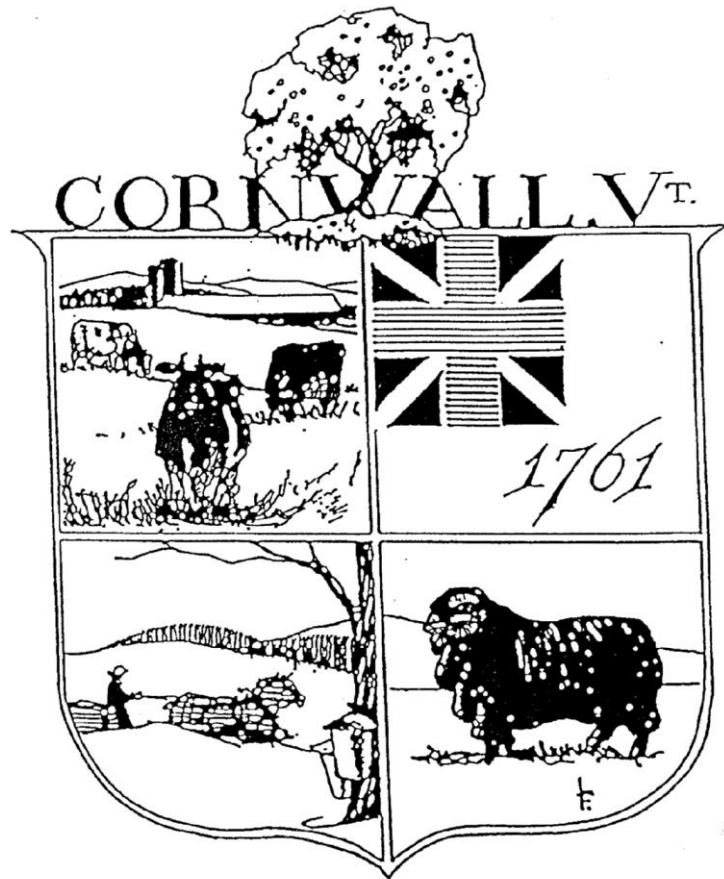


ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVENTH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
TOWN OF  
**CORNWALL, VERMONT**



**For Year Ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

*Town Reports will be available at the Town Clerk's Office, Cornwall School and the Cornwall Town Garage ahead of Town Meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Also available at Town Meeting, 10am Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup> at Cornwall School*



# Annual Report

## Town of Cornwall

### **Town Meeting Breakfast**

**Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at 9am,**

**Cornwall School**

Donations to benefit the school and staff at Cornwall School

### **Town Meeting**

**Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at 10:00 AM**

**At the Cornwall School**

### **Election Day**

**Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Cornwall Town Hall**

Polls open from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

### **Same Day Voter Registration**

On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, the Same Day Voter Registration Law went into effect in Vermont. You may now register to vote at the polls on Town Meeting Day.

*If you need a ride to the Town Meeting, please call Laura Fetterolf at  
802-462-2775*

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**TOWN MEETING 2026:** Saturday, February 28, 2026, 10:00am

**VOTING 2026:** Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

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# FRIENDS OF CORNWALL SCHOOL

will be providing a delicious array of

## Coffee, Pastries, and Baked Goodies

**Saturday, March 1, 9am-Town Meeting**

We welcome you to enjoy a self-served breakfast with your neighbors

Donations are encouraged and will go towards supporting the students  
and staff at Cornwall School



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# **Town Report Dedication**

## **Rodney B. Cadoret**

According to the story Rodney tells, Paul Zeno stopped at the Cadoret farm on Wooster Road back in 1981 to let Rodney browse through the farm supplies in his truck. That's when Paul off-handedly told Rodney that he should run for Delinquent Tax Collector. Paul was the Collector at that time and was ready to give up the position. After giving the idea some thought, Rodney took out a petition to run for Delinquent Tax Collector at the 1982 Town Meeting and has continued in that position until 2025.

The Cadoret family moved from Manchester, VT to the farm on Wooster Road in 1968. The Cornwall Town Report has been dedicated previously to both Norman and Jean Cadoret (Rodney's parents) as they were both involved in many aspects of the town, setting a wonderful example for their children. In 1977, Norman and Jean sold the Wooster Road farm to Rodney and his wife, Sally, to continue the family's long history in farming. In 1989, Rodney and Sally decided to sell the farm but kept a portion of the property where they would build their new home.

Until a few years ago, Rodney (being quite mechanically inclined) worked for several of the local farm equipment dealerships as a skilled mechanic.

Although the Delinquent Tax Collector position can be a difficult job (and generally no one wants to hear from the Collector), Rodney's calm and friendly personality helped him work with folks who were having trouble paying their taxes and those that just plain forgot. Rodney also served on the Planning Commission from 1997 – 2001.

The Town of Cornwall wishes to thank Rodney, and his wife, Sally, for their 43 years of service as Delinquent Tax Collector and Assistant to the Delinquent Tax Collector. We take great pleasure in dedicating the 2024 Annual Town Report to Rodney and Sally for their exemplary work and dedication to the town.

## In Memoriam

Lifetime Cornwall resident, Nancy Sperry Kemp, is remembered for her enthusiastic contributions to the community and service to the Town of Cornwall. Nancy was born in Middlebury in 1939 and she passed in January of 2024. Nancy comes from a long line of Cornwall residents, she lived and raised her children on the same Cornwall farmland that she grew up on, and her children continue to raise their own families here in town as well.

Nancy served on the Selectboard, Planning Commission, and Cemetery Commission; she worked at the Bingham Memorial School... and sidelined at MUHS football games with baked goodies. She and husband, Paul, were Custodians for the Town Hall and both were members of the Cornwall Congregational Church.

Nancy will be missed for her raw humor, and her dedication and commitment to our community.



Bruce Kirk Byers was born in New York City in 1933; after years of successful law practice in New Jersey, Bruce and his wife – both graduates of Middlebury College – settled in Cornwall. Bruce served on the Cornwall Planning Commission, but he will be remembered for his involvement with agencies that benefited the broader communities. From Porter Hospital and Open Door Clinic to Town Hall Theater and Sheldon Museum, Bruce contributed professional expertise along with laughter and energy. We are grateful for all that he shared with us.



## Auditors' Report

2024 was full of changes for both the Town and the Board of Auditors. We welcomed Caroline Mellish to the Board to fill the seat of Shawn Fetterolf, who now serves on the Selectboard. With the appointment of Laura Fetterolf as Town Clerk, and Nicholas Gill as Treasurer, we engaged in conversations about our own role within the town administration.

Mid-year, the Auditors presented a proposal to conduct internal audits of town financials, based on the results of research we conducted regarding professional audit options. After discussions with the Selectboard and Treasurer, the Town decided to hire professional audits on an annual basis. We are contracted to have full audits for the 2022, 2023, and 2024 Fiscal Years. Although we're later than we had planned in conducting the FY'22 and '23 audits, this meets our goal of reviewing records spanning the transition of Town Treasurers.

In September, the Auditors met with Laura and Sue Johnson to review the Clerk portion of the Internal Controls Checklist. This year's discussion focused on the role of our full-time Clerk, and part-time Treasurer, and how Laura can maintain a separation from financial transactions. We also discussed protocols for handling Clerk fees, expense authorizations and reconciliations, and records security. The Auditors feel that the Clerk transition is going smoothly. Laura's years serving as Assistant Clerk combined with Sue now occupying the Assistant position have been pivotal in facilitating that transition.

The Auditors were unable to complete the Internal Controls Checklist with the Treasurer, but with the decision to work with professional auditors for annual reviews – which includes an internal controls component – we felt it would be a duplication of efforts. We appreciate Sue stepping into the role of Assistant Treasurer to facilitate that transition as well.

Going forward, the Local Board of Auditors will continue to provide support for the Clerk and Treasurer, and will review the findings of the professional audits.

Town Auditors—

Ian Gill, Chair; Kate Gieges; Caroline Mellish

# **Town Meeting Warning**

## **Town of Cornwall Annual Town Meeting**

### **Saturday, March 1, 2025**

The legal voters of the Town of Cornwall are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Anna Stowell Sunderland Bingham Memorial School on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 10:00 AM to transact the following business.

ARTICLE 1: To elect all town officials as required by law. Voting for officials will be by Australian ballot. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at the Cornwall Town Hall. Officials to be elected are:

**5 years:** Cemetery Commissioner

**3 years:** Selectboard; Lister; Auditor; Trustee of Public Funds; Two (2) Planning Commissioners; Cemetery Commissioner (to fill an unexpired term)

**2 years:** Selectboard; Four (4) Library Trustees; Planning Commissioner (to fill an unexpired term); Trustee of Public Funds (to fill an unexpired term)

**1 year:** Moderator; First Constable; Second Constable; Collector of Delinquent Taxes

ARTICLE 2: To see what action the voters will take regarding the town's financial surplus or deficit.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the voters will approve a General Fund budget of \$548,081.15.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the voters will approve a Highway budget of \$580,050.00. State Aid is expected to be approximately \$65,000 resulting in a budget of \$515,050.00

ARTICLE 5: To see if the voters will appropriate \$81,200.00 to be transferred to the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department to pay its expenses from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the voters will exempt the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department and its two properties at 1952 Route 30 and 63 North Bingham Street from property taxation for a period of 5 years, per **32 V.S.A. § 3840**

ARTICLE 7: To see if the voters will appropriate \$5000.00 to be transferred to the Cornwall Free Public Library to pay its expenses from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the voters will approve moving the Town Clerk's position from an appointed to an elected position, for a term of 3 years.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the voters will approve authorizing the Selectboard to appoint members of the Cornwall Planning Commission for one-year terms, as provided by **24 V.S.A. § 4323a**, thereby replacing the current practice of electing members by Australian ballot.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the voters will appropriate the following amounts to be transferred to the listed organizations:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Addison County Economic Development              | 1000.00         |
| Addison County Home Health & Hospice             | 1440.00         |
| Addison Housing Works                            | 750.00          |
| Addison County Parent/Child Center               | 1600.00         |
| Addison County Readers                           | 350.00          |
| Addison County Restorative Justice               | 350.00          |
| Addison County River Watch Collaborative - ACRWC | 500.00          |
| Age Well   | 1100.00         |
| Atria Collective                                 | 1250.00         |
| Charter House Coalition                          | 2500.00         |
| Counseling Service of Addison County CSAC        | 2300.00         |
| Elderly Services                                 | 4000.00         |
| Green Up Vermont                                 | 100.00          |
| Homeward Bound                                   | 500.00          |
| HOPE   | 4000.00         |
| John W. Graham Emergency Shelter Services        | 1950.00         |
| Mary Johnson Children's Center                   | 700.00          |
| Middlebury Area Land Trust - MALT                | 2000.00         |
| Open Door Clinic                                 | 1000.00         |
| Otter Creek Child Care                           | 1000.00         |
| Retired Senior Volunteer Program - RSVP          | 540.00          |
| Tri-Valley Transit                               | 1315.00         |
| Turning Point Center of Addison County           | 1000.00         |
| Vermont Adult Learning                           | 500.00          |
|  | <b>31745.00</b> |

ARTICLE 11: To see if the voters will approve the billing date of September 1, 2025 for property taxes, payment of half that amount due November 15, 2025, and payment of the second half due May 15, 2026. Taxes are to be paid to the Cornwall Town Treasurer. Any taxes that are due, but unpaid, after November 15, 2025, are considered late. Interest will be charged at the rate of one percent (1%) per month. Any taxes unpaid after May 15, 2026 will be considered delinquent. Interest will be charged on delinquent taxes at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, plus a collector's fee of eight percent (8%).

ARTICLE 12: Any other business proper to come before this meeting.

**CORNWALL SELECTBOARD**

Tanya Byker, Chair

Don Burns, Vice-Chair

Brian Kemp

John Roberts

Shawn Fetterolf

## Elected Town Officers 2024

|                             |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Moderator:                  | Term Expires 2025   | Cy Day Tall  |
| Town Clerk:                 | Term Expires 2025   | Laura Fetterolf (appointed)  |
| Town Treasurer:             | Term Expires 2025   | Nicholas Gill (appointed)  |
| Selectboard, 3 years:       | Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026<br>Term Expires 2027   | Don Burns<br>Brian Kemp<br>John Roberts  |
| Selectboard, 2 years:       | Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026  | Tanya Byker<br>Shawn Fetterolf   |
| First Constable:            | Term Expires 2025   | Gary Margolis  |
| Second Constable:           | Term Expires 2025   | Luke Jerome  |
| Delinquent Tax Collector:   | Term Expires 2025   | Rodney Cadoret   |
| Listers:                    | Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026<br>Term Expires 2027   | Todd Kincaid<br>Jordan Young<br>William Johnson  |
| Addison Central S. D.:<br>, | Term Expires 2027   | Ellen Whelan-Wuest   |
| Auditors:                   | Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026<br>Term Expires 2027   | Katie Gieges<br>Caroline Mellish<br>Ian Gill   |
| Trustees of Public Funds:   | Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026<br>Term Expires 2027   | David Anderson<br>Elizabeth Toder<br>Magna Dodge                                       |
| Cemetery Commission:        | Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026<br>Term Expires 2027<br>Term Expires 2028<br>Term Expires 2029 | Bruce Payne<br>Anne Collins<br>Janet Franklin (appointed)<br>Roth "T" Tall<br>Jim Pugh |

### **Elected Town Officers 2024, *continued***

|                        |                   |                             |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Library Trustees:      | Term Expires 2025 | Laura Fetterolf             |
|                        | Term Expires 2025 | Rich Isenberg               |
|                        | Term Expires 2025 | Patty McCormick             |
|                        | Term Expires 2025 | Kristina Simmons            |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | <b><u>Vacant</u></b>        |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | <b><u>Vacant</u></b>        |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Susan Johnson               |
| Planning Commission:   | Term Expires 2025 | Don Burns                   |
|                        | Term Expires 2025 | Lauren Ringey (resigned)    |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Conor Stinson (resigned)    |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Katherine Branch            |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Mickey Heinecken            |
|                        | Term Expires 2027 | Chet Van Dellen             |
|                        | Term Expires 2027 | Caroline Mellish (resigned) |
| Justices of the Peace: | Term Expires 2026 | Marjorie Drexler            |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Susan Johnson               |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Gary Margolis               |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Jordan Young                |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Annie Wilson                |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Vacant                      |
|                        | Term Expires 2026 | Vacant                      |

### **Appointed Town Officers 2024**

|  |                   |                  |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| AC Regional Planning<br>Commission:    | Delegates:        | Stan Grzyb       |
|  |                   | Anna Burns       |
|  | Alternates:       | Vacant           |
|  |                   | Vacant           |
| AC Solid Waste Mngt<br>District Board: | Representative:   | Jean Raymond     |
|  | Alternate:        | Vacant           |
| Animal Control Officer:                |                   | Stacey Freeguard |
| Assistant Town Clerk-Treasurer:        | Term Expires 2025 | Sue Johnson      |

## **Appointed Town Officers 2024, *continued***

|                                |   |   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Cemetery Sextons:              | Central:<br>Evergreen:<br>Fair:<br>South:   | Vacant<br>Richard Bruso<br>Bruce Payne<br>Richard Bruso   |
| Conservation Commission:       |   | Don Burns<br>Mary Dodge<br>Andrea Landsberg<br>Kristina Sargent<br>Michael Sheriden<br>Donna Marks<br>Rex Chamberlain |
| Development Review Board:      | Term Expires 2027<br>Term Expires 2027<br>Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2025<br>Term Expires 2026 | Sharon Johnson<br>Molly Daly<br>Douglas Black<br>Kymberly Breckenridge<br>Barbara Greenwood                           |
| Alternates to DRB:             | Term Expires 2026<br>Term Expires 2024<br>Term Expires 2026   | Adam Eckhardt<br>Vacant<br>Joan Lynch   |
| E9-1-1 Coordinator:            |   | Katie A. Q. Gieges  |
| Emergency Management Director: |   | Ben Marks   |
| Energy Coordinator:            |   | Gary Barnett  |
| Fence Viewers:                 |   | Greg Dennis<br>Michael Heinecken<br>Annie Wilson  |
| Fire Warden:                   |   | Luke Jerome   |
| Assistant Fire Warden:         |   | Vacant  |
| Green-Up Coordinator:          |   | Susan Johnson   |
| Health Officer:                | Term Expires 2026   | Bill Johnson  |
| Assistant Health Officer:      | Term Expires 2024   | Susan Johnson   |
| Recreation Committee:          | Sue Barrows<br>Paul Bougor<br>Sharon Cram   | Sue Sears<br>Annie Wilson<br>Susan Johnson  |

## **Appointed Town Officers 2024, *continued***

|                                 |                   |                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Road Commissioner:              | Term Expires 2025 | Brian Kemp          |
| Road Foreman:                   | Hired Employee    | Steven Rheaume      |
| Highway Department              | Hired Employee    | Nicholas Cram       |
| Zoning Administrator:           | Term Expires 2025 | Dorsey “Lynn” Coale |
| Assistant Zoning Administrator: | Term Expires 2025 | Vacant              |
| Tree Warden:                    | Term Expires 2025 | Stu Johnson         |
| Weigher of Coal:                | Term Expires 2025 | Jon Isham           |



## Selectboard Report

Greetings from the five members of your Town of Cornwall Selectboard: Tanya Byker is wrapping up her second year as Chair; Don Burns is our Vice Chair and also serves on the Planning and Conservation Commissions; Shawn Fetterolf; Brian Kemp is also the Town Road Commissioner; and John Robers is currently our most experienced Selectperson.

This past year, the Selectboard met on the first Tuesday of every month and third Tuesday during the Winter, Spring, and Fall months. We are again grateful to the Selectboard Secretary, Sharon Tierra, for the thorough and accurate minutes she takes at every meeting. Meeting minutes and agendas are posted on the Selectboard page of the Town website along with a description of the tasks the Selectboard addresses at every meeting and periodically: <https://cornwallvt.com/select-board/>.

Two Selectboard Subcommittees met regularly this past year:

The **ARPA Subcommittee** considered the allocation of the \$356,319 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds granted to Cornwall during the Pandemic. This multi-year project successfully obligated all funds by December 31, 2024, meeting the Federal government deadline. The committee appreciates the input and feedback of many members of our community including the Friends of Cornwall School (FOCS), the Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area Committee (CORA), the Conservation Commission, the Ethan and Mary Baker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution as well as our own Town Clerk and Road Crew. All Subcommittee recommendations were discussed and voted on by the full Selectboard. A list of ARPA allocations is posted on the Selectboard's page on Town Website : <https://cornwallvt.com/select-board/select-board-meeting-minutes/>

Speaking of the website (and related to ARPA), the **Website Subcommittee**, is excited to have culminated their process and have a contract in place for an overhaul of the Town Website using ARPA funds. The committee thoroughly evaluated the website needs of the Clerk, Treasurer, Committees and Commissions, formulated a request for proposals from web developers, interviewed candidates, and will guide the website redesign this coming year.

Cornwall experienced an accounting deficit in fiscal year 2024 due to the timing of ARPA fund spending. These funds were handled on a cash basis, meaning the deficit is primarily “on paper,” as we move forward with ARPA-funded projects. It’s important to note that the town remains on solid financial footing and is well-positioned to absorb this deficit without impacting the tax rate. In regard to Article 2 on the Town Meeting Warning, the Selectboard recommends that the deficit **not** be added to the tax base in FY26 or beyond.

The Town of Cornwall received a Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant from FEMA in 2024 to help us update our **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan** (LHMP) which was last updated in 2016. Hazard mitigation planning potentially reduces loss of life and property resulting from disasters. FEMA requires local governments to have an approved “LHMP” to be eligible for certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. The Town issued a request for proposals to identify a consultant to work with the town and FEMA, selecting the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC). A committee was formed of

members from the Selectboard, Planning Commission, Conservation Commission, Fire Department, and the Town Clerk, and have been meeting regularly to update the plan. If you would like to offer input for these hazard vulnerabilities with an interactive poster at the Town Office, at Town Meeting, or visit our online survey, available at: <https://tinyurl.com/CornwallHazardSurvey>

The Selectboard discussed and weighed in on proposals for two major long-term projects affecting the transportation safety of our Town:

In collaboration with the Towns of Cornwall and Middlebury and the ACRPC, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) conducted a scoping project of the **Route 125 Corridor** from the intersection of Hamblin Road in Cornwall to the Cornwall-Middlebury town line (approximately 2.5 miles). The project goal was to propose safety improvements for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians along this corridor. Members of the Selectboard attended and provided feedback at public hearings and the full Board received a draft of the proposal which included both short- and long-term mitigations. The Selectboard requested an amendment to reflect the safety priorities of the Town, specifically: the Knoll section (Ledge Creek to approximately the Cornwall/Middlebury town line) being the most critical need due to the history of fatal crashes; and the intersection of James Road/Cider Mill Road with Route 125 follows because of its history of crashes resulting in injury. Following the amendment, the Selectboard voted to endorse the plan presented by VTrans.

The Selectboard also voted to sign an agreement with the State Highway Division to move forward to replace the temporary **Cornwall/Salisbury Bridge** with a one-lane covered bridge with the approximate dimensions of the original covered bridge. The full costs of the design and construction of the bridge are expected to be paid for using federal funds. The required utility line extension, fire retardant, insecticide, and sprinkler system are also expected to be paid for exclusively using federal funds. A one-lane bridge is the most cost-effective option and aligns with the preferences of both Towns. The State Highway Division anticipates that construction starting is still a few years away.

Other Selectboard agenda items this year included an update of the Town's **Purchasing Policy** and work with the Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Road Crew to develop the **Annual Budget** request presented in this Town Report and at Town Meeting.

It has been an honor to serve the Town of Cornwall this year. We look forward to seeing you around Town and at our meetings in the coming year. We are grateful for the hard work of our new Road Crew Morgan Huestis and Anthony Poquette. The Selectboard also wants to thank our Town Clerk, Laura Fetterolf, and Treasurer Nicholas Gill for their service in their new roles this past year. Thank you to Rodney Cadoret for many years of service as the Town's Delinquent Tax Collector. Finally, thank you to Sue Johnson (Former Town Clerk/Treasurer and current Assistant Clerk and Assistant Treasurer) and former Selectboard Chair Ben Marks for living up to their promises to continue sharing the wisdom they gained from literally decades in their positions.

There are open town positions with varying levels of commitment. If you are interested in supporting your community and willing to spend a little time with your neighbors, please consider running for office, seeking appointment, or joining one of the many committees who are actively seeking more participants.

## Selectboard General Fund Budget

|                             | 2023-2024     | 2023-2024        | 2023-2024        | 2024-2025     | 2024-2025       | 2024-2025        | 2025-2026     |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
|                             | Budget        | Actual           | Balance          | Budget        | Year to Date    | Balance          | Proposed      |
| <b>Fixed Appropriations</b> |               |                  |                  |               |                 |                  |               |
| Humane Society              | 450           | 600              | -150             | 450           | 0               | 450              | 450           |
| County Tax                  | 13000         | 12724            | 276              | 15020         | 15020           | 0                | 19901         |
| Regional Planning           | 1680          | 1665.66          | 14.34            | 1680          | 1629.45         | 50.55            | 1680          |
| Otter Creek Conservation    | 122           | 122              | 0                | 122           | 0               | 122              | 122           |
| VLCT                        | 2688          | 2688             | 0                | 2800          | 2772            | 28               | 2800          |
| MREMS                       | 11850         | 0                | 11850            | 15691         | 0               | 15691            | 15691         |
| Lemon Fair Insect Control   | 6000          | 6000             | 0                | 6000          | 0               | 6000             | 6000          |
| Dry Hydrant                 |               |                  |                  |               |                 |                  | 200           |
| Conservation Fund           | 3500          | 0                | 3500             | 3500          | 3500            | 0                | 3500          |
| Capital Fund Equipment      | 130000        | 130000           | 0                | 130000        | 0               | 130000           | 130000        |
| Capital Fund Buildings      | 100000        | 100000           | 0                | 100000        | 0               | 100000           | 100000        |
| Capital Fund Paving         | 25000         | 25000            | 0                | 25000         | 0               | 25000            | 25000         |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <b>294290</b> | <b>278799.66</b> | <b>15490.34</b>  | <b>300263</b> | <b>22921.45</b> | <b>277341.55</b> | <b>305344</b> |
| <b>Salaries</b>             |               |                  |                  |               |                 |                  |               |
| Auditors                    | 600           | 0                | 600              | 600           | 0               | 600              | 600           |
| Selectboard                 | 3400          | 0                | 3400             | 3400          | 0               | 3400             | 3400          |
| Town Clerk - Treasurer      | 53975         | 40481.28         | 13493.72         | 0             | 0               | 0                | 0             |
| Town Clerk                  | 0             | 8889.6           | -8889.6          | 35000         | 17001.6         | 17998.4          | 36050         |
| Town Treasurer              | 0             | 5565             | -5565            | 13800         | 6871.2          | 6928.8           | 34500         |
| Listers                     | 7500          | 3684.62          | 3815.38          | 7500          | 3700.2          | 3799.8           | 7500          |
| Custodian                   | 0             | 0                | 0                | 0             | 868             | -868             | 2000          |
| Asst. Town Clerk            | 20800         | 8936.95          | 11863.05         | 5000          | 4485            | 515              | 5000          |
| Asst. Treasurer             |               |                  | 0                |               |                 |                  |               |
| Town Secretary              | 3000          | 2121.89          | 878.11           | 3000          | 1234.57         | 1765.43          | 2500          |
| Planning Commission         | 1400          | 600              | 800              | 1400          | 0               | 1400             | 1400          |
| DRB                         | 1600          | 1400             | 200              | 1600          | 0               | 1600             | 1600          |
| Zoning Administrator        | 0             | 2843             | -2843            | 2000          | 2021.8          | -21.8            | 4500          |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <b>92275</b>  | <b>74522.34</b>  | <b>17752.66</b>  | <b>73300</b>  | <b>36182.37</b> | <b>37117.63</b>  | <b>99050</b>  |
| <b>Elections</b>            |               |                  |                  |               |                 |                  |               |
| Town Meeting                | 500           | 741.41           | -241.41          | 1000          | 0               | 1000             | 2000          |
| Other Elections             | 500           | 0                | 500              | 1500          | 1614.95         | -114.95          | 2500          |
| Vote Tabulator              | 0             | 0                | 0                | 2000          | 0               | 2000             | 0             |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <b>1000</b>   | <b>741.41</b>    | <b>258.59</b>    | <b>4500</b>   | <b>1614.95</b>  | <b>2885.05</b>   | <b>4500</b>   |
| <b>Office Expense</b>       |               |                  |                  |               |                 |                  |               |
| Town Clerk                  | 4000          | 6344.06          | -2344.06         | 4500          | 1762.79         | 2737.21          | 2000          |
| Town Treasurer              | 4000          | 6815.4           | -2815.4          | 3500          | 1417.67         | 2082.33          | 1000          |
| Selectboard                 | 500           | 589.73           | -89.73           | 500           | 1040.49         | -540.49          | 500           |
| Tax Collector               | 100           | 0                | 100              | 100           | 174.73          | -74.73           | 100           |
| Grand List Maintenance/L    | 6000          | 11144.09         | -5144.09         | 6000          | 5181            | 819              | 4500          |
| Zoning Administrator        | 200           | 101.53           | 98.47            | 200           | 36.03           | 163.97           | 200           |
| Planning Commission         | 500           | 0                | 500              | 300           | 0               | 300              | 300           |
| Conservation Commission     | 200           | 100              | 100              | 200           | 0               | 200              | 200           |
| Development Review Board    | 500           | 20               | 480              | 500           | 67.5            | 432.5            | 500           |
| Town Office/General         | 5000          | 5410.2           | -410.2           | 5000          | 2673.16         | 2326.84          | 3750          |
| Copier/Printer/Scanner      | 2400          | 2406.92          | -6.92            | 2400          | 1163.71         | 1236.29          | 2400          |
| Town Newsletter             | 1000          | 3228.87          | -2228.87         | 1500          | 0               | 1500             | 500           |
| Postage                     | 1800          | 935.5            | 864.5            | 2000          | 537.59          | 1462.41          | 2000          |
| E911                        | 250           | 0                | 250              | 250           | 0               | 250              | 500           |
| Town Reports                | 750           | 750.38           | -0.38            | 750           | 0               | 750              | 750           |
| NEMRC                       |               |                  |                  |               | 7696.32         | -7696.32         | 8500          |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <b>27200</b>  | <b>37846.68</b>  | <b>-10646.68</b> | <b>27700</b>  | <b>21750.99</b> | <b>5949.01</b>   | <b>27700</b>  |

## Selectboard's General Fund Budget, *continued*

|                               | 2023-2024     | 2023-2024        | 2023-2024       | 2024-2025     | 2024-2025       | 2024-2025        | 2025-2026         |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                               | Budget        | Actual           | Balance         | Budget        | Year to Date    | Balance          | Proposed          |
| <b>General Expenses</b>       |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  |                   |
| Social Security/Medicare      | 7500          | 6129.56          | 1370.44         | 6350          | 3377.3          | 2972.7           | 7577.325          |
| Retirement                    | 2835          | 2470.71          | 364.29          | 1925          | 892.59          | 1032.41          | 1925              |
| Childcare Contribution        |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  | 435.82            |
| Health Promotion              | 0             | 0                | 0               | 0             | 0               | 0                | 0                 |
| Legal Services                | 10000         | 10901.56         | -901.56         | 10000         | 4823.9          | 5176.1           | 10000             |
| Sheriff's Patrol              | 8000          | 11090.04         | -3090.04        | 10000         | 3199.73         | 6800.27          | 10000             |
| Animal Control                | 1500          | 1300             | 200             | 1500          | 600             | 900              | 1500              |
| Miscellaneous                 | 2500          | 3297.87          | -797.87         | 3000          | 2439.55         | 560.45           | 3000              |
| Water Remediation             | 1500          | 1396.49          | 103.51          | 1500          | 477             | 1023             | 1500              |
| Financial Review/Audit        | 9000          | 0                | 9000            | 14000         | 0               | 14000            | 14000             |
| MRGP                          |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  |                   |
| <b>Totals</b>                 | <b>42835</b>  | <b>36586.23</b>  | <b>6248.77</b>  | <b>48275</b>  | <b>15810.07</b> | <b>32464.93</b>  | <b>49938.145</b>  |
| <b>Town Properties</b>        |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  |                   |
| Town Hall -Heat               | 13000         | 2557.52          | 10442.48        | 14000         | 393.02          | 3754.26          | 2600              |
| Town Hall - Utilities         | 0             | 6323.77          | -6323.77        |               | 3530.98         |                  | 7000              |
| Town Hall - Supplies          | 0             | 1119.64          | -1119.64        |               | 140.04          |                  | 1200              |
| Town Hall - Repair            | 0             | 7151.69          | -7151.69        |               | 6181.7          |                  | 7000              |
| Town Garage - Heat            | 13000         | 3544.98          | 9455.02         | 14000         | 313.73          | 8386.13          | 3500              |
| Town Garage - Utilities       | 0             | 5811.32          | -5811.32        |               | 3660.1          |                  | 6500              |
| Town Garage - Supplies        | 0             | 1460.42          | -1460.42        |               | 247.28          |                  | 1500              |
| Town Garage - Repair          | 0             | 1633.83          | -1633.83        |               | 1392.76         |                  | 1700              |
| <b>Totals</b>                 | <b>26000</b>  | <b>29603.17</b>  | <b>-3603.17</b> | <b>28000</b>  | <b>15859.61</b> | <b>12140.39</b>  | <b>31000</b>      |
| <b>Parks &amp; Cemeteries</b> |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  |                   |
| Cemeteries Maintenance        | 2000          | 4454.37          | -2454.37        | 4000          | 0               | 4000             | 4500              |
| Cemeteries/Other Mowing       | 6000          | 6935             | -935            | 8000          | 5965            | 2035             | 9000              |
| <b>Totals</b>                 | <b>8000</b>   | <b>11389.37</b>  | <b>-3389.37</b> | <b>12000</b>  | <b>5965</b>     | <b>6035</b>      | <b>13500</b>      |
| <b>Insurance</b>              |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  |                   |
| Town Officers & Property      | 30000         | 12806            | 17194           | 16000         | 6645.07         | 9354.93          | 16000             |
| Worker's Compensation         | 500           | 527.25           | -27.25          | 500           | 308.73          | 191.27           | 665               |
| Health                        | 13000         | 10230.79         | 2769.21         | 0             | 28.91           | -28.91           | 0                 |
| Unemployment                  | 300           | 297              | 3               | 300           | 216             | 84               | 384               |
| Dental                        | 0             | 3668.56          | -3668.56        | 0             | 1089.92         | -1089.92         | 0                 |
| Short Term,Long Term, Di      | 0             | 605.92           | -605.92         | 0             | 0               | 0                | 0                 |
| Vision                        | 0             | 601.56           | -601.56         | 0             | 300.78          | -300.78          | 0                 |
| <b>Totals</b>                 | <b>43800</b>  | <b>28737.08</b>  | <b>15062.92</b> | <b>16800</b>  | <b>8589.41</b>  | <b>8210.59</b>   | <b>17049</b>      |
| <b>Debt Service</b>           |               |                  |                 |               |                 |                  |                   |
| Interest (Capital Items)      | 0             | 0                | 0               | 0             | 0               | 0                | 0                 |
| Interest (Tax Anticipation)   | 0             | 0                | 0               | 0             | 0               | 0                | 0                 |
| <b>Totals</b>                 | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>GRAND TOTALS</b>           | <b>535400</b> | <b>498225.94</b> | <b>37174.06</b> | <b>510838</b> | <b>128693.9</b> | <b>382144.15</b> | <b>548081.145</b> |

## **Town Treasurer's Report**

This year has been one of significant changes, particularly within the Treasurer's office. Sue Johnson's *\*relative\** absence has been deeply felt by all. As we have been working hard to maintain continuity and keep operations running smoothly, we have noticed that there is a definitive need for longer in-office hours for tax collection and related questions.

Efforts are ongoing to ensure that we can offer more office hours to assist with tax collection and address any questions that arise from our community.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> installments of property taxes continue to be due on November 15 and May 15 respectively. The first installment for the 2024 year has come and gone. The second installment will be due on or before May 15, 2025. A reminder that the second installment, if unpaid by the due date, will be sent to the delinquent tax collector. 1 % interest per month and an 8 % collector's fee will be added to the tax amount due. Don't hesitate to get in contact with me if you have any questions about your tax payments.

Sincerely, Nicholas Gill

## Treasurer's Reports

| 2024-2025 Voted Budget        |                       |               |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| GENERAL FUND                  | BUDGET                | TAX RATE      |
| General Fund                  | \$510,838.00          |               |
| Cornwall Vol. Fire Dept.      | 73,600.00             |               |
| Cornwall Free Public Library  | 4,000.00              |               |
| Charitable Agencies           | 41,670.00             |               |
| Hold Harmless                 | (55,287.00)           |               |
| Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Surplus | (97,120.00)           |               |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>     | <b>\$477,701.00</b>   |               |
|                               |                       | <b>0.2075</b> |
| <b>HIGHWAY</b>                |                       |               |
| Highway                       | \$551,800.00          |               |
| State Aid                     | (65,000.00)           |               |
| <b>TOTAL HIGHWAY</b>          | <b>\$486,800.00</b>   |               |
|                               |                       | <b>0.2114</b> |
| <b>LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE</b>   | <b>\$3,219.50</b>     |               |
|                               |                       | <b>0.0014</b> |
| <b>TOTAL MUNICIPAL</b>        | <b>\$967,720.50</b>   |               |
|                               |                       | <b>0.4203</b> |
| <b>HOMESTEAD RATE</b>         |                       | <b>2.1210</b> |
| <b>NON-HOMESTEAD RATE</b>     |                       | <b>1.9703</b> |
| <b>GRAND LIST 2024-2025</b>   | <b>\$2,299,576.00</b> |               |

### Statement of Maturities

#### General Fund—June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Tax Anticipation, Short-Term & Long-Term Debt

As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Town of Cornwall General Fund had no short-term or long-term debt.

#### Highway Department—June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Short-Term & Long-Term Debt

As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Town of Cornwall Highway Fund had no short-term or long-term debt.

## Balance Sheet for General Fund

Fiscal Year Ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### ASSETS

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Checking Account                 | \$1,038,741.19        |
| Act 200 Funds                    | 16,870.64             |
| Conservation Fund                | 27,792.49             |
| Recreation Fund                  | 155,426.53            |
| Preservation Fund – Land Records | 18,072.00             |
| Grand List Maintenance Fund      | 46,762.58             |
| Public Funds CDs                 | 84,295.02             |
| Delinquent Tax Receivable        | 32,549.51             |
| Prepaid Expenses GF              | 7,661.00              |
| Grants Receivable                | 5,679.86              |
| Bridge Insurance Payment         | <u>858,743.80</u>     |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>              | <b>\$2,131,765.99</b> |

### LIABILITIES

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Due To/Due From Other Accounts | \$398,484.54 |
| Deferred Tax Revenue           | 16,115.34    |
| Payroll Payable                | 257.14       |
| Grand List Maintenance Fund    | 46,762.58    |
| Accrued Wages                  | 1,797.81     |
| Act 200 Funds                  | 16,870.64    |
| Public Funds                   | 84,295.02    |
| Preservation Fund Land Records | 18,072.00    |
| Bridge Insurance Payment       | 858,743.80   |
| Conservation Survey            | 27,792.49    |

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Recreation Fund</b> | <b><u>155,426.53</u></b> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> | <b>\$1,464,690.07</b> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|

### FUND BALANCE

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Fund Balance 6/30/2024  | \$822,732.05     |
| Prior Period Adjustment | <u>-6,007.43</u> |

|                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TOTAL PRIOR YEAR FUND BALANCE</b> | <b>816,725.05</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|

|                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>FISCAL YEAR SURPLUS</b> | <b><u>-149,649.13</u></b> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|

|                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b> | <b><u><u>\$667,075.92</u></u></b> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|



## Comparative Statement of Taxes

| <b>Municipal</b>                           | <b>FISCAL<br/>2022/2023</b> | <b>FISCAL<br/>2023/2024</b> | <b>FISCAL<br/>2024/2025</b> |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| General Fund                               | \$505,072                   | \$535,400                   | \$510,838                   |
| (Surplus)/Deficit                          | (61,317)                    | (92,724)                    | (97,120)                    |
| Hold Harmless                              | (48,172)                    | (50,453)                    | (55,287)                    |
| Fire Department                            | 67,950                      | 67,950                      | 73,600                      |
| Library                                    | 4,000                       | 4,000                       | 4,000                       |
| Outside Agencies                           | 34,070                      | 34,445                      | 41,670                      |
| Local Agreement                            | 2,499                       | 2,464                       | 3,220                       |
| Highway                                    | 476,100                     | 535,150                     | 551,800                     |
| Less State Aid                             | (65,000)                    | (65,000)                    | (65,000)                    |
| <b>Total GF, HW &amp; Special Articles</b> | <b>\$915,202</b>            | <b>\$971,232</b>            | <b>\$967,721</b>            |
| Municipal Tax Rate                         | 0.4129                      | 0.4278                      | 0.4203                      |
| <b>Education</b>                           | <b>ACSD</b>                 | <b>ACSD</b>                 | <b>ACSD</b>                 |
| Homestead taxes to ACSD                    | 1,642,400                   | 1,689,267                   | 2,442,289                   |
| Non-Homestead taxes to ACSD                | 1,605,900                   | 1,604,834                   | 1,925,160                   |
| <b>Total Estimated Education Spending</b>  | <b>3,248,300</b>            | <b>3,294,101</b>            | <b>4,367,449</b>            |
| Education Homestead Tax Rate               | 1.6751                      | 1.6427                      | 2.1210                      |
| Education Non-Homestead Tax Rate           | 1.6285                      | 1.6237                      | 1.9703                      |
| <b>Total Taxes to be Raised</b>            | <b>\$4,163,502</b>          | <b>\$4,265,333</b>          | <b>\$5,335,170</b>          |
| <b>Grand List</b>                          | <b>\$221,639,445</b>        | <b>\$227,014,500</b>        | <b>\$229,957,600</b>        |
| <b>Total Tax Rate Homestead</b>            | <b>2.0880</b>               | <b>2.0705</b>               | <b>2.5413</b>               |
| <b>Total Tax Rate Non-Homestead</b>        | <b>2.0414</b>               | <b>2.0515</b>               | <b>2.3906</b>               |

## Miscellaneous Accounts

### ACT 200 FUNDS ACCOUNT

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Balance 6/30/2023</b>       | <b>\$16,867.22</b> |
| Interest 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024  | <u>3.42</u>        |
| <b>Balance 6/30/2024</b>       | <b>16,870.64</b>   |
| Interest 7/1/2024 – 12/31/2024 | <u>1.72</u>        |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>      | <b>\$16,872.36</b> |

### MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Balance 6/30/2023</b>                        | <b>\$19,346.63</b> |
| Interest 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024                   | 46.51              |
| Deposit Overweight Permits                      | 405.00             |
| Expense - Generator for signposts               | <u>(1,000.00)</u>  |
| <b>Balance 6/30/2024</b>                        | <b>18,798.14</b>   |
| Interest 7/1/2024 – 12/31/2024                  | 23.33              |
| Expense – Balance of Hydroseeder funds to Verg. | <u>(601.21)</u>    |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>                       | <b>\$18,220.26</b> |

### GRAND LIST MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Balance 6/30/2023</b>        | <b>\$71,629.40</b> |
| Interest 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024   | 145.35             |
| Expense – Town Wide Reappraisal | <u>(25,012.17)</u> |
| <b>Balance 6/30/2024</b>        | <b>46,762.58</b>   |
| Interest 7/1/2024 – 12/31/2024  | 48.62              |
| Expense – Town Wide Reappraisal | <u>(16,650.00)</u> |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>       | <b>\$30,161.20</b> |

### CAPITAL FUNDS ACCOUNT

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Balance 06/30/2023</b>                      | <b>\$613,020.92</b> |
| Expense 07/2023 – 6/2024 Grader/Sand&Salt Bldg | (352,370.15)        |
| Income 07/2023 – 6/2024 Balance from Gen Fund  | <u>91,329.46</u>    |
| <b>Balance 6/30/2024</b>                       | <b>351,980.23</b>   |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>                      | <b>\$351,980.23</b> |

## Miscellaneous Accounts, Continued

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION ACCOUNT

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Balance 06/30/2023</b>                      | <b>\$10,593.73</b> |
| Interest 7/01/2023 – 6/30/2024                 | 42.36              |
| Income 7/01/2023 – 6/30/2024                   | 13,825.00          |
| Voted Transfer for Conservation Fund (2 years) | 7,000.00           |
| Expense 7/01/2023 – 6/30/2024                  | <u>(3,668.60)</u>  |
| <b>Balance 06/30/2024</b>                      | <b>27,792.49</b>   |
| Interest 7/01/2024 – 12/31/2024                | 34.87              |
| Income 7/01/2024 – 12/31/2024                  | 500.00             |
| Expense 7/01/2024 – 12/31/2024                 | <u>(5,014.82)</u>  |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>                      | <b>\$23,312.54</b> |

### RECREATION COMMITTEE ACCOUNT

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Balance 06/30/2023</b>                            | <b><u>\$695.22</u></b> |
| Deposit CORA Fundraising 7/01/2023 – 6/30/2024       | 167,238.21             |
| Deposit Little Library Fundraising 7/01/2023-6/30/24 | 625.00                 |
| Expense CORA 7/01/2023 - 06/30/2024                  | <u>(13,131.90)</u>     |
| <b>Balance 06/30/2024</b>                            | <b>155,426.53</b>      |
| Deposit CORA Fundraising 7/01/2024 – 12/31/2024      | 98,840.00              |
| Expense CORA 07/01/2024 – 12/31/2024                 | <u>(13,942.00)</u>     |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>                            | <b>\$240,324.53</b>    |

### TOWN CEMETERIES FUND

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Account Opened 9/20/2023</b>                           | <b><u>\$1,000.00</u></b> |
| Expense 9/01/2023 – 6/30/2024 <a href="#">Checks</a>      | (37.17)                  |
| Interest Earned 9/20/2023 – 06/30/2024                    | <u>1.86</u>              |
| <b>Balance 06/30/2024</b>                                 | <b>\$964.69</b>          |
| Interest Earned 7/1/2024 – 12/31/2024                     | 7.05                     |
| Deposit – Sale of Lots, Bal from Pleasant Hill, Donations | <u>10,663.33</u>         |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2023</b>                                 | <b>\$11,635.07</b>       |

### COVERED BRIDGE INSURANCE FUND

|                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Account Opened April 2023</b>      | <b><u>\$831,134.95</u></b> |
| Interest Earned 4/1/2023 – 6/30/2024  | 27,608.85                  |
| Interest Earned 7/1/2024 – 12/31/2024 | <u>3,890.60</u>            |
| <b>Balance 12/31/2024</b>             | <b>\$862,634.40</b>        |

### GRAND TOTALS MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS

|                   |                              |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>06/30/2024</b> | <b><u>\$1,449,730.25</u></b> |
| <b>12/31/2024</b> | <b><u>\$1,555,140.59</u></b> |

## Trustees of Public Funds Report

Trustees of Public Funds are elected from among the legal voters at the annual meeting of the town. The duty of the three trustees is to manage real or personal property held by the town in trust for any purpose. Town residents interested in serving as a trustee are encouraged to contact one of the current trustees for additional information about the responsibilities of a trustee.

In 2024, the Trustees did not receive any requests for funding. Town organizations are encouraged to apply for funds that are designed to benefit the town. Interest from the Peet funds may only be used for the “conservation and beautification of the natural resources of the Town.” The principal must be preserved. On December 31, 2024, \$32,809.77 of accrued interest was available for distribution from the Peet funds. There are no restrictions on the use of the former CVPS stock account. Funding is usually modest, typically in the \$400 to \$600 range. An application should include:

- A brief description of the project including a timeline.
- An explanation of the benefits to the town
- A budget overview
- Identification of all other funding sources

The following is an accounting of the funds currently administered by the trustees. The funds are all Certificates of Deposit with the National Bank of Middlebury.

### #1757 – former CVPS stock

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Balance 12/31/23 | \$13,832.01 |
| Balance 12/31/24 | \$14,204.53 |
| Interest in 2024 | \$372.52    |

### #1756 – Lemuel Peet Fund

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Balance 12/31/23 | \$57,768.05 |
| Balance 12/31/24 | \$59,375.70 |
| Interest in 2024 | \$1,607.65  |

### #1755 – Vera Peet Fund

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Balance 12/31/23 | \$10,977.90 |
| Balance 12/31/24 | \$11,273.54 |
| Interest in 2024 | \$295.64    |

### **Total of Public Funds**

|                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Balance 12/31/23</b> | <b>\$84,853.77</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|

Readers will note an increase in interest earned for each account. This is because the trustees moved the funds to higher yield CDs and the funds have been in these CDs for a longer period of time.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Anderson  
Magna Dodge  
Elizabeth Toder

# Collector of Delinquent Taxes Report

## Delinquent Taxpayers as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

### Taxes Collected from Jan. 1, 24 to June 30, 2024

|                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Property                    | 54,932.14                 |
| Interest                    | 1,243.47                  |
| Collector's Fee             | <u>4,394.24</u>           |
| Subtotal                    | 60,569.85                 |
| Over Payments               | 58.84                     |
| <b>Total 1/1/24-6/30/24</b> | <b><u>\$60,628.69</u></b> |

### Taxes Collected from July 1, 24 to Dec. 31, 2024

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Property                     | \$35,755.18               |
| Interest                     | 2,067.04                  |
| Collector's Fee              | <u>2,845.80</u>           |
| Subtotal                     | 40,668.02                 |
| Over Payments                | 0.00                      |
| <b>Total 7/1/24-12/31/24</b> | <b><u>\$40,668.02</u></b> |

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$101,296.71**

## Delinquent Taxpayers as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Due to a Supreme Court ruling on privacy issues, the delinquent taxpayer report will now only list those who are delinquent and the grand total of delinquencies. This includes those that are late on their November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 payment.

Belanus, Steven  
Devries, Justus  
Whittemore Trustee, Janice  
McQuillan, Patrick  
Rheaume, Betty & Leo  
Ringey, Brett & Leeann

Dalley, Donna  
Foote Mansion LLC  
Jennings, Matthew & Catherine  
Norinsberg, Jon  
Rheaume, Leo  
Trombley, Brian & Carrie

**Total Delinquent: \$57,112.09**

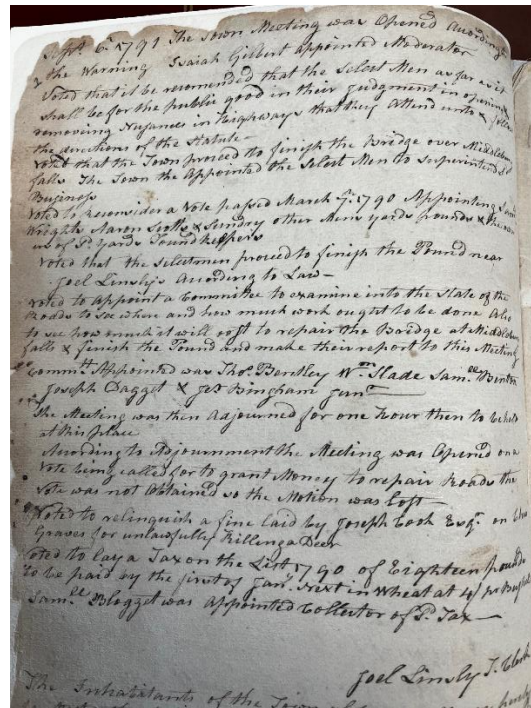
Rodney Cadoret, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

## Town Clerk's Report

Happy 2025 to you all!

2024 was my first year “flying solo” as the new Town Clerk, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the town that means so much to me. I am truly honored. I would like to thank all the residents of Cornwall who have been welcoming, kind, and patient with all the changes as their new clerk learned the ropes.

There are very few jobs in the United States one can step into where one can say “this job has been around for 234 years!” Pictured below are the very first Town Meeting Minutes with the signature of the very first Cornwall Town Clerk, Joel Linsley, dated September 6, 1791.



We're looking at his signature as Cornwall Town Clerk 234 years later, and I am amazed and fiercely proud that people will be looking at my signature as Cornwall Town Clerk 234 years in the future. If anyone would like to explore the historical land and vital records we have in the vault, please don't hesitate to contact me to arrange a time to come in and take a look at them.

The Town is now in the process of updating our Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Please stop by the Town Hall to let us know what hazards concern you, so we know where to direct our mitigation efforts. There's a poster in the lobby to add stickers to rank your hazard concerns, or you are welcome to come to the team's meeting to talk with us in person or via Zoom. If you're interested in attending, please contact me for meeting dates and times.

**Dogs:** Dogs must be registered each year by April 1<sup>st</sup>. There has been an increase of fees due to the State for dog licensing; \$11.00 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$15.00 for a dog that is not spayed or neutered. This is required by law in order to keep the rabies disease at bay. In order to register your dog, you will need to provide a valid rabies vaccination certificate which will be kept

on file at the Town Office. You are welcome to ask your veterinarian to email the certificates to me directly: [townclerk@cornwallvt.com](mailto:townclerk@cornwallvt.com)

Also available from the Clerk's office: Green Mountain Passports; Notary Services; Posting Permits (Fish & Wildlife); Sale of Fish & Wildlife Licenses; Meeting minutes; Genealogy information; land and property records; applications for zoning (building) permits including subdivision, waiver and variance permits; DMV registration renewals. You can sign up for the Cornwall Connection email list. Meeting notices are posted on the bulletin boards at the Town Hall and Town Garage, plus on the Town's website. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the town Boards and Committees, the Highway Crew, the Listers, and the Auditors who've all been so supportive and helpful. I would like to thank former Town and current Assistant Clerk, Sue Johnson, for her dedication, her support, her training, and her sense of humor. Most of all, I'd like to thank my family for their love and support.

Thank you all,  
Laura Fetterolf  
Town Clerk

### **Births, Deaths & Marriages**

**Below is a 6-year comparison of the number of vital records recorded in Cornwall.**

|                  | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Births</b>    | 5    | 8    | 6    | 5    | 8    | 6    |
| <b>Deaths</b>    | 7    | 6    | 10   | 7    | 14   | 10   |
| <b>Marriages</b> | 5    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 3    | 13   |





*The Cornwall Library is grateful to have so many good books donated for our annual book sale!*



## Dog Licenses

Dog licensing is an annual event. Dogs more than 6 months of age may be licensed any time after January 1<sup>st</sup> of a calendar year but must, per state statute, be licensed no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> of the same year in order to avoid an additional 50% fee assessment. If a dog reaches 6 months of age after April 1<sup>st</sup>, the owner has 30 days to apply for a license. State statute authorizes severe penalties for failure to license one's dogs.

Due to increases at the State level, the fee to register a dog is now \$11.00 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$15.00 for a dog that is **not** spayed or neutered. After April 1<sup>st</sup>, the spayed or neutered fee goes up to \$13.00 and \$19.00 for a dog that is **not** spayed or neutered.

**A current rabies vaccination certificate must be presented or on file before a dog can be registered. Rabies vaccinations are good for three years for adult dogs and one year for puppies. The certificate will remain on file at the Town Clerk's office for the (3) three year period.**

### Fees Received in Calendar year 2024

|                               |     |              |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------------|
| Total Number of Dogs Licensed | 190 | \$1,660.00   |
| Special Permit                | 1   | <u>35.00</u> |
|                               |     | \$1,625.00   |

### Fees Paid in Calendar Year 2024

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| To State | \$862.00          |
| To Town  | <u>\$798.00</u>   |
|          | <b>\$1,625.00</b> |

### Top Three Reasons to License Your Dog!

- 1. It is the Law in Vermont!**
- 2. To reunite lost dogs with their owners**
- 3. To prevent the incidence and spread of the Rabies disease!**

## **Available from the Town Clerk's Office**

**Green Mountain Passports** - available to anyone who is a resident of Vermont and 62 years or older **OR** is totally disabled as a result of disease or injury suffered while serving in the armed forces **OR** is a resident of the Vermont Veterans' Home in Bennington. Passport holders are eligible for free admission to state parks, museums, and fully state-sponsored events. The fee is \$2.00.

**Copies of Birth, Death, or Marriage Records on File** - used for a variety of purposes. Certified copies are \$10.00, uncertified copies \$1.00.

**Dog Licenses** - due by April 1<sup>st</sup> every year. A current rabies certificate must be presented or be on file. See further information on the Dog Licenses report.

**Hunting & Fishing Licenses** - All types of licenses are available.

**Copies of Zoning and Sub-Division Regulations**

**Guide to Building or Modifying a Home in Cornwall**

**Applications for Zoning Permit, Sub-division of Property & Conditional Use/Variance**

**Minutes of Meetings** – Selectboard, Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Conservation Commission

**Applications for Addition to the Voter Checklist**

**Applications for Absentee Ballots**

**Petitions and information about running for and holding town office**

**Warnings and Notices of upcoming meetings** – Selectboard, School Board, Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Conservation Commission, etc.

**Renewal of Motor Vehicle Registrations** – renewals only. Must present DMV renewal form. There is a \$3.00 Town Clerk fee, separate from the DMV renewal fee.

**Cornwall Connection – Enrollment in Town News and Emergency Alert Email List** – for municipal and emergency information i.e.: road closures, emergency/disaster information, town notices, lost and/or found animals.

## Property Transfers 2024

1. Cushing Family to Habitat For Humanity of Addison County, 49.10 acres on Foote Farm Road.
2. Brion W. Jobe and Judith H Franks, to Brion W. Jobe and Judith H. Franks Revocable Trust, house and 4.93 acres on Route 125.
3. Lori Robear to Tami Kloss, house and 2 acres on Hamblin Road.
4. Kathryn and Craig Newton, to Kathryn W Newton Living Trust, house and 5.73 acres on Cow Hill Rd
5. Randy and Jean Quesnel, to James Pugh and Barbara Greenwood, 6.61 acres on North Bingham Street
6. Kenneth and Joan Manchester, to Suzanne Kent and Kendra Allen, house and 1.57 acres on Route 30
7. William and Ingrid Jackson, to Ingrid & Woody Jackson Revocable Trust, house and 14.35 acres on Sperry Road
8. Robert Audet, to Richard Audet, house and 12.90 acres on Route 74.
9. Michael Palmer, to Richard Carroll, house and 5.80 acres on Route 125.
10. Kirk Ringey, to Marc & Terri Ringey, house and 4.90 acres on Sperry Rd.
11. Betty Lou Gorton to State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, 36.70 acres on West Street
12. Betty Lou Gorton to State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, 69.47 acres on West Street
13. State of Vermont Fish & Wildlife to Vermont Housing & Conservation Board, 36.70 acres on West Street
14. State of Vermont Fish & Wildlife to Vermont Housing & Conservation Board, 69.47 acres on West Street
15. Estate of Paul Audet to Leo Audet, shop & 8.43 acres on Route 74.
16. Leo Audet to Audet Family Revocable Trust, shop & 8.43 acres on Route 74.
17. Claire Bove to Daniel R Tso, house and .90 acres on South Bingham St
18. Nancy Sawyer to Arianna Bailey, house and 2.17 acres on Route 30
19. 860 West Street Realty Trust to Panthers 860 West Realty Trust, house and 16.37 acres on West St
20. Ross Conrad to Nancy Sawyer, house and 2.17 acres on Route 30
21. Theodore & Stephanie Cotton to Cotton Family 2024 Trust, house and 41.20 acres on Ridge Rd.
22. Susanne Barrows to Nicole Quesnel, house and 2.30 acres on Douglas Rd
23. Estate of Susan B Walcott to North by East Property, LLC, house and 6.20 acres on Cow Hill Rd.
24. Estate of Otto John Betz III to Otto John Betz III Family Trust, house and 11.99 acres on Sperry Rd
25. Stephen Cannon to Bruce-Yergovich Revocable Trust, open land on 12.60 acres on Route 125
26. Florence A Gill Trust to Garner J Gill Trust, 345.76 acres on Wooster Rd

27. Leo E. Audet to Audet Family Revocable Trust, shop and 8.43 acres on Route 74 – Corrective Deed.
28. Serge Vanier to Stephanie Poirot & Melissa McCutcheon, house and 2.80 acres on West Street.
29. Sheldon and Margaret Sax to Sheldon and Margaret Sax, Co-Trustees of the Sheldon and Margaret Sax Revocable Trust, house and 13.40 acres on Cross Road
30. Sandra LeGault to Susan and Kirk Anderson, house and 3.00 acres on North Bingham Street
31. Charles and Lisette Ladd to Karen Ladd and Elissa Eckhardt, house and 2.20 acres on Route 30 – Life Estate Deed
32. Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to Vermont Land Trust and Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, Buildings and 103 acres on Clark Road (Kylie and Jeremy Chittenden property)
33. Kenneth Danieli to The Peter H. Wyman Revocable Trust, house and 1.60 acres on Ridge Road
34. Nicole Grubman to Mary Jeanne Packer, 4.68 acres on West Street
35. Bread Loaf Mountain Monastery to Jeffrey MacDonald, house and 2.60 acres on Route 30
36. Marc & Terry Ringey to Ringey Family Trust, house and 4.90 acres on Sperry Rd
37. Marc & Terry Ringey to Ringey Family Trust, 15.40 acres on Swamp Rd
38. Charles Jackson to YoungHae Chu, house and 4.75 acres on West St
39. David & Violette Tindall to Dima Ayoub, house and 1.30 acres on Route 30
40. Robert Felkl to Felkl Family Trust, house and 8.80 acres on Route 125
41. The Oxford Company to Alyssa Wright, house and 1.57 acres on Route 30
42. Anna Betz to Elzerie de Jager and Brian Collins, house and 11.99 acres on Sperry Rd
43. Randy Martin and Mary Martin Joint Trust to Pearl Riney Trust, 165 acres on Audet Rd
44. Nicholas & Rachael Cram to Justin Boyer, mobile home and 12.23 acres on Route 30.
45. Alisa Breau to Adam Brightman, house and 5.00 acres on Delong Road
46. Robert Chamberlain to Katherine Kritikos, house and 13.30 acres on Cider Mill Road
47. John Robinson to Fredelle P Robinson Revocable Trust, house and 4.37 acres on Ridge Road
48. David Kaslow to Kathleen Kaslow Revocable Trust, house and 5.15 acres on Foote Farm Road
49. Jon and Barbara Woodbury to Kenneth Hypes & Lauren Ross, house and 2.05 acres on Route 30
50. Ian Whitmarsh to Jennifer Muskopf, house and 9.85 acres on Sperry Rd.
51. Leann Willey to Brett Ringey, house and 4.30 acres on Parkhill Rd.
52. Pattern and Place LLC to Daniel Schar & Sylvie Doutriaux, house and 1.01 acres on Old Church Lane.

## Highway Department Report

Hello Cornwall residents,

As many of you already know we have gone through a lot of personnel changes again this year. Both Nick and Steve have moved on to other jobs. I started in the beginning of September working with Steve. Not more than a month later I was on my own trying to get ready for winter, all while trying to fix the roads and finishing up mowing as well. In the beginning of December, the Town hired Anthony Poquette of Cornwall to work alongside me in maintaining the roads and town right-of-way. He has improved immensely with training and is doing a good job plowing and sanding on his own.

This year we will continue to mow roadsides to keep the poison parsnip knocked back. We will also be focusing on line of sight hazards at intersections. This can be dangerous for both us, and the other people driving on the roads. We are also planning on adding gravel to the roads as much as possible this year to build them up, so the water will get off the roads easier. We will be using the disc to pull in gravel off of the shoulder when the conditions are right, so the ditches don't fill up also not letting the water off of the road surface.

In addition, we have just completed a Safety grant for cutting dead trees around town that were at risk of falling and either blocking the roads or taking out power lines. We also will be completing a grant on Galvin Road for ditching and improving the roadway to eliminate washouts from water not being able to get off of the roadway.

This year we will be paving a few different spots in town due to not being able to pave last fall because of the need to change culverts beforehand. We will be paving a section of Ridge Road and Snake Mountain Road this spring. In addition, we will be paving this fall, but we have yet to determine where.

Reminder to all townspeople that we ask you to please be patient with us as we are working as hard and as fast as we can to fix the roads in a timely manner. We are only two people and cannot be everywhere at once.

**Cornwall Road Foreman**

**Morgan Huestis**

### Highway Budget

|                                 | 2023 - 2024       | 2023 - 2024       | 2023 - 2024      | 2024 - 2025       | 2024 - 2025       | 2024 - 2025       | 2025 - 2026       |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                 | Budget            | Actual            | Balance          | Budget            | Spent to Date     | Balance           | Proposed Budget   |
| <b>Materials</b>                |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Salt                            | 25,000.00         | 31,482.80         | -6,482.80        | 25,000.00         | 19,405.25         | 5,594.75          | 30,000.00         |
| Sand                            | 19,000.00         | 18,454.08         | 545.92           | 19,000.00         | 9,343.45          | 9,656.55          | 19,000.00         |
| Gravel                          | 50,000.00         | 56,139.05         | -6,139.05        | 50,000.00         | 12,511.15         | 37,488.85         | 50,000.00         |
| Paving                          | 145,000.00        | 116,934.20        | 28,065.80        | 145,000.00        | 0.00              | 145,000.00        | 145,000.00        |
| Crack Sealing                   | 2,500.00          | 0.00              | 2,500.00         | 2,500.00          | 3,128.95          | -628.95           | 2,500.00          |
| Line Striping                   | 4,000.00          | 0.00              | 4,000.00         | 4,000.00          | 0.00              | 4,000.00          | 4,000.00          |
| Chloride                        | 27,000.00         | 26,201.95         | 798.05           | 27,000.00         | 22,905.58         | 4,094.42          | 27,000.00         |
| Culverts                        | 1,000.00          | 4,175.20          | -3,175.20        | 4,000.00          | 8,451.60          | -4,451.60         | 4,000.00          |
| Bridge Repair                   | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00             | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| Covered Bridge                  | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00             | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| Contingency Funds               | 5,000.00          | 0.00              | 5,000.00         | 5,000.00          | 0.00              | 5,000.00          | 5,000.00          |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                   | <b>278,500.00</b> | <b>253,387.28</b> | <b>25,112.72</b> | <b>281,500.00</b> | <b>75,745.98</b>  | <b>205,754.02</b> | <b>286,500.00</b> |
| <b>Equipment</b>                |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Parts/Repairs                   | 20,000.00         | 45,368.27         | -25,368.27       | 20,000.00         | 14,472.10         | 5,527.90          | 25,000.00         |
| Equipment Rental                | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00             | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| Fuel                            | 20,000.00         | 21,516.16         | -1,516.16        | 20,000.00         | 6,297.64          | 13,702.36         | 20,000.00         |
| Misc/Small Tools                | 850.00            | 1,283.87          | -433.87          | 1,000.00          | 0.00              | 1,000.00          | 1,000.00          |
| Equipment Purchase              | 0.00              | 1,000.00          | -1,000.00        | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| Vegetation Mgmt.                | 800.00            | 246.91            | 553.09           | 800.00            | 588.25            | 211.75            | 800.00            |
| Lubricants/Fluids               | 2,000.00          | 995.00            | 1,005.00         | 2,000.00          | 3,600.37          | -1,600.37         | 2,000.00          |
| Contracted Labor                | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00             | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| Unplanned Maintenance           | 5,000.00          | 4,995.46          | 4.54             | 5,000.00          | 2,016.02          | 2,983.98          | 5,000.00          |
| Signs                           | 1,000.00          | 4,942.63          | -3,942.63        | 1,000.00          | 1,072.14          | -72.14            | 1,000.00          |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                   | <b>49,650.00</b>  | <b>80,348.30</b>  | <b>#####</b>     | <b>49,800.00</b>  | <b>28,046.52</b>  | <b>21,753.48</b>  | <b>54,800.00</b>  |
| <b>Administrative</b>           |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Administrative                  | 0.00              | 20.00             | -20.00           | 0.00              |                   | 0.00              |                   |
| Personnel/Labor                 | 110,000.00        | 112,621.42        | -2,621.42        | 113,000.00        | 54,031.68         | 58,968.32         | 128,500.00        |
| Personnel/Soc. Sec/Medicare     | 8,000.00          | 8,601.22          | -601.22          | 8,500.00          | 3,966.37          | 4,533.63          | 9,850.00          |
| Personnel/Workman's Comp        | 9,000.00          | 8,998.50          | 1.50             | 9,000.00          | 6,298.25          | 2,701.75          | 9,600.00          |
| Personnel/Retirement            | 6,000.00          | 5,829.51          | 170.49           | 6,000.00          | 2,992.46          | 3,007.54          | 6,800.00          |
| Personnel/Health                | 74,000.00         | 74,606.57         | -606.57          | 84,000.00         | 28,525.10         | 55,474.90         | 84,000.00         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                   | <b>207,000.00</b> | <b>210,677.22</b> | <b>-3,677.22</b> | <b>220,500.00</b> | <b>95,813.86</b>  | <b>124,686.14</b> | <b>238,750.00</b> |
| <b>Special Projects</b>         |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Storm Damage (Stearns)          |                   | 5,528.26          |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Snake Mtn Road Damage           |                   | 1,463.57          |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| <b>GRAND TOTALS</b>             | <b>535,150.00</b> | <b>551,404.63</b> |                  | <b>551,800.00</b> | <b>199,606.36</b> | <b>352,193.64</b> | <b>580,050.00</b> |
| <b>REVENUES</b>                 |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Grants in Aid                   |                   | 20,500.00         |                  |                   |                   | 0.00              |                   |
| PACIF Grant                     |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   | 0.00              |                   |
| FEMA                            |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   | 0.00              |                   |
| Payments from other towns       |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   | 0.00              |                   |
| Miscellaneous/Insurance Payment |                   |                   |                  |                   |                   | 0.00              |                   |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                   | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>20,500.00</b>  |                  | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       |
| <b>TOTALS WITH INCOME</b>       | <b>535,150.00</b> | <b>530,904.63</b> |                  | <b>551,800.00</b> | <b>199,606.36</b> | <b>352,193.64</b> | <b>580,050.00</b> |

## Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department

|                              |    |                                    |    |
|------------------------------|----|------------------------------------|----|
| Medical & MREMS assist calls | 54 | Fires: Structure, Brush, Equipment | 12 |
| Motor Vehicle Incidents      | 11 | Standby                            | 1  |
| Fire/Smoke/CO Investigations | 13 | Mutual Aid Given                   | 4  |

This past year, Cornwall Fire and First Response (our official title when dispatched), responded to a total of 91 calls. This number is right in line with recent years. Also consistent is the fact that over half of our calls are medical-related.

We are toned-out every time an ambulance is dispatched. Many times we arrive well before MREMS and our team of EMTs and First Responders is often in the course of patient care by the time the ambulance crew arrives. Cornwall is very fortunate to have 7 active and 1 retired EMTs. They are highly-trained and carry life-saving equipment.

In addition to our medical crew, we continue to have solid membership in the First Responder and Firefighter ranks, with a total department membership of 32. This past year, we were thrilled to welcome 6 new members, four in medical and two in fire.

On a more social front, our annual Chicken Barbecue remains a very popular way to visit the station, catch up with old friends and enjoy the CVFD secret recipe chicken prepared by the whole crew. We also hosted another, newer annual tradition, an Open House, for all to visit the station, meet the members and learn more about the department. This has proven to be an effective recruitment tool which we will continue in the years to come.

As always, we encourage the entire community to keep their smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors clean and with fresh batteries. Keep driveways and entrances clear of debris and clutter and most of all, consider our offer of a free E-911 sign at the end of your driveway so that we may more quickly locate your residence in a time of need. Contact any member for information about a sign or how to get more involved.

Town residents may have noticed the repair work at the Route 30 station at the end of the year. We discovered that some of the framing in the 167 year old front section of the station, which was one of the original one room schoolhouses in town, was failing in several areas and needed immediate repair. Fortunately a large number of department members were able to mobilize to do the necessary work, and our insurance covered the costs of the materials and work. We would particularly like to thank Nop's Metalworks for loaning us equipment to jack and stabilize the structure, Randy Brisson for consulting on timber frame repairs, and Green Mountain Door for their very quick response to remove and replace our garage door opener.

Another important note of thanks: after a remarkable 49 years in the department, Lew Castle this year decided to step down from his role as an officer, head of the medical service and full-time membership. His dedication to service through decades of changes has been an incredible asset to the department and the town for which we are all very grateful. He is still responding to medical calls when available!

In total, the department has 510 years of combined experience! We are:

Chief David Berno, Assistant Chiefs Raph Worrick and Sean Steans, Medical Director Megan Frankovic, Captains Chris Dayton, Luke Jerome and Conor Stinson, Lieutenant Josh Stearns.

Medic/EMTs: Gail Isenberg, Rich Isenberg, Sue Johnson, Mike Magluilo, Ben Marks and Haley Stearns.

First Responders: Ed Peet, Ingrid Jackson, Xander Campanelli, Blair Peterson, Nathan Nyein, and Kelly MacDonald.

Firefighters: Josiah Benoit, Vaughn Berno, Peter Conlon, Ben Marks, Aven Frankovic, Bruce Koontz, Charlie Bearor, Lauren Ringey, Dennis Dougherty, and Jeff MacDonald.

Retired Captain Ken Manchester and Retired Medical Director Lew Castle.

Thanks to all the residents of Cornwall for your tax dollars, attendance at our events and general interest in the department. We are here for you.



## Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department Budget

| <b>CATEGORY</b><br>Sub-category | 7/1/23 - 6/30/24<br>Budget | 7/1/24 -<br>6/30/25<br>Budget | 7/1/25 -<br>6/30/26<br>Proposed |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>EQUIPMENT</b>                |                            |                               |                                 |
| Communication Equipment         | \$3,000                    | \$3,000                       | \$3,500                         |
| Fire Equipment                  | \$5,250                    | \$5,250                       | \$5,250                         |
| Medical Equipment               | \$2,500                    | \$4,000                       | \$6,000                         |
| Personal Equipment              | \$8,000                    | \$10,000                      | \$12,000                        |
| <b>INSURANCE</b>                |                            |                               |                                 |
| Insurance Premiums              | \$20,000                   | \$20,000                      | \$21,000                        |
| <b>OPERATIONS</b>               |                            |                               |                                 |
| Association Dues                | \$1,000                    | \$1,000                       | \$1,000                         |
| Buildings & Grounds             | \$3,500                    | \$3,500                       | \$3,500                         |
| Dispatch Services               | \$3,000                    | \$4,000                       | \$4,500                         |
| Food & Beverages                | \$1,000                    | \$1,000                       | \$1,000                         |
| Office Equipment                | \$300                      | \$300                         | \$300                           |
| Professional Services           |                            |                               | \$1,000                         |
| <b>TRAINING</b>                 |                            |                               |                                 |
| Fire Training                   | \$4,000                    | \$4,000                       | \$4,000                         |
| Medical Training                | \$1,000                    | \$1,000                       | \$2,000                         |
| Fire Prevention                 | \$250                      | \$250                         | \$250                           |
| <b>UTILITIES</b>                |                            |                               |                                 |
| Electric                        | \$2,400                    | \$2,400                       | \$3,000                         |
| Heat                            | \$4,500                    | \$3,500                       | \$3,500                         |
| Telephone                       | \$3,000                    | \$2,400                       | \$2,400                         |
| <b>VEHICLES</b>                 |                            |                               |                                 |
| Vehicle Fuel                    | \$1,250                    | \$2,000                       | \$2,000                         |
| Vehicle Maintenance             | \$4,000                    | \$5,000                       | \$5,000                         |
| <b>Totals</b>                   | <b>\$67,950</b>            | <b>\$73,600</b>               | <b>\$81,200</b>                 |

## **Fire Department - 911 sign installation**

Dear Cornwall Neighbors,

The Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department, made up of both fire and EMT volunteers, would like to share a recent emergency response. Sometime in the past few months we received a serious medical call in the middle of the night. Three Cornwall EMTs and the Middlebury ambulance responded to the emergency. As with all calls we were given the address. With our 911 cell phone alert app, we had GPS guidance. The night was moonless and visibility was difficult. The road itself was familiar, but some of the houses were hard to spot due to long winding driveways. The GPS guidance gave an estimate of the patient's home, however, when SIRI announced, "You have arrived at your destination," there was nothing but a grassy field.

Efforts were made to look for an address sign or mailbox. The responders, in their vehicles, were communicating with each other in an effort to find the patient's house. They slowly drove up and down the road crisscrossing each other's path looking like Charlie Chaplin's "Keystone Cops" of old. If it wasn't such a dire emergency, it might have been funny.

After several minutes, a small wooden sign with the address number hidden among trees and bushes was spotted. Only then were the responders able to get to the patient.

We share this story because it is not a unique experience for Cornwall first responders. There have been times where fire fighters have been heard on their radios trying to find the location of a fire emergency. Our challenge is finding home address numbers. Not all addresses are alike. They might be on mailboxes, on an exterior wall near the front door, in a garden, nailed to a tree, etc. The numbers themselves may or may not be painted. Some are easily read while others are not. They also tend to be seen from only one side. Firefighters and EMTs come from different locations. Address signs can be missed if it is not facing the responder driving to the scene.

Even 5 minutes spent searching for a 911 caller's location can be the difference between saving or not saving a house from fire, or life and death in a medical emergency.

The thing is, that the Cornwall Fire Department can help us all with this dilemma. We have 911 reflective address number signs that can be installed on your property by the Fire Department. You and a Cornwall fire fighter can figure out the best placement of the sign that will help first responders find your home in an emergency. The fire department will then contact Dig Safe to ensure that there are no underground power lines that might be damaged when digging. Finally, the sign will be placed by the Cornwall Fire Department.

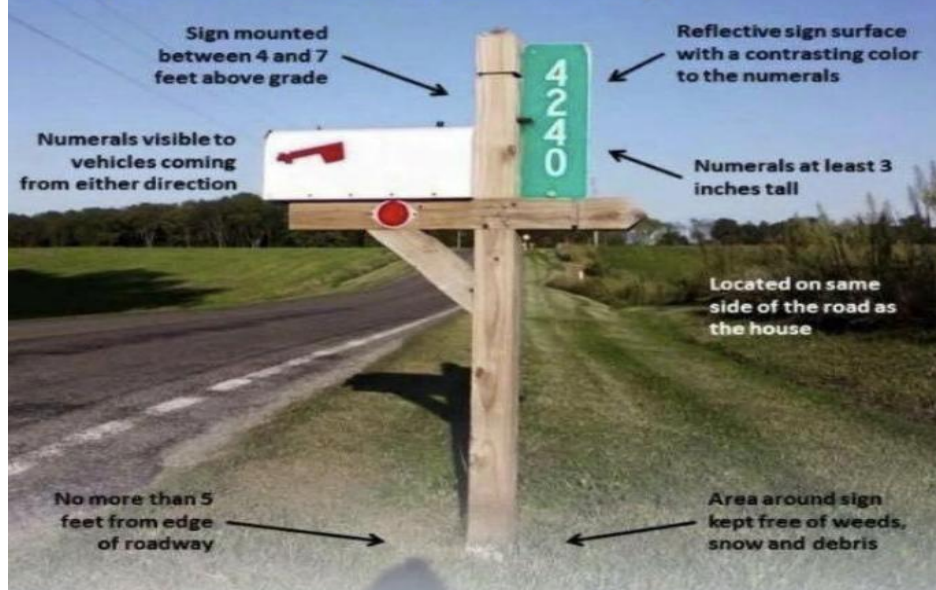
There is no mandatory fee for this very important installation, however a donation for the cost of materials will be appreciated.

If you are willing to have us help you by having a two-sided 911 reflective address number sign installed on your property please contact: Luke Jerome - Fire Warden (802)-349-2985

For any other questions about Cornwall's Fire Department feel free to talk with any of the town's first responders.

# We Can't Help You If We Can't Find You

GPS is great, but it doesn't always work on country roads. Your address sign is how emergency crews will find you when you call 9-1-1. Make sure it measures up!



## Cemetery Commission Report

Much of Cornwall's history is recorded on the stones in our burying grounds. The Cemetery Commission is charged with the preservation of that history through the care and maintenance of four of the Town's cemeteries: Hamblin Cemetery on Abernathy Place, Pleasant Hill Cemetery on Galvin Road, South Cemetery on DeLong Road and West Cemetery on 74. Three other cemeteries, Central, Evergreen and Fair, and are under the purview of cemetery associations. We are a five-member commission consisting of Anne Collins, Janet Franklin, Bruce Payne, Jim Pugh, and "T" Tall.

Like many Cemetery Commissions, we face a challenging combination of the high cost of headstone repair and replacement, coupled with a shortage of skilled masons to perform the work. In response to that challenge, we held two community workdays.

Thank you to the 16 volunteers who showed up on a Saturday morning in May to clean stones and clear the brush in South Cemetery, to Janet Franklin for providing refreshments, and to Matthew Severy for delivering a tank of water for us to use in the cleaning. We were able to clear the cemetery back to the property lines, and uncovered an area that we didn't know had markers. Our volunteers cleaned nearly all of the stones. Drive past the cemetery on a sunny day and admire their handiwork.

Our second workday was October 5<sup>th</sup>, at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. The morning began overcast but turned to one of those spectacular Vermont October days. We cleaned stones and cleared brush at this beautiful hilltop site. Fourteen people turned out, and thank you to the Cornwall DAR chapter for providing half of them. One of our volunteers was from the Vermont Old Cemetery Association, which brings us to the next paragraph.

If the Town can rustle up 12 strong backs, the Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA) has offered to hold a restoration workday at West Cemetery on May 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be in the morning, and will involve straightening crooked stones and repairing newly broken ones. No experience necessary, all hands are welcome. Please contact Anne Collins, [annecollins@earthlink.net](mailto:annecollins@earthlink.net) or 802-462-3933.

Our project of creating a digital record of burials in Cornwall continues. Volunteers Sue Sears and Marg Drexler completed an inventory of West Cemetery, and Jim Pugh of South. We hope to have the inventory of Fair completed this year.

And, finally, we would be remiss if we didn't tell this story.

The Cemetery Commission and the Town owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Rebecca Kinhead and Robert Murphy for their restoration of the old Hamblin Cemetery. This historic burying ground from the early 1800s is on an old thrown up road just past their home, and is the final resting place of Abigail and Joseph Hamblin and two of their children, aged 17 and 19. Time and weather had wreaked their ravages, and Robert cleared the brush and debris, and righted the leaning stones, then built a fence from cedars on their property.



## **Recreation Committee Report**

The Cornwall Recreation Committee meets 3 times a year on the first Thursday of the month: April, August and December. We invite anyone who is interested to please come and attend the meetings. They are at the Town Hall at 7pm. Our minutes of the meetings can be found at the Town Hall.

We provide activities that will interest the town residents of Cornwall, but not exclusive to just Cornwall residents. We welcome everyone from any town to come join in.

This past year, 2024, these are the activities that were available:

X-C ski and Snowshoe trails when snow was available; Tuesday Morning Exercise, Collaboration with Conservation Committee for Wildlife Tracking; Come Alive Challenges ( Beastly Balancing, Make a Sound Map, Nature Art); Plank Challenge; Annual Bake Sale, Tie Dye Day; Soccer brackets for Euro and Copa America; End of Summer Fun Camp; Collaboration with Trunk or Treat for The Great Pumpkin Carving; The Mary Jane Broughton Reading Challenge; December Lights places to for viewing; Along with The Park and Historic Passes availability at the Town Hall.

The Recreation Committee has a bank account for the money it raises throughout the year. Our money is not funded by the town, it comes from our bake sale and by donations.

Our goal to raise money for the Little Free Library, in honor of Mary Jane Broughton, was met. We are moving forward to have this built and finding an appropriate location. The goal is to have this in place by November 2025. Thank you for your very appreciated donations and support of this heartfelt project.

Upcoming plans for 2025:

Winter - X-C ski and Snowshoe Trails

Jan - Hydration Challenge; Bone Builders (TBA)

Feb - (Snow permitting) Snow Sculptures, X-C/Snowshoeing trails

Begin to organize for Apple Festival in Sept

March - Beastly Challenge and Nature Art

April - Make a Sound Map

May - Green Up Day and Annual Cornwall Recreation Committee Bake Sale

June - Tie Dye Day

Aug - End of Summer Fun Camp

Sept - Apple Festival

Oct - The Great Pumpkin Carving with collaboration with Trunk or Treat

Nov - The Mary Jane Broughton Reading Challenge

Dec - Lights and Trains viewing sites

We will send out emails and post upcoming events to the town. If you are not yet on the Community Email list, please sign up with Laura Fetterolf. We are on Facebook too. Please look for our Cornwall Recreation page.

We welcome community participation and ideas that you may have that you would like us to consider for the fall and winter.

We look forward to a year full of fun activities and programs for the residents of Cornwall. Please come join in!

Respectfully,

The Cornwall Recreation Committee



## Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area – CORA Report

Our committee has been beavering away through 2024 trying to turn our dreams of the Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area into a reality, and while we made great leaps forward we were also confronted by serious delays.

We entered the year still believing that we did not need any permits beyond approval by the Town. We had the site and its boundaries surveyed. This allowed a detailed plan to be created which was approved by the Development Review Board in June. With their stamp of approval in hand we imagined we would be able to break ground during the summer. However, we had also been advised that it would be best to hire an engineer to evaluate storm water runoff with respect to the amount of impermeable surface we planned to build. Unfortunately, his calculations put us just over the limit which triggered the need for a storm water permit. Somehow or other he got all the work done in time to submit our application in September and the State approved it in record time! Sean Stearns has cleared the site and we are now looking forward to breaking ground as soon as the weather permits.

While all that was going on, supporters who are also master gardeners created Flora for CORA, a committee to design and install the landscaping of the site to make it welcoming as well as create a buffer of trees and bushes between the recreation area and the school.

Fundraising continued apace throughout the year with grant applications and out-and-out begging, and we cannot stop now. The need is as urgent as ever. We had dreamt that we were close to our goal, but all the expert work needed to get that storm water permit has added thousands of dollars to our bottom line, over \$85,000 or more. PLEASE scan the QR code below or go to <https://coravt.org/donate> to make a donation. We will also JOYFULLY accept any checks or cash you wish to drop off at the Town Hall.

THANK YOU!

The CORA Committee: Gail Isenberg, Marge Drexler, Stan Grzyb, Sue Johnson, Andrea Landsberg, Woody Jackson, Meg Harris





## Conservation Commission Report

We have been cheered by the positive responses to CC-sponsored events and our expanded membership this past year. Our work included continuing the multi-year project to document the Town's wildlife habitat, making special tools available at the Cornwall Library for removing invasive plants, and successfully expanding our membership. We ended the year with four new members. Green Up Day had us clearing debris from the Swamp Road parking lot. And more....!

Here is a partial listing of last year's activities.

January: Two Winter Wildlife Tracking Workshops, one for the general public and a second advanced workshop for Inventory volunteers.

April: Alicia Daniels from the Vermont Master Naturalist program led a walk and talk near Snake Mountain exploring the geological history of the area through the lens of "a layer cake."

May: For the third year in a row, the Conservation Commission led a Green Up Day cleanup of the Swamp Road parking lot, fueled by the promise of cookies and cake.

June: We celebrated Katherine Branch's contributions to the Commission over her tenure and wished her well on her new adventures! Thank you, Katherine!

July: We sent out information to town residents about poison parsnip.

October: We coordinated an amazing trip to Shelburne Farms to learn about their history and approach to conservation on their property. There were over 20 attendees, all of whom enthusiastically asked for another trip.

November: The CC coordinated with the Nature Conservancy and VT Fish & Wildlife staff to support bats in the area.

Looking ahead to 2025: We are planning some things "old" and some "new." The Wildlife Connectivity study will continue its tracking and trail camera work including volunteers who are helping to collect project data. The Inventory will complete its collection of field data this summer, with a final report and a public presentation of its results scheduled for the end of September. The CC hopes to have a crew out on West Street this spring safely crossing our amphibian neighbors. And, the Green Up Day heavy-hitters are promising a repeat attack on the Swamp parking area.

New recruits are always welcome for these and all our ongoing conservation initiatives. These activities reflect our fundamental mission and purpose to engage in activities that assist the Town of Cornwall in identifying, understanding and protecting its significant natural resources: its forest communities, wildlife and wildlife habitat, wetlands, streams, and riparian areas as well as agricultural, recreational and scenic areas. We offer public outreach programs and provide advice and guidance to the Planning Commission, the Development Review Board, and town residents. Conservation Commission members serve in an advisory role and are appointed by the Cornwall Select Board.



Cornwall Conservation Commission members are Don Burns, Rex Chamberlain, Dan Comar, Mary Dodge (co-chair), Alex Harden, Andrea Landsberg, Donna Marks, Kristina Sargent (co-chair), and Mike Sheridan.

## Listers' Report

The primary responsibility of the Cornwall Town Listers is to maintain the Town's Grand List — the appraised value of all real estate property in the town. We use State-mandated valuation tables using computer assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) software based on data collected from Cornwall sales history for the 3 years prior to a Town-wide reappraisal, which was last conducted in 2009 and which is currently in the process of revision to reflect current market values.

The State Department of Property Valuation and Review (PVR) does a yearly sales study comparing a history of the 3 prior years' property sales in each town to the appraisals derived from our Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) valuation tables. The ratio between the properties' actual selling price and the Town's appraisals for those properties sets the "Common Level of Appraisal" (CLA). The State uses a town's CLA to adjust property values to reach what it considers to be each town's fair share of the total property tax burden. A low CLA means the State considers a town's properties to be undervalued. As recently as 2017, Cornwall's CLA was 100.0 — meaning that, on average, the prior 3 years' sales accurately reflected the properties' assessed values. However, over the past few years of increased demand for Cornwall properties, Cornwall's CLA has been rapidly slipping to the point that the State now considers Cornwall properties to be, on average, undervalued by more than 40%. The State has been adjusting Cornwall's tax burden to reflect their opinion of our under-assessment. The adjustment the State levies on Cornwall is based on this "on average" calculation, and it can hide marked differences in market value appreciation among different types of properties. A property-by-property town-wide reappraisal is now required to fairly and accurately bring all assessed values into line with current market prices.

The reappraisal study is being conducted by New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC), an appraisal firm with extensive background in town-wide reappraisals in Vermont. Data collection from property visits is now in its final stages and, once completed, this new data will be compared to that of properties sold in towns like Cornwall during the past 3 years. Once this sales analysis is completed by NEMRC, it will be available for review and comment by Cornwall Listers. A package with the resulting reassessment data will be in the mail to all property owners in town on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Important dates to remember —

- April 7, 2025 — Reassessment values mailed out
- April 22, 23, 24 — Pre-hearings at Town Hall for any questions
- May 12, 13, 14 — Grievance Hearings for unresolved issues

The new property values created by the reappraisal will go into a new Grand List that will be used in determining property taxes beginning with this coming fall's tax bills.

Your listers are also responsible for maintaining lists of State Current Use Program enrollment, homestead declarations, house-site values, statutory and town-voted tax exemptions and town

maps with property IDs and boundaries. This year, we processed 57 property transfers from among Cornwall's 634 taxable parcels. Around 50% of the 2023-2024 transfers did not involve monetary transactions, but rather involved individuals and trusts. This is roughly the same as the previous year.

The Listers are usually available on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 PM at Town Hall, but calling ahead for an appointment is the best way to meet with us in person. We are also happy to meet with you at another time or via Zoom conference if that better meets your needs.

Please give us a call at 802-462-3386 or email us at [Cornwall.listers@gmail.com](mailto:Cornwall.listers@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the reappraisal process, property visits or the accuracy of your property's description.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Kincaid, Jordan Young, Bill Johnson.

The Listers would like to remind everyone that if you own and occupy your Vermont residence as your primary dwelling on April 1, 2025, you must file your Homestead Declaration, Form HS-122, with the Vermont Department of Taxes on or before April 15<sup>th</sup> to ensure that the correct tax rate is billed.

## Planning Commission Report

The Cornwall Planning Commission focused on two major initiatives in 2024: 1) Establishing the standalone Cornwall Housing Work Group; and 2) Undertaking required updates to the Cornwall Zoning and Subdivision Regulations. Along with these projects, the Planning Commission committed itself to the action items identified in the Town Plan implementation steps and continuing to strengthen our relationships with other town governing bodies and regional planning partners.

The Cornwall Housing Work Group met as an independent body six times last year, entirely as a result of the support of more than a dozen volunteer community members. The Work Group organized itself into three sub-groups focused on investigating the feasibility of providing affordable and workforce housing in Cornwall. One of these groups looked at the traditional approach of providing single-family homes through new construction with developers or partners such as Habitat for Humanity. Another sub-group focused on more non-traditional approaches, such as expanding the use of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), tiny homes, home shares, and existing structure conversions. The third group looked at initial feasibility studies and community data gathering efforts to better inform the development potential for the other groups. This work was funded by an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant to hire a professional planning consultant and culminated in a community survey and report to the Selectboard on Water and Wastewater Infrastructure and Housing Preferences in Cornwall. We look forward to continuing this work and focusing the Housing Work Group efforts in 2025 on recommending updated Zoning and Subdivision Regulations that support more housing opportunities in our town. The Planning Commission sincerely thanks all of the volunteer members of the public who have and continue to participate in this work.

Speaking of Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, the State of Vermont requires that towns keep their regulations updated and in compliance with state law. Since our regulations have not been updated since 2008 and recent state legislation has significant impact on town-level planning, the Planning Commission kicked off an update process to our Zoning and Subdivision Regulations early in 2024. This effort began with a comprehensive reading and discussion of the existing regulations and the identification of state legislation that needed to be incorporated into the outdated town regulations. As all Planning Commission members became better acquainted with the Zoning Regulations, we invited other impacted town groups, such as the Development Review Board and Conservation Commission, to our meetings to learn more about our efforts and approach. We also invited representatives from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) to present at our meetings to help us understand what was required of the work to come. We are pleased to report that the ACRPC commended the Town of Cornwall on our progress and planning on this project, especially in light of the work done last year to update our Town Plan and designate our Village Center. We look forward to working with them, other town bodies, and the public to continue our work drafting updated Zoning and Subdivision Regulation this year.

Planning Commission work to implement the Town Plan in 2024 (beyond the formation of the Housing Work Group) included supporting the work of CORA in their efforts to develop the recreation area near the Cornwall elementary school, as well as work with MALT and other organizations to investigate other recreation opportunities such as trails and bike paths. We have

also met with the Conservation Commission and reviewed the updated Special Features Overlay Map they developed this year, and looked into re-inventing the Energy Coordinator position, potentially to work jointly with a neighboring town, to further our goals of improving energy efficiency and creating an Energy Committee. Finally, the Planning Commission discussed and reached out to state representatives on the implementation of traffic calming measures in the Village Center and other key areas.

With all of this work, the Planning Commission also endeavored to ensure membership and participation on the Commission remained strong through community engagement and recruitment. We have experienced the turnover of three members this year, but thankfully have some willing and eager community members ready to run for election for some of those seats. To support the recruitment and retention of new members we hope the Town supports our effort to convert the Planning Commission membership process from an election to an appointment by the Selectboard. This will help us be more agile and responsive to membership turnover and reduce the lag time in filling vacant seats between Town Meeting elections.

Finally, and with tremendous gratitude, we say good-bye to our long-serving Chair, Conor Stinson. Conor gave 7 years of his energy, expertise, and leadership to keep us on track through many challenges and has helped the Planning Commission deliver the current Town Plan and Village Center designation, as well as strong relationships with other town bodies and regional planning resources, which we are proud to rely on for our current and future planning efforts. Thank you Conor and best of luck in all your future endeavors!

The Planning Commission is always interested in hearing from Cornwallians about their town and especially if they'd like to dedicate some time to help. We look forward to the year ahead as we continue our efforts to deepen our connections to the community, other public boards, and town officers.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Branch, Don Burns (Vice Chair), Mickey Heinecken, Chet Van Dellen (Chair)

## **Development Review Board**

The Cornwall Development Review Board is a quasi-judicial board responsible for reviewing proposals for land use and development in Cornwall under the Town's Zoning and Subdivision Regulations and the Town Plan. Decisions by the DRB consider how proposals affect Cornwall, especially the impact on roads, schools, natural resources and community.

There are currently seven members of the DRB. Regular Members are Barbara Greenwood (Chair), Shari Johnson (Vice Chair), Douglas Black, Kymberly Breckenridge, and Molly Daly. Alternate Members are Joan Lynch and Adam Eckhardt. The Secretary is Robin Conway. Members serve staggered three-year terms and are appointed by the Select Board.

The DRB usually meets at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public and are hybrid with a Zoom option. Meeting agendas are posted at the Town Hall, the Town Garage, and on the Town website. The current Zoning Regulations and Subdivision Regulations, the DRB's Rules of Procedure, and current application forms are available at the Town Hall and on the Town website. Summaries of the application process and requirements are also available.

Applications must be filed with the Town Clerk, Laura Fetterolf. Cornwall's Zoning Administrator, Lynn Coale, is available to answer questions about preparing applications and is responsible for reviewing applications for completeness before forwarding them to the DRB. A complete application must be filed at least twenty-five (25) days prior to the next DRB meeting to be eligible for consideration at that meeting. In addition to the usual paper copies (ten), applicants are now required to file electronic copies of their application materials which Laura Fetterolf posts on the Town website. This enables members of the public to review the applications without having to come to the Town Hall.

The DRB held seven regular meetings in 2024. Matters considered by the DRB in 2024 included:

- Hearings – Site Plan Review and Waiver Application brought by CORA (Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area) Committee on behalf of the Town of Cornwall concerning proposed recreation park
- Hearing – Application for a side yard minimum waiver for a Sperry Road house site
- Sketch Plan Review meeting and Hearing about Jonathan and Kim Hescok's proposed Subdivision
- The DRB issued decisions on the CORA and Hescok matters which are available on the Town website. The Sperry Road waiver application was withdrawn.

The DRB has been providing periodic input to the Cornwall Planning Commission on revisions to the current Zoning and Subdivision regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

The Cornwall Development Review Board  
January 2025

## Energy Coordinator's Report

No direct Energy Coordinator monetary expenses were incurred in 2024.

Cornwall residents continues to implement energy efficient technologies and renewables, I don't have any hard numbers on this but I see new heat pumps and solar systems throughout the town. There are numerous state and federal incentives to help residents pay for these improvements, a good place to start is the Efficiency VT website.

One significant new development to help is the Energy Navigator Website created by the Climate Energy and Action Center of Addison County (CEAC) group. Here is a description of the project from the CEAC website.

We are putting the finishing touches on the [Energy Navigators](#) website. On the site you can find step by step instructions for how to:

- [Make an energy plan](#)
- [Get a home energy audit](#)
- [Weatherize and air seal your home](#)
- [Install a heat pump](#)
- [Install a heat pump water heater](#)
- [Buy an Electric Vehicle](#)
- [Install Solar](#)

You can also [schedule a one-on-one appointment](#) with one of our energy navigators.

If you have any questions or are interested in any of their services you should contact them, they would be glad to help you.



## Zoning Administrator's Report

The following is a breakdown of the year's zoning activities and a comparison to 2022:

|                                     | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Major Subdivision                   | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Minor Subdivision                   | 2    | 2    | 1    |
| New Residence                       | 3    | 0    | 2    |
| Additions                           | 2    | 3    | 11   |
| Accessory Structures                | 8    | 3    | 4    |
| Boundary Adjustment                 | 2    | 3    | 1    |
| Conditional Use – Bed and Breakfast | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Conditional Use – Other             | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Certificates of Occupancy           | NA   | 8    | 9    |
| Certificates of Compliance          | NA   | 11   | 11   |
| Notifications of Non-Compliance     | 1    | 3    | 0    |

2024 continued to show a lack of new single-family home starts in Cornwall. This lack of starts is related to a continued lack of applications for subdivisions resulting in less available lots to build new homes. New homes continue to be completed and residents are adding additions to their existing homes. These two combined are represented in the consistent number of Certificates of Occupancy being issued. Also of note is the number of Certificates of Compliance being issued. These certificates generally are associated with the sale of a principal residence. This indicates that properties are being bought and sold in Cornwall and new neighbors continue to see our little town as a great place to live.

I would like to remind everyone that all short-term rentals including Air B&B etc are subject to zoning regulations. Home occupations are also allowed in most zones but do require a zoning permit. If you are presently using your residential property to generate revenue, please contact me for guidance on how to come into compliance with the towns zoning regulations.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Cornwall's zoning administrator.

D. Lynn Coale - ZA

## **Cornwall Free Public Library**

In 2024, the Cornwall Free Public Library experienced a few changes. With the retirement of Town Clerk and Treasurer, Sue Johnson, the library hours changed. The library is now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. These are the current Town Clerk hours. The library is also open on Saturdays from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. This was recently reinstated.

The library continues to offer the ability to download audio books with the Libby app through the Green Mountain Library Consortium. You will need a library card number and PIN to utilize the Libby app. The library added another option called Biblio + in 2024. This is another app that is utilized through the Green Mountain Library Consortium. You will need to download the Biblio + app to your device and you will need your 14-digit Cornwall Library card number to utilize the streaming service. Biblio + gives you access to films and television. Please give Sue Johnson a call at 802-349-7338 or stop by the Town Hall and chat with Laura if you have questions about any of these services.

We once again received a generous donation from the Holmes Advised Fund in the amount of \$1,000. We sincerely appreciate this donation as it allows us to expand our collection well beyond what would normally be possible on our modest budget. The library also received several additional monetary donations which we appreciate. We thank Becky Dayton at the Vermont Book Shop for donating books to the library and for working with us to keep our collection current and exciting.

Rich Isenberg, one of our Library Trustees, continued his work to improve our children's room. Rich built and installed two display shelves on both walls in the children's room. These shelves are used to display new purchases which are being added to the collection.

Our annual book sale was held on Saturday, November 9, 2024. Our book sale is very well attended. We attribute this to the wonderful book donations we receive during the year from our residents and attendance is enhanced by the craft fair taking place upstairs. The craft table fees were once again donated to the library. We thank Amanda Payne for organizing that and to all the crafters for their generosity. Our 2024 book sale was very successful. The total income from the book sale and the table fees was \$1,831.00. Thank you to everyone for their support of the library. These funds go directly to the purchase of new books, movies, and audio books. We will take gently used books in donation for the 2025 book sale. Please no books that are musty, mildewy, moldy, etc. We can't use those in the sale and must find a way to get rid of them ourselves.

*Respectfully submitted by your Library Trustees:*

Laura Fetterolf, Rich Isenberg, Sue Johnson, Patty McCormick and Kristina Simmons

## Cornwall Free Public Library

### Library Treasurer's Report

Checking Balance, 01/01/2024

\$8,585.83

#### INCOME:

|                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Town Appropriation 2024 | (Paid in 2025)  |
| Book Sale               | 1,831.00        |
| Donations               | <u>1,378.00</u> |

**Sub-Total Income:** **\$3,209.00**

#### EXPENSES:

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Membership Dues        | \$881.80        |
| Books/Media            | 5,236.45        |
| Phone Service/Internet | <u>1,242.65</u> |

**Total Expenses:** **\$7,360.90**

Less Expenses: (7,360.90)

**Balance 12/31/2024** **\$4,433.93**

#### **Fund Balances 12-31-24**

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Foote, Morse & Ringey Combined CD (NBM) | \$4,787.55             |
| Interest earned 2024                    | <u>16.83</u>           |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b><u>4,804.38</u></b> |

|                                     |                        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Drexler & Allison Combined CD (NBM) | 2,326.93               |
| Interest earned 2024                | <u>6.98</u>            |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b><u>2,333.91</u></b> |

**Grand Total CD's** **\$7,138.29**



## Capital Budget Committee Report

Cornwall is completing its sixteenth year of managing capital spending under a formally adopted Capital Budget and Program. The first Capital Budget and Program proposed that the Town Budget include a line item for \$120,000 in the fiscal year beginning in July 2009 (and subsequent years) to cover the orderly replacement of Highway and Fire Department equipment as it wears out. Starting in fiscal year 2012, the Committee proposed that the amount budgeted be increased to \$130,000. This number may need to be increased in the next fiscal year. The committee will look at that when we meet in 2025. Starting in fiscal year 2014, the Capital Program proposed that the Town Budget include a line item of \$100,000 to cover the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the Town buildings, including the Town Hall, Town Garage, salt and sand buildings, etc. In fiscal year 2019, the Capital Program proposed that the Town Budget include a line item of \$25,000 a year to cover new paving of roads.

This report explains the Capital Budget and Planning Committee's Capital Budget proposal for the fiscal year beginning in July 2025 and the Capital Plan (Program) for the five fiscal years beginning in July 2026.

After accounting for the current year's expenditures and reviewing the five-year plan from the 2024 report, the Committee is recommending that the Capital Equipment line on the General Fund Budget remain at \$130,000. As of January 9, 2025, the Capital Equipment Fund balance is \$135,435.05. The Equipment Fund will not be purchasing any new equipment in the next fiscal year. The equipment fund is currently saving money for the next purchase, which will be a new plow truck in a couple years.

The Committee is recommending that the Capital Building line on the General Fund Budget remain at \$100,000. As of January 9, 2025, the Capital Building Fund balance is \$346,545.18. The Building Fund completed the demolition of the old sand and salt building and the construction of the new building. Construction was completed in September 2023. The cost for demolition and construction was \$231,215. The increased size of the building has allowed for a much larger storage area for both sand and salt. The next project will be renovation and an addition to the Town Garage. The Capital Committee is in the process of working with Ashar Nelson from Vermont Integrated Architecture to come up with a plan for the Town Garage project.

The Committee is recommending the continuation of a Capital Paving line in the General Fund budget in the amount of \$25,000 to prepare for future paving of gravel roads. The Committee discussed the benefits of paved roads over gravel roads and believes that winter maintenance is more efficient when treating pavement with salt. The current balance in the Capital Paving Fund is \$100,000.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Ben Wood, Mary Conlon, Morgan Huestis, Stu Johnson, Sue Johnson, David Berno and Brian Kemp

## Cornwall Emergency Management Network

- **Notification/Alerts** – If you are not signed up on the Cornwall Connection email list, please get your email address to Laura. We use that list for Town events and news, as well as for emergency notifications. It's the easiest and quickest way to reach you if we need to get critical information out. We also use Front Porch Forum, and Vermont 2-1-1 for incident updates. Please consider signing up for VtAlert,
- **E9-1-1 Addressing** – Each municipality has an Enhanced 9-1-1 Coordinator responsible for assigning address numbers to structures. When a new structure is permitted, or when a driveway is adjusted or moved, a new Location Address must be assigned and reported to the VT Enhanced 9-1-1 Board. They, in turn, update the emergency services (fire, rescue, ambulance, law enforcement) databases.

E9-1-1 numbers must be assigned at the same time that zoning/building and/or driveway permits are sought. The only authority for assigning a number is the coordinator. Self-defined or assumed numbers are not acceptable; nor will they get into the E9-1-1 response databases.

When a new Cornwall number is assigned, an email is sent to the owner/the builder/applicant, as well as Cornwall Highway, Fire/First Response, Listers, Clerk, MREMS (Ambulance), USPS, OTT Communications, and Green Mountain Power.

Kate Gieges continues as our Enhanced 9-1-1 Coordinator. If you need to be assigned a 9-1-1 address, please contact Kate at 462-2182 or [gieges@shoreham.net](mailto:gieges@shoreham.net).

- **E911 Signs** – For your personal and household safety, *please* have a green/white reflective 9-1-1 sign at your driveway. It needs to be mounted so it is visible from both directions of traffic, and tall enough and stable enough to withstand snow drifts.

If you live on a shared road, it is imperative that your driveway/access point be marked. Imagine a kitchen fire, and you hear the sirens coming... and going... to your neighbor's. Imagine your toddler choking, and you hear the ambulance stop at the cul-de-sac, and wait... while the driver radios for better directions. *Please mark your individual driveways.*

We depend on you to take responsibility for your safety and obtain these signs. Contact the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department for information on having a sign installed.

Your interest in and attention to safety and preparedness is appreciated.

Sue Johnson

## Town Meeting Minutes - March 2, 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Cornwall met at the Anna Stowell Sunderland Bingham Memorial School on Saturday, March 2, 2024 at 10:00 AM. There were 115 people in attendance.

Before the meeting began, Peter Conlon, Cornwall's State Representative, gave an overview of the legislative session. Tanya Byker, Selectboard Chair, introduced the Selectboard and gave an overview of the Selectboard's activities for the past year.

The meeting was called to order at 10:28am. Cy Tall reviewed the Rules of Order for the Town meeting. Cy thanked the Friends of Cornwall School for the breakfast they provided. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

*ARTICLE 1: To elect all town officials as required by law. Voting for officials will be by Australian ballot. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at the Cornwall Town Hall. Officials to be elected are:*

*5 years: Cemetery Commissioner*

*3 years: Selectboard; Lister; Auditor, Trustee of Public Funds; Two (2) Planning Commissioners; Cemetery Commissioner (to fill an unexpired term)*

*2 years: Selectboard; Three (3) Library Trustees; Planning Commissioner (to fill an unexpired term); Trustee of Public Funds (to fill an unexpired term)*

*1 year: Moderator; First Constable; Second Constable; Collector of Delinquent Taxes*

Article 1 will be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 from 7 AM to 7 PM at the Cornwall Town Hall.

*ARTICLE 2: To see what action the voters will take regarding the town's financial surplus or deficit.*

Sue Johnson moved to use the financial surplus to lower taxes when calculating the rate for the next fiscal year. Seconded by T Tall.

Ellen Whelan-Wuest asked if we know how using the financial surplus to lower taxes will impact the next tax bill. Sue Johnson explained that the tax rate has not been calculated as we need a Grand List number, which won't happen until June. Ellen asked if the surplus has ever been distributed this way? Sue explained yes, almost every year. Ellen expressed interest in knowing whether or not it should be saved for a "rainy day fund" when we have other large expenses. Sue explained how the tax rate is calculated. Ben Marks explained that most of your tax bill is going to education spending, not the town's budget.

The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 3: To see if the voters will approve a General Fund budget of \$510,838.*

Raph Worrick moved. Ann Collins seconded.

Discussion: Ben Marks noted the overall budget this year is more or less level-funded. With Sue leaving and new employees coming on, there is about a \$50,000 savings in healthcare costs.

Chris Kramer asked about the heating costs – are there ways of bringing it down via through efficiency. Tanya Byker answered the town hall has had an energy audit in the past 2 weeks and we are waiting to hear the results.

Sue noted the town hall has a heat pump with 2 exchangers and a furnace with fuel oil; the Town Garage takes more fuel oil than the Hall.

Ben Marks noted the heating costs could also be attributed to the shadow expense of more people using the Hall more frequently.

Chris George asked if we are anticipating that, with the Town Hall solar panels, these costs will be going down in the future. Ben Marks explained the solar installation will be a level utility payment for the next 11 years.

Chris George asked if it would be better to use the surplus to bring the utility bill down.

Ben Marks and John Roberts suggested attending the Selectboard budgeting meeting in December to discuss.

The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 4: To see if the voters will approve a Highway budget of \$551,800. State Aid is expected to be approximately \$65,000, resulting in a budget of \$486,800.*

John Roberts moved, and Margy Young seconded.

There was discussion about dates and locations of future paving projects.

The motion carried on voice vote

*ARTICLE 5: To see if the voters will appropriate \$73,600 to be transferred to the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department to pay its expenses from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.*

David Anderson moved and the motion was seconded.

Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Dave Berno said thank you and noted several members had joined and completed 700 hours of training. Aven Frankovic is a cadet and has successfully completed her one-week cadet training.

Sue Johnson noted that Dave Berno had been voted Fire Chief of the Year by the Addison County Firefighters Association.

Raph Worrick gave an appeal for new members; both the Fire and EMS need new members.

The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 6: To see if the voters will exempt the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department and its two properties at 1952 Route 30 and 63 North Bingham Street from property taxation.*

T Tall moved and Peter Conlon seconded. There was no discussion.  
The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 7: To see if the voters will appropriate \$4,000 to be transferred to the Cornwall Free Public Library to pay its expenses from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.*

Kate Gieges moved and Patty McCormick seconded. There was no discussion.  
The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 8: To see if the voters will appropriate the following amounts to be transferred to the listed organizations:*

|            |   |                    |
|------------|---|--------------------|
| <i>a.</i>  | <i>Addison Community Action - CVOEO</i>                 | <i>2,000.00</i>    |
| <i>b.</i>  | <i>Addison County Economic Development Corp.</i>        | <i>1,000.00</i>    |
| <i>c.</i>  | <i>Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc.</i>     | <i>1,440.00</i>    |
| <i>d.</i>  | <i>Addison County Housing Works</i>                     | <i>750.00</i>      |
| <i>e.</i>  | <i>Addison County Parent/Child Center, Inc.</i>         | <i>1,600.00</i>    |
| <i>f.</i>  | <i>Addison County Readers, Inc.</i>                     | <i>350.00</i>      |
| <i>g.</i>  | <i>Addison County Restorative Justice Services</i>      | <i>350.00</i>      |
| <i>h.</i>  | <i>Addison County Riverwatch Collaborative</i>          | <i>500.00</i>      |
| <i>i.</i>  | <i>Age Well</i>   | <i>1,100.00</i>    |
| <i>j.</i>  | <i>Atria Collective (formerly WomenSafe)</i>            | <i>1,250.00</i>    |
| <i>k.</i>  | <i>Charter House Coalition</i>                          | <i>2,500.00</i>    |
| <i>l.</i>  | <i>Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc.</i>       | <i>2,300.00</i>    |
| <i>m.</i>  | <i>Elderly Services, Inc.</i>                           | <i>4,000.00</i>    |
| <i>n.</i>  | <i>Friends of Cornwall School</i>                       | <i>5,500.00</i>    |
| <i>o.</i>  | <i>Green Up Vermont, Inc.</i>                           | <i>100.00</i>      |
| <i>p.</i>  | <i>Habitat for Humanity of Addison County</i>           | <i>1,200.00</i>    |
| <i>q.</i>  | <i>Homeward Bound, Animal Welfare Center</i>            | <i>500.00</i>      |
| <i>r.</i>  | <i>H O P E (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects)</i>     | <i>4,000.00</i>    |
| <i>s.</i>  | <i>John W. Graham Emergency Shelter Service, Inc.</i>   | <i>1,925.00</i>    |
| <i>t.</i>  | <i>Mary Johnson Children's Center, Inc.</i>             | <i>700.00</i>      |
| <i>u.</i>  | <i>Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT)</i>                | <i>750.00</i>      |
| <i>v.</i>  | <i>Open Door Clinic/Community Health Services, Inc.</i> | <i>1,000.00</i>    |
| <i>w.</i>  | <i>Otter Creek Childcare Center</i>                     | <i>1,000.00</i>    |
| <i>x.</i>  | <i>The Retired &amp; Senior Volunteer Program, Inc.</i> | <i>540.00</i>      |
| <i>y.</i>  | <i>The Teen Center</i>                                  | <i>2,500.00</i>    |
| <i>z.</i>  | <i>Tri-Valley Transit</i>                               | <i>1,315.00</i>    |
| <i>aa.</i> | <i>Turning Point Center of Addison County</i>           | <i>1,000.00</i>    |
| <i>bb.</i> | <i>Vermont Adult Learning, Inc.</i>                     | <i>500.00</i>      |
|            | <i>TOTAL:</i>   | <i>\$41,670.00</i> |

Gary Margolis moved, and the motion was seconded.



There was discussion about how charitable organizations and their funding requests wind up on the Town Meeting warning. Selectboard members and Auditors invited anyone interested to attend one of the Selectboard or Auditors meetings before Town Meeting to discuss.

The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 9: To see if the voters will approve the billing date of September 1, 2024 for property taxes, payment of half that amount due November 15, 2024, and payment of the second half due May 15, 2025. Taxes are to be paid to the Cornwall Town Treasurer. Any taxes that are due, but unpaid after November 15, 2024, are considered late. Interest will be charged at the rate of one percent (1%) per month. Any taxes unpaid after May 15, 2025 will be considered delinquent. Interest will be charged on delinquent taxes at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, plus a collector's fee of eight percent (8%).*

Luke Jerome moved and the motion was seconded.

Donna Brewer asked about the payment dates and Sue Johnson explained how they were calculated.

The motion carried on voice vote.

*ARTICLE 10: Any other business proper to come before this meeting.*

Gail Isenberg spoke about the successful grant-writing of the Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area (hereafter known as CORA) fundraising committee. In order to access those funds, the committee needs to raise a certain amount of funds through donations. The committee explained how to donate.

Jordan Young, Town Lister, reminded everyone the town-wide reappraisal of property has already started. The last assessment was in 2012. Property owners will be contacted to arrange appointments for the contractor to look at their properties.

Magna Dodge had a question for the CORA committee about ensuring and paying for on-going maintenance at the CORA site. Gail Isenberg answered the intention is to have a committee that monitors any maintenance needs and to have an annual fundraising campaign. Andrea Landsberg noted that landscaping choices will be made to keep maintenance to a minimum, and that they will apply to the Vermont Master Gardener program to have the CORA listed as a project the Master Gardeners can use to fulfill their mandatory hours.

Paula Sargent spoke about the re-opening of the DAR building, and their upcoming event plans. The building was given to the DAR to keep in stewardship for the Town of Cornwall. The DAR would like Cornwall residents' input on how Cornwall would like the DAR to be using the building and how Cornwall residents would like to use the DAR building. The DAR's goals are historic preservation, service to America, intergenerational education and genealogy.

Laura Fetterolf spoke about the new Town Clerk and Town Treasurer office hours, (Clerk: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8am-4pm; Treasurer: Mondays, 8am-4pm) and the separate duties of each office.

John Isham asked if the CORA donations were tax deductible. Stan Grzyb answered yes.

John Roberts spoke about Ben Marks' 10 years on the Selectboard and there was a standing ovation in appreciation of Ben's service to the town.

Mary Dodge spoke about the Conservation Committee. They are conducting a wildlife inventory to see how wildlife is moving across the landscape, and inviting the town to help with tracking. Andrea Landsberg spoke about a nature walk happening on April 30, 2024 with Vermont Master Naturalist, Alicia Daniel. There is a 20-person limit.

Mike Sheridan noted that Katherine Branch was stepping down after having served on the Conservation Commission for 5 years. The crowd applauded in gratitude for her service. The Conservation Commission is looking for new members.

Tanya Byker announced that in honor and appreciation of Sue Johnson's 20+ years of service to the town, the town will be arranging a personal battlefield tour and guide at Gettysburg for Sue this summer, and a National Park Federal Recreation Senior pass. Ben Marks announced that \$5000 of the ARPA funds will be granted to Sue for her dedication in keeping the town office running, open and accessible during the COVID19 pandemic. The town gave her a standing ovation in appreciation.

Sue Johnson thanked the town for their gifts, thanked her fellow town officials, committee and board members, and her constituents and their families. Her 23 years as Treasurer and 21 years as Clerk have been an incredible experience, one she will treasure forever. Working for the town's people has been a dream come true, and she can't imagine any other town in the state is as wonderful as this one is. Appreciation goes to everyone who has helped along the way. She looks forward to helping the newbies in the office.

Martha Johnson gave remarks in appreciation of Sue. Sue has taught so many of us about what it means to dedicate yourself to something. The belief in community, town and family is something we've all learned from Sue.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Kate Gieges and was seconded by Luke Jerome. The motion carried on voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laura Fetterolf  
Cornwall Town Clerk

## **SERVICES SECTION:**

### **Lemon Fair Insect Control District Report 2024 ~ Lemon Fair Insect Control District Annual Report**

The beginning of the 2024 mosquito season, May through June, recorded modest rain events, which created puddling in the flood plains and vernal pools. Field surveillance revealed mosquito eggs that had been dormant had hatched during those events, but the puddles and pools dried up before the mosquitoes could emerge as adults and the larvae laid dead in the grasses and mud. It wasn't until hurricane Beryl that we had enough rain to stimulate a widespread emergence of mosquitoes. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, an area in Weybridge warranted treating two acres on the Lemon Fair floodplain using the backpack sprayer. Within 24 hours, the Lemon Fair River was back within its banks and any mosquito eggs that hatched as larvae also washed into the river channel. Note that our pesticide license prevents us from treating moving bodies of water such as rivers, to the frustration of the LFICD. As mosquito larvae washed into the Otter Creek, fish went into a feeding frenzy at the mouth of the river. For two days we observed larvae concentrated along the banks of the river and floating downstream through the width of the river. A rain event in the headwaters or a dam release raised the river by a foot or more and clearly flushed these millions of mosquito larvae out of the Lemon Fair River.

**Surveillance:** The LFICD maintains CDC light traps for trapping adult mosquitoes at 8 permanent locations within the 3 towns, as well as extra light traps to deploy to areas reporting problem mosquitoes. The traps are set up one night per week and recovered the following day, and the trapped mosquitoes are counted and identified by species to help us understand the scope of any emergence and what habitats any problem mosquitoes likely came from. Upland mosquitoes started showing up in the light traps at the end of July. This year's CDC Light Traps yielded 83,477 mosquitoes as opposed to last year's 128,473 mosquitoes. Of interest, a new species was captured and identified within the 3 towns, *Orthopodomyia alba*. This species has been identified in the state of Vermont before, but it's our first record of it within the LFICD. Its preferred host for a blood meal is birds. Once again, the year-to-year shifts in the presence of predominant species that were identified, and the total absence of some species has left us scratching our heads. Beginning in August, light trap numbers dropped significantly, as did nuisance levels.

**Treatments:** In order to conduct a larvicide treatment using our one available helicopter service, a minimum of 1,000 acres with active mosquito larvae needs to be identified. Unfortunately, mosquitoes don't all hatch uniformly. Surveillance proved that disconnected pockets of acreage in the floodplain would light up, but there were never enough active pockets to create a 1,000-acre treatment scenario. More often, approximately 1 to 30 acres might light up at once, which is too much to treat by hand or backpack and far too little to justify treatment by helicopter. However, during this season, we did conduct a total of 8 treatments by hand or backpack sprayer using *Bti* granules or 45-day *Bti* briquettes.

**Drone Service:** While our VAAFM grant funding and our contributions from the member towns have remained constant since the inception of the LFICD in 2005, the cost of an aerial service has dramatically increased and our option for such a service has come down to only one: North Fork

Helicopter from Long Island, NY. With North Fork's per acre cost and 1,000 minimum acreage requirement, justifying calling for their service has become increasingly out of reach. However, this year a new option became available to us when the LFICD obtained access to what could be our Best Management Practice (BMP) going forward. CNY Drone services out of Herkimer, NY has obtained 7-B pesticide certification from the State of Vermont. Drones are capable of targeting and treating much smaller acreages than a plane or helicopter service. With a more practical treatment minimum of 250 acres and significantly lower cost per acre, we will be able to "stamp out fires" of larval activity on a more frequent and economical basis. Due to the lack of sufficient larval activity after CNY obtained their VT permit, we have not yet deployed this drone technology; however, we are prepared and excited to bring them on next year.

**Summer Internship Program:** The LFICD again employed two college interns as field/lab technicians, Ryan Potter and Ev McIndoo, both from UVM. The district benefited, not only from conducting "boots on the ground" field and lab work, but also in applying data collection skills and adopting special projects to further outreach and education. The interns also represented the LFICD at a table set up in the Home and Garden Pavilion at the Addison County Fair & Field Days. A total of 321 people stopped by the exhibit. Thank you, Ryan and Ev! You were fabulous and it was wonderful working with you.

**LFICD Board:** Our current board members are: Bridport: Dinah Bain and Judd Markowski; Cornwall: Christine Chapline, Bob Cluss and David Zarowin; Weybridge: Gary Rodes, Annie Murphy  
Craig Zondag, LFICD Field Coordinator/Biologist

## **Lemon Fair Insect Control District (“LFICD”) 2025 Budget Notes**

**Background:** The LFICD provides mosquito larval survey and treatment services in the Lemon Fair River valley for Bridport, Cornwall, and Weybridge. Larvicide treatment is provided on the ground or aerially following an analysis of conditions with reimbursement from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture (“VAA”). Additional information is available on our website (<https://www.lficd.org/>).

**Fiscal Year:** The VAA fiscal year (“FY”) is 7/1 to 6/30. The LFICD FY is 1/1 to 12/31.

**Treatment Acreage:** The LFICD’s 2025 budget assumes (8) 250-acre treatments by drone for the Lemon Fair Valley in Cornwall, Bridport, and Weybridge.

**Larviciding:** We will use a drone company (CNY Drone Services), which has a minimum of 250 acres per treatment. We will also conduct treatment on the ground when and where necessary.

**Grant Agreement:** We operate under a 12-month VAA Grant Agreement which is renewed annually effective July 1 of each year. The current Grant Agreement expires June 30, 2025. While we have received no formal commitments from the VAA, we anticipate that our Grant Agreement will be renewed effective July 1, 2025. All VAA reimbursements are subject to a 25% in kind or cash matching from the LFICD.

**Revenue:** Our revenue comes from two sources: the VAA Grant Agreement and the towns of Bridport, Cornwall, and Weybridge. We request \$6,000 each from Bridport, Cornwall, and Weybridge. VAA revenue is a function of the amount available from the VAA under our annual Grant agreement (\$70,000) and how much we incur in reimbursable expenses, e.g., cost of aerial larviciding, larvicide purchases, field surveying, adult trapping and species identification, and capital expenditures.

**Expenses:** Because of the increase in mosquitoes in the 2023 season, even though the numbers weren’t as high in 2024, the FY 2025 budget assumes eight 250-acre aerial treatments at a cost of \$28,000 with replacement larvicide purchases of \$40,000. Payroll is budgeted for \$68,000 compared to 2024’s (estimated) actual of \$57,231.83.

**Otter Creek Watershed Mosquito Control District (“OCW”):** Whenever possible, we attempt to coordinate same aerial day treatments with the OCW (formerly known as the Brandon, Leicester, Salisbury Goshen Insect Control District, “BLSG”).

**LEMON FAIR INSECT  
CONTROL DISTRICT**

**Budget  
Calendar  
Year 2024**

**Actuals  
Calendar  
2024 - est  
from 10/15**

**Budget  
Calendar  
Year 2025**

**See Accompanying Budget Notes**

**Beginning Period Cash  
(Approximate)**

\$ 118,061.01    \$116,045.71    \$117,714.19

|                                 |                         |                         |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Donation                        |                         | \$50.00                 | \$ -                    |
| LFICD FY2024/ VT FY2024 REIMB   | \$ 35,000.00            | \$28,557.31             |                         |
| LFICD FY2024/ VT FY2025 REIMB   | \$ 35,000.00            | \$39,400.00             |                         |
| LFICD FY2025/ VT FY2025 REIMB   | \$ -                    |                         | \$ 30,600.00            |
| LFICD FY2025/ VT FY2026 REIMB   | \$ -                    |                         | \$ 35,000.00            |
| Total VAA Reimbursement         | \$ 70,000.00            | \$67,957.31             | \$ 65,600.00            |
| Member town assessments:        |                         |                         |                         |
| Bridport                        | \$6,000.00              | \$ 6,000.00             | \$6,000.00              |
| Cornwall                        | \$6,000.00              | \$6,000.00              | \$6,000.00              |
| Weybridge                       | \$6,000.00              | \$ 6,000.00             | \$ 6,000.00             |
| Interest                        | \$ 6.00                 | \$ 8.70                 | \$ 8.00                 |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>             | <b>\$88,006.00</b>      | <b>\$86,016.01</b>      | <b>\$83,608.00</b>      |
| <br><b>TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE</b> | <br><b>\$206,067.01</b> | <br><b>\$202,061.72</b> | <br><b>\$201,322.19</b> |

| <b>LEMON FAIR<br/>INSECT CONTROL<br/>DISTRICT</b> | <b>Budget<br/>Calendar Year<br/>2024</b> | <b>Actuals<br/>Calendar 2024<br/>- est from 10/15</b> | <b>Budget<br/>Calendar Year<br/>2025</b> |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                   |  |   |  |  |
| Payroll incl workers comp                         | \$60,000.00                              | \$ 67,000.00  | \$68,000.00                              |  |
| Mileage   | \$2,100.00                               | \$ 2,424.00   | \$2,300.00                               |  |
| Lab Exp, supplies                                 | \$6,300.00                               | \$ 6,641.00   | \$6,600.00                               |  |
| Treatment   | \$30,000.00                              |   | \$28,000.00                              | 8 250 acre treatments by drone @ \$3,500 (2,000 acres total) |
| Larvicide   | \$20,000.00                              |   | \$40,000.00                              | 2,000 acres  |
| NMCA Conference                                   | \$850.00                                 | \$ 850.00   | \$850.00                                 |  |
| Trailer operations: electricity, repairs          | \$750.00                                 | \$ 730.00   | \$750.00                                 |  |
| Larvicide loaders, trucking - treatment           | \$500.00                                 |   | \$1,000.00                               |  |
| Trailer: airport lease                            | \$160.00                                 | \$ 160.00   | \$160.00                                 |  |
| Misc. - public outreach                           | \$1,000.00                               | \$ 718.00   | \$750.00                                 |  |
| Admin - stamps, PO box, checks, offc supp         | \$106.00                                 | \$ 168.27   | \$254.00                                 |  |
| Licenses and permits                              | \$105.00                                 | \$ 130.00   | \$130.00                                 |  |
| Zoom Account                                      |  | \$ 180.00   | \$180.00                                 |  |
| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>                       | \$ 1,000.00                              |   | \$2,000.00                               |  |
| Microscope  |  |   | \$2,000.00                               |  |
| <b>REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES</b>                      | \$122,871.00                             | \$ 79,001.27  | \$150,974.00                             |  |
| Legal fees and services                           | \$ 250.00                                |   | \$ 250.00                                |  |
| Review of accounts - FY2020/2021                  | \$ 1,200.00                              | \$ 1,400.00   | \$ 1,400.00                              |  |
| Insurance: Operations, Supervisory Board          | \$ 4,500.00                              | \$ 3,946.26   | \$ 4,500.00                              |  |
| <b>UNREIMBURSABLE EXPENSES</b>                    | \$ 5,950.00                              | \$ 5,346.26   | \$ 6,150.00                              |  |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                             | \$128,821.00                             | \$ 84,347.53  | \$157,124.00                             |  |
| <b>Ending Period Cash (Approximate)</b>           | \$ 77,246.01                             | \$117,714.19  | \$44,198.19                              |  |

## Maple Broadband

14 Seminary St. Middlebury, VT 05753 [www.maplebroadband.net](http://www.maplebroadband.net)

(802) 377-3713

### **Maple Broadband Communications Union District 2024 Annual Report**

As one of Vermont's 9 Communications Union Districts, Maple Broadband is transforming how Addison County towns access the digital world. Our expanding network, powered by local governance and strengthened through strategic partnerships, is bridging digital divides across our 20 member towns: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, and Whiting.

#### 2024 Accomplishments

These numbers tell the story of what we can achieve when we work together. Through careful planning and dedicated effort, we exceeded expectations across every measure - from miles of fiber installed to community members engaged:

- Activated 135.9 new miles of fiber service in 2024, for a total of 240.7 miles with available service across portions of 12 towns;
- Nearly 500 customers now receive Maple Broadband service;
- Maple Broadband achieved a 98% satisfaction rate among current customers;
- Awarded \$669,800 in new grant funding;
- Met 100% of construction obligations, under the Vermont Community Broadband Board's grant, on schedule and under budget;
- Engaged over 325 community members through surveys and interviews to guide our strategic improvements.

Our partnership with Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT)/Green Mountain Access continues to expand fiber access throughout our region. In 2024 WCVT:

- Installed over 56 miles of fiber service drops;
- Activated service on over 75 miles of mainline fiber in portions of Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Ferrisburgh, Monkton, New Haven, Starksboro, and Weybridge;
- Converted 1,000+ customers to fiber, with more conversions scheduled daily.

For the expanded version of our Annual Report, including construction plans, maps, and timelines see this link on our website: <https://www.maplebroadband.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/FINAL-Maple-Broadband-Annual-Report-2024.pdf>.



## MAPLE BROADBAND 2025 Budget

| Income:                                | Budget 2024 |           | 2024 Projected |           | Budget 2025 |           |
|--|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Operational Revenue                    |             |           |                |           |             |           |
| Subscriber Payments Received           | \$          | 382,610   | \$             | 376,000   | \$          | 777,920   |
| Installation Fees Received             | \$          | 73,480    | \$             | 56,679    | \$          | 49,030    |
| Dividend Revenue                       | \$          | 500       | \$             | 1,394     | \$          | 1,000     |
| Interest Income                        | \$          | 60,000    | \$             | 53,000    | \$          | 30,000    |
| Less Low-Income Installation Subsidies | \$          | (9,447)   | \$             | -         | \$          | (10,000)  |
| Less Low-Income Subscription Subsidies | \$          | (9,677)   | \$             | (550)     | \$          | (10,000)  |
| Less Allocation for Buried Subsidies   | \$          | (10,000)  | \$             | -         | \$          | (10,000)  |
| Other Miscellaneous Fee Income         | \$          | -         | \$             | 4,000     | \$          | -         |
| Sub-Total Operational Revenues         | \$          | 487,466   | \$             | 490,524   | \$          | 827,950   |
| Grants Revenue                         |             |           |                |           |             |           |
| Pre-Construction                       | \$          | 733,749   | \$             | 1,292,697 | \$          | 775,261   |
| Construction                           | \$          | 4,223,730 | \$             | 2,579,349 | \$          | 1,238,000 |
| Town ARPA Contributions                | \$          | 35,000    | \$             | 35,000    | \$          | -         |
| VCBB ARPA Match                        | \$          | 415,000   | \$             | 415,000   | \$          | -         |
| BEAD Subrecipient Capacity             | \$          | -         | \$             | 135,840   | \$          | -         |
| BEAD                                   | \$          | -         | \$             | -         | \$          | -         |
| Sub-Total Grants Revenues              | \$          | 5,407,479 | \$             | 4,457,886 | \$          | 2,013,261 |
| Financing                              |             |           |                |           |             |           |
| Financing                              | \$          | 3,000,000 | \$             | -         | \$          | 2,000,000 |
| TOTAL REVENUE:                         | \$          | 8,894,945 | \$             | 4,948,410 | \$          | 4,841,211 |

### EXPENSES:

|                             |    |         |    |         |    |         |
|-----------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>   |    |         |    |         |    |         |
| Advertising and Promotion   | \$ | 15,000  | \$ | 10,500  | \$ | 40,000  |
| Bad debt                    | \$ | 11,478  | \$ | 1,793   | \$ | 15,558  |
| Insurance                   | \$ | 25,000  | \$ | 16,872  | \$ | 20,000  |
| Marketing                   | \$ | 85,000  | \$ | 122,842 | \$ | 65,000  |
| Meals                       | \$ | 500     | \$ | 178     | \$ | 350     |
| Pole rentals                | \$ | 59,000  | \$ | 58,587  | \$ | 85,000  |
| Office Supplies             | \$ | 750     | \$ | 617     | \$ | 750     |
| Postage and Shipping        | \$ | 250     | \$ | 13      | \$ | 100     |
| Technology Subscriptions    | \$ | 2,500   | \$ | 5,326   | \$ | 5,500   |
| Payroll Taxes               | \$ | 9,688   | \$ | 8,648   | \$ | 9,253   |
| Wages                       | \$ | 108,000 | \$ | 109,890 | \$ | 115,560 |
| Benefits                    | \$ | 53,090  | \$ | 42,924  | \$ | 55,000  |
| Professional Services       | \$ | -       | \$ | -       | \$ | -       |
| Auditing Expense            | \$ | 20,000  | \$ | 20,000  | \$ | 25,000  |
| Financial Administration    | \$ | 25,000  | \$ | 6,213   | \$ | 7,500   |
| Stipends                    | \$ | -       | \$ | 8,000   | \$ | 24,000  |
| Legal Expense               | \$ | 10,000  | \$ | 48,626  | \$ | 35,000  |
| Other Professional Services | \$ | 5,000   | \$ | 29,595  | \$ | 15,000  |
| Membership Fees             | \$ | 12,500  | \$ | 11,175  | \$ | 15,000  |
| Bank Service Fees           | \$ | 5,000   | \$ | 4,000   | \$ | 6,000   |
| Merchant Credit Card Fees   | \$ | 11,478  | \$ | 4,338   | \$ | 15,558  |



## ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 21 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors (Board) comprised of one representative and one alternate appointed by each of the member municipalities. The Board holds hybrid meetings on the 3<sup>d</sup> Thursday of the month at 7 PM, and the Executive Board meets monthly 8 days prior to the Board at 4:30 PM. All meetings are open to the public.

#### District Mission

To seek environmentally sound & cost-effective solutions for: (1) Promoting **waste reduction**; (2) Promoting **pollution prevention**; (3) Maximizing **diversion** of waste through reuse, recycling and composting; and (4) Providing for **disposal** of remaining wastes.

#### District Office and Transfer Stations

**Telephone:** (802) 388-2333

**Fax:** (802) 388-0271

**Website:** [www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org)

**E-mail:** [acswmd@acswmd.org](mailto:acswmd@acswmd.org)  
PM

**Middlebury Transfer Station Hours:** M-F, 7 AM–3 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM

**Office Hours:** M-F, 8 AM–4 PM

**HazWaste Center Hours:** M-F, 8 AM–2 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM

**New Haven Transfer Station Hours:** Fri. 7 AM – 2 PM & Sat, 7 AM – Noon

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are co-located at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and single stream recyclables for transfer to out-of-District facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off various other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. A complete list of acceptable items and prices can be found on the District's website. The ACSWMD Regional Residential Transfer Station is located at 100 Kings Way off of 65 Campground Road in New Haven. This facility accepts residential bagged waste and single stream recyclables, as well as food scraps and leaf & yard waste.

#### 2024 Highlights

**New Regional Residential Drop-off.** On August 16, 2024, the ACSWMD opened a new regional residential solid waste transfer station at 100 Kings Way off of 65 Campground Road in New Haven, VT. This regional facility will serve residents from all 21 member towns of the District. This regional facility, open on Fris. and Sats., can accept a variety of recyclables along with residential bagged Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). While not intended to replace the small-town drop-offs, this facility will offer a sustainable system to provide more comprehensive and accessible service for residents. The District contracted with Champlain Construction for Phase 1 construction, completed in August. JR and Sons will provide a mobile collection system at the site during Phase 1. In Phase 2, the new regional residential transfer station will be constructed and fully staffed, and will accept residential single stream recyclables, food scraps, leaf & yard debris, scrap metal, electronics (E-Waste), MSW, fluorescent light bulbs, tires, books, plastic film/bags, and confidential documents for shredding/ recycling. A new regional HazWaste (HHW) Center on an adjacent lot is planned for Phase 3 to accept HHW and Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) hazardous waste. Design & permitting of the HazWaste Center is in progress.

**HHW Extended Producer Responsibility Law.** In 2023, Vermont enacted the first-in-the nation Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Extended Producer Responsibility Law. H.67 requires producers of hazardous household products to safely collect and dispose of them. It is the eighth Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) law enacted in Vermont. EPR is a legislative tool that extends a manufacturer's responsibility for its product throughout all lifecycle stages. Under an EPR program, financial and management responsibility for products is shifted away from local governments and back to the manufacturers. The District will continue to participate in numerous planning sessions to implement the new EPR law for HHW along with the VT Agency of Natural Resources and other solid waste planning

entities to ensure the success of this critical program. The program goals include a reduction in public sector costs for managing HHW, increased public outreach, and incentives for producers to design products that are less toxic.

### **2025 Annual Budget**

The ACSWMD Board of Supervisors adopted its 2025 Annual Budget, including the Rate Schedule for CY2025, on Nov. 21, 2024. The new rates will take effect on Jan. 1, 2025. As with prior years, the 2025 Annual Budget will be funded by a combination of: (1) tip fees collected at the Transfer Station; (2) a per-ton District Fee on all waste generated within the District and destined for disposal; (3) donations or fees at special events sponsored by the District; (4) the sale of items such as compost bins; (5) grants, if available; (6) profit sharing of scrap metal; and (7) manufacturer EPR reimbursements. **There will be no assessments to member municipalities in CY2025.** The new tip fee for Municipal Solid Waste & Construction/Demo Debris at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury will be **\$156/ton**, an \$8.00/ton increase primarily due to an increase in vendor prices. Rates on a few other items will have nominal changes. For a copy of the 2024 Annual Report and/or adopted CY2025 Rate Sheet, please call the District at 802-388-2333, or e-mail the office at [acswmd@acswmd.org](mailto:acswmd@acswmd.org). Both documents are also available on the District's website at [www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org).

## **Addison County Regional Planning Commission**

### **Annual Report –Year End June 30, 2024**

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following services during its 2024 fiscal year:

#### **Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping**

- Worked with Waltham, Ferrisburgh and Addison on Municipal Planning Grants and Starksboro on its village center.
- Worked with Bristol, Lincoln, Shoreham and Salisbury on Bylaw Modernization projects focused on housing.
- Represented the Region in Act 250 and Section 248 hearings.
- Assisted municipalities with Town Plan updates; New Haven, Ripton, Lincoln, Bridport, Addison.
- Supported Middlebury, Vergennes and Ferrisburg in the Transit Oriented Design (TOD) master plan process.
- Assisted municipalities with housing studies; Shoreham, Bridport, Cornwall.

#### **Educational Meetings and Grants**

- Hosted educational workshops on planning topics, including housing, planning essentials and flood resiliency bylaws.
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to secure grant funding.
- Participated in Bridport's Community Visit.

#### **Emergency Planning**

- Worked with Addison County's Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) and Vermont Emergency

Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning and training.

- Helped all communities update Local Emergency Management Plans (LEMPs)
- Completed 2 municipal Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMPs) and initiated plans with 5 additional municipalities
- Updated Mutual Aid agreements for municipal Public Works Departments.
- Completed two Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF) grants.
- Administered one Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant with GMP in Panton
- Assisted Vermont Emergency Management and FEMA with summer flooding response and assistance.

#### **Energy Planning:**

- Helped all towns access capacity grants and energy assessments through the Municipal Energy Resilience Program.
- Worked with Efficiency Vermont and municipalities to implement enhanced energy plans.
- Began work rewriting the Regional Enhanced Energy Plan with the Energy Committee.
- Developed an online map of renewable energy resources and siting.

#### **Transportation Planning**

- Updated the Addison County Transportation Plan with the guidance of the Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Supported Tri-Valley Transit by providing leadership and technical support.
- Worked with municipalities to reduce road erosion from local roads.

- Assisted Towns with bike and pedestrian, Better Roads and stormwater grants.
- Served as a Municipal Project Manager for projects in Middlebury, Weybridge, Bridport, and Ferrisburgh.
- Conducted traffic and pedestrian studies and hosted the regional Walk/bike council meetings.
- Administered a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for Vergennes and surrounding communities

#### **Natural Resources Planning**

- Actively supported the efforts of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative.
- Worked with municipalities to support conservation commissions.
- Served as the Clean Water Service Provider for the Otter Creek Basin, providing funding for 14 projects.
- Provided educational outreach supporting the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan update.
- Assisted in stormwater planning projects and Ecosystem Restoration Program grants.

#### **Brownfields Planning**

- Administered EPA-funded Community Wide Assessment grant for 10 brownfield sites



## Charitable and Service Organization Information — 2024

|  | 2023<br>Request | 2024<br>Request |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Addison County Economic Development              | \$1000          | \$1000          |
| Addison County Home Health & Hospice             | \$1440          | \$1440          |
| Addison Housing Works                            | \$750           | \$750           |
| Addison County Parent/Child Center               | \$1600          | \$1600          |
| Addison County Readers                           | \$350           | \$350           |
| Addison County Restorative Justice               | \$350           | \$350           |
| Addison County River Watch Collaborative - ACRWC | \$500           | \$500           |
| Age Well   | \$1100          | \$1100          |
| Atria Collective                                 | \$1250          | \$1250          |
| Charter House Coalition                          | \$2500          | \$2500          |
| Counseling Service of Addison County CSAC        | \$2300          | \$2300          |
| Elderly Services                                 | \$4000          | \$4000          |
| Green Up Vermont                                 | \$100           | \$100           |
| Homeward Bound                                   | \$500           | \$500           |
| HOPE   | \$4000          | \$4000          |
| John W. Graham Emergency Shelter Services        | \$1925          | \$1950          |
| Mary Johnson Children's Center                   | \$700           | \$700           |
| Middlebury Area Land Trust - MALT                | \$750           | \$2000          |
| Open Door Clinic                                 | \$1000          | \$1000          |
| Otter Creek Child Care                           | 1000            | 1000            |
| Retired Senior Volunteer Program - RSVP          | 540             | 540             |
| Tri-Valley Transit                               | 1315            | 1315            |
| Turning Point Center of Addison County           | 1000            | 1000            |
| Vermont Adult Learning                           | 500             | 500             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                     |                 | <b>31745</b>    |

**Booklets containing all of the information provided by the various agencies will be available at the Cornwall Town Hall. The information provided here is merely a synopsis.**

### Addison County Home Health and Hospice

Addison County Home Health & Hospice is a community focused non-profit home health care and hospice care agency that has been providing care for Addison County residents for more than fifty years. We provide an array of services that help our neighbors receive care in their own home – where they are most comfortable and where they often experience the best quality of life. Our services are offered to all Addison County residents who need them, regardless of their ability to pay. To ensure the future of these vital programs, we turn to our community for support.

Addison County Home Health and Hospice is requesting \$1440.00, no change from last year.

### **Addison County Parent/Child Center**

Since 1980, the Parent/Child Center has been committed to providing services to support all families in our community in getting off to a healthy start. While the PCC is probably best known for our work with adolescent families and young children, services are intended for any family who wants or needs them. The PCC helps families to assess their children's physical and cognitive development and provides support services if needed. We also offer consultation and support to families and childcare providers around young children's social, emotional and behavioral development.

The A. C. Parent/Child Center is requesting funding in the amount of \$1600.00, no change from last year.

### **Addison County Readers, Inc.**

Addison County Readers, Inc is a not-for-profit Vermont corporation formed in 2007 to support literacy in Addison County through activities such as distributing books, providing educational opportunities, and raising literacy awareness. ACR has affiliated with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to provide a free gift of a book each month, mailed to the homes of all registered children in Addison County. All children below 5 years of age in Addison County are eligible to register with the Imagination Library program. In Cornwall, 37 children were served in 2021 and 391 free books have been delivered to them during that calendar year; 28 children are currently enrolled.

Addison County Readers, Inc. is requesting funding in the amount of \$350.00, no change from last year.

### **Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc.**

ACRJS provides community restorative justice responses focusing on the "balanced approach" in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the program participant. The goal is to help the program participant develop empathy and accept responsibility while providing compensation of loss for the victims, and compensation of resources for the community. Anyone given the opportunity to participate in our programs is supported to take responsibility for their actions, connect with the community in a positive way, and learn from their experience so as not to reoffend and cause harm to yet another person.

Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc. requests \$350.00, no change from last year.

### **Addison County River Watch Collaborative – ACRWC**

The mission of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative (ACRWC) is to monitor and assess the condition and uses of our rivers over the long term, raise public awareness of the values and functions of our watersheds, and support stewardship that improves water quality. The rivers we collect samples from are: Middlebury River, Otter Creek, New Haven River, Little Otter Creek, Lemon Fair, and Lewis Creek. About 30 volunteers take water samples at about 30 stations around the county during spring and summer months. Our water quality measurements include: bacteria (E.coli), phosphorus, nitrogen, and chloride (salt).

Addison County River Watch Collaborative is requesting funding in the amount of \$500.00, no change from last year.

### **Addison County Economic Development Corporation**

The Addison County Economic Development Corporation is Cornwall's economic development resource, serving the community for over 25 years. We offer expertise and resources to businesses throughout Addison County. We not only serve businesses located in your community, we serve the businesses in neighboring communities where your citizens work or may own a business. Our missions is to create an entrepreneurial and innovate environment, nurturing businesses to launch, grow and thrive. We do this through direct assistance and through out networks of partners and collaborators locally and at the state and federal levels.

Addison County Economic Development Corporation is requesting funding in the amount of \$1000.00, no change from last year.

### **Addison Housing Works**

Addison Housing Works strives to enrich the lives of low- and moderate-income people of Addison County by ensuring the development, management and maintenance of safe, quality, affordable homes and related supports for families, seniors and individuals. AHW has developed affordable housing in Addison County since 1989. AHW owns and manages over 750 units of affordable housing spread across 15 multi-family properties and 9 mobile home parks in Addison County. AHW also offers down payment grants through our shared equity program to assist buyers in the purchase of a new home. Purchasers can receive up to 20% of the purchase price of a home in return for sharing appreciation with future buyers through a housing subsidy covenant or ground lease signed with AHW.

Addison Housing Works is requesting funding in the amount of \$750.00, no change from last year.

### **Age Well**

Since 1974, Age Well has provided support and services to Cornwall's aging population, helping them to stay independent and remain healthy in at home, where most wish to be. Whether it's Meals On Wheels, in-home care coordination, caregiver support, or wellness programs, we know that health can happen at home and are here to enhance and improve the quality of life for Cornwall residents.

Age Well continues to see a rise in those needing support in Cornwall and beyond and as our aging population continues to grow, there will be even more demand. In Fiscal Year 24, between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024, we provided services valued at over \$38.017 to 33 Cornwall residents. As a nonprofit, these services are provided at no charge, and with your support, we will continue to ensure that our aging neighbors receive the support they have come to rely on.

Age Well's Mission: To provide the support and guidance that inspires our community to embrace aging with confidence.

Age Well is requesting funding in the amount of \$1,100.00, no change from last year.

### **Atria Collective**

Atria Collective is a nonprofit serving people across the gender spectrum who have experienced sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. We are dedicated to empowering



and safeguarding communities through our advocacy services, education and prevention work, and social change.

In the Town of Cornwall, Atria Collective provided advocacy services to at least 15 residents, both adults and children, affected by violence. 30 prevention education presentations reached 93 students and 15 adults at Cornwall Elementary School. 159 prevention education presentations to 659 students and 122 adults at MUMS and MUHS

Atria Collective is requesting funding in the amount of \$1250.00, no change from last year.

### **Charter House Coalition**

Charter House Coalition has provided a consistent resource for neighbors in need since 2005. Our emergency shelter is open 24 hours, to persons experiencing homelessness. Our social service goals include helping individuals and families experiencing homelessness, or that may be at risk of becoming homeless, throughout Addison County. We offer free nutritious meals every day to anyone in the community. Between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 staff and volunteers prepared and delivered 23,000 meals. The Charter House outreach program provided essential support to approximately 600 adults and children temporarily housed in area hotels and at our emergency shelter.

The Charter House Coalition is requesting funding in the amount of \$2,500, no change from last year.

### **Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc.**

The Counseling Service of Addison County provides mental health, substance use recovery and developmental disability services to people living in Addison County. Our skilled and dedicated staff members help individuals and families deal with the challenges they face. CSAC envisions a compassionate and resilient community that honors everyone's full potential – for clients, staff and our community. CSAC is a trauma-informed organization nurturing healthy, supported work environments that emphasize self-awareness and self-care so that its employees bring their best selves to their work. CSAC helps nurture communities where individuals and families thrive by offering comprehensive services and support for social and emotional well-being.

CSAC requests \$2,300.00, no change from last year or since 2007.

### **Elderly Services, Inc.**

Elderly Services thanks you, the residents of Cornwall, for your Town Meeting Day grants extending back over 40 years. We have been the adult day care center for Addison County for over 40 years; we call our adult day center Project Independence. Currently, we have 18 participants from your town (and their families) who have directly benefited from our services this year.

Elderly Services is requesting funding in the amount of \$4000.00. No funds requested last year; no change from prior year's request.

### **Green Up Vermont—Green Up Day, May 7, 2022**

Thank you for your past appropriation to Green Up Vermont in support of Green Up Day. We had an amazing turnout with a 30% increase in volunteers (30,176) who picked up 404 TONS of trash and 15,813 tires from our roads and waterways. This amazing community service and sense

of pride keeps our towns not only looking good, but also safe, healthy and economically vibrant places to live.

Green-Up Vermont is requesting funding in the amount of \$100.00, no change from last year.

#### **Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society**

Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, was founded in 1975. We are a private open-admission animal shelter with a mission to be a community-centered shelter that supports the human-animal bond through compassionate care, adoption, education, and advocacy. Homeward Bound serves an average of 1,000 animals per year, including those who enter the shelter and those who receive services in the community. Our community services are designed to combat pet overpopulation, provide support to low-income pet owners, and enhance the human-animal bond through education and outreach.

The Shelter is requesting \$500.00, no change from last year.

#### **Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE)**

HOPE seeks to assist individuals and families in identifying and obtaining the resources that will help them meet their own basic needs. HOPE provides significant goods and services to people in need, including food, clothing, housing and heating fuel, medical items, job-related needs and more. We work to assist people in accessing information and developing new skills in order to become more empowered and have healthier and more stable lives. Over the last two years, use of food shelf rose eighty percent, while food prices have nearly doubled.

HOPE respectfully requests \$4,000.00 to help defray costs, no change from last year.

#### **John W. Graham Emergency Shelter Services, Inc.**

John Graham Housing & Services (JGHS) has provided emergency shelter, affordable housing, and essential services to individuals and families in Addison County for 42 years. The JGHS missions is strengthened by intensive service coordination at three critical access points – homeless prevention, eviction prevention and rapid rehousing. With seven properties spread across the county, the people we serve include those impacted by domestic violence, substance use and mental health disorders, economic hardship and disability. It is our hope the Town of Cornwall will partner with JGHS again in our effort to end homelessness in Addison County.

The John Graham Emergency Shelter is requesting funding in the amount of \$1,950.00, a \$50 increase from last year.

#### **Mary Johnson Children's Center**

Mary Johnson's Children's Center serves families with children birth through 12 years in programs throughout Addison County. The Center has three early childhood programs: one in Middlebury, Mary Johnson Children's Center; one in East Middlebury, the Middlebury Cooperative Nursery school; and one in Orwell at the Orwell Early Education Program at the Orwell Village School. With grant help, the Center added an infant program this past fall, helping to address the chronic shortage for infant care in the county. The families served by the programs of Mary Johnson Children's Center reflect the social and economic diversity of our county.

MJCC is requesting funding in the amount of \$700.00, no change from last year.

### **Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT)**

Since 1987, the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) has conserved over 3700+ acres of important, scenic land in Addison County, including four properties in Cornwall that total 658 acres. MALT continually monitors these properties to ensure the conditions of the conservation easements are being met. We also partner with the Cornwall Conservation Commission to educate the community on conservation principles, procedures, and values. MALT manages and maintains nearly 30 miles of recreation trails in Addison county, many of which are just a short drive from Cornwall. The Trail Around Middlebury passes through the town of Cornwall with access from Route 125.

MALT is requesting funding in the amount of \$2000, a \$1000 increase from last year.

### **Open Door Clinic**

The Open Door Clinic provides access to free quality health care services, to those who are uninsured or under-insured in a compassionate, respectful and culturally sensitive manner until a permanent healthcare provider can be established. The Open Door clinic is volunteer based. We offer help with Health Insurance. We provide outreach and services.

The Open Door Clinic is requesting funding in the amount of \$1,000.00, no change from last year.

### **Otter Creek Child Center – OCCC**

The Otter Creek Child Center is one of a few children's centers in all of Addison County that serves birth through preschool aged children and families, and we have increasingly found ways to make the center affordable for families with a wide variety of income levels. Ultimately, we want all families in Addison County to have safe and reliable early care and education for their children as doing so has positive ripple effects for the larger community. Providing a safe and stable children's center for people who might have otherwise been left without this option, allows parents to be employed and contribute to the economic and social community in ways that are impossible if they are at home.

The Otter Creek Child Center is requesting funding in the amount of \$1000.00, no change from last year.

### **Retired Senior Volunteer Program – RSVP**

In FY 24, Cornwall residents were able to receive free health classes and income tax services. In Addison County, 220 residents benefited from attending Bone Buildres and 471 residents receive income tax services. Over \$190,072 in federal and state refunds and credits was returned to the Addison County community as a result of volunteer tax preparers working with individuals and families. During the winter monthds, more than 150 warm clothing items were give to Addison County community members in need, including through Cornwall Elementary School. RSVP volunteers also provided essential items to children and families in crisis. Through RSVP, Cornwall residents volunteered 169 hours to support the community.

Retired Senior Volunteer Program is requesting funding in the amount of \$540.00, no change from last year.

### **Tri-Valley Transit**

Tri-Valley Transit provided a total of 203,6445 rides last year – an increase of 13% over 2023. In the past year, TVT provided 389 Dial-A-Ride trips for Cornwall residents. Cornwall residents have access to TVT Dial-A-Ride Program for seniors, people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations to access a variety of destinations including medical appointments, pharmacies, grocery stores and other vital quality-of-life needs. Cornwall residents coming into Middlebury have access to an extensive Shuttle Bus System that can take them around the county, north to Burlington and south to Rutland.

Tri-Valley Transit is requesting \$1,315.00, no change from last year.

### **Turning Point Center of Addison County**

The Turning Point Center of Addison County (TPCAC) is peer-lead and offers a safe and substance-free environment to support our mission: We provide peer-based recovery support to all including friends, families and allies. With public safety, mental health and addiction issues at the forefront of the news in Addison County and approaching crisis levels, investment in recovery services is needed now more than ever. The problems we are all facing can only be solved by working together.

The Turning Point Center is requesting funding in the amount of \$1,000, no change from last year.

### **Vermont Adult Learning – VAL**

Vermont Adult Learning offers a variety of learning opportunities to help adults achieve their educational goals and enhance their quality of life. We work with each student to develop an individualized learning plan that includes a transition to further education or employment. We offer GED testing, programs for completing a high school diploma, basic skills instruction in reading, writing and math and classes for English Language Learners. Instruction is also available to students who need skill preparation for college or employment purposes.

Vermont Adult Learning is requesting funding in the amount of \$500.00, no change from last year.

## **SCHOOL SECTION**

**WARNING  
ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

**Member Districts are Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Weybridge**

The legal voters of the Addison Central School District are hereby warned to meet at the Middlebury Union High School in Middlebury, Vermont on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7:00 PM, to transact the following business:

**ARTICLE 1:** To elect the following officers: a) A Moderator b) A Treasurer c) A Clerk

**ARTICLE 2:** To hear and act upon the reports of the school district officers.

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the voters of the Addison Central School District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors, under 16 VSA 562 (9), to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year.

**ARTICLE 4:** To do any other business proper to come before said meeting.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION HEARING  
FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

The legal voters of the Addison Central School District are hereby warned to meet at the Middlebury Union High School in Middlebury, Vermont on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7:00 PM, for a Public Information meeting to discuss Australian Ballot articles warned for vote on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. Hearing will take place immediately following adjournment of the Annual Meeting of said Addison Central School District.

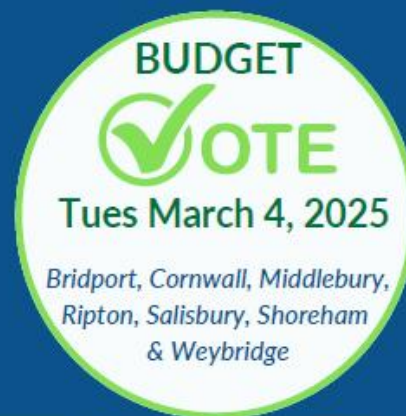
Mary Gill, Clerk Barbara Wilson, Chair  
Addison Central School District Addison Central School District

**The Addison Central School District Annual Report will be available in the following manner:  
<https://www.acsdvt.org/district-link/fy26budget> or call 802-382-1274 to request a copy.**

## ACSD Annual Report & Budget Overview



# FY2026 ANNUAL REPORT & BUDGET OVERVIEW



Tues March 4, 2025

Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury,  
Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham  
& Weybridge



Read the full  
FY26 Budget Book:  
[acsdvt.org/district-link/fy26budget](https://acsdvt.org/district-link/fy26budget)



### ACSD At a Glance

- ~1750 students in PK-12
- Our students are 94% white, 2.6% black, 2.3 Asian, <1% other
- Languages spoken at home: English, Spanish, Chinese, Burmese, French, Malagasy, Arabic, Portuguese, Bulgarian, Vietnamese, German + Russian
- 41% of students qualify for free/reduced lunch
- ~450 full and part time staff
- District-wide coordinated curriculum: PK-5th follow IB Primary Years Program; 6-10th follow IB Middle Years Program; 11&12th grad flexible pathways include Career Center, IB Diploma Program + early college
- We own + operate 9 school buildings, 1 alt. program building, 1 district office + manage ~150 acres of land



### District Highlights

- 2024 VT Middle School Principal of the Year ~ Michaela Wisell
- 2024 SHAPE Middle School PE Teacher of the Year ~ Justin Martelle
- UVM Outstanding Teachers of the Year: Liza Raymond (Elementary) & Steve Colangeli (Secondary)
- Barbara Whittemore Staff of the Year ~ Preston Bergeron, custodian
- New ACSD Teacher Mentor program
- First US public school district to seek joint International Baccalaureate & NEASC accreditation.
- Class 2024: 44% were candidates for the full IB Diploma (17) or IB certificates (26); 28 completed Dual Enrollment/Early College; 58% 4 year colleges, 16% 2 year colleges or trade schools, 3% apprenticeship/military; 20% employment, 2% Gap year.
- 2024 D2 State Champions: Varsity Girls Nordic, Varsity Boys Tennis & Varsity Boys Baseball
- Special Olympics Gold ~ MUMS Unified Soccer Team







## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The FY 26 budget before you represents a strong focus on academic achievement in mathematics and literacy, a deepened commitment to equity, and an approach to learning that invites inquiry, creativity, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and student contribution and passion.

Several new investments in the FY 26 budget signal new directions for our schools and our students. ACSD's new wellness policy highlights the connection between how we care for ourselves and how we achieve and maintain our mental health. For FY 26, two additional health educators are added to strengthen our proactive approach to mental health education.

Just over a million dollars of this year's budget is devoted to assisting students to make accelerated progress in mathematics and literacy in grades K-8 through the addition of instructional specialist positions. These instructional specialists will work alongside our classroom teachers to amplify our use of high-impact instructional strategies during students' first instruction. The ACSD Board's strategic plan calls for at least 80% of ACSD students to meet grade-level expectations in mathematics and literacy. Principals have requested resources to begin our trajectory toward meeting this goal and we are excited to accelerate our work in these important areas.

For Middlebury Union High School, this budget includes a Flexible Pathways Team dedicated to diversifying students' pathways toward graduation. In addition to our IB curriculum, IB Diploma Program, and career and technical programming offered through the Patricia A Hannaford Career Center, students will gain greater access to dual enrollment and early college opportunities, and new avenues for blended/virtual learning and work-based learning placements through the efforts of this new team. These investments align with the strategic plan targets of increasing 4-year graduation rates to at least 90%.

This budget also dedicates resources to eliminate bias-based harm and strengthen informed and safe school community cultures for all students and staff. I'm confident these resources will continue to help us unite as a diverse group of learners across seven strong communities and nine impactful schools.

New investments generally require streamlining in other places to achieve affordability. Our class sizes across all K-5 schools will rise to an average of 15 and we have significantly reduced non-personnel expenses to continue to invest in our licensed and unlicensed staff. In a tough budget year with increased costs for salary and benefits and the return of the state's per-pupil spending threshold, we are proud to present a budget that retains 98% of our direct support personnel, moves the Board's strategic initiatives forward, and provides anticipated tax relief for each ACSD member community.

Thank you for such a warm welcome as I've begun to get to know the people, priorities and communities within ACSD. I look forward to continuing to learn from many more of you as we approach this work together in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy K Baker, EdD, Superintendent of Schools

### The FY26 Proposed Budget:



#### 1. Prioritizes student experience & success based on data and Strategic Plan direction

- School budgets & equity supports reflect performance + data-based strategies for student success
- Attention to diversity and practices to deepen inclusion + community
- Human-centered approach to student response + preventing + responding to identity based harm
- Attention to strengthening diverse pathways to graduation

#### 2. Provides Financial Transparency and Sustainability

- 7 Restructured Funding Blocks increase transparency + prioritize equity
- "Zero based" budget strategy used to correct inequities + provide equitable student opportunities
- Uniform policy implementation for equitable class size + staffing
- Strategic reinvestment of some cost savings toward Strategic Plan goals
- Lowers taxes in every ACSD town





## OPERATIONS & FINANCE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

In the ninth budget of the unified Addison Central School District, we have turned over a new leaf for the first time in nearly a decade. Guided by the FY24 ACSD Strategic Plan and under the leadership of Superintendent Baker, this budget aims to identify and address inequities in our District by reinvesting resources in new and innovative ways. Within a complex fiscal landscape where fiscal sustainability mandated tight constraints on new spending, innovation required the reimagining and reinvestment of existing status-quo resources. In that sense, this budget was a balancing act. The empowered vision of the Board and Administration was counterbalanced by the obligation to be good financial stewards for our constituent taxpayers and steadied by the ongoing hard work of our Faculty and Staff.

In the FY25 Budget, we built a bridge between old and new. We connected Covid-era grant-funded investments to our "recovery-era" General Fund plan. We moved into two new collective bargaining Agreements with the ACEA on behalf of our Teachers and Education Support Personnel. And we welcomed a new leader tasked by the Board with setting the District on an ambitious path forward. That transitional phase set the stage for this year's overhaul.

To begin FY26, we needed to clean out the house. Using a zero-basis budgeting approach, each dollar of the expense budget was moved out "onto the lawn". Investments were then intentionally moved back in as they emerged within the FY26 plan, sometimes to a different area of the budget than where they had come from. The house analogy was a helpful way to describe the complex task of sorting, calibrating, and organizing investments in a new and logical design. This budget will introduce a Block System for reimagining our Cost Centers through an equity-budgeting framework. Additionally, we have used Price Tags to show cost equivalence across all expenditures to yield a more meaningful and transparent snapshot of how the District spends its dollars.

With the historic number of statewide budget defeats from last year in mind, we developed this plan to weather legislative uncertainty and ensure the greatest possible measure of tax relief to our voters. At this time, we have received a favorable yield estimate which generates a decrease in the District tax rate that will be passed along to members of all ACSD towns.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Corrente

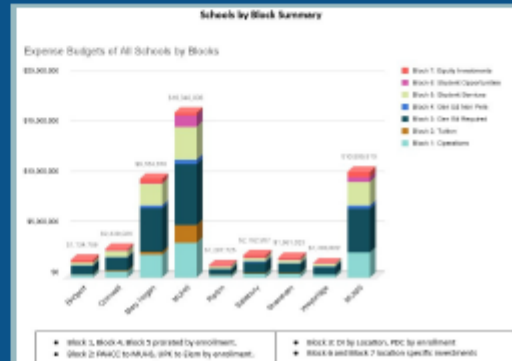
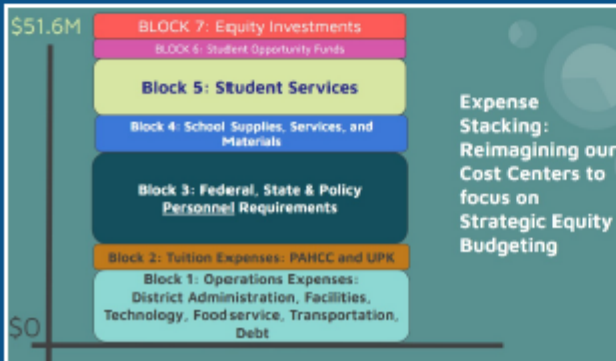
### Education Spending Projection (amount to be raised by local taxes)

Total Expense (inc fund bal): \$ 51,719,284  
less offsetting revenue: \$ 10,346,674  
**Projected FY26 Ed Spending: \$ 41,372,610**  
FY25 Ed Spending: \$ 40,041,512  
Difference: \$ 1,331,098  
% Difference: 3.32 %

### Town Tax Rate Projection

| Town       | Projected Adjusted CLA* | Projected Adjusted EDTR | Projected Town Tax Rate | FY25 Town Tax Rate | Difference | Percent Change |
|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------|
| Bridport   | 149.12%                 | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 1.09                 | \$ 2.12            | \$ (1.03)  | -49%           |
| Cornwall   | 80.69%                  | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 2.02                 | \$ 2.12            | \$ (0.10)  | -5%            |
| Middlebury | 98.13%                  | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 1.66                 | \$ 1.95            | \$ (0.29)  | -15%           |
| Ripton     | 85.12%                  | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 1.91                 | \$ 2.05            | \$ (0.14)  | -7%            |
| Salisbury  | 135.20%                 | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 1.20                 | \$ 2.19            | \$ (0.99)  | -45%           |
| Shoreham   | 148.26%                 | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 1.10                 | \$ 1.97            | \$ (0.87)  | -44%           |
| Weybridge  | 91.85%                  | \$ 1.63                 | \$ 1.77                 | \$ 1.94            | \$ (0.17)  | -9%            |

\*Based on results of 2024 Equalization Study (12/25/2024).







## BOARD CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Once again, 2024 proved to be a very busy year for the Board. After approving the Strategic Plan in December 2023, we adopted a framework to transition District leadership from Interim Superintendent Tim Williams to incoming Superintendent Wendy Baker. Dr. Baker began engaging with ACSD staff and community soon after, and officially assumed her role on June 1, 2024.

The Board has since been working closely with Dr. Baker and her team to operationalize our strategic goals. The Board's three foundational goals from the 5-year [Strategic Plan](#) are deliberately rooted in equity and focus on students' access to resources, sense of belonging, and academic success. To support successful implementation of the plan, we have focused on ensuring our board policies, practices, and decision-making processes are in alignment with the Board's strategic goals. The FY26 budget presented to the Board was developed with transparency and equity-based budgeting principles at the forefront, while supporting the Board's stated strategic priorities. The Board agrees that the proposed budget provides an equitable distribution of resources to help meet the needs and goals of every student.

The proposed budget also reduces the District's per pupil spending. It is worth noting that a status quo budget based on FY25 would have increased our total education spending by over 6%, due primarily to increases in healthcare benefits and wages. To provide much needed relief to our taxpayers, we directed the Superintendent to cap these increases to 2%. Restricting growth in education spending has required significant attention to how we are currently spending our money. The District employed a "zero basis" budgeting approach to ensure our spending is strategically tied to our goals. This process achieved spending reductions, some of which the District is proposing to reinvest into staffing and programming tailored to achieve our 5-year Strategic Plan improvement targets. The proposed budget also increases rural elementary school classroom sizes to comply with the District's class size policy, prioritizes student experience and success based on student proficiency data, invests in a high quality licensed educator workforce, reduces education spending per student, and provides financial transparency as we work toward sustainability.

It is with confidence and genuine commitment to our community that we present this budget to you for your support. On behalf of the Board, I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and thoughtful discussion that went into making this equity-based budget a reality by the District's administrators, building leaders, staff, and community.

There will be many opportunities to be involved in the work of our schools and district in the year to come. Stay up-to-date with all aspects of Board and Committee work at [www.acsdvt.org/school-board](http://www.acsdvt.org/school-board)

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Wilson - ACSD Board Chair



### ACSD STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

**BELONGING** – Everyone will feel safe, welcomed + included in our schools + the district. Students and families will be able to engage with the school system in valuable ways.

**ACCESS** – ACSD will allocate resources to address students' needs across the district in equitable, sustainable + fiscally responsible ways. ACSD will maintain infrastructure + facilities that support varied learning + successful outcomes for all students.

**SUCCESS** – ACSD's learning environment will inspire a passion for learning + value diverse identities + abilities, while preparing our students to make positive contributions to the community + beyond.

Find the full Strategic Plan:  
[acsdvt.org/district-link/strategic-plan](http://acsdvt.org/district-link/strategic-plan)



### Learn more about our students & schools

Bridport ~ [acsdvt.org/bridport](http://acsdvt.org/bridport)

Cornwall ~ [acsdvt.org/cornwall](http://acsdvt.org/cornwall)

Mary Hogan ~ [acsdvt.org/maryhogan](http://acsdvt.org/maryhogan)

Ripton ~ [acsdvt.org/ripton](http://acsdvt.org/ripton)

Salisbury ~ [acsdvt.org/salisbury](http://acsdvt.org/salisbury)

Shoreham ~ [acsdvt.org/shoreham](http://acsdvt.org/shoreham)

Weybridge ~ [acsdvt.org/weybridge](http://acsdvt.org/weybridge)

MUMS ~ [acsdvt.org/mums](http://acsdvt.org/mums)

MUHS ~ [acsdvt.org/muhs](http://acsdvt.org/muhs)



**WARNING - February 20, 2025 and March 4, 2025**

**Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District  
Annual Meeting February 20, 2025 and March 4, 2025**

**Member Towns: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham and Weybridge.**

The legal voters of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District are hereby warned to meet at the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District, Middlebury, Vermont in said district on February 20, 2025 at 4:00 P.M., to transact and vote on the following business:

**ARTICLE 1:** To elect the following officers: a) Moderator b) Treasurer c) Clerk

**ARTICLE 2:** To hear and act upon the reports of the Treasurer and Auditors of the District.

**ARTICLE 3:** To determine if the voters of said District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors to borrow money, pending receipt of payment from member districts, by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date for the purpose of paying the sum approved by the voters.

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the voters of said District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors to allocate its FY24 fund balance as follows: One Hundred and Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$130,000) of the school district's fund balance as revenue for the 2025-2026 operating budget.

**ARTICLE 5:** To do any other business proper to come before said meeting.

**A Public Information Hearing will take place immediately following Article 5, to discuss Article 6 (Proposed Budget). The meeting will be recessed until March 4, 2025 on which date member district voters are further warned to vote on the article listed below by Australian ballot at their respective polling places.**

**ARTICLE 6:** Shall the voters of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District approve the school board to expend \$5,704,280 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? This budget represents an **8.04%** increase over expenses for the current year. It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending at the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center to be **\$34,920** per full-time equivalent student on a 6-semester trailing average. This projected spending per full-time equivalent student is **9.34%** higher than spending for the current year.



**WARNING - February 20, 2025 and March 4, 2025**

**Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District  
Annual Meeting February 20, 2025 and March 4, 2025**

**Member Towns: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham and Weybridge.**

The polling places and hours of the member districts of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District are as follows:

Addison - Addison Community center 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Bridport - Bridport Community Hall 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Bristol - Holley Hall 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Cornwall - Cornwall Town Hall 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Ferrisburgh - Town Hall and community center 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Middlebury - Middlebury Recreation Center 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Monkton - Monkton Town Hall 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

New Haven - New Haven Town Hall 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Panton - Panton Town Hall 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Ripton - Ripton Community House 8:00 AM-7:00 PM

Salisbury - Salisbury Town Office 8:00 AM-7:00 PM

Shoreham - Shoreham Town Office 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Starksboro - Robinson Elementary School 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Vergennes - Vergennes Fire Station 9:00 AM-7:00 PM

Waltham - Waltham Town Hall 10:00 AM-7:00 PM

Weybridge - Weybridge Town Office 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Dated this 13th day of January, 2025 at Middlebury, Vermont.

Kim Farnham, Board Chair  
PAHRTSD