg'l Planning Commission | Erika Berner |
| Alt. to Rutland Regional Planning Commission | Vacant |
| Rep. to Rutland Reg'l Transportation Council | Bruce Dobbins |
| Alt. to Rutland Reg'l Transportation Council | Vacant |

Justices of the Peace (Elected, Terms Expire 2025)

Nan Dubin, Maureen Duchesne, Sandra Eddy, Gary Fredette, Kate Goetz, Curtis Lidstone, Tony Petrossi, Wendy Savery, Stanley Seward, and Ken Welch

Recreation (Appointed, Three-Year Terms)

David Cornwell, Brian Ferguson, Sandra Hochberg, Mark Noble, and Shannon Pytlik (Chair)

Wallingford Day Committee

Monica DeLorme, Michael Luzader, Barbara Boucher, Naomi Bombardier-Wilson, Todd Galiano, Heather Johnson (Chair)

Shade Tree Preservation Committee (Appointed, One-Year Terms)

Rob Barker (Chair), Anne Awad, Jane Quigley, Bill Scranton, and Debbie Scranton

Town of Wallingford Annual Meeting Warning March 3, 2025

The legal voters of the Town of Wallingford are hereby Warned to gather for an Informational Meeting on Monday, March 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wallingford Elementary School to review Town Meeting articles. The polls will be open Tuesday, March 4, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Wallingford Town Hall for the purpose of voting all articles by Australian ballot:

ARTICLE I. To elect all officers as required by law: **two Selectboard members**, one for a two-year term and one for a three-year term; **two Auditors**, one for a three-year term and one to complete two years of a three-year term; **two Trustees of Public Funds** one for a three-year term and one to complete two years of a three-year term; **a Delinquent Tax Collector** for a three-year term; **a Town Moderator** for a one-year term; and **a School Board Director** for a three-year term with the Mill River Unified Union School District.

ARTICLE II. Shall the Town vote to have scholarships provided under Title 16 VSA, Section 2535, the same to be applied for on or before April 28, 2025 at the Mill River Unified Union School District Office?

ARTICLE III. Shall the Town vote to have one-half (1/2) of the fiscal year 2026 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) property taxes and fire protection taxes paid to the Town Treasurer on or before October 20, 2025 at 4:30 P.M. and the remaining one-half of the fiscal year 2026 property taxes and fire protection taxes paid to the Town Treasurer on or before April 20, 2026 at 4:30 P.M.? Payments are physically due in the Town Office; post-marked dates WILL NOT be accepted.

ARTICLE IV. Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,489,669 for the General Operation of the Town, with an amount not to exceed \$1,081,721 to be raised in Property Taxes for fiscal year 2026?

ARTICLE V. Shall the Town establish a reserve fund through donations to be called the Wallingford Day Reserve Fund to be used only for expenses for Wallingford Day purposes in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

ARTICLE VI. Shall the Town establish a reserve fund through donations and advertisement revenue to be called the Wallingford Standard Newsletter Fund to be used for expenses associated with the monthly newsletter in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

ARTICLE VII. Shall the Town establish a reserve fund through donations to be called the Boy With the Boot Fund to be used for expenses associated with the repair/restoration/maintenance/replication of the statue in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

ARTICLE VIII. To conduct such other business (non-binding, advisory only) as may properly come before the meeting.

Wallingford Selectboard, Kathy Luzader (Chair), Rob Barker, Carolyn Behrendt, Justin Jankus and Mark Tessier

The legal voters of the Town of Wallingford, Vermont are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting shall be as provided in Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated and 17 V.S.A § 2642(b)

Auditor's Report

We, the undersigned auditors for the Town of Wallingford, have examined the accounts and records for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. This audit included a review of bank accounts, statements, selected accounts payable, financial statements, delinquent tax collection records, and payroll records. We are of the opinion, after having conducted this audit, to the best of our knowledge and belief, that the reports accurately represent the financial status of the Town of Wallingford for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Jim Bagnall, Chelsea LaRock, and Patricia Pranger, Auditors



Fox catching a nap at Stone Meadow. Photo by Ralph Nimtz



Many local residents and public officials participate in our local Front Porch Forum (FPF). FPF is a Vermont-based online service that helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting local online conversations in every town in the state. To read more about missing pets, wildlife sightings, break-ins, road conditions, local events, recommendations, helping neighbors in need and more, sign up (free of charge) at FrontPorchForum.com.

Town Clerk & Treasurer Report

This office offers free notary service, vehicle/snowmobile registration renewals, dog registrations, hunting and fishing licenses, civil marriage licenses, liquor licenses, copying, transfer station cards, Green Mountain passports, and land postings. We also generate property tax bills and collect payments, run the food shelf, provide certified copies of vital records and publish the monthly newsletter. This is in addition to being the repository of all town records, including deeds, mortgages, vital records, meeting minutes, and election results.

I am proud to announce that all of our land records have been digitized and are now available online. This project would not have been possible without the funding that was provided through the American Rescue Plan Act.

We were very busy with elections during 2024-Town Meeting and the Presidential Primary in March, the Vermont Primary in August, and the General and Presidential election in November. We appreciate the many volunteers who enjoy helping at the elections.

All dogs, age six months and older, must be registered annually by April 1st. A valid rabies certificate must be submitted if it is not already on file. A rabies clinic will be held in March.

Town news and updates are posted on the Town's website (www.wallingfordvt.com) and Front Porch Forum (get signed up today).

Julie Sharon, Town Clerk and Treasurer



Wallingford Day fireworks. Photo by Heather Johnson.

| Revenues | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4501 · Green Mtn National Forest PILT | 27,500.00 | 31,587.00 | 27,500.00 | 31,500.00 |
| 4502 · Highway State Aid | 85,750.00 | 88,329.54 | 88,325.00 | 88,325.00 |
| 4503 · Ordinance Fines | 10,000.00 | 9,803.05 | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 |
| 4504 · Town Share RR Taxes | 1,050.00 | 1,184.81 | 1,050.00 | 1,200.00 |
| 4505 · Office Rent | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 4506 · Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals | 125.00 | 105.00 | 120.00 | 30.00 |
| 4510 · Dog Licenses | 5,300.00 | 6,003.00 | 5,300.00 | 7,000.00 |
| 4511 · Liquor & Cannabis Licenses | 750.00 | 510.00 | 750.00 | 580.00 |
| 4512 · Civil Marriage Licenses | 700.00 | 1,280.00 | 800.00 | 800.00 |
| 4513 · Zoning Permits | 4,000.00 | 4,808.00 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 4514 · Transfer Station Fees | 40,000.00 | 41,916.00 | 40,000.00 | 41,000.00 |
| 4515 · Scrap Metal/Recycling | 2,000.00 | 3,584.85 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 4516 · Hunting/Fishing Licenses | 25.00 | 71.25 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| 4517 · Recording Fees | 19,000.00 | 10,155.00 | 15,000.00 | 15,000.00 |
| 4518 · Records Restoration Fees | 5,000.00 | 5,585.10 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 4519 · Copy Fees | 2,800.00 | 2,324.75 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 4520 · 8% Penalty Delinquent Taxes | 4,800.00 | 10,623.08 | 5,500.00 | 6,000.00 |
| 4521 · 1% Interest on Past Due Taxes | 10,000.00 | 15,716.15 | 9,000.00 | 9,000.00 |
| 4522 · Interest Earned on Bank Accounts | 300.00 | 10,019.38 | 3,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| 4523 · Current Property Taxes | 1,051,133.39 | 849,260.22 | 1,080,388.00 | 1,081,721.00 |
| 4524 · Previous Yr's Carry Forward Balance | 0.00 | 78,221.47 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4526 · Delinquent Property Taxes | 60,000.00 | 132,787.88 | 50,000.00 | 75,000.00 |
| 4527 · Fernfield Farms Income | 7,156.61 | 7,156.61 | 8,782.00 | 3,144.00 |
| 4528 · Ralph Stafford Scholarship | 5,155.24 | 2,577.62 | 6,024.00 | 7,189.00 |
| 4530 · Overweight Permits | 250.00 | 310.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 4533 · Green Mountain Passports | 50.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| 4534 · Grants Awarded | 0.00 | 100,314.38 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4540 · Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 5,935.33 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4541 · FEMA/State Reimbursements | 0.00 | 38,275.23 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4543 · Land Use Reimbursement | 38,000.00 | 38,026.00 | 38,000.00 | 41,000.00 |
| 4545 · Summer Recreation Program | 7,000.00 | 7,315.00 | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 |
| 4546 · Cell Antenna Lease Payments | 20,250.00 | 20,291.49 | 20,850.00 | 21,500.00 |
| 4547 · Elfin Lake Gate Income | 7,500.00 | 6,321.00 | 6,500.00 | 6,500.00 |
| 4548 · Elfin Lake Concession Income | 2,200.00 | 3,055.00 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 4550 · Donations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4553 · Communications Group Income | 5,000.00 | 5,234.50 | 5,500.00 | 5,500.00 |
| 4554 · Wallingford Day | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 4557 · Wallingford Asset Fund | 0.00 | 81,386.40 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4558 · ANR PILT | 0.00 | 2,149.59 | 2,150.00 | 4,300.00 |
| Total REVENUES | 1,426,795.24 | 1,629,263.68 | 1,450,419.00 | 1,489,669.00 |

| Administration | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5000 · Auditor Stipends | 150.00 | 50.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 5001 · Selectboard Stipends | 7,600.00 | 7,600.00 | 7,600.00 | 7,600.00 |
| 5002 · Assessor | | | | |
| 5002-A · Assessor Clerk Salary | 1,500.00 | 531.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| 5002-B · Assessor Expenses | 7,250.00 | 7,003.56 | 7,250.00 | 7,500.00 |
| 5002-C · Property Tax Maps | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 5002-F · Reappraisal Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,800.00 | 6,100.00 |
| 5002-G · Assessor Contract | 18,400.00 | 10,925.00 | 19,200.00 | 19,200.00 |
| Total 5002 · Assessor Expenses | 29,150.00 | 20,459.56 | 32,750.00 | 36,300.00 |
| 5003 · Town Administrator Salary | 51,600.00 | 54,130.50 | 53,150.00 | 54,750.00 |
| 5004 · Zoning | | | | |
| 5004 · Zoning Administrator Salary | 6,250.00 | 5,465.07 | 6,250.00 | 6,500.00 |
| 5004-A · Zoning Expenses | 300.00 | 180.04 | 300.00 | 400.00 |
| Total 5004 · Zoning | 6,550.00 | 5,645.11 | 6,550.00 | 6,900.00 |
| 5005 · Town Clerk & Treasurer Salary | 56,175.00 | 56,129.84 | 57,860.00 | 60,175.00 |
| 5006 · Road Crew Salaries | 163,250.00 | 161,801.78 | 168,135.00 | 175,000.00 |
| 5007 · Road Crew Overtime Salaries | 15,750.00 | 18,826.96 | 16,460.00 | 17,200.00 |
| 5008 · Transfer Station Salaries | 28,900.00 | 25,999.65 | 27,400.00 | 30,150.00 |
| 5009 · Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer Salary | 19,800.00 | 18,751.50 | 21,225.00 | 22,075.00 |
| 5010 · Road Commissioner Stipend | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 5011 · Tree Warden Stipend | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5012 · Delinquent Tax Collector Salary 8% | 4,800.00 | 10,622.86 | 5,500.00 | 6,000.00 |
| 5023 · Employer - Medicare, SS & Child Care | 28,875.00 | 29,314.37 | 30,975.00 | 32,250.00 |
| 5024 · Employer's Retirement Fund Match | 19,350.00 | 19,736.50 | 20,700.00 | 21,500.00 |
| 5025 · Unemployment, PACIF, Health, Etc. | 104,000.00 | 109,171.00 | 114,615.00 | 107,550.00 |
| 5027 · Grant Expenses | 0.00 | 89,034.64 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5041 · Health Officer Stipend | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Total ADMINISTRATION | 538,450.00 | 629,774.27 | 565,720.00 | 580,250.00 |

| Town Government Operations | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5112 · Elections & Town Meeting | 1,300.00 | 1,009.47 | 1,300.00 | 1,100.00 |
| 5113 · Town Report | 3,150.00 | 2,462.03 | 3,150.00 | 3,150.00 |
| 5114 · Office Expenses | 13,000.00 | 13,689.21 | 14,000.00 | 15,000.00 |
| 5114-A · Del. Collector Office Expenses | 375.00 | 16.98 | 425.00 | 475.00 |
| 5115 · Legal Expenses | 3,000.00 | 1,777.50 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 5116 · Planning & Zoning Notices | 750.00 | 529.20 | 750.00 | 750.00 |
| 5117 · Ads & Warnings | 750.00 | 200.51 | 750.00 | 750.00 |
| 5118 · Seminars/Meetings & Mileage | 500.00 | 377.50 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 5122 · Records Restoration | 5,000.00 | 5,585.10 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 5123 · Memorial Day Expenses | 300.00 | 247.95 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 5125 · VLCT Dues | 3,900.00 | 3,905.00 | 4,025.00 | 4,115.00 |
| 5126 · Rutland Regional Planning Comm. Dues | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 2,130.00 |
| 5130 · Workplace Safety Expenses | 250.00 | 0.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5133 · Dog License Fees to State of VT | 2,500.00 | 2,815.00 | 2,500.00 | 3,500.00 |
| 5134 · Civil Marriage License Fees to State of VT | 500.00 | 520.00 | 650.00 | 650.00 |
| 5135 · Wallingford Flag Expenses | 150.00 | 150.00 | 150.00 | 250.00 |
| 5150 · Transfer Station Operating Expenses | 110,000.00 | 98,484.91 | 100,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 5151 · Town Hall Operating Expenses | 19,000.00 | 15,926.87 | 20,000.00 | 21,500.00 |
| 5155 · Rutland County Tax | 23,775.00 | 19,004.96 | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| 5157 · Conservation Commission | 2,500.00 | 2,450.73 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 5158 · Energy Committee | 500.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 5160 · Communications Group Expenses | 4,800.00 | 5,109.90 | 5,500.00 | 5,500.00 |
| 5161 · Wallingford Asset Fund Expenses | 0.00 | 81,386.40 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total TOWN GOVERNMENT OPS | 197,000.00 | 257,149.22 | 185,250.00 | 189,920.00 |

| Appropriations | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5202 · Ralph Stafford Scholarship | 5,155.24 | 2,577.62 | 6,024.00 | 7,189.00 |
| 5203 · VNA & Hospice | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5204 · So. Western Vt. Council on Aging | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5205 · Gilbert Hart Library | 40,000.00 | 40,000.00 | 42,000.00 | 47,000.00 |
| 5206 · Rutland County Humane Society | 300.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 5207 · Rutland Mental Health Services | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5208 · BROOC | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5209 · RSVP & The Volunteer Center | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5210 · Wallingford Rescue, Inc. | 21,000.00 | 21,000.00 | 23,500.00 | 25,000.00 |
| 5211 · Mt. Holly Rescue Squad | 2,500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5212 · Regional Ambulance Service | 750.00 | 750.00 | 750.00 | 750.00 |
| 5213 · NewStory Center | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5214 · VT Center for Independent Living | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5215 · Vermont Adult Learning | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5216 · VT Association for the Blind | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 |
| 5218 · Green Up Vermont | 150.00 | 150.00 | 150.00 | 150.00 |
| 5219 · Rutland Nat'l Resource Conservation | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5220 · Rutland County Parent Child Center | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5222 · Irving Smith Scholarship | 1,000.00 | 500.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| 5227 · Advocacy Resources Community | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5228 · The Preservation Trust of Vermont | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5231 · American Red Cross | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 |
| 5232 · VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5233 · Child First Advocacy | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5235 · Vermont Family Network | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5237 · VT Council on Rural Development | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5238 · Rutland County Restorative Justice Ctr. | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5239 · NeighborWorks of Western Vermont | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 5240 · Nelson Tift Scholarship | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Total APPROPRIATIONS | 74,145.24 | 68,467.62 | 77,014.00 | 84,579.00 |

| Highway Department | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5301 · Town Garage Operating Expenses | 15,400.00 | 10,425.49 | 15,400.00 | 15,400.00 |
| 5302 · Equipment-Misc. | 3,000.00 | 6,071.94 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 5308 · 2011 Caterpillar Backhoe | 2,500.00 | 1,017.01 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 5310 · Sanders/Plows | 2,500.00 | 2,135.33 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 5314 · Hired Equipment | 12,000.00 | 3,150.00 | 10,000.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 5315 · Diesel Fuel | 34,375.00 | 33,215.23 | 34,375.00 | 34,375.00 |
| 5316 · Gasoline | 1,200.00 | 760.34 | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 |
| 5317 · Tree Service/Landscaping | 4,000.00 | 500.00 | 3,250.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 5318 · Winter Sand | 35,000.00 | 19,430.18 | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 |
| 5319 · Winter Salt | 60,000.00 | 35,926.09 | 45,000.00 | 45,000.00 |
| 5320 · Chloride | 975.00 | 2,160.00 | 975.00 | 975.00 |
| 5321 · Culverts | 9,000.00 | 6,195.20 | 9,000.00 | 9,000.00 |
| 5322 · Oil and Grease | 2,000.00 | 1,182.57 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 5323 · Gravel | 125,000.00 | 121,623.77 | 125,000.00 | 125,000.00 |
| 5324 · Blades, Chains & Shoes | 3,250.00 | 2,301.59 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 5325 · Paving | 75,000.00 | 126,758.08 | 85,000.00 | 95,000.00 |
| 5327 · Traffic Control Devices | 500.00 | 1,106.10 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 5328 · Road Crew Clothing Stipend | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| 5332 · Special Projects | 2,500.00 | 0.00 | 3,500.00 | 3,500.00 |
| 5336 · 2014 Kenworth Truck | 6,500.00 | 7,457.50 | 6,500.00 | 6,500.00 |
| 5337 · 2016 Kenworth Truck | 5,500.00 | 16,259.75 | 6,500.00 | 6,500.00 |
| 5338 · 2006 Chevrolet Truck | 500.00 | 535.23 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 5339 · Municipal Roads General Permit | 1,350.00 | 1,350.00 | 1,350.00 | 1,350.00 |
| 5340 · 2018 Dodge Ram Truck | 1,500.00 | 8,894.93 | 1,500.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 5342 · 2019 Milton CAT Loader | 21,325.00 | 21,921.29 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| 5343 · 2020 Milton CAT Excavator | 12,450.00 | 12,949.02 | 13,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| 5345 · 2014 International Truck | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5346 · 2023 CAT Grader (2 of 5) | 3,000.00 | 2,148.36 | 28,000.00 | 23,760.00 |
| 5348 · FEMA July 2023 Storm | 0.00 | 42,619.55 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT | 443,825.00 | 489,594.55 | 440,550.00 | 434,560.00 |

| Public Safety | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5402 · First Constable Stipend | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 5406 · Special Officer Contract | 57,900.00 | 45,885.89 | 63,700.00 | 79,000.00 |
| 5408 · Dog Warden Stipend | 1,250.00 | 1,250.00 | 1,260.00 | 1,260.00 |
| 5410 · Dog Warden Expenses | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| Total PUBLIC SAFETY | 59,450.00 | 47,435.89 | 65,260.00 | 80,560.00 |

| Capital | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5712 · Bridge Reserve Fund | 40,000.00 | 40,000.00 | 40,000.00 | 40,000.00 |
| 5713 · Building Reserve Fund | 20,250.00 | 20,240.88 | 20,850.00 | 21,500.00 |
| 5716 · Highway Reserve Fund | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| Total CAPITAL | 80,250.00 | 80,240.88 | 80,850.00 | 81,500.00 |

| Recreation | Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Actual Jul 23 - Jun 24 | Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25 | Budget Jul 25 - Jun 26 |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5800 · Recreation Expenses | | | | |
| 5801 · Elfin Lake Salaries | 10,400.00 | 10,162.65 | 9,750.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 5803 · Telephone | 325.00 | 256.97 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 5804 · Electric | 450.00 | 638.00 | 550.00 | 1,100.00 |
| 5805 · Maintenance-Lake & Recreation Field | 2,500.00 | 2,616.82 | 3,500.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 5806 · Portable Restroom | 1,375.00 | 1,555.00 | 1,500.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 5808 · Lake Supplies | 525.00 | 653.74 | 525.00 | 500.00 |
| 5810 · Lake Concessions | 1,300.00 | 1,348.30 | 1,400.00 | 1,400.00 |
| 5812 · Mowing | 3,000.00 | 2,815.00 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 5814 · Youth Sports | 500.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 5817 · Recreation Programs | 750.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Total 5800 · Recreation Expenses | 21,125.00 | 20,046.48 | 21,525.00 | 23,300.00 |
| 5900 · Summer Recreation Program | | | | |
| 5901 · Summer Recreation Salaries | 8,600.00 | 9,122.20 | 10,000.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 5902 · Field Trips | 1,800.00 | 2,032.03 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 5903 · Summer Recreation Expenses | 400.00 | 723.58 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Total 5900 · Summer Recreation Program | 10,800.00 | 11,877.81 | 12,500.00 | 12,500.00 |
| 5910 · Wallingford Day | | | | |
| 5910 · Wallingford Day | 1,750.00 | 4,750.00 | 1,750.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Total 5910 · Wallingford Day | 1,750.00 | 4,750.00 | 1,750.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Total RECREATION | 33,675.00 | 36,674.29 | 35,775.00 | 38,300.00 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total EXPENSES | 1,426,795.24 | 1,609,336.72 | 1,450,419.00 | 1,489,669.00 |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

Annual Informational Meeting Minutes

Wallingford Selectboard

March 4, 2024

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, Kathy Luzader, Justin Jankus, Carolyn Behrendt, and Mark Tessier.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Rodney Ward, Rob Carey, Rob Barker, Barbara Boucher, Carol Tashie, Tammy Heffernan (moderator), Gary Fredette, Sandra Hochberg, Eric Davenport, Art Peterson, Jill Burkett and Jane Duda. There were about 35 people in attendance. Only Town officials and those who addressed the Board were listed as present. Selectboard Chair Bruce Duchesne called the meeting to order at the Wallingford Elementary School at 7:00 p.m. Moderator Tammy Heffernan welcomed everyone to the annual Informational Meeting. B. Duchesne introduced Board members. Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Heffernan asked if anyone new to Town Meeting would like to introduce themselves. There was no response.

Article I. Ms. Heffernan read Article I related to elective offices. Rodney Ward asked about the school director races and Ms. Heffernan responded by listing the elective posts.

Article II. Ms. Heffernan read Article II related to scholarships. No public input.

Article III. Ms. Heffernan read Article III regarding property tax payments. No public input.

Article IV. Ms. Heffernan read Article IV as follows: Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,450,419 for the General Operation of the Town, with an amount not to exceed \$1,080,388 to be raised in Property Taxes for fiscal year 2025? B. Duchesne provided an overview of anticipated expenses for the coming fiscal year as follows:

On page 10 of your annual Town Report is the Administration budget of \$565,720, which is up \$27,270. Most line items were level funded. We budgeted across the board 3 percent raises for employees with Social Security cost of living adjustment (COLA) set at 3.2 percent. The assessor expense total on line 5002 is up mainly due to adding \$2,800 for an eventual reappraisal. The Town has \$91,777 in a reappraisal fund and will budget small amounts over the next few years to pay the full cost. Line 5025 encompasses all of the various municipal insurances including liability, workers compensation, health etc. That line is up about \$10,000.

Page 11 in your annual report is the Town Government Operations budget of \$185,100, which dropped by \$11,750. Transfer station costs are projected to go down \$10,000 from \$110,000 to \$100,000 due to all of the great work by our employees – Art Nemeth and Jerry Reynolds – along with Conservation Commission efforts to collect plastics and keep them out of the solid waste stream as well as all of the recycling by Wallingford citizens.

Page 12 Appropriations is up just \$2,869 to \$77,164. Nearly every line was level funded with a couple of exceptions. Gilbert Hart Library requested an additional \$2,000 for a total of \$42,000 on line 5205; and Wallingford Rescue requested an additional \$2,500 for a total of \$23,500 on line 5210. Mt. Holly Rescue line 5211 was \$2,500 last year and they have closed down operations so that \$2,500 was shifted to Wallingford Rescue since they will cover that region.

Page 13 Highway Department went down by \$3,275. Most lines were level funded. Winter salt line 5319 was dropped from \$60,000 to \$45,000 based on prior year's spending on salt; paving line 5325 was increased from \$75,000 to \$85,000 to keep up with the roads; the 2019 Milton CAT line 5342 dropped from \$21,325 to \$1,000 just for maintenance as that piece of equipment has been paid off; and we budgeted \$28,000 for the new CAT grader on line 5346. Thanks to the Revenue Augmentation Trust and voter approval to use a portion of trust funds for a Capital purchase, we put \$160,000 toward the grader purchase substantially lowering the annual payments over the next 5 years.

Page 14 features the Public Safety budget is up \$5,810 due to increased hourly rates set by the Rutland County Sheriff Department for the 24 hours per week coverage. The Capital budget is nearly level funded at

\$80,850. And the Recreation budget is up just \$2,100. He said the Total Fiscal Year 2025 budget of \$1,450,419 is up just \$23,624 or 1.66 percent. Jill Burkett asked whether the Town purchased a new grader and what happened to the old one. J. Jankus confirmed the new grader had been purchased and the old one was traded in to reduce the purchase price.

Rob Barker asked which roads would be paved this summer. B. Duchesne said the road foreman and road commissioner had not made those decisions yet.

Sandra Hochberg asked about rumors that Ludlow Rescue would take over coverage of East Wallingford now that Mt. Holly Rescue closed. Wallingford Rescue member Eric Davenport said Wallingford Rescue would provide coverage for East Wallingford.

Article V. Ms. Heffernan read Article V related to the establishment of a Wallingford Asset Fund. B. Duchesne explained the federal government required ARPA funds to be obligated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. He said following VLCT's advice, the Town moved the ARPA funds into the general account for municipal operations. The Town, he said, could then report funds obligated and spent ahead of federal deadlines. The onetime surplus created by the transfer of ARPA funds into the general account would be moved to the Wallingford Asset fund at the end of this fiscal year with voter approval, he said. Those funds would be used for ARPA projects, including sidewalk repairs and the purchase of a vehicle for the East Wallingford Fire Department. He noted some of those projects would not be completed by the federal deadline risking the money. The Town wanted to protect those funds and use it for ARPA projects, he explained.

Jane Duda asked if the funds could be used for other purposes. B. Duchesne responded in the affirmative, but he added the intention was to spend the funds on ARPA projects. Gary Fredette asked about passage and rejection of Article V. B. Duchesne said the money would be used for special projects if the article passed and to reduce taxes for the next budget if it failed. Rob Carey asked why the Town was involved with sidewalks. B. Duchesne said Fire District #1's charter required them to plow sidewalks but not maintain them. Rob Barker asked if the Board discussed placing funds in an interest bearing account and Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon confirmed funds had been in an interest bearing account. J. Jankus said the Board's intent with Articles V and VI were to make sure we have funds available for special projects beyond the federal deadlines. K. Luzader said this topic was detailed in three newsletters mailed to residents and was also on the municipal website, in the annual Town Report and posted on Front Porch Forum.

Ms. Heffernan introduced Rep. Art Peterson who gave an overview of his voting record and how bills become law. A number of residents – Jane Duda, Barbara Boucher, Carol Tashie and Justin Jankus posed questions or offered input.

Article VI. Ms. Heffernan read Article VI regarding the fiscal year 2024 surplus to go into the Wallingford Asset Fund. B. Duchesne said the article amount of \$466,789.51 was the ARPA total transferred to the general account the Town wanted to reserve for special projects.

Article VII. Ms. Heffernan read Article VII regarding Wallingford Rescue, Inc. tax stabilization. No public input. Eric Davenport said townspeople have been approving the tax stabilization for over 14 years.

Article VIII. Ms. Heffernan read Article VIII related to Other Business. Jill Burkett asked about a tax credit for unspent education funds when the schools were closed due to COVID. B. Duchesne said that was a good question for school directors.

By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m. Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator
APPROVED THIS 1st Day of April, 2024

Wallingford Seniors

A program intended to keep Seniors active and healthy is the "Bone Builders" program held at Gilbert Hart Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Selectboard Report

The Wallingford Selectboard congratulates Rob Barker on his election to the Board and extends our sincerest thanks to Bruce Duchesne for his leadership, service and dedication.

The Board hired Lawrie Roundy to oversee the popular four-week Summer Recreation Program with the assistance of Senior Counselors Olive Skiathitis and Max Roundy and lifeguard Ari Lefebvre. Part time employees – Autumn Farmer, Kate Ahearn, Gabrielle Forrest, Tori Behrendt, Imogene Burch and Max Roundy – did a great job running Elfin Lake concessions.

The Town worked hard to secure a number of grants this year including a \$5,000 Center for Tech and Civic Life Grant to purchase a laptop computer and Town Hall security system; \$15,000 in Grants in Aid funds to upgrade hydrologically connected road segments to meet state standards; an \$8,096 Better Roads grant for a state required Road Erosion Inventory; and a \$60,000 Watersheds United of Vermont grant for erosion reduction measures at the Elfin Lake public beach. Pending grant applications include a \$21,800 Better Roads grant for a culvert replacement project on Senecal Way and a \$40,000 Land and Water Conservation grant to upgrade the Elfin Lake concession stand.

The Highway Dept. tackled a number of projects including final repairs to all roads/bridges/culverts damaged in the July 2023 flood event. They completed ditching and culvert replacement work on Hartsboro and Dugway Roads and installed flashing radar signs in the village and on Route 140W.

Town Hall exterior trim was scraped, painted and caulked last summer and energy efficient heat pumps were installed on the main floor of the building. Board members are exploring solar net metering options for Town properties in order to conserve energy and reduce costs. Special thanks to the Energy Committee for their perseverance on the energy projects. Our beloved Boy With the Boot statue was vandalized last summer and board members have worked diligently to select someone with the knowledge and capabilities to restore it.

The Selectboard adopted amended Zoning Regulations, a Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement and a Code of Ethics Investigation and Enforcement Ordinance. The Board approved creation of two new committees – Shade Tree Preservation Committee to work on tree grants, a tree inventory and the selection of sites for new plantings; and the Recreation Facility Subcommittee to identify municipal facilities' needs, propose solutions, and explore funding options.

The Board worked diligently on the Fiscal Year 2026 budget of \$1,489,669 to balance the needs of the municipality with the pocketbooks of community members. The total increase was just \$39,250 or 2.63 percent and the amount to be raised in taxes is up only slightly at \$1,333 or .12 percent. We have reduced and/or level funded line items wherever possible.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to the municipal employees and the many volunteers who serve on boards, committees and commissions. Our wonderful community is a reflection of your hard work and dedication and your efforts do not go unnoticed. Please remember, the Selectboard meets twice monthly and appreciates your input. We are here to serve you.

Kathy Luzader (Chair), Rob Barker, Carolyn Behrendt, Justin Jankus, Mark Tessier (Vice Chair), Wallingford Selectboard

Enhanced 911

2024 has been another good year for the committee. A big thank you to everyone at Town Hall for all the support you all have given us this past year. We have added some new numbers and have changed a few too. As always, we would like to remind everyone to please have your locatable address visibly displayed with 3-inch reflective numbers so the Emergency Services can readily locate your address from the road. Remember, this could help save lives!

If you are building on a new lot or changing the use of a current lot, please notify the personnel at the Town Offices OR you notify us, and we would be happy to assist you in assigning your locatable address. And as always, we would like to remind you that your parcel number is NOT your E911 locatable address.

If you have any questions or would like to verify your correct E-911 number, please contact us at telephone: 802-446-200. Again, thank you to all the townspeople for your continued support and cooperation.

Eric and Dale Davenport, E-911 Coordinators

Fund Balances (as of 12/31/24)

| | Balance | 2024 Interest Earned |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Bridge Reserve Fund | \$ 344,487.58 | \$ 7,057.67 |
| Building Reserve Fund | \$ 128,002.65 | \$ 3,307.29 |
| Cemetery Fund | \$ 5,855.75 | \$ 14.77 |
| Conservation Commission | \$ 2,029.76 | \$ 5.07 |
| Highway Reserve Fund | \$ 78,505.15 | \$ 1,537.84 |
| Reappraisal Reserve Fund | \$ 104,544.23 | \$ 2,702.71 |
| Wallingford Asset Fund | \$ 390,385.28 | \$ 4,982.17 |



Visit us on the Web <http://www.wallingfordvt.com>

.....and on Facebook – Town of Wallingford, VT

Transfer Station

The Wallingford Transfer Station provides valuable services to residents, including Zero Sort recycling, the collection of electronic waste, yard waste, book recycling, textile recycling, and solid waste collection. Reminder, only recyclables go in the Zero Sort bin and NOT garbage. Food is banned from the solid waste stream and must be composted or placed in the food scrap bin. Free collection of household hazardous waste will take place on May 17th, July 19th and September 20th in 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. each day.

Thru a partnership with the Trex Plastic Film Recycling program, the Transfer Station collects: grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, zip-lock and other re-closable food storage bags, cereal bags, case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags, and produce bags. In 2024, residents recycled 5,288 pounds of plastics that would have otherwise ended up in the solid waste stream. As with all recycling, the materials should be relatively CLEAN. These items must go in specially marked bins and NOT mixed with Zero Sort. Trex does NOT accept pet food bags, mesh/net produce bags, pool covers, frozen food bags, candy bar wrappers, chip bags, six pack rings, and vinyl shower curtains (see Transfer Station employees if you have questions).

Property owners are required to display municipal stickers on their motor vehicles in order to access the Transfer Station. Stickers are available for purchase at Town Hall at a cost of \$3 each. Residents will receive free 50-punch and 20-punch cards with their property tax bills in August. Punch cards may only be used for bagged garbage. Punch cards may be purchased at Town Hall or the Transfer Station. For those interested in composting, Rutland County Solid Waste District is selling residential compost bins. For more information, call RCSWD at (802) 775-7209. As always, residents are encouraged to recycle, reduce and reuse. Wallingford Transfer Station hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Assessor Report

Early in the fall of 2023, NEMRC started the reappraisal process, collecting data for the 2026 reappraisal. Property owners with dwellings will receive a postcard a week or so before a NEMRC inspector knocks on the door. As time goes on more NEMRC personnel will be involved with property inspections. Although the reappraisal is due for completion on April 1, 2026, we will most likely be done earlier in the spring. Property owners will receive a booklet showing all properties in Town along with the old and new assessments. This will be the official Change Of Value notice with instructions on how to address the value should the owner question it.

While more recent sales have somewhat moderated, the selling prices are still well above the present assessments that were set in 2018. Most likely with the lowering of interest rates, asking prices will increase. These sales cause the statistical numbers used by the State for the Equalized Education Tax (about 80% of your tax bill) to continue to erode. Last year's Common Level of Assessment was 76.86%, presently it is 67.24%. When this number is under 85% the State requires a reappraisal. The Coefficient of Dispersion was 22.94% and is now 24.17%. When this number is greater than 20% the State orders a reappraisal. These numbers are basically the relationship of assessed value of properties compared to the sale price. The State uses sales from the last 3 years to determine the rates used in the present year. We expect these numbers will continue to erode in the next year. Building permits are numerous with everything from lot line adjustments and subdivisions to new outbuildings and dwellings.

John Tiffany, Assessor

Wallingford Historical Society

The Wallingford Historical Society contributed a few new topics of interest in 2024.

In July, Elaine Warzocha and I worked with Heather Johnson to produce a walking tour of the village for Wallingford Day. Heather did an exceptional job. Elaine and Fran McNulty womened the museum that day.

In May, Nora Rubinstein from Middletown Springs gave a talk about Samuel Morrison and the spinning wheels he made in South Wallingford during the 1840s.

In November, we had a well-received talk about the history of the telephone company in town. Rita Brooks and Dick Kendall were our main speakers and audience participation was tremendous. If you wish to see this talk go to PEG TV and click on www.pegtv.com/various-topics-and-special-events/ We cannot thank PEG TV enough for the service they provide to the community.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. Keep those questions coming.

Joyce Barbieri, President

Gilbert Hart Library

The year at the Gilbert Hart Library began with a very successful production of *Murder by the Book*, a play offered by Canadian authors Laura Teasdale and Louise Penny for libraries to use as a fundraising opportunity. Three sold-out performances featured a local cast of volunteers on stage at the Wallingford Town Hall Theatre, and the result was a win for the library and our community. Susan Gilbert completed the required course of study and received her Certificate of Public Librarianship from the State of VT.

We continue to offer local children under the age of 5 a chance to receive a free book in the mail each month through the library's participation in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Most recently, the library has begun offering the TV streaming service Biblio+ to patrons in addition to eBook and audiobook selections through Green Mountain Library Consortium and The Palace Project. Book discussions included the titles *A Stranger in the Kingdom*, *The Alice Network*, and *The Maid*. The library hosted Wallingford Day programming including a visit from The Mint Makerspace with DIY Hula Hoops. The Book Path and Little Free Library are continued additions to library offerings around the community. Bone Builders exercise group meets downstairs in the Klock Room at the library as well as various other organizations and groups throughout the year. We are looking forward to hosting yet another VT READS event early in 2025.

Wendy Savery, Librarian and Michael Luzader, Chair of GHL Board of Trustees



Gilbert Hart Library Association Budget (2024-25)

Operating Income:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Town Funding | \$47,000 |
| Memberships | \$8,000 |
| Interest & Dividends | \$10,000 |
| Memorials/Honorariums | \$1,000 |
| Fundraising | \$2,000 |
| Donations | \$2,500 |
| Library Cards | \$50 |
| Petty Cash Fees/Donations | \$650 |
| Friends | \$2,500 |
| Grants | \$1,000 |
| Total Revenue: | \$74,700 |

Operating Expenses:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Salaries | \$40,000 |
| Bookkeeper | \$1,600 |
| Payroll Taxes | \$3,500 |
| Insurance (workers comp) | \$625 |
| Insurance-Building | \$2,000 |
| Electricity | \$2,100 |
| Fuel Oil | \$3,000 |
| Telephone | \$700 |
| Equipment Expense | \$1,000 |
| Maintenance – Bldg | \$10,000 |
| Maintenance – Grounds | \$2,000 |
| Postage/Courier | \$1,000 |
| Library Supplies | \$1,000 |
| Printing/fund-raising | \$600 |
| Technical Support | \$250 |
| Workshops/Dues/Mileage | \$300 |
| Total Operating Expense | \$69,675 |

Library Acquisition

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Books | \$6,000 |
| Periodicals | \$250 |
| Audios, Videos | \$700 |
| Programming | \$1,400 |
| Computer Software | \$0 |
| Automation | \$1,400 |

Total Resource Expense \$9,750

Total Expenses **\$79,425**

Income/(Loss) **- \$4,725**

Wallingford Thrift

Wallingford Community Thrift Shop is all about Neighbors helping Neighbors. This group of volunteers is dedicated to supporting and helping residents in Wallingford and surrounding communities.

Since our last reporting, we have helped eleven families directly with either household goods, clothing, gift cards or cash donations for expenses due to medical or other disastrous events. In addition, the shop made donations (cash, gift cards, clothing/linens or gift certificates) to the Rutland Humane Society, The Brick Church "Yellow Box" project, BROCC Share Heat, Wallingford Standard Newsletter, Rutland Welcomes, Bridge to Rutland, Wallingford Summer Camp scholarship, Mill River Union Project Graduation and Honor Society Food Baskets, Vermont Foodbank, United Way's "Happy Feet" program, Wallingford Elementary School (for winter clothing), Baptist Church for roof repair, Companions in Wholeness, Dismas House, Tinmouth ski program winter clothing, various theater groups in the area, Open Door Mission, MINT camp scholarships, UVM Bridge to Health, supplies for Operation Dolls, Vermont Community Foundation for flood relief, Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund (Tinmouth elves), St. Patrick's Bazaar, WSYB Christmas Fund, Rutland County Health Partners (free health care), NewStory Center, and Baby2Baby (free baby supplies) as well as food gift cards for Town officials to distribute.

We also supplied a small food shelf outside the front of the shop. We call it "The Giving Box". Please feel free to take whatever food or supplies you need. In the winter, we move items that can freeze onto a shelf inside the shop. We just ask that you limit yourself to items you need to get by and save some food for other neighbors. We could not do this without the support we receive from the community, both from the donations you give us as well as the purchases made. We thank everyone who has made the Wallingford Community Thrift Shop a success. Located at 218 North Main Street in Wallingford, the shop is open Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please call (802) 446-6040. If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity (and have fun), please contact us.

Tree Warden

This year, the Wallingford Shade Tree Preservation Committee was formed and adopted the following Mission Statement: "The Wallingford Shade Tree Preservation Committee works to ensure the many social, economic, environmental, and human health benefits for current and future residents through the planting, protection and maintenance of as many trees as possible within the Town of Wallingford on public and private property." An inventory of existing trees and sites suitable for new plantings is being conducted. Emerald Ash Borer has been found in many parts of the state and it is only a matter of time before it shows up here. Although no trees were planted this year, options for a planting project in the coming year are being explored.

Rob Barker, Tree Warden





Stone Meadow bench donated by Heather Cleveland and restored by Road Foreman Steve Lanfear. Photo by Sandi Switzer



Anne Awad, Cyndie Holden, Colin Whitehouse, Linda Arsenault, and Matthew Cadwallader took care of the gardens around the Boy With the Boot fountain this past spring, summer and fall. Photo by Anne Awad.

Recreation Committee

This year has been extremely busy for the Wallingford Recreation Committee. Our work has been a mix of recovery and of expansion. Our goal throughout has been to maintain and grow recreational opportunities for our community.

One of our first priorities was to restore our baseball and softball fields damaged by flooding. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer worked with FEMA to secure funds to make necessary repairs. The Recreation Committee applied for and received an *Arts & Community Spaces: Coming Together After the Floods* grant in the amount of \$4,550 to cover the FEMA local match and offer some new community events and artwork at Meadow Street Park. Committee member Mark Noble spearheaded those efforts, and we hope that all three fields will be available for this spring's baseball, softball, and T-ball seasons. We had a lot of volunteer help from the Rutland County Little League coaches and local parents. The northern field looked great this past season!

We tried to bring our community together by hosting what is intended to be the first of many community movie nights where we showed the classic movie "The Goonies" on a new inflatable screen. We were so impressed with, and thankful for, the community turn out and support for this wonderful event. The Art and Communities spaces grant funded the purchase of the equipment and we had great tech support from David Cornwell and Bjorn Behrendt.

The grant also provided funding for the beautiful mural of Otter Creek on the north side of the park building painted by local artist Macey DeLorme Smith. Brian Ferguson donated his time and expertise to install security systems at both Meadow Street Park and Eflin Lake Beach. We hope the investment will help maintain safe spaces for everyone in the community to enjoy, and cut down on vandalism.

Local recreation enthusiast Arwen Turner of Come Alive Outside coordinated free boating at Elfin Lake. CAO loaned us some great boats and paid for the first half hour of usage for visitors. This arrangement provided many hours of fun boating on Elfin Lake.

Kevin McNally kindly volunteered to scrape and paint the base of the concession stand at the lake and Maureen and Bruce Duchesne volunteered many hours of boat, building and general maintenance.

A Recreation Facilities Committee made up of Recreation, Conservation and Selectboard members applied for and received a \$50,000 grant to implement an erosion control plan at our Elfin Lake public beach. The plan features stormwater mitigation, a boulder retaining wall and native plantings. And we will have a new fishing dock!

The Memorial Day parade was a great success, thanks to the many volunteers, including Constable Robert Cook and Rutland County Sheriff deputies overseeing traffic control.

This year, we purchased two full sized soccer goals thanks to the generous donation in memory of local coach, Ed Lord. The goals are part of a soccer field created in the Meadow Street Park space between the baseball and softball fields. We would like to thank OMYA Corporation for their donation of 250 lbs of chalk to line the fields. These fields have already seen regular use by community youth. We hope to establish several scheduled drop-in or pick-up games of different varieties at our park starting this spring.

Ballroom dancing at Town Hall is yet another activity we helped bring to our community this past fall. Town Hall coordinated the ballroom dancing schedule, as well as a square-dancing class. We are making good use of the beautiful second floor.

A safe, engaging and fun four-week summer camp was offered to Wallingford youth (and families). We are coordinating with Mill River camp directors to make sure our camp works in concert with their offerings to expand and extend options for families in our community for the summer of 2025.

Despite running into setbacks, we have not given up on getting access to drinkable water at the park. This spring, we hope to move forward with the project. We will be hosting a community breakfast to celebrate our new mural, and we hope to offer pick-up soccer for young adults and adults. We look forward to continuing to maintain and upgrade our park facilities and to offer more events, sports, and programs for our community.

David Cornwell, Brian Ferguson, Sandra Hochberg, Mark Noble (Vice Chair), and Shannon Pytlik (Chair), Recreation Committee



Wallingford Day – good food, good friends. Photo by Heather Johnson.



Visit us on the Web <http://www.wallingfordvt.com>

.....and on Facebook – Town of Wallingford, VT



Wallingford Summer Camp Program 2024. Photo by Lawrie Roundy.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission has been in existence for 20 years and has contributed to the transformation of the former gravel pit into what is now Stone Meadow, a park of varied terrain and natural features. We continue to maintain the trails for recreational use year-round, including a multi-use trail and the main beach trail – both of which allow bicycles.

Stone Meadow features our apiary with busy hives producing honey for sale when available at Town Hall. Revenue from sales pay expenses associated with beekeeping. The Gilbert Hart Library maintains an ever-changing Book Path, which makes exploring the trails even more enlightening. There is also a rain garden by Elfin Lake, a canoe launch and new trail along Otter Creek, picnic tables and benches near Waldo Lane's parking area, interpretative signage of local trees, and a pollinator garden installed adjacent to the main trail by the Vermont Mindful Walks group. We continue to see more and more people enjoying Stone Meadow, from walking to cross country skiing. It's a wonderful place for walking dogs, but for the safety and consideration of others, please leash your dog(s) and pick up after them. Sadly, our annual 2024 Cabin Fever Fun Day during February vacation with sledding on the giant hill and hot dogs and s'more offerings was cancelled due to lack of snow. We hope this tradition will be back in coming years. As usual, the commission organized the annual state's Green-Up Day in Town. We worked with the Town on a grant to reduce erosion into Elfin Lake, and we are exploring grant opportunities for the concession facilities to ensure our treasure of a municipal beach will be improved for many years to come. Thanks to our transfer station crew and the participation of so many, the Trex program for plastic bag and film recycling kept 5,250 pounds of otherwise un-recyclable plastics refuse out of the landfill. This number is up noticeably from 4,000 pounds last year. A true success story. We look forward to working on wise environmental choices for the town and seeing you on the trails at Stone Meadow.

Dennis Duhaime, Denise Eddy (Co-Chair), Carol Macleod, Ralph Nimtze (Co-Chair), Jane Quigley, and Debbie Scranton, Conservation Commission

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission worked on the proposed Zoning Regulations and submitted them to the Selectboard for a Public Hearing and their approval. The last Public Hearing was held on 17 June 2024. The proposed Regulations were approved by Australian ballot on 5 November 2024 and that approval was reaffirmed by the Selectboard. The Planning Commission is currently working on a timeline for revising the expiring Wallingford Town Plan (June 2026).

Erika Berner, Planning Commission Chair

Zoning Administrator

A total of 30 permits were issued for the year ending mid-December, which is 11 fewer than last year for the same period. Permits issued: deck/porch 3; signage 1; lot line adjustments 3; new homes 1; Peddler's License 1; home renovations 3; short term rentals 2; storage sheds/barns/garages 13; office/retail/restaurants 3.

Erika Berner, Zoning Administrator

Wallingford Rescue, Inc.

From October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 Wallingford Rescue, Inc. was called out an overwhelming number of times. It was a record amount of 364 times! Last year, Mt. Holly Rescue Squad ceased to operate, so we were asked to take on the responsibility of covering East Wallingford, which we agreed to do. Ludlow has taken the Mt. Holly area closer to their town. We responded to a total of 28 calls in East Wallingford and 41 calls in Tinnmouth. We do get paid by Tinnmouth to cover part of that town. Other calls that Wallingford Rescue responded to included mutual aid assistance in Danby, Clarendon, Fair Haven, Poutney, Mt. Holly, and Rutland. Needless to say, Wallingford Rescue had a very busy year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of Wallingford Volunteer Fire Department and Tinnmouth Fire Department for their continued assistance and support throughout the year. Thank you to Regional Ambulance Service for their help with both coverage and Paramedic level intercepts.

Wallingford Rescue, Inc. has welcomed many new members during 2024: Liz Burnham, William Weiss, Derek Eagan, Nate Webster and Amber Morris. They are all busy going through training and covering calls on a regular basis. Welcome to Wallingford Rescue.

If anyone is interested in joining Wallingford Rescue, please call squad headquarters at 802-446-3942 and leave a message. A member will return your call. We are actively recruiting qualified members, drivers and auxiliary members to help better serve our communities. Daytime coverage is especially needed and training will be provided. Special thanks go to the townspeople for their constant support throughout the year. Wallingford is a very special place with generous, awesome people who live in it.

Greg Ricketts, President

Wallingford Rescue, Inc.
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

RECEIPTS

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Town Allocations: | | |
| Wallingford | \$11,000 | |
| Tinmouth | <u>\$3,000</u> | \$14,000 |
| Wallingford Equipment Allocation | | \$10,000 |
| Transport | | \$111,976 |
| Donations | | \$4,265 |
| Grant | | \$9,228 |
| Miscellaneous | | \$112 |
| Gain <loss> investments | | <u>\$19,716</u> |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | | <u>\$169,297</u> |

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| Medical Supplies | \$1,700 | |
| Insurance | \$10,252 | |
| Fuel, Equip Repair, Veh Exp | \$6,119 | |
| Stipends | \$11,245 | |
| Ambulance Assist | <u>\$2,113</u> | \$31,429 |

General & Administration:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Fees | \$4,967 | |
| Commissions | \$10,857 | |
| Utilities, Property Taxes | \$6,105 | |
| Mortgage Interest/Principle | \$18,705 | |
| Building Maintenance/Supplies | \$5,194 | |
| Postage and Supplies | \$5,425 | |
| Dues & Conferences | \$400 | |
| Training & Miscellaneous | \$626 | |
| Public Relations | \$453 | |
| Treas. & Secretary Compensation | <u>\$1,000</u> | \$53,732 |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | | <u>\$85,161</u> |

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Excess Cash Receipts over Disbursements | \$84,136 |
| Cash Balance October 1, 2023 | <u>\$198,258</u> |
| Cash Balance September 30, 2024 | <u>\$282,394</u> |

As of September 30, 2024 cash consisted of the following:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Cash-Checking | \$122,248 |
| Sinking Fund | \$34,108 |
| Morgan Stanley | <u>\$126,038</u> |
| Cash Balance, September 30, 2024 | <u>\$282,394</u> |

Trustees of Public Funds

The Trustees of Public Funds have the responsibility to receive, hold, manage, invest and reinvest the assets of the Trust. The Trustees shall collect and distribute the income in accordance with the underlying bequests or Trust Agreements. The trustees have invested in well-diversified moderate allocation mutual funds. The status is as follows:

| | <u>Shares Held</u> | <u>Market Value 12/31/2024</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1993 Revenue Augmentation Trust | 3,299.424 | \$80,571.93 |
| Ralph E. Stafford Memorial Fund | 7,543.569 | \$184,213.95 |

After the down year of 2022, the accounts continued to experience a positive rate of return in calendar year 2024. The investment holds an overall four-star rating from the investment research firm, Morningstar, and continues to be awarded a low-risk rating. Quarterly dividend distributions sustain the investments. American Funds Income Fund of America (AMECX) continues to be an appropriate investment having shown a return of over 10 percent since the inception of accounts.

By January 31 of each year, the 1993 Revenue Augmentation Trust shall distribute net income up to a maximum of 5 percent of Trust assets to the Town as "Other Income" or for such other category designated by the Selectboard. The Revenue Augmentation Trust terminated December 7, 2023. In accordance with the trust document, voters at Town Meeting in March of 2022 approved Article V: *Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford appropriate 2/3 of the Revenue Augmentation Trust balance at the time of its termination in December 2023 to be used for Capital Project(s) as determined by the Selectboard with 1/3 of the balance in the fund at termination in December 2023 to remain in the custody of the Trustees of Public Funds to lower future taxes.*

Pursuant to this, in January 2024, \$163,891 was withdrawn to support capital investments.

The Ralph E. Stafford Memorial Fund, created by bequest, shall distribute net income "to grant scholarships to worthy and needy students who are residents of the Town of Wallingford, and, who wish to attend schools of higher learning beyond the high school level."

The 2024 Ralph E. Stafford Memorial Fund scholarship recipients were Xavier Auer and Karlie Teer.

Anne Awad and Patricia Pranger, Trustees of Public Funds

Wallingford Energy Committee

The Energy Committee worked on several projects throughout the year to reduce the environmental and financial impacts of energy use in Wallingford. Punch list items from the 2023 Town Hall insulation project were addressed early in 2024. Focus then shifted to identifying the most cost efficient and environmentally friendly heating and cooling systems for the Town Hall. Meetings were held with Vermont Historic Preservation, Efficiency Vermont, and heating and cooling experts. Information was compiled into viable options with pros and cons and presented to the Selectboard for consideration. Requests for Proposals (RFP's) were generated for propane boiler and heat pump options. Ultimately, high-efficiency cold climate heat pumps were approved for installation as the primary heating and cooling system in the Town Hall.

In addition to heat pump point of sale incentives, the Energy Committee worked with Green Mountain Power to obtain additional fossil fuel offset incentives of over \$10,000. The Energy Committee worked with the Fire District to access the existing siren service at the Town Hall, eliminating the need for costly service upgrades.

Bids were then obtained for electrical work to support heat pump compressor installation. Having finalized the heat pumps, the Energy Committee focus shifted to a Town solar array to further offset energy costs. RFP's were generated for a solar array based on remote or virtual net metering, which allows solar panels in one location to support electrical use across multiple municipal buildings. Other 2024 Energy Committee achievements included hosting the EV demonstration at Wallingford Day and installing energy efficient LED lighting in the Town Hall. Energy Committee members are John Armstrong, Doug Blodgett, Tom Fort, Katherine MacLauchlan, Ralph Nimtz, Robbie Stubbins, Ken Welch, and Jay White.

Tom Fort, Chair



American Legion Ralph H. Pickett Post #52, Wallingford, VT

Post 52 of Wallingford Vermont is dedicated in its support of our 4 pillars. Even though our post does not have its own building, we are well known in the state.

We have lost a few members this year, but have also gained two thus far. We have a grandfather and grandson in our post. Our Honor Guard is used throughout the year for funerals and special events. Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 0800 hours at the Wallingford First Congregation Church , (except during the month of January), and our picnics are on the third Tuesday of every month at 1200 hours.

We had a fun time this past year with the elementary students from Walingford, who helped us before Memorial Day by placing flags in the main cemetery in Town. We also participated in the Christ the King Veteran Day celebration, which they hold every year.

Any veteran can now be a member of the American Legion. All they need to present their DD214 to the Post Adjutant.

More information can be found at www.legion.org. I can be reached at 802-342-8096 or at msloseby@yahoo.com.

Mark Loseby, Commander Post 52

Delinquent Tax Collector Report 12/31/24

Current Year Warrant 4/16/24 **\$130,695.70 (Principal only)**

Total Collected & Remitted to Town \$113,115.50
Current & Previous Years

Delinquent Principal Balance **\$13,980.02**
Including Years from 2022-2024

The following are delinquent in the payment of their taxes as of December 31, 2024:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| BL Capital Holdings | 2023-2024 |
| Brandt, Justin | 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 |
| Galiano, Todd & D. Fouracre | 2023-2024 |
| Makar, Joseph | 2023-2024 |
| Morabito, Michael & Gayle | 2023-2024 |
| Phillips, Christopher | 2023-2024 |
| Towsley, Karl | 2023-2024 |
| Weightman Linda (Estate of) | 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 |

Jill Stone-Teer, Delinquent Tax Collector



Many local residents and public officials participate in our local Front Porch Forum (FPF). FPF is a Vermont-based online service that helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting local online conversations in every town in the state. To read more about missing pets, wildlife sightings, break-ins, road conditions, local events, recommendations, helping neighbors in need and more, sign up (free of charge) at FrontPorchForum.com.

Rutland County Solid Waste District

The Rutland County Solid Waste District (RCSWD) offers a variety of solid waste, recycling, waste education, household hazardous waste, composting and administrative support programs for our eighteen member municipalities, residents, and businesses. Some services are also available to non-district communities on a fee for service basis. In addition, the District operates a regional drop-off center and full-service transfer station at 14 Gleason Road in Rutland City. District information on programs, facility, operations, rates, obtaining an annual permit, and many other resources to assist you in your recycling and diversion requirements can be located at our web site, www.rcswd.com. You can also call us at (802) 775-7209.

This year, The District has had many new challenges amid the post global pandemic. Each of our employees continue to rise for the occasion in implementing the guidelines from the CDC, VOSHA, and VBOH. The District also has developed many efficiencies. RCSWD annual permits can be obtained from the convenience of your home or business via www.rcswd.com/permits in about 4 minutes. Debit and credit cards are accepted as an added means of payment accepted at our facilities. A small convenience fee will be charged.

Our website has been updated! This is your virtual Solid Waste Administration Office. Appointments, permits, events, and so much more information is at your fingertips 24 hours a day. To keep up to date, do ensure you subscribe to our newsletter and to your choice of e-mail event alerts. Please see our 2024 Annual Report Book, which covers in greater detail all or our programs to include but not limited to:

Waste Disposal: During 2024, residents and businesses in our member municipalities disposed of approximately 37,970 tons of municipal solid waste, which included construction and demolition debris along with a significant amount of bulky waste.

Recycling: The District owns a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) recycling center in Rutland City that is leased to Casella Waste Management for their operations. The MRF accepts Zero Sort recycling from transfer stations, commercial haulers and large generators for processing and sale for re-use. Since we began tracking material in 2013, the facility has processed over 260,108 tons of recyclables.

Household Hazardous Waste: Rutland County Solid Waste District operates an extensive Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program for district residents and small business generators. The program operates year-round from the Gleason Road facility by appointment. An additional 32 events feature scheduled collections at twelve town transfer stations within eighteen member towns through the spring, summer, and fall. The HHW program collects and safely disposes of dozens of our most hazardous, flammable, and toxic materials. The RCSWD HHW also collects electronic waste and has collected over 51.96 tons of material.

Other Programs: The District offered waste management education, reduction, construction, demolition waste, clean wood, and composting programs. The District is continuing with its "Merry Mulch" program in collecting and processing over 1,200 Christmas trees annually. The District worked with local organizations, including the Rutland Master Gardener's Club, 350 Rutland County, Rutland Dismas House, Rutland Neighborhood Program, Vermont Southwestern Council on Aging, Rutland Hospital, Newstory, and the Rutland County Humane Society and our valued haulers.

Mark S. Shea, District Manager

Green Mountain National Forest

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. 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 -- 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. For a Final Report of 2024, visit the Documents and Forms page of the municipal website www.wallingfordvt.com.



Beautiful mural painted by Macey Quinn at the Meadow Street recreation area. Photo by Sandi Switzer



Visit us on the Web <http://www.wallingfordvt.com>

.....and on Facebook – Town of Wallingford, VT

Green Up Vermont

Green Up Day is May 3, 2025

Green Up Day saw a 30 percent growth in volunteers and picked up tons of litter and 15,813 tires. In flood cleanup projects, we took care of an additional 10,000 tires. We also attempted a Guinness World Record title and succeeded! The record is “The Most Pledges Received to Pick up Trash in 24 Hours.” Vermont is the only state in the nation that can boast this achievement and the only state that offers a program like Green Up day. Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives. Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for supporting 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 online at www.greenupvermont.org. Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow on Instagram (greenupvermont). greenup@greenupvermont.org 802-522-7245.

Civil Marriages

| Spouse | Residence | Spouse | Residence | Date |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-------|
| Mary Tart | Connecticut | Roger Knapp | Connecticut | 1/13 |
| Burke Schmollinger | Rutland | Sara Laurence | Rutland | 5/16 |
| Mary Russell | Wallingford | Nelson St. Marie | Wallingford | 5/18 |
| Krista Gosselin | Wallingford | Alan Patch | Wallingford | 5/18 |
| Maria Scopelliti | Pennsylvania | Nathan Rand | E. Wallingford | 6/1 |
| Lori Webster | Wallingford | Chad Ritchie | Wallingford | 6/25 |
| Jason Artt | Wallingford | Lisa Morgello | Wallingford | 7/6 |
| Tyler Hess | Connecticut | Melissa Shulman | Connecticut | 8/17 |
| Jessica Paulson | Massachusetts | Gregory Olsen | Maine | 10/5 |
| Cantlin Eaton | Wallingford | Amanda Vumbaco | Wallingford | 10/12 |

Births

| Child's Name | Sex | Date | Mother's Maiden Name | Father's Name |
|--------------------------|-----|------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Walker Eimert Platts | M | 1/11 | Larissa Debruin | Garrett Platts |
| Adalynn Rose LaRock | F | 3/11 | Chelsey Keyes | Kaleb LaRock |
| Aspen Wilkins | F | 3/12 | Amanda Scott | Anthony Wilkins |
| Mayce Rain Carroll | F | 3/20 | Hope Tupper | Ricky Carroll |
| Amelia Blake Maguire | F | 3/28 | Tessa Davenport | Kevin Maguire |
| Gavin Paul Lewis | M | 4/5 | Colleen Davis | Nathaniel Lewis |
| Meredith Belle Ruppel | F | 4/13 | Katherine LaBelle | Michael Ruppel |
| Justin Paul Zamperini | M | 4/22 | Kayla Pease | John Zamperini III |
| Emerson Catherine Thayer | F | 8/22 | Lisa Taggart | Gregory Leighton Thayer |
| Stephen Liam Pratt | M | 11/7 | Bridget Logan | Philip Pratt |

Deaths

| Name | Age | Date | Residence |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|----------------|
| John Lambert Jr. | 47 | 1/3 | Wallingford |
| Sandra L. Earle | 78 | 1/15 | Wallingford |
| Elizabeth J. Bersaw | 91 | 3/9 | Wallingford |
| Amy Worcester | 76 | 4/1 | E. Wallingford |
| Alan M. Hochberg | 69 | 4/7 | E. Wallingford |
| George S. Halford | 80 | 5/4 | Wallingford |
| Donald C. Shedd | 101 | 5/20 | Wallingford |
| Christine A. Parker | 76 | 8/1 | Wallingford |
| Sean M. Flood-Burke | 42 | 8/14 | Wallingford |
| Joseph P. Batten | 54 | 10/1 | Wallingford |
| Tylor P. Baker | 34 | 10/18 | Wallingford |
| Gloria V. Duchscherer | 71 | 10/23 | Wallingford |
| Peter P. Pinto | 79 | 12/7 | E. Wallingford |
| Edith L. Sullivan | 66 | 12/9 | E. Wallingford |
| Bradley L. Frederick | 76 | 12/24 | Wallingford |

Wallingford Fire Chief's Report

The Wallingford Fire Department had a very successful 2024. We provided assistance just under 100 times for emergency and non-emergency situations throughout the year. Some examples of our responses were structure fires, auto accidents, carbon monoxide, alarms, wildland fires, assist Wallingford Rescue with entry to locked areas, also lift assist with rescue, car fires, mutual aid to area towns, elevator rescues, burnt food on the stove, etc.

The department was able to achieve its goal of firefighter training at the same level as a full-time professional fire department at 24 hours per month or 288 hours per firefighter each year. This training takes place virtually as well as at the fire station on Tuesday evenings throughout the year. We also utilize additional resources for training with area departments, Wallingford Rescue for CPR, the State Fire Academy etc.

We made progress with our "Lights on for Safety" program. This program asks in the event of an emergency at your home, and only if it is safe to do so, please turn on as many lights as you can while we are responding. This will improve visibility and make it easier for the fire and rescue departments to find you. But again, only if it is safe to do so.

We have a good roster of volunteers currently, but we are always looking for additional people with or without experience to join our department, as we will train and help you grow with us. We also have a Junior program, for ages 13 through 17. If you have an interest or would just like to stop in and see us on a Tuesday evening at the fire station, we would love to meet you. My last request is that you review the location of your house number and ensure it is visible from your street, so we can find you quickly.

Please have a safe 2025 and thank you for your support.

Michael Hughes, Fire Chief

Rutland Regional Planning Commission

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) is deeply grateful for the continued partnership and collaboration with the towns in our region. Our top priority remains supporting and empowering our municipalities to foster community and economic development. With 12 program areas, ranging from emergency management and economic development to transportation and water quality, FY24 was our most productive year yet. We look forward to continuing this momentum into the future. For a detailed overview of our work in FY24, visit www.vapda.org. To learn more about our programs and services, visit www.rutlandrpc.org.

Planning and Technical Assistance

With increasing demands on our towns, the RRPC is here to help lighten the load. As the go-to resource for all 27 municipalities in the Rutland Region, we are often the first call for regulatory, planning, and development questions. We help towns navigate state and federal regulations, share important updates on new rules and funding opportunities, and support the development and management of key projects. In addition, we assist in securing grant funding, creating town plans, zoning bylaws, feasibility studies, and designation areas. We also provide hands-on support and training to municipal officials and staff, helping ensure success across the region.

Economic Development

The RRPC is committed to fostering strong local economies through initiatives like Brownfields Redevelopment. In 2024, we supported assessments and redevelopment planning for 10 projects across five towns, including the former Berwick Hotel and Lynda Lee Factory in Rutland City. These efforts are driving transformative housing, mixed-use, and manufacturing developments while enhancing regional collaboration through an expanded Brownfields Steering Committee.

Energy Efficiency

The RRPC is working closely with towns across the region to implement the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP), which is designed to reduce energy costs and improve the efficiency of town-owned buildings. In FY24, the RRPC secured \$2.5 million in funding for nine municipalities, supporting a range of energy-saving upgrades, weatherization efforts, and other essential improvements. These investments are helping towns lower their energy costs, reduce burdens for local taxpayers, and enhance the sustainability of municipal operations. MERP plays a crucial role in strengthening energy resilience, advancing climate goals, and creating long-term savings for communities throughout the region.

Housing

Recognizing the critical need for diverse and affordable housing options, the RRPC has been a driving force in addressing the Region's housing shortage. In 2024, the RRPC developed a comprehensive Housing Resource Guide featuring over 30 funding opportunities and 45 resources for developers. Widely regarded as a statewide model, this guide has played a pivotal role in helping local developers create new housing units and advance vital projects across the region.

Workforce Development

Workforce development is vital for retaining youth and rebuilding the trades sector in the Rutland Region. In 2024, the RRPC revitalized the Rutland Region Workforce Investment Board (RRWIB) to encourage regional collaboration. The RRPC also secured a \$1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to create a bridge program for high schoolers in Rutland County, offering pathways to careers in the trades and addressing workforce needs in the region.

Regional Planning

In 2024, the RRPC began a comprehensive update of the Rutland Regional Plan. Recognizing the importance of community input, the RRPC focused on expanding public engagement to ensure the plan reflects the priorities and needs of all towns in the region. This effort included town presentations, pop-up events, open houses, and a public survey, all aimed at gathering diverse perspectives. The feedback received has been instrumental in shaping the first draft of the updated plan, which will continue to guide local planning and investment decisions for a more equitable, healthy, and resilient Rutland Region. To learn more about the 2026 Regional Plan and upcoming events, check out www.rutlandrpc.org/plan2026.

In closing, we thank the dedicated volunteers and civil servants whose commitment drives progress in our region. Your involvement ensures that diverse perspectives continue to shape our future. As we look ahead to 2025, we encourage all to get involved and help contribute to the success and growth of our Region!

Devon Neary, Executive Director

Green Hill Cemetery

On behalf of the trustees of the Green Hill Cemetery Association, I submit this report to the Town of Wallingford.

The beautiful historical Green Hill Cemetery was established as an Association in 1870. It is an active cemetery that operates as a 501(c)3 organization. It is governed by a Board of Trustees of not less than seven or more than eleven members. All meetings are open to lot owners and the public.

The Cemetery trustees are always concerned that the cemetery is well maintained. We rely mostly on lot sales and internment fees to function. There are many lots available that can be purchased with time-sale financing. We ask for a 20% down payment, with the balance paid over ten monthly instalments. The deed to your lot is issued following the final payment. Many people purchase their lot well in advance of when it may be needed.

We are especially grateful for support from the Town of Wallingford, and to the lot owners who donate to us. These donations help us immensely. On behalf of the board, I would like to thank our Maintenance Superintendent Curtis Lidstone, caretakers and volunteers, for their hard work in keeping the cemetery well maintained and looking wonderful.

If you would like to purchase a lot in Green Hill Cemetery you may contact Curtis Lidstone at 802-558-5276. Should you have any questions about the Green Hill Cemetery Association, please contact me at 802-446-3239. Thank you.

William H. Brooks III, President



*Wallingford Standard available online.
www.wallingfordvt.com/community/newsletter/*

FIRE PROTECTION BUDGET

| | | Actual | Actual | Budget | Proposed Budget |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | July '23-Jun '24 | July '24-Dec'24 | July '24-June '25 | July '25-June '26 |
| 4400 · FIRE PROTECTION INCOME | | | | | |
| | 44XX-Prior year Carry Over (Loss) | \$ 5,975.37 | \$ 4,426.19 | | |
| | 4401 · Interest - Checking | \$ 165.38 | \$ 75.30 | \$ 20.00 | \$ 20.00 |
| | 4402 · Contract Payment from Town/Tax | \$ 136,856.77 | \$ 71,699.40 | \$ 158,060.00 | \$ 182,310.00 |
| | 4403 · Miscellaneous Income | \$ - | | | |
| Total 4400 · FIRE PROTECTION INCOME | | \$ 142,997.52 | \$ 76,200.89 | \$ 158,080.00 | \$ 182,330.00 |
| 5400 - FIRE PROTECTION EXPENSE | | | | | |
| | 5401 · Administrative Expense | \$ 8,100.00 | \$ 8,600.00 | \$ 8,600.00 | \$ 9,100.00 |
| | 5404 · Emergency Phone | \$ 436.59 | \$ 274.41 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| | 5405 · State Dispatching Annual Fee | \$ 1,200.00 | \$ 1,700.00 | \$ 1,200.00 | \$ 1,700.00 |
| | 5406 · Office Equipment Expense | \$ 250.00 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| | 5407 · Utilities | \$ 9,498.71 | \$ 2,057.40 | \$ 8,000.00 | \$ 8,000.00 |
| | 5408 · Chief's Stipend & FICA | \$ 1,614.75 | \$ 1,614.75 | \$ 1,625.00 | \$ 1,625.00 |
| | 5411 · Attorney Fees | \$ 1,057.50 | \$ - | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| | 5412 · Insurance Expense | \$ 10,643.39 | \$ 3,536.00 | \$ 11,000.00 | \$ 11,000.00 |
| | 5413 · Miscellaneous Expense | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| | 5416 · Education/Training Expense | \$ 1,902.76 | \$ 1,283.72 | \$ 5,000.00 | \$ 5,000.00 |
| | 5417 · Fire Hydrants/Dry Hydrants | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 5,000.00 | \$ 5,000.00 |
| | 5419 · Firefighter Equipment | \$ 25,000.00 | \$ 6,323.85 | \$ 25,000.00 | \$ 25,000.00 |
| | 5420 · Pager/Radio/Computer/Software | \$ 944.55 | \$ 305.00 | \$ 3,500.00 | \$ 3,500.00 |
| | 5421 · Fire Vehicles Repairs/Maint. | \$ 12,274.75 | \$ 6,057.91 | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ 15,000.00 |
| | 5422 · Fire Vehicles - Diesel | \$ 1,324.78 | \$ 909.14 | \$ 3,000.00 | \$ 3,000.00 |
| | 5423 · Station Expense | \$ 3,928.25 | \$ 1,169.77 | \$ 6,000.00 | \$ 5,000.00 |
| | 5427 · Truck Replacement Fund | \$ 27,000.00 | \$ 27,000.00 | \$ 27,000.00 | \$ 27,000.00 |
| | 5433 · Testing/Maint. | \$ 5,628.81 | \$ 7,967.06 | \$ 6,500.00 | \$ 8,000.00 |
| | 5435 · Firefighters Stipend | \$ 7,613.49 | \$ - | \$ 7,500.00 | \$ 8,500.00 |
| | 5438 - Air Pack Replacement | \$ 17,000.00 | \$ 22,000.00 | \$ 22,000.00 | \$ 22,000.00 |
| | 5439 - Deputy Chief's Stipend & FICA | \$ 2,153.00 | \$ 2,153.00 | \$ 2,155.00 | \$ 2,155.00 |
| | 5440 - Repeater Radio Fund | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ - |
| | 5441 - Station Repair Fund | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Total 5400 · FIRE PROTECTION EXPENSE | | \$ 138,571.33 | \$ 94,452.01 | \$ 158,080.00 | \$ 182,330.00 |
| YEAR OVER (LOSS) | | \$ 4,426.19 | | | |

Non-Profit Organization Contact Information

The following non-profit organizations requested funding in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. Here is the contact information:

- ~Vermont Council on Rural Development, P.O. Box 1384, Montpelier, VT 005601, 802-223-6091, info@vtrural.org
- ~The Preservation Trust of Vermont, 104 Church Street, Suite 21, Burlington, VT 05401, 802-658-6647, www.ptvermont.org
- ~Green Up Vermont, P.O. Box 1191, Montpelier, VT 05601, 802-522-7245, www.greenupvermont.org
- ~Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 60 Kimball Avenue, South Burlington, VT 05403. 802-863-1358, www.vabvi.org
- ~Vermont Adult Learning, 16 Evelyn Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-0617, cwhite@vtadultlearning.org
- ~Regional Ambulance Service, 275 Stratton Road, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-773-1746 (non-emergency line).
- !Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District, 170 South Main Street, Suite 4, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-8034, ext 117. www.vacd.org/conservation-districts/rutland
- ~Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763 802-483-6700, www.rchsvt.org
- ~VNA, 7 Hospice of the Southwest Region, 7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland, VT 05701, 800-244-0568, www.vermontvisitingnurses.org
- ~Vermont Center for Independent Living, 11 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, 800-639-1522, www.vcil.org
- ~Community Care Network, Rutland Mental Health Services, P.O. Box 222, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-2381, www.rmhsccn.org
- ~Vermont Family Network, 600 Blair Park Road, Suite 240, Williston, VT, 05495, 1-800-800-4005, www.vermontfamilynetwork.org
- ~Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, 143 Maple Street, Rutland, VT, 05701, 802-786-5990, 800-642-5119.
- ~NewStory Center, P.O.Box 313, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-3232 (crisis), 802-775-6788 (office), www.nscvt.org
- ~Child First Advocacy Center, P. O. Box 6822, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-747-0200, advocate@childfirstadvocacycenter.org, www.childfirstadvocacy.org
- ~Advocacy Resources Community, ARC, 128 Merchants Row, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-1370. info@arcrutlandarea.org, www.ARCRutlandArea.org
- ~RSVP & The Volunteer Center, 6 Court Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-8220, rsvpfgp@gmail.com, www.volunteersinvt.org
- ~NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, 110 Marble Street, West Rutland, VT 05777, 802-438-2303 info@nwwvt.org, www.nwwvt.org
- ~BROC, 45 Union Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-0878, HelloBROC@broc.org, www.broc.org
- ~Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763, rchsvt.org
- ~Rutland County Restorative Justice Center, 50 Center Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-2479, info@rutlandrestorativejustice.org, www.rutlandrestorativejustice.org
- ~VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force, P.O. Box 566, Waitsfield, VT, 05673, www.vacd.org
- ~Rutland County Parent Child Center, 61 Pleasant Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-9711, info@rcpcc.org

Dates to Remember

Property Taxes Due. Second half of FY'25 property taxes and fire protection taxes due at Town Hall on or before 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 21, 2025.

Free Household Hazardous Waste Dropoff Day. Rutland County Solid Waste District will sponsor free Household Hazardous Waste collection days at the Transfer Station on May 17th, July 19th and September 20th in 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. each day.

Dog Licensing is an annual event. Dogs more than six months of age may be licensed any time after January 1st of a calendar year but must be licensed no later than April 1st of the same year in order to avoid the additional fee assessment. If a dog reaches 6 months of age after April 1st, the owner must apply for a license within 30 days.

Homestead Declaration. Vermont resident homeowners **must annually file** a Declaration of Homestead with the state on their principal dwelling. Late filing penalties will be applied. Homestead Declaration filing deadline is Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Summer Recreation Program under the guidance of Director Lawrie Roundy will offer a wonderful four-week camp in June and August of 2025 featuring swimming, sports, crafts, cooking and more. Dates of camp weeks: June 16-20; June 23-27; August 4-8; August 11-15 Registration forms available at www.wallingfordvt.com under Departments then Recreation.

Transfer Station Hours: Monday: Noon – 5:00 PM; Wednesday: Noon – 5:00 PM; Saturday: 8:00 AM – Noon

School Scholarship Application Due. Ralph E. Stafford & Irving Smith Scholarships Submission Deadline is April 28, 2025. Submit to:

Mill River Unified Union School District
Office of the Superintendent
Attn: Wallingford Scholarship Materials
2321 Middle Road, Suite 1
N. Clarendon VT 05759

Town of Wallingford
75 School Street
Wallingford, VT 05773

2024 Town Report
You can also view
the
Town Report at
at www.wallingfordvt.com

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